Haikali secures top NPL post

By Kayele M. Kambombo

WINDHOEK – Finally the position of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for Namibia Premier League (NPL) is to be given to one of the top football administrators of merits.

Extraordinary Mathew Haikali was a successful candidate for the top job of NPL. He will be a first class CEO judging from his experience in football administration and media acumen.

Haikali has picked his administrative and managerial knowledge through overseeing and running the day-to-day functions of the lower division teams. He is a FIFA Future Instructor and a former Director for Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA). The best part of the top job is now a done deal. However, the interview panel for the position of the NPL CEO was very amateurish and unethical; it should be noted squarely, that is.

The panel members lacked confidentiality as almost every Tom, Dick and Harry knew who the successful candidate was for the CEO position, even before the recommendation reached the NPL Board of Governors (BoG), while the CEO-to-be did not even have official recognition. Seven candidates were shortlisted, namely Mathew Haikali, Lennox Chibahwile, Gunther Gelder, Emmanuel Nawashe and Kavemzumbuka Vai-Majoni. Interviews were conducted on 9 November, 2009.

The interview panel submitted its recommendations to the NPL Board of Governors at a meeting held five days after the interviews. November 10 where the recommendation was endorsed. The NPL has made a formal offer to the successful candidate to except or decline it.

In a media release issued by Meke Namindo, NPL Media Officer, it stated: "NPL is anticipating completing this process by November 20", adding that: "The Namibian responsibility on the CEO will include: the strategic development and management of the NPL, the preparation and implementations of the NPL’s strategic plans for 2010 to 2012 for the growth and expansion of the NPL and its entire affiliated clubs".

Khomas Region to select boxer for Zone IV

By Kayele M. Kambombo

WINDHOEK - The Namibia Boxing Federation will host the Khomas Regional amateur boxing championship to select a team that will be part of the participants of the forthcoming Zone IV championships due on the second week of December, this was announced at the media briefing this week by Joe "Mimoto Wezizwe" Kaperu, Secretary General of Namibia Boxing Federation (left) and Nestor “Sunshine” Tobias, boxing promoter.

The best club that accumulates medals in the national boxing championships will become the winner of a gold-plated trophy. The best boxer and best bouts of the championship will be win a symbol of small boxing statue.

The awards are an introduction to the sport of amateur boxing as a game of skills, discipline, respect and self control that has been designed as recreational and development boxing programme that will attract the youth of Namibia from drugs and alcohol abuse and related criminal activities, said boxing promoter Nestor Tobias.

This platform is the pathway to people getting the best out of amateur boxing whilst receiving awards and a sense of achievement.

Only 11 boxes from different categories and weight classes will be selected at the national championships due on the second week of December, this was announced at the media briefing this week by Joe "Mimoto Wezizwe" Kaperu, Secretary General of Namibia Boxing Federation.

The National championships will take place in Windhoek where 180-200 boxes are expected to fight for glory. Winners will represent Namibia in Zone IV (possibly Zone VI) in February. The host country is still to be announced.

There are also other boxing championships in line such as the Africa Cup of Nations Boxing Championship to be held in South Africa in May next year", Kaperu announced.

The Khomas Regional amateur boxing championships is sponsored by Nestor “Sunshine” Tobias Boxing & Fitness Academy with a little from his friends like John Hayes and Matthew Hamunyata of Readie Bite Meat Market and Millenium Investment respectively.

Parreire, McCarthy back to Bafana squadron

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA - South Africa's current coach, Carlos Alberto Parreira is back in the hot seat to coach Bafana Bafana for the second time to reignite the Brazilian flair.

The man who led Brazil to the 1994 World Cup, Parreira, at 66, has left the South Africa post last year to care for his ill wife, and was reappointed in October with a contract that ends just after the 2010 World Cup. Joel Santana has failed dismally in his mission to take Bafana Bafana to the 2010 World Cup. He oversaw eight defeats in South Africa’s last nine matches, albeit against some of the best teams in the world.

The only win he has recorded as win was against the minnows of Madagascar that Bafana beat with a solitary goal.

This was indeed a poor record. South Africa have scored just two goals in their last six internationals while conceding eight in the process that eventually cost Santana his job.

Bafana will want to reverse the dismal form that has seen them drop to 85th in the world rankings while the team embarrassingly struggled to score.

With his arrival in South Africa, the Brazilian Parreira outlined his vision for World Cup success. Secondly he recalled Bennie McCarthy to the squad to face Japan tomorrow at Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium in Port Elizabeth before facing Jamaica three days later in Bloemfontein.

Parreira persuaded the Blackburn Rovers striker to come out of his self-imposed international retirement in September 2007 when he first coached Bafana. After a clash of personalities with former Bafana coach Santana, McCarthy was overlooked for the national team.

McCarthy finds himself between the rock and a hard place in his football career at the moment. He is currently not being given any real game time by Blackburn Rovers manager Sam Allardyce in the English Premier League despite the club hovering in the relegation zone.

Reports have it that McCarthy could move to Portmouth on loan in the January transfer window. Bafana captain Aaron Mokoena moved from Blackburn to Portmouth at the end of last season for the same reason, as lack of game time at Rovers was putting him under immense pressure. Another Bafana teammate Elrio van Heerden, captain Aaron Mokoena moved from Blackburn to Portsmouth at the end of last season for the same reason, as lack of game time at Rovers was putting him under immense pressure.

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