

# BATAU SHARED POINTS AT HOME

STORY AND PIC'S :BY MILTON MALATSE

Match report v/s Thabo all Stars played on Sunday at Swanepoel Stadium. Match day 23 saw us play against Thabo All Stars from Nelspruit who we'd beaten in the 1st round in Nelspruit. We decided on a more direct approach in our tactical strategy in order to enhance our goal difference, what with Bombela, who is laying 2nd in the log table behind Batau FC, having scored 12 goals more.

We normally prefer a more patient build-up from defence to attack which involves the four midfield players, whereby we play one striker at the top, and a 2nd striker, ie, no 10 just behind. In this match we decided on twin strikers and

instructed the players from the defence to by pass the midfield and go directly to the strikers, objective being to put the opposition under pressure much quicker. Implementation was precisely executed, but we fail to hit the back of the net. We squandered at least eight clear card chances in the first stanza.

As Murphy's Law would have it, Thabo Stars scored from a speculative shot from 25 metres midway through the first half. The only time Batau's goalkeeper touched the ball was in the back of the net. Batau's response came from a corner late in the first half from the head of Matsimaya.

To go in at half time 1-1. In the 2nd stanza Batau had nervousness about them as they felt the pressure of securing three points plus adding to the goal difference. Radebe was replaced by Mabaso who gives Batau a different attacking dimension, but to no avail.

Batau's goalkeeper again had no save to make in the 2nd half in a very frustrating match. Goal scorer Matsimaya was the chief culprit by missing many gilt edged opportunities in a very one sided affair. With seven games left, Batau can not afford to sleep up in the aspirations to go to the play off for possible promotion to the National first division.

The next fixture sees Batau travel to Bushbuckridge to play Benfica FC in a must win match to stay at the top of the Vodacom region. Coach Johnny Ferreira remains positive about the remaining seven matches and will emphasize the importance of taking one game at a time. Men of the match Derick Khumalo and Malusi Cebekhulu. Consistence of the player over the 90 minutes used to select the man of the match.



# PRESIDENT OF GERT SIBANDE NETBALL ASSOCIATION REPORTS

## KE YONA CUP IN HOT STAGE

Milton Malatse

*The Nedbank Cup has drawn its centre stage for the all top dogs of in the quarter finals of the tournament.*

Congratulations to Kaizer Chiefs for reaching the quarter finals of tournament for the time in the history of this cup since it challenged from ABSA Cup to Nedbank in 6 years ago. Chiefs are used to be humiliated by Vodacom and Nedbank stream teams the likes of Pretoria University, Baroka FC respectively.

Supersport United takes on Jomo Cosmos, Kaizer Chiefs will be hosting their enemies Free States Stars, while Amazulu are expecting Cape Town Santos and Mamelodi Sundowns will be welcoming Maritzburg United.

Date and venues for the quarter Finals matches will be confirmed later this week.



Gert Sibande Association formed during 2009, Highveld Netball Association had to split in Gert Sibande Region and Nkangala Region so far the split was successful and we thank Netball South Africa (NSA) and the department of sport for the assistance during the split.

The female team of Gert Sibande won silver medals at champs as first time participating as region, 2010 only senior team participated at spar National Netball Champs at Potchefstroom. The 2011 u/19 girl's team won silver in B-league at National Netball Champs hosted at Rustenburg. Senior team won Gold medals in C-league at Spar

National Netball Champs hosted at Cape Town The 2012 u/21 team was selected but due to financial constrains the Region cannot send a junior team to National Champs taking place in East London during April and May 2012. Hopefully the regional will be represented by senior female team at the Spar National Champs to be hosted in Gauteng during August this year.

The executive committee are committed to develop netball within the whole Region as Gert Sibande is a big Region. Teams affiliated fro 2012 with the Gert Sibande Netball Association are as follow A-league: Thundergils N/C from Msukaligwa municipality. Kinross N/C, Sasol Secunda N/C, Stars of Tomorrow from Goven Mbeki Municipality. Super Falcon N/C Mkhondo from Municipality, Young Highlanders N/C from Lekwa Municipality.

**B-League: MK United NC, Try Again NC from Mkhondo. Sasol NC, Kinross NC, Juventus NC, Stars of Tomorrow NC, Bethal Stingers NC from Goven Mbeki. Batau NC (2 team) from Msukaligwa, Simunye NC from Albert Luthuli and Go Getters from Dipaliseng.**  
**C-League: Young stars NC from Lekwa Municipality, Grootvlei NC from Balfour, Katlego NC, Emzinoni West United from Goven Mbeki.**

Still have to cover all other municipalities to have development at all sports federations are financially struggling and depend

on department of sport for financial assistance and affiliation fees of clubs which some cannot afford. Most federations within Mpumalanga have a challenge with resources for functionality of federation.

Clubs are withdrawing from participating in leagues as they are struggling financially to attend the games. The department of sport assisted some clubs through club development program, but was not effective. We wish to have male clubs to join us in our leagues or around Gert Sibande, because we struggling with males.

Gert Sibande netball Association is looking forward to a year full of competitive netball and to have a development league in all the local municipalities within the region with the assistance of sport councils and department of sport. We are looking forward to the Mpumalanga Netball Club Championships to be hosted by Gert Sibande Region during September where the top teams in all the different leagues from all three Regions compete.

Gert Sibande Netball Association President Rokeya Khoza is passionate about sports as she is a co-director of a club within Lekwa Municipality (Young Highlanders Clubs consisting of Senior football team, promotional football team, Ladies football team, u/17 boys, u/15 boys, u/12 boys, Senior Netball team and Development team.