

# Namibia Today Sport

## 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.

Extraordinaire 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.



Mathew "Director Mats" Haikali

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

a clue that he was to be appointed.

This writer was in Johannesburg but was reliably informed on November 7 that Haikali got the job. How did this confidential information leaked out to the public?

Haikali received uncountable congratulatory messages from people of all walks of life. He was bewildered asking those who passed on good wishes to him: "How do you know that, you must be joking", that was his reply. Well that is the way the cookie crumbles, here.

Seven candidates were shortlisted, namely Mathew Haikali, Lennox Chibahwile, Wiellie Swartz, Eliphaz Shipanga, Gerald Gunther, Emmanuel Nawaseb and Kavezemburuka Veii-Mujoro. Interviews were conducted on 5<sup>th</sup> November 5, 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 accept 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 main responsibility of the CEO will include; the strategic development and management of the NPL, the preparation and implementation 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 at the forthcoming Zone IV championships in February next year.

Khomas Regional amateur boxing event will take place at A Shipena Secondary School Hall tonight starting at 18H30 till late. The entrance is free of charge.

The Khomas Regional boxing team will be selected out of 50 boxers. Five Windhoek-based boxing clubs, the like of Tiger Cage Boxing Club, Soweto Boxing Club, Central Boxing Club, Mistake Boxing Club and Nestor "Sunshine" Boxing & Fitness Academy will register their boxers to take part in this historic event.

The lists of the national amateur champions, by division are as follows Light flyweight, Flyweight, Bantamweight, Featherweight, Lightweight, Light welterweight, Welterweight, Middleweight, Light heavyweight, Heavyweight, Super heavyweight.

This time around there will be silverware attached to the achievements of the boxers. There are 11 of each gold and silver medals as well as 15 bronze medals. The gold medals will be presented to the Khomas Region champions while the runners-up get silver medals and bronze go to the semifinalists.



Joe "Mkonto Wezizwe" Kaperu, Secretary General of Namibia Boxing Federation (left) and Nestor "Sunshine" Tobias, boxing promoter.

The best club that accumulates more medals will walk away with a gold-plated trophy. The best boxer and best bouts of the championship will be win a symbol of small boxing statuette

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 developmental boxing programme that will away 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 boxers 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 'Mkonto Wezizwe' Kaperu, Secretary General of Namibia Boxing Federation.

The National championships will take place in Windhoek where 180-200 boxers are expected to fight for glory. Winners will represent Namibia at Zone IV (previously 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 Mathew Hamutenya of Readi Bite Meat Market and Millennium Investment respectively.

## Young Warriors meet Amajita

By Kayele M. Kambombo

**WINDHOEK** - The Metropolitan COSAFA under-20 Youth Championship 2009 was conducted yesterday morning in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The championship will be played in 10 days that will produce ecstasy and agony.

The annual regional Youth Championships is penciled for December 6 to 15.

Namibia's national Under-20 team, Young Warriors, have been

drawn against the host South Africa in Group A that also include Seychelles and Comoros.

South Africa's Amajita may think they have an easy path to sail through to the semifinals but Namibia under the tutelage of Technical Director Klaus Staerk will be their biggest obstacle.

Should Staerk's lads beat South Africa, the sky is the limit for them. Namibia's squad is still to be announced. The competition will require member nations to submit their final team lists of 20 players,

five officials, plus a referee should be submitted by November 27.

The NFA Secretariat has announced that Namibia will be represented by Alex Tiyeho, a FIFA accredited referee.

GROUP A  
South Africa, Namibia, Seychelles and Comoros  
GROUP B  
Mozambique, Madagascar and Swaziland  
GROUP C  
Zimbabwe, Botswana and Lesotho  
GROUP D  
Angola, Zambia and Mauritius

# VOTE

## SWAPO

National Assembly Elections 2009

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## Parreira, McCarthy back to Bafana squadron

By Kayele M. Kambombo

**JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA** - South Africa's current coach, Carlos Albertos 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 85<sup>th</sup> 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.

Rumours have it that McCarthy could move to Portsmouth on loan in the January transfer window. Bafana 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. Another Bafana teammate Elrijo van Heerden, who recently moved to Blackburn, is in the same boat and will also be looking to move.

There are mixed feelings about the game between South Africa and Japan. Many locals predict that Bafana will win with foretelling the score line. Others stacked to their guns that Bafana will win 2-0.

Many South Africans on the streets of Johannesburg are in high spirits with the return of the duet in the names of Parreira and McCarthy.

Some foreigners visiting South Africa have slightly different views. They say a tough and exciting game against is expected. Another foreign national said South Africa could win Japan easily if they could have played during a hot day but since the match is penciled for the coast, that weather condition will suit Japan very well and would possibly pip South Africa.