



SIGWACA FORTNIGHTLY

NATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF SWAZILAND

AN OVERVIEW OF THE 2017 AGM



Some Executive Committee Members

On Sunday, 25th June 2017, the National Football Association of Swaziland (NFAS) held its Ordinary General Assembly at Sibane Hotel in Ezulwini. Tensions were very high before this meeting as the main item on the agenda was the Executive

Committee Elections of the NFAS. The positions that were voted for were the Presidential, two (2) Vice Presidential and 2 Executive Committee Members positions.

As per the statutes of the NFAS, the President of the NFAS opened this meeting and the business of the day commenced. When addressing the audience, the President of the NFAS, Senator Adam Mthethwa highlighted the progress that the NFAS has made over the years. "The NFAS has tremendously grown over the

"THE NFAS HAS TREMENDOUSLY GROWN OVER THE YEARS CONSIDERING THE ASSETS THAT THE ORGANIZATION POSSESSES"- PRESIDENT OF THE NFAS.

of value. "Also, we are amongst the few football associations in Africa that have a full time General Secretary (GS) and the aim is to have GS's in the regional associations", he emphasized. The President of the NFAS concluded by challenging the football family to raise the bar in as far as the football brand is concerned, and he also wished the nominees of the election the very best of luck.

The GS of the NFAS also took the podium and presented the end of year reports

years considering the assets that the organization possesses", said the President

of the NFAS. Currently, the NFAS is at +/- E30 Million, having once upon a time been at -E3 Million in terms

NFAS PRESIDENT THANKS THE FOOTBALL FAMILY



The President of the NFAS

The President of the National Football Association of Swaziland (NFAS) has thanked the football family for entrusting him to be the President of the NFAS. This was after he won the presidential election of the NFAS that was held at Sibane Hotel on the 25th June 2017. "I am very much humbled to the football family for their confidence in me, to be the President of the NFAS for the next 4 years", said Senator Adam Mthethwa. He also thanked God for his guidance over the years and believes that He will do so as he occupies the highest office in Swazi football for another 4 years. With his vast experience in football administration, the local game of football is destined for greater heights.

which include the activity and financial reports respectively. The activity report included all the football activities under the auspice of the NFAS that took place between July 2016-June 2017. The same period applied for the financial report.

After the reports were presented, the major focus was on the most popular item on the agenda, which were the elections. They were conducted by Mr. Mbuso Simelane who is a senior Mbabane based attorney. These elections were as per the statutes of the NFAS. The nominees for the Presidential position were Senator Adam

Mthethwa who got 28 votes, Mr. Timothy Shongwe who got 11 votes and Mr. Mashumi Shongwe who got 9 votes. These results confirmed Senator Adam Mthethwa as the President of the NFAS for the next 4 years. As for the Vice President positions, there were 4 nominees who were, Mr. Nicodimus Mashwama, Dr. Comfort Shongwe, Mr. Johannes Siboza and Mr. Peter Simelane. The eventual winners were Dr. Comfort Shongwe who got 38 votes and Mr. Peter Simelane who got 31 votes. Mr Nicodimus Mashwama got 18 votes and Mr. Johannes Siboza got 8 votes. The last positions to be elected for

on the day were that of the 2 Executive Committee Members which were contested for by, Mr. Elphas Ngcamphalala, MP Sikhumbuzo Dlamini, Mr. Jerry Gamedze, Mr. Steve Horton, Mr. Njabulo Mabuza, Mr. Peter Magagula, Mr. Philip Dlamini and Mr. Sabelo Kunene. The eventual winners were Mr. Philip Dlamini after round 2 with 28 votes and MP Sikhumbuzo Dlamini with the same number of votes after round 4. This was after no candidate was able to have the required number of votes in the 3rd round.

SIHLANGU SEMNIKATI'S CAMP BEFORE AND DURING THE COSAFA CASTLE CUP COMPETITION



The Honorable Minister, David Ngcamphalala, NFAS President Adam Mthethwa, NFAS Vice President Dr. Comfort Shongwe and Lucky Sihlongonyane from the Ministry of Sports, Culture & Youth affairs with Sihlangu SeMnikati that played in the 2017 COSAFA Castle Cup

After the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) Qualifier match against Niger, which was an away match, the Senior Men's National Team went to camp in

preparation for the COSAFA Castle Cup Competition that was held in Rustenburg, South Africa. Sihlangu SeMnikati was minus most of the experienced players due

to club commitments as this competition clashed with CAF Interclub Competitions. This situation forced the national team's Head Coach, Pietier De Jongh to call other

players to be part of the national team set up which was an opportunity for those players to play for the Nation's Pride in a competition. There were 26 players in camp including one international player by the name of Felix Badenhorst who was released by his Democratic Republic of Congo club, AS Vita Club to be part of the national team for the competition. This player was the top goal scorer for the 2016 edition of the COSAFA Castle Cup.

Most of the training sessions were long as they lasted between one hour thirty minutes to two hours. The major focus of these training sessions was both on the technical and tactical aspects. "The training camp before the competition went very well and there were long training sessions which focused on both the technical and tactical aspects of the game", said the Head Coach. To be precise, the national team did physical training, passing and ball possession drills, when to attack and defend, and shape maintenance just to mention a few. Before travelling to

Rustenburg, the national team trained twice per day (i.e. morning and afternoon). Once in Rustenburg, they trained once per day. Sihlangu SeMnikati left the country for Rustenburg on Thursday, 29th June 2017 by road. A total of 20 players were part of the travelling delegation as per the competition rules and regulations. In the absence of Tony Tsabedze, the national team was captained by Nkosing'phile Tsabedze. The Nation's Pride first match was in the quarter finals against Zimbabwe at the Royal Bafokeng Stadium. The local side lost by 2-1 with Felix Badenhorst scoring the lone goal of the competition for the national team. According to the Head Coach, this was a difficult match for the Nation's Pride. "It was a difficult match for us as the opponents were more physical and had a lot of speed than us. They had an advantage over us as most of their players play in the more professional league in South Africa and that also helped them a lot during the competition as they went on to win the tournament", he said. This result relegated the national team to the second stream of

the competition as they had a date against Namibia in the Plate tournament of the same competition. This match was played at the Moruleng Stadium. The Nation's Pride lost by an odd goal. "This was an open match and the team was more organized and played better than the first match, as this match could have gone either way. However, we lost concentration thus we got punished", said the Head Coach. He also highlighted that Namibia was a good opposition however, they were not at Zimbabwe's level. In terms of individual performance, he was impressed by Sifiso Matse and Phephisani Msibi just to mention a few. "Some of the players did very well in as far as the 2 matches were concerned, as I was impressed by Sifiso Matse and Phephisani Msibi just to mention names. They showed good attitude and mental strength of which there is more positivity in the future in as far as the national team is concerned", he concluded.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS' FUTSAL FINALS

The 2017 Primary Schools Futsal Championships came to an end on Wednesday, 28th June 2017 at the OlympiAfrica Courts in Lobamba. This competition commenced at Zonal then Regional and finally National Level. Both boys and girls participated in these championships. In the boys' tournament, only U13 boys were eligible to participate whereas in the girls' category, only the U15 girls were allowed to participate.

During the final day of the championships, which was the national championship, a total of twelve ten (10) schools participated under the boys section and these schools were divided into two groups of five. As for the girls section, a total of eight (8) schools participated and there were two groups of four. These games were played in a round robin format with the group winners and runners-ups qualifying for the semi-finals. In the boys section, Lobamba National; Sydney Williams; Lozitha National and John

Wesley Primary Schools qualified for the semi-finals stage. As for the girls section, Lobamba National; Ntuthukweni; Kwaluseni Central and Lozitha Primary schools qualified for the semi-finals stage. The results in the semi-finals stage were as follows:

Boys Competition

- Lobamba National 4: Lozitha National 0
- Sydney Williams 1: John Wesley 3

Girls Competition

- Lobamba National 2: Ntuthukweni 3
- Kwaluseni Central 0: Lozitha 2

The winners of the above matches qualified to the final stage whilst the losers qualified for the 3rd place play offs matches respectively. The losers' finals results were as follows:

Boys Competition

- Sydney Williams 5: Lozitha National 4

Girls Competition

- Lobamba National 3: Kwaluseni Central 1

The finals' results were as follows:

Boys Competition

- Lobamba National 10: John Wesley 0

Girls Competition

- Ntuthukweni 3: Lozitha 1

These results imply that Lobamba National and Ntuthukweni Primary Schools are the 2017 National Futsal Champions respectively.

These championships were a huge success as the main mandate was to develop football from grassroots level. The children also enjoyed themselves throughout the championships. Samkeliso Dlamini, a grade 6 student at Lobamba National Primary School, said that he benefited a lot in these competitions as he enjoyed himself and he was also able to flex his muscles. "I enjoyed myself and also benefited health wise as I was able to flex my muscles", said Samkeliso Dlamini. This lad displayed top class Futsal artistry and he also highlighted

that football was his favourite sport with the Senior National Team and Mbabane Swallows Captain, Tony Tsabedze being his role model." I like Tony Tsabedze and I dream of playing for Chelsea FC in the English Premiership.", he said. This boy's words were echoed by Senele Nhlabatsi, a young skillful girl from Ntuthukweni Primary School who also said she enjoyed herself during these championships. "With more competitions like this, more talent can be unveiled and also we as children, can have a better platform to enjoy and express our talent", she said.

Partnerships

The NFAS urges its stakeholders to support this football development programme as it plays a vital role in the development of football in the country. Also, this football development programme contributes immensely in the development of the Swazi Child as other personal skills of the children are being enriched. Such development programmes needs a lot of collaborations from different stakeholders in order to maximize their effectiveness in society.



Champions in the Boys' Futsal competition- Lobamba National Primary School



Action during the 2017 Futsal National Championships in the girls' section



Champions in the Girls' Futsal Competition- Ntuthukweni Primary School



Action during the 2017 Futsal National Championships in the boys' section

SNAP SHOT OF THE MA YOUTH COACHING COURSE

The Federation of International Football Association (FIFA) hosted an MA FIFA Youth Coaching Course at Emtfonjeni Building in Ezulwini. The event commenced on the 10th-14th July 2018. This course was attended by 26 participants from the Premier League and First Division Clubs' Youth Coaches and other personnel involved in youth coaching in the Regions. The main purpose of this course was to empower the Youth Coaches with the technical and tactical abilities of player development. The topics for this course included, Structuring a Training Session, the Youth Session, the Youth; and Fitness for young Players, just to mention a few.



Opening Remarks: The President of the NFAS officially opening the course

When addressing the audience during the opening ceremony, the President of the National Football Association of Swaziland

(NFAS) highlighted that this course was very vital in the development of the game of football more especially at the youth stage. "This course is very important in the development of football and more especially from the youth stage as it lays a

good foundation for the sustainability of the beautiful game as chances are high that with solid foundation in as far as player development is concerned, the players will be more successful", said the President of the NFAS. Also present during the opening ceremony were the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the NFAS; Mr Frederick Mngomezulu, the Chief Operations Officer (COO) of the Premier League of Swaziland (PLS); Mr Petros Vilakati, the Technical Director (TD) of the NFAS; Mr Bhekisisa Mkhonta and the Media.



FIFA Instructor, CEO of the NFAS & the TD of the NFAS

When highlighting the importance of this course, the FIFA Instructor, likened the game of football to a school. "Football is like a school, as it takes about 10 000 hours to put up a player at his/her best", he said. Mr Serame Letsoaka also urged the country to invest early on players as there will be more sustainability in the local game of football. In as far as talent is concerned, he compared it to a mine. In Swaziland, there is a mine of talent", he said. This implies that, there is a lot of potential in the local game of football compared to other countries. Lastly, the FIFA Instructor also urged the respective Swazi football clubs to up the gear in as far as player development is concerned as there will be a positive effect in the long run.

This course was concluded with a closing ceremony where-by the participants were certified. The participants are expected to implement what they have learnt back to their respective clubs.



Practical session of the FIFA MA Youth course



The CEO, FIFA Instructor & TD with the Participants of the FIFA MA Youth Course



The Honorable Minister, Dumsani Ndlangamandla, Dr Tambo Gina and the Yam' Nawe Beneficiaries' Representatives

UPCOMING FOOTBALL EVENTS

- 2017 Swazi Telecom Corporate Social Investment (CSI) events
- FIFA Connect Registration Workshops

WHAT'S ON THE NEXT ISSUE

- Preview of the 2017 NFAS Schools' Women Football.
- The NFAS's FIFA Connect Registration Workshops.
- Women's National Team's Training Camp