



SIGWACA FORTNIGHTLY

"Living the Football Spirit and Our Pride"

ESWATINI FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

SIHLANGU HOLD ANGOLA ON HOME SOIL



Sihlangu SeMnikati posing before kick-off of the Total CHAN Qualifiers.

Eswatini and Angola played to an odd goal draw in a match that was played on Sunday 28th July 2019 at the Mavuso Sports Centre in Manzini. This was the first encounter between these countries with the second leg to be played on the 3rd August 2019 in Angola.

Sihlangu created numerous goal scoring chances more especially in the first half of the match but the Eswatini lads failed to put the ball in the back of the net. This resulted in this half ending in a 0-0 score-line. In the second half; Angola recovered very well after a shaky start of the first half. This barred fruits for the visitors as they were able to score the opening goal of this match through Augusto Quitbeto in the 50th minute.

The visitors almost got the crucial away win however; the perseverance of the Eswatini national team finally paid off as

Menzi Sithole scored the equalizer for Eswatini in the 88th minute after an excellent cross by Fanele Mamba. The home side applied more pressure in search for a winning goal however time was no longer there thus the match ended in a 1-1 draw.

MENZI SITHOLE SCORED THE EQUILIZER FOR ESWATINI IN THE 88TH MINUTE AFTER AN EXCELLENT CROSS BY FANELE MAMBA.

In reaction to the 1-all draw with Angola; Sihlangu Head Coach Kostadin Papic highlighted that this result was quite motivating as it showed that the national team has potential and it gave the nation hope that they will do better in the upcoming match to be held in Angola. "Over and above, this match boosted the players' confidence as Angola is known to be a strong team"; Papic said.



EFA COMMITTED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN FOOTBALL



The EFA President, Mr Adam Mthethwa

The Eswatini Football Association is fully committed in the development of women football in the country. "Our mandate is to develop women football in the country. FIFA and CAF encourages women football to be developed and have a budget for that", the President of EFA Mr Adam Mthethwa said.

The President highlighted that there is a structured leagues for women football; thus they play throughout the year and even knock- outs are in place. Moreover; there are sixteen (16) team competing in the Women Football league and also the EFA has the Senior Women's, U-20, U-17 national teams, women coaches and officials appointed to look after the national teams.

"As the EFA; we know the challenges that the officials are facing in terms of financial resources and the football association has provided assistance in most of the costs", Mthethwa added. The EFA is also training good supporters to be good managers.

**ESWATINI FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
ACKNOWLEDGES ONTIME
INVESTMENT**

The Eswatini Football Association's (EFA'S) Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Mr. Frederick Mngomezulu has acknowledged the role played by OnTime Investment in supporting football in the country. OnTime Investment bought 100 tickets to the value of E5 000.00 for the Eswatini Football Supporters Club to watch the 2020 Total CHAN Qualifier match between Sihlangu and Angola that was played at the Mavuso Sports Centre on Sunday 28th July 2019. "I would like to express my thankfulness and appreciation to OnTime Investment for the generosity and kind gesture they have showed to Eswatini Football Supporters Club", said the CEO of EFA Mr. Frederick Mngomezulu. He made these remarks during a press conference held at the EFA's Head Offices (Sigwaca House) in Mbabane on Wednesday, 24th July 2019.



EFA'S CEO Mr Frederick Mngomezulu, OnTime's Sifiso Vilane and the representative of the Eswatini Football Association Supporters Club Thanda Hadzebe

He highlighted that it is not the first time for this company to give supporters such an opportunity, as they helped them when Sihlangu was playing against Malawi in the 2020 Total CHAN Qualifiers as they even branded the supporters very well; and the fans supported the national team very well which is what EFA always encourages supporters to do as this motivates the players. "I therefore, urge other companies to follow suite as this is a very good gesture that could be copied and followed by

anyone or multiplied to even greater heights.

"Our intention is to have that stadium full to capacity when it comes to watching our national team", he said. On a marketing point of view; this opportunity provides a perfect opportunity for brand awareness as companies can even brand the football fans that they buy the match day tickets for.

**EFA SENIOR OFFICIALS ATTENDS
CAF'S MEETINGS**

The EFA's CEO Mr. Frederick Mngomezulu, as a member of the CAF Legal Affairs and National Associations Committee, a standing Committee of CAF, was invited by CAF to attend a statutory meeting of the committee to look at the CAF Statutes, Regulations and National Associations matters. The meeting was held on the 12th - 13th and 14th July 2019 in Cairo, Egypt.



EFA'S President Mr. Adam Mthethwa, Vice President Dr. Comfort Shongwe and CEO Mr. Frederick Mngomezulu during the CAF Ordinary General Assemble in Cairo, Egypt.

After this meeting of the Standing Committee, the CEO joined the EFA President Mr. Adam Mthethwa together with the Vice President Dr. Comfort Shongwe at the CAF Ordinary General Assembly where they received the reports on activities and the performance of the confederation since last year. This meeting was held on the 17th / 18th July 2019.



**SITSEBE SAMHLEKAZI TRASH
MOZAMBIQUE**



Sitsebe SaMhlekezzi posing during the 2019 COSAFA Women Championship.

Sitsebe SaMhlekezzi has won their first match against Mozambique in a Group C encounter of the 2019 COSAFA Women Championship played on Thursday, 1st August 2019 at Wolfson Stadium in Port Elizabeth. Eswatini defeated Mozambique 3-1 and the goal scorers were Sanga Nomvula, Ngcamphalala Tenanile and Phumzile Dlamini. The player of the match was Eswatini's Mazwi Dube.



Mazwi Dube who was the player of the match for the Eswatini vs Mozambique game.

When interviewed after the match; Sitsebe's Head Coach, Mr. Antony Mdluli has highlighted that it was a great performance from our national team as they played very well. "We were able to adjust and adapt to the situation and were able to utilize the space behind the Mozambican defense", said Mdluli. Moreover he clearly stated that going forward to the other matches the players need to be mentally ready in order for them to win the matches between Angola and Zimbabwe. "Our players need to remain focused throughout, and make sure we play better in the next games", he added.

FOCUS ON EFA'S FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

FIFA HOSTS MA ELITE COACHING COURSE

The FIFA MA Elite Coaching Course was held as from Monday 15th- 19th July 2019 at Thokoza Church Centre and there were thirty (30) participants/ coaches who attended. This was the first group to attend the FIFA Elite Coaching Course in the Kingdom of Eswatini. The FIFA Instructor was Horst Kriete from Germany. This course was officially opened and closed by the Vice President of Eswatini Football Association (EFA) Mr. Peter Simelane.



EFA'S Vice President Mr. Peter Simelane during the MA Elite Coaching course.

When addressing the audience the Vice President of EFA welcomed the Instructor and highlighted that the football association was very much excited to note that the course commenced on a high note. "I hope and pray that you will discharge your responsibilities accordingly as this will enhance the football development in the country", the EFA'S Vice President said.

Over and above the the Vice President also urged coaches to implement the information that they learnt to their various teams. "I urge you to implement what you have gained and continue to get more information as knowledge is key", Simelane said.

COACHES EULOGIZES FIFA AND EFA

The coaches who were participants of the FIFA MA Coaching course acknowledge the Federation of International Football Association (FIFA) and the Eswatini Football Association (EFA) for empowering them. "As coaches, we would like to acknowledge FIFA and EFA for empowering us as coaches through such courses", said Mr Antony Mdluli who spoke on behalf of the participants during the closing ceremony of the FIFA MA Elite Coaching course. He also highlighted that this course will give them more direction and also urged the EFA to organize more international courses for them as they help them too grow and have more impact in their respective teams.



Mr. Antony making his remarks on behalf of the participants during the closing ceremony of the FIFA MA Elite Coaching Course

FIFA TO HOST THE MA REFEREEING COURSE

The Federation of International Football Association (FIFA) will host the MA Refereeing Course as from Monday, 5th – Friday, 9th August 2019 at the Technical centre in Lobamba. There are thirty (30) referees to attend this course. This FIFA MA Refereeing Course will be facilitated by two FIFA Instructors who are Mr. Ali Mohamed Ahmed from Somalia Republic and Mr. Giuseppe Galvano from Italy.



EFA'S President Mr. Adam Mthethwa certifying Letticia Vienna on behalf of FIFA President after the 2017 MA Refereeing course while FIFA Instructor Felix Tangawarima appreciates.

The main objective of this course is to equip the referees during the pre-season period. These referees were equipped in both the theoretical and practical aspects of refereeing. Some of the topics that will be part of this course's content are the laws of the games amendments, presentation on integrity and the tactical fouls just to mention but a few.



EFA's Technical Director Mr Bhekisisa Mkhonta, FIFA, FIFA's Instructor Horst Kriete; EFA's Vice President Mr. Peter Simelane and Finance Manager Mr. Nkosinamandla Mavuso with the participants.

The main objective of this course was to equip the coaches as they are key during the pre-season period. Moreover, coaches were equipped on both the theoretical and practical aspects of coaching.

ESWATINI FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION ACKNOWLEDGES FIFA

The Eswatini Football Association (EFA) has acknowledged the Federation of International Football Association (FIFA) for assigning an instructor of Kriete's calibre as he is a highly experienced facilitator and also acknowledged the perfectly implemented FIFA MA Elite Coaching Course that took place at the Thokoza Church Centre in Mbabane on the 15th – 19th July 2019. This was disclosed by the Vice President of EFA Mr. Peter Simelane.

WE ARE READY TO FIGHT- SIHLANGU'S PLAYERS

The Sihlangu SeMnikati's Captain Banele Dlamini, has highlighted that players are available and ready to fight for the nation. "Players are available and ready to fight for the nation", Dlamini said. He made his remarks during training at the Technical Centre, preparing for second leg to be played against Angola on Saturday, 3rd August 2019 at the 12 000 seater Estadio dos Coqueiro in Luanda. Kick off for this international match is 1600 hrs (Angolan time) which is 1700hrs (Eswatini time). The national team captain missed the first leg encounter due to an injury is confident enough that they will be able to eliminate the Angolans on their own backyard. "We know we owe EmaSwati and we will make them proud in Angola. I urge EmaSwati to put us in their prayers as this match is very important to us as a country", he added.



Sihlangu players jogging at training.

The Sihlangu skipper's words were echoed by Fanelo Mamba who showed confidence which is a positive signal that they are ready for the match in Luanda, Angola. He highlighted that despite being under pressure to score goals away from home; they are equal to the challenge. "We are ready for the challenge. We have to be positive and deliver", he said. Over and above, he stated that they won't be intimidated by the Angolan's 12th player in the stadium as they clearly know what they have to do in Angola in order for them to stay in the competition. "We won't be intimidated by Angolan fans. We will focus on playing football and making sure that we deliver", he added.

WE HAVE TO CORRECT OUR MISTAKES- SISEKELO 'RIO'MATSENJWA



Sisekelo 'Rio' Matsenjwa during training for the upcoming match in Angola.

He won his first full cap in the national team and he is courageous like a lion. This is Sisekelo Matsenjwa who had a good game against Angola and he was unlucky not to score. This youngster believes that Sihlangu has the potential to advance to the next and final round of the 2020 Total CHAN Qualifiers. "As we go to Angola, we have to rectify our mistakes in order for us to score goals as we missed a lot of clear cut scoring opportunities in the first leg on home soil", said Sisekelo "Rio" Matsenjwa.

When interviewed during the national team's preparation for the upcoming away match in Luanda, Angola; Matsenjwa highlighted during the first leg which was also his first full international cap; he wasn't that much intimidated as he used to play international games for the junior national teams; however, there was some difference as playing for the senior national team comes with its own high expectation more especially from the fans. "During the first leg which was my first full cap; I wasn't that much intimidated as I used to play international matches for the junior national teams; however, playing for the senior national team has its own high expectations from the public"; Matsenjwa said.



SIHLANGU HEAD COACH HAPPY ABOUT SIHLANGU'S STYLE OF PLAY

The Senior Men's National team Head Coach, Kostadin Papic is very much satisfied with the style of play of Sihlangu SeMnikati however; he is also concerned about the lack of a win for the national team. "We are playing good football and creating a lot of chances to score unfortunately we are not converting most of the chances into goals which is why in most of the matches we played draws which is not characteristic to the style of football that we play"; Papic said. He highlighted that in as much as people are criticising what they are doing and how they are doing it; they have the richest style and in that case they have to win the next match in Angola. He promised that in the second leg, they are going to try and win the match. "We are going to attack and surprise them", Papic said.



Sihlangu's Head Coach, Kostadin Papic posing during training for the upcoming match in Angola.

The national team left for Angola with twenty (20) players which included both Sisekelo Matsenjwa and Allen Mabuza who won themselves their first full international caps during the first leg against Angola in the match that was played on home soil this past weekend. The big blow for Sihlangu is the unavailability of Sandile Gamedze who also missed the first leg due to an injury. "Sandile is not going to Angola after he failed a fitness test", Papic said. Over and above this match, the coach also highlighted that this year is going to be a busy year for the national team as from September to December they will be competing.

ESWATINI VS ANGOLA UNDER CAMERA



Sihlangu SeMnikati posing for group photo before the kick-off of the 2020 Total CHAN Qualifier Match against Angola at the Mavuso Sports Centre in Manzini.



Junior Magagula heading towards goal.



Edwin Matsebula, Dominic Kunene and Christan Thwala amongst the football fans during the 2020 Total CHAN Qualifier match between Eswatini and Angola at the Mavuso Sports Centre in Manzini.



Eddie Marcos of Angola and Menzi Sithole of Sihlangu in action during the 2020 Total CHAN Qualifiers at the Mavuso Sports Centre.



Sihlangu supporters support in full voice during the 2020 Total CHAN Qualifiers at the Mavuso Sports Centre.



Sihlangu's Head Coach, Kostadin Papic with Sihlangu players after the end of the match between Eswatini and Angola.



Sihlangu's Head Coach, Kostadin Papic, in full concentration during the Total Chan Qualifier match against Angola.



Sisekelo 'Rio' Matsenjwa in control of the ball.

