

# Namibia Today Sport

## NPL reduces gate fees at matches

By Kayele M. Kambombo

**The Chief Executive Officer of Namibia Premier League, Mathew Haikali is a benevolent football administrator who is concerned about the plight of football fanatics.**

The issue of pathetic attendance of fans at NPL matches and empty stadiums was raised at the three weeks ago when the Chief Human Capital and corporate Affairs Officer, Tim Ekanjo announced the whooping N\$17 million sponsorship to four sports code, namely football, rugby,

hockey and professional golf.

The question of poor mileage for the sponsors like MTC came to the fore as sports journalists queried the future of sponsorship particularly with regard to football that got the biggest chunk of N\$10 million from the total of N\$17 million. Any thinking administrator could have come up with a down to business and tangible measures to redress the current situation of poor attendance at the NPL matches.

As a matter of urgency, the NPL members at a Special Meeting of the Board of Governors (BoG)

resolved yesterday under Board Resolution/02 Nov 2010, that the gate fees for NPL matches be set as follows: Adults : N\$ 20,00, Children : N\$ 10,00 and Car : N\$ 10,00.

It is however sad that the retirees who are also form part of the audience as supporters of their respective teams have not been taken into consideration with regard to gate fees. NPL members who constitute the BoG should heed the call.

In the meantime NPL office has also introduced its new email addresses as of yesterday:

- [frontoffice@npl.com.na](mailto:frontoffice@npl.com.na) - Lorraine Gowases
- [finance@npl.com.na](mailto:finance@npl.com.na) - Tovey Hoebeb
- [ceo@npl.com.na](mailto:ceo@npl.com.na) - Mathew Haikali

## Harry Simon to take four with one stroke

By Kayele M. Kambombo

The insurmountable former WBO middleweight champion Harry "The Terminator" Simon with a record of 25 fights without a loss and 18 knockouts (KOs) will be slowly but surely return to the ring tonight in his hometown of Walvis Bay.

In a scheduled quadruple exhibition fight against former champions The Terminator will signal his comeback to the boxing "cage" that he mastered so well.

He made Namibia and Africa so proud and automatically crafted a sense of attention as he was respected by many of the world boxing organizations and promotions as a reputable pugilist.

First they thought he was just one of those boxers from the jungle of Africa, but as he punched his way through with his gloves merely, all and sundry boxers in his category from the big boxing stables and promotions took a heed of the progression of Simon.

To speak truth to power, in his 18 KOs, Simon never gone beyond six rounds to send his opponents on the floor, but once when



WBO middleweight champion Harry "The Terminator" Simon

he knocked out Enrique Areco in the 10<sup>th</sup> round scheduled for 12 in Dagenham, United Kingdom in 2000.

In tonight's exhibition fight, the 37 year old Simon will take the four boxers with one stroke. In line of no particular importance are South African welterweight champion Jan Bergman, lightweight

Lucky Samba (RSA), two Namibia welterweight competitors in the name of Gottlieb Shileka and Lukas Mukete.

The entrance fee is low-priced at N\$20 per person for everyone regardless of status. Be there at 18h00 for 19h00 to witness the Terminators comeback. Security will be tight.

## Ambunda, Ahrens clinch sportsman/woman awards

By Kayele M. Kambombo

**WINDHOEK** - The undefeated professional pugilist Paulus Ambunda and Gaby Ahrens, a blond shooter clinched the Sportsman and Sportswoman of the year awards respectively at a glittering gala sports awards evening.

The MTC/NSC 2010 gala was held last Friday evening at Safari Hotel in Windhoek. It was well attended and a great success.

The now retired South African swimmer and eloquent Penny Heyns delivered an off the cuff motivational speech about her story as swimmer, the record hold and swimming champion of the world, her retirement and gave emission of courage, advice and support to young and upcoming athletes; to work hard to realize their vision and feat.

Heyns is celebrated for being the only woman to have won double gold medals in 100 and 200 meters breaststroke at the Olympic Games in 1996 at Atlanta, USA.

Apart from the high profiled dignitaries, the retired swimming sensation Lady Ambassador Monica Dahl, who is a model and inspiration to the youth and the Land of the Brave also, attended the MTC/NSC 2010 sports awards. Dahl was the first Namibian female Olympiad and has carried the Namibian flag to many arenas, thereby ensuring that the country received the representation and recognition it deserved in the sporting world.

She was also nominated as the Sportswoman of the Year, a recognition which carries not only an individual status but national weight and obligation too.

A rear occasion needs to be mentioned here as Festus "Fishy" Nakatana of Sun Daily scooped the MTC/NSC 2010 Sports writer of the year. Congratulations and keep up the good work.

The audience were entertained by local musicians such as Jossy Jose and Big Ben.



## World Boxing Organization recognizes "The Rock" and "Sunshine"

By Kayele M. Kambombo

The undefeated WBO Africa bantamweight champion Paulus "The Rock" Ambunda was recently awarded the world's best WBO fighter of the year at the world boxing convention in Colombia.

He is ranked the 4<sup>th</sup> in the world. Nestor Tobias who is Ambunda's mentor was honoured as the best promoter, manager and trainer and was recognized as one of the three best boxing promoters in Africa.

Andrew Smale, one of the WBO vice presidents and former boxing referee attended the WBO convention in Colombia.

During their absence in Colom-



bia, Smale stood in for Tobias and Ambunda to receive their awards and brought the reward to

Namibia that were officially decorated to them in Windhoek on Wednesday.

