

Namibia Today Sport

The Saintfiet debacle

The Tom Saintfiet debacle requires a great public debate. For only a week Namibia's national football team coach has caused great melancholy. Football fanatics and staunch Brave Warriors supporters' despondency of Saintfiet's unceremoniously dumping the Brave Warriors as coach for Zimbabwean Warriors is echoed through the streets, households, neighbours and certainly the stadiums. Why did Saintfiet throw the towel and opt for Zimbabwe Warriors? Saintfiet did not honour his contractual obligation and is seen as not loyal to his employers (Namibia Football Association, NFA) and the entire Namibian nation. Kayele M. Kambombo of *Namibia Today Sport* took to the street to find out the views of football fans.



Osia Kaakuha

Saintfiet had a contractual obligation that he could not honour but decided to jump the ship unceremoniously. He took us for a ride. The NFA should call this guy to order and let him explain to this nation the reason behind his odious action. I feel the NFA should stick to local coaches as they are more patriotic rather than foreign mentors.



Dawie Engelbrecht

If Saintfiet has entered a signed deal with the NFA but failed to respect it let him face the music. A snake will always remain a snake. The NFA should sue him.



Jane Brendell

He is untrustworthy and disloyal to our team and nation. He has thrown our team into a deep and unending hole. I think he realized that he cannot take Namibia to the 2012 African Cup of Nations. He failed to obey the contract he has put pen to paper and now want to put blame on the players and NFA. The only

honest thing to do is to come back to Windhoek and officially resign as Brave Warriors coach. Namibia wake up get another coach, full stop.

Justine Eling

Our coach was very wrong to have clandestinely sneaked into Zimbabwe without informing his employer. He is a coward and has acted unprofessionally, so let him go. He should be replaced by a more committed coach, be it a foreign or local coach.



Omuhe Mungoba

I feel strongly inclined that the NFA should sue Saintfiet because he did not honour his contractual obligation of which he signed and took oath that he will dignify but has totally ruined it. Saintfiet should be blacklisted in the SADC region. How do we know that he is not going to do the same fallacy to Zimbabwe or other African countries. Africa should not be taken as a testing ground to enrich foreign coaches' curriculum vitae or as a springboard in search for greener pastures.



Franz Kazah

He is a pretender. The NFA should not pay his salary before he come back and officially resign. I would propose that Namibia should engage a local coach instead of a foreigner. Let's test our own people (coaches) and do with the little that we have (as local

is lekker).



Aochamub 'Paps' Albertus

The NFA should invoke relevant provisions and exercise all its rights provided for in the agreement to do justice to the debacle.



Moses Kavendji

Regardless of his coaching experience, he acted extremely unprofessional. He derailed the Brave Warriors intension for the 2010 Africa Cup of Nations qualification. I do not buy his unfounded excuses that the NFA did not support him in his effort to play international friendly games. He was supposed to convince the NFA beyond reasonable doubts for drastic steps to be taken to realize his objective as a coach. Instead he kept quite and opted to sneak out of Namibia to look for coaching job in Zimbabwe while his contract is still ongoing.



Majola Ikwambi

I think it is time to give local coaches a chance to prove themselves. All foreign coaches to have graced the Land of the Braves (Namibia) with their football experience and have left a mark to be remembered are Peter 'Corporal' Ueberjahn and the late Ben Bamfuchile. Saintfiet has failed to live up to his legally binding agreement.

Namibians speak their minds on NFA Congress

The Namibia Football Association (NFA) Congress to elect its president is set for tomorrow at Geiters Center, some 25 kilometers outside the cosmopolitan city of Windhoek.

The incumbent and long serving NFA President John Muinjo with Kornelius Kapenda and Frans Mbidi vying for vice president positions are challenged by the local business moguls Ranga Haikali (president) and Johnny Johnson Doeseb (vice president).

Haikali is also the owner of Namibia Premier League Black Africa Football Club while Doeseb is a proprietor of NPL Eleven Arrows FC. The latter is likewise the current Chairman of the NPL.

The race is tough. It is continuity versus change, and only one camp will prevail provided that fair play is respected and democratic principles are adhered to. The nation is watching this process with keen eye.

FIFA will be represented by its observers in Primo Corvaro, Manager for Member Associations and Leodegar Tenga, Tanzania Football Association President. Only 20 people are entrusted to vote; the 13 regional chairpersons, one representative each from the NPL and the First and Second Divisions.

Namibia Today Sport's Kayele M. Kambombo brings the views of the non-voting football fans.

Osia Kaakuha

All I want is change. I will go for Haikali.

Dawie Engelbrecht

Fresh blood is needed in our football. Let's give Haikali and Doeseb a chance.

Jane Brendell

I opt for new ideas in order to make the NFA Soccer House a better place.

Justine Eling

I think change is good. New leadership will make a difference; new brain, new ideas, new development. The current dispensation should be given a breather.

Omuhe Mungoba

In democracy, the only



thing in consistency is "change", thus we want change.

Franz Kazah

I only opt for one thing and that is change.

Moses Kavendji

I feel that continuity is the best. Let us give John Muinjo a chance to complete his projects that he has started with before he relinquishes the presi-

dency position.

Majola Ikwambi

I have 105 percent trust in Ranga Haikali and Johnny Doeseb. They will bring change, transform and professionalize football. How can we keep people who cannot count up to a million to lead us. They have failed us for many years. Now is the time. We want change.

