



# SIGWACA FORTNIGHTLY

*"Living the Football Spirit and Our Pride"*

ESWATINI FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

THE PLAYERS HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO WIN IN ZAMBIA- SIHLANGU'S HEAD COACH



The Senior Men's National Team Head Coach Kostadin Papic during the media day at the Mavuso Sports Centre.

The Senior Men's National Team Head Coach, Kostadin Papic has highlighted that the national team players have the potential to play very well in Zambia and get a positive result. "The players have the potential to play. I see that my team is developing in football", Papic said. He stated that the spirit in camp is good and they are preparing themselves as much as they can in order to get a win in Lusaka. "Zambia is a strong team but we are not afraid of anybody. We will try our best to win the match and make the nation happy", he said.

Papic also highlighted that he want to prepare his team to play the style of football he wants them to play. "We have talented players and we want to make history by qualifying to the 2020 Total CHAN Finals. Despite that we lost in the first leg, we still hope that we will do better in

**"WE HAVE TALENTED PLAYERS AND WE WANT TO MAKE HISTORY BY QUALIFYING TO THE 2020 TOTAL CHAN FINALS"-SIHLANGU'S HEAD COACH.**

the second leg", he added. Moreover, the coach stated that it is going to be difficult for them but they will work hard to achieve their goal.

Over and above, it will be a historic moment for Sihlangu to qualify to the 2020 Total CHAN Finals. In that case the players need to work hard and try all their best to win in the upcoming second leg match against Zambia on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> October 2019 in Lusaka.



WE NEED TO WORK TOWARDS GETTING GOOD RESULTS-EFA'S PRESIDENT



The EFA President, Mr Adam Mthethwa

The Eswatini Football Association's (EFA's) President Mr. Adam Mthethwa has highlighted that they need to work towards getting good results. "Despite that people are criticizing football, we need to work towards getting good results", Mthethwa said. He made his remarks during the farewell ceremony for the Senior Men's National Team (Sihlangu) to Zambia.

"We are just 90 minutes away from qualifying for one of the major tournaments and that comes with its own history", he said. He further stated that the 90 minutes that they are going to play is very much important and they believe that all players are in a good frame of mind to compete. "I urge all players to compete to the best of their abilities and make our nation proud. We believe that you are going to perform very well and make history for our country", he added.

## SIHLANGU PLAYERS WANTS A WIN IN ZAMBIA

The Senior Men's National Team (Sihlangu) Striker, Sandile Gamedze has highlighted that the spirit is very high in camp and players are preparing themselves as much as they can to be ready to face the Zambians. He made his remarks during the media day at the Mavuso Sports Centre on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019. "We are going to redeem ourselves in Zambia. We have to stick to our game plan", Gamedze said. He further stated that their game plan is to attack so that they can score goals. "We have to attack so that we can score goals", he said.



Sihlangu's midfielder Sandile Gamedze during the media day at the Mavuso Sports Centre.

Gamedze's words were echoed by Phumlani Dlamini who showed confidence that they are going to win the upcoming match against Zambia. He highlighted that the set-up is good and spirit is high in camp. "Despite that we don't have good results, the set-up is good and spirit is very high in camp. Players are promising to fight and try to win the match", Dlamini said.

## WE ARE ALWAYS HEADED FOR THE UNKNOWN-U17'S MEN'S NATIONAL TEAM HEAD COACH

The U17 Men's National Team Head Coach, Gcina Dlamini stated that it's not easy to play with countries you didn't face before, but with the international friendly matches they have played with Botswana and Mozambique, he believes that it will bring a positive impact in the COSAFA U17 Youth Championship. "If you are playing in this tournament, you are always headed for the unknown. We are going to try our best and leave a mark", Dlamini said.



The U17 Men's National team Head Coach, Gcina Dlamini during the training session at the Technical Centre.

Dlamini also stated that they had enough time to prepare, which gave them positive impact in terms of technical and physical tactics. He further acknowledged Eswatini Football Association for the support that they are giving them. "We are ready to play in this championship. I thank the football office for the support that they are giving us", he added



## WE ARE READY TO FIGHT –U17 NATIONAL TEAM CAPTAIN, SIPHEPHELO PHILISO

The U17 Men's National Team Captain, Siphephelo Philiso has highlighted that the spirit is very high in the camp and the players are eager to fight for the nation. "The players are ready to fight for the nation in this championship", Philiso said. He made his remarks during one of the training session at the Technical Centre, in preparation for the 2019 COSAFA U17 Youth Championship played in Blantyre.



The U17 Men's National Team Captain, Siphephelo Philiso during the training session at the Technical Centre.

Philiso also acknowledged their coaches as they prepared them very well and promised the nation that they will come back home with something. "We prepared very well and the players want to fight for the nation. We promise EmaSwati that we won't come back home empty handed", he said.

The Captain's words were echoed by Colani Dvuba who showed confidence which was a positive sign that they are ready for the challenge in Blantyre, Malawi. He highlighted that the players are more committed and ready for the challenge. "We have support from our coaches. The players are more committed and ready for the challenge", Dvuba said. Over and above, he asked for support from the nation. "I urge EmaSwati to put us in their prayers as we want to come back home with something", he added.

## FOCUS ON EFA'S FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

### U17 QUALIFIES FOR THE SEMI-FINALS



The U17 Men's National Team celebrating a goal against Malawi in the 2019 COSAFA U17 Youth Championship.

After a poor start in the on-going COSAFA U17 Youth Championship where-by Eswatini lost to Zambia by 6-0, Eswatini won the second match against Malawi who are the hosts by 2-1. This result placed the Gcina Dlamini led side to the second spot in Group A. Eswatini qualified for semi-finals after playing a 1-1 draw against the Republic of South Africa on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

When interviewed after the match against South Africa, the U17 Senior Men's National Team Head Coach, Gcina Dlamini highlighted that the game was tough but they managed to play very well. "Indeed, it was a tough game but we managed to play", Dlamini said.

### NTENGENYANE CHAMPS OF THE BUILD IT U13 SITEKI CHAMPIONSHIP

On Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> October 2019 the Eswatini Football Association (EFA) in collaboration with Build it hosted the 2019 Build it U13 Siteki Championship at the Siteki Sport Ground. Eight (8) teams were competing for the championship. These teams were Ntengenyane, Silent Heroes, Imphumalanga, Barcelona, Matsetsa Arsenal, Lukhula Black Stars, Sangcotfo and Golden. Ntengenyane FC was crowned champions after defeating Sangcotfo by 2-0. To reach finals, Ntengenyane defeated Black Stars by 2-0 whilst Sangcotfo were the finalists after winning against Barcelona by 2-0.

For their championship, the youngsters were awarded a trophy, a new Build-it branded soccer kit; Build it branded bags, water bottles and individual trophies whilst Sangcotfo got individual trophies, water bottles and soccer bags. The best player was Banele Matse from Ntengenyane who won himself a trophy. When interviewed after the event Matse was very much happy to be crowned the best player. "I am very much excited to be the best player of this tournament. I played very well and I was able to score 5 goals", Matse said. He further stated that training sessions help them a lot and thanked the support they got from their parents and coaches. "My best player is Sifiso Matse from the Royal Leopard FC and I wish to play for that team one day", he added.



Ntengenyane posing after being crowned the champions of the Build it U13 Siteki championship.

Over and above, the EFA'S CEO Mr. Frederick Mngomezulu acknowledged Build it, parents and coaches for the support that they give to this youngsters. "On behalf of the football association, we kindly thank Build it for supporting football development in the country. We saw a lot talent from these youngsters", Mngomezulu said. His words were echoed by the Managing Director of Piggs Peak, Ebuhleni and Siteki Build it, Mr. Khanya Ndlovu who stated that the youngsters played very well and it shows that football is really developing in the country. "Indeed football is developing in the country. We hope that the youth coaches of the EFA were able to identify the promising talent from these players", Ndlovu said.

### EFA HOSTS U13 GIRLS FESTIVAL

The Eswatini Football Association (EFA) hosted the U15 Girls Festival on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at the Manzini Club. A total of Four (4) schools attended the event. The schools were Kwaluseni Infant, Sydney Williams, Matsapha Government and Kwaluseni Central. The main aim of this event was to create football awareness for Primary School girls around Manzini in preparation for the U15 EFA Schools Girls 'Football League. The activities on the day included the technical exercises which were running with the ball, dribbling, passing and ball control. They also played a one day tournament which was played in round- robin format.



Action during the U15 Girls Festival at the Manzini Club.

The schools played six (6) games. This tournament was won by Kwaluseni Infant. Kwaluseni got nine (9) points, Sydney Williams and Matsapha Government got four (4) points respectively. Lastly, Kwaluseni Central got 0 points.

Over and above, the EFA'S Youth Development Officer Mr. Friday Myeni highlighted that the girls were very much excited to play football on the day as most of them were doing so for the first time. "The players have the talent of football. It needs to be nurtured and such events can help to develop the technical ability of these youngsters", Myeni said. He further stated that some teachers lack knowledge and skills in football coaching. In that case they need coaching courses for them to understand the basics of coaching.



## IT'S TIME FOR ESWATINI TO TAKE ITS PLACE AMONG FOOTBALL'S TOP TABLES- MINISTER OF SPORTS

The Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Hon. Harries Bulunga has congratulated the national team for reaching the last round of the 2019 Total CHAN Qualifiers. "I would like to congratulate the national team for the hard work, in battling it out for a place in the 2020 Total CHAN Finals. Indeed, we are now standing on the brink of history; within touching distance of achieving a feat no one has ever accomplished in the country", Bulunga said. He made his remarks during the farewell ceremony for the Senior Men's National Team (Sihlangu) to Zambia on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at the Technical Centre, in Lobamba.



Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Hon. Harries Bulunga during the farewell ceremony of Sihlangu to Zambia at the Technical Centre.

When addressing the audience, the Minister stated that His Majesty's Government and the nation at large have full support for the national team and equally believe in their capabilities of making a history. "We are not sending you out for defeat, we are aware of the progress that you have made. We hope that such will be used as a solid foundation towards achieving the subsequent and eagerly awaited success of our national team", Bulunga said.

"The time has come for Eswatini to take its place among football's top tables, the dream that has long been carried by His Majesty King Mswati III. It's now in your hands to make His Majesty's dream come true", he said. Over and above, he urged EmaSwati to put the national

team in their prayers. "I urge EmaSwati to join the national team in prayer for a safe and successful trip. Indeed, the time has come for Sihlangu to play with the big boys and we hope that they will make the nation proud", he added.

## EFA TO HOST THE BASIC ADMINISTRATION COURSE



EFA's President Mr Adam Mthethwa, EFA's CEO Mr. Frederick Mngomezulu, FIFA's Instructor; Mr. Jacques Desire Laval Malie, Technical Director Mr. Bhekisisa Mkhonta posing with football administrators during one of FIFA's Basic Administration Course.

The Eswatini Football Association (EFA) will host the EFA Basic Administration Course starting from Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at Sosholoz in Manzini. The facilitators of this course are; the EFA'S CEO, Mr. Frederick Mngomezulu, Mr. Thulani Mavuso and the Technical Director, Mr. Bhekisisa Mkhonta.



EFA's Technical Director Mr. Bhekisisa Mkhonta.

According to the EFA's Technical Director, Mr Bhekisisa Mkhonta, the purpose of this course is to equip technical skills, human skills and conceptual skills for football administrators. "Some of the topics to be discussed in this course are; Management and Leadership, Finance and Marketing", Mkhonta said.

## EFA TO HOST THE EFA LICENCE D PHASE ONE COURSE



Coaches during one of the FIFA Coaching Course

The Eswatini Football Association (EFA) will host the EFA Licence D Phase One course starting from Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at Sosholoz in Manzini. This course will be facilitated by Mr. Musa Mamba and Mr. James Kunene.

"The main purpose of this course is to create a wide base of coaches at the Regional level", said the EFA's Technical Director Mr. Bhekisisa Mkhonta. He further stated that the topics to be discussed in this course includes; Management and Leadership, Communication Skills and Team-Building just to mention but a few.

## EFA TO HOST THE REFEREEING WORKSHOP

The Eswatini Football Association (EFA) will host the Refereeing Workshop on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> October 2019 starting at 08:30 am at the Technical Centre in Lobamba. The facilitators are Mr. Gilbert Dlamini and Mr. Ernest Dlamini who are EFA's Refereeing Instructors.

The main purpose of this workshop is to improve the referees writing skills, referees positioning and the reading of the game. Some of the topics to be discussed in this workshop are; report writing, positioning and movement of officials. The participants are the national elite referees (those who officiate during the Premier League Matches).

SIHLANGU'S TRAINING SESSION AND  
FAREWELL FUNCTION UNDER CAMERA



Warm-up: Sihlangu warms-up during the training session at the Mavuso Sports Centre.



Minister of Sports Hon. Harries Bulunga, EFA's President Mr. Adam Mthethwa, Head of Delegation Mr Thulani Mavuso and Sihlangu's Head Coach posing with the national team players at the Technical Centre.



Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Hon. Harries Bulunga greets Dennis Fakudze while Velekhaya Mthethwa looks on.



Sihlangu's Goalkeepers warming up during the training session.



Minister of Sports Hon. Harries Bulunga, EFA's President Mr. Adam Mthethwa and Head of Delegation Mr. Thulani Mavuso during the farewell function for Sihlangu to Zambia.



Sihlangu's Head Coach, Kostadin Papic and the rest of the technical staff of the national team during farewell ceremony before Sihlangu's departure to Zambia at the Technical Centre.



The Senior Men's National Team Head Coach Kostadin Papic during the training session at the Mavuso Sports Centre.



Minister of Sports Hon. Harries Bulunga in discussion Sihlangu's Head Coach while the EFA President Mr. Adam Mthethwa looks on .