

DOUBLE DOSAGE OF INGWENYAMA IN A YEAR:

'Ingwenyama Cup should
be played twice a year'

PAGE 7



CULTURE FRENZY:

Shiselweni Region
kicks off Culture
Competition

PAGE 11



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INGWENYAMA CUP BRINGS HOPE, RELIEF & RAZZMATAZZ



... Richest tournament in the land is back with a bang and the excitement associated with it as it blends the people's game with what is at the centre of emaSwati, culture, is palpable. This weekend, the Last 16 stage matches spread across the country is a perfect example of decentralizing football and taking the number one sport to the people in the truest sense.

When reviewing Jimmy Burns, the Spanish and South American football expert, thoroughly entertaining book, 'The Race to become the greatest football player of all time' – Cristiano

Ronaldo vs Lionel Messi – Guillem Balague made a poignant point.

"There is so much people don't know about Spain and Spanish football, and that is not a bad thing as long as a complete writer like Jimmy Burns brings his unique vision to it. La Roja fills a hole in the knowledge of both Spain and Spanish football, as it goes beyond the football to explain a country, a society and its transformation through, thanks to and despite the beautiful game,"

The author of the Sunday Times bestselling 'Brave New World: Inside Pochettino's Spurs' author could well have been making the same observation about the uniqueness of the Ingwenyama Cup.

Here is a tournament that has beautifully blended the people's game – football – with what is at the heart of every LiSwati – culture. It has left the whole world in awe.

Football, since England founded this beautiful game on October 26, 1863, has the uncanny ability and power to connect people in a

way nothing else does. It instills a strong sense of connection and solidarity among its followers. The same power, uniqueness, flair and camaraderie is the epicentre of our beautiful and world acclaimed culture. To combine the two so beautifully must be one of the best decisions ever conceived by the silk-suited souls in our football.

The Ingwenyama Cup, for all its intents and purpose, helps people understand so much about emaSwati and their culture in particular as the main day events are broadcast on pay-per-view channel, Supersport TV with its footprint in all 54 countries in Africa.

The tournament besides being the richest in the land is also a marketer for 'Brand Eswatini' to the whole world.

It's return after a three-year hiatus is the best thing that has happened to our wacky world of football since the advent of the devastating Covid-19 pandemic. IBUYILE!



With its glut of goals, shocks, drama and razzmatazz the Ingwenyama Cup is a beacon of hope in the midst of hopelessness. It sits like a pearl in a heap of dung. Not only does it bring excitement to the soccer fans who cascade to our stadiums like bees to honey but it also helps uplift the standard of football.

The main beneficiaries this year in particular will be our dead-as-a-dodo national team, Sihlangu Semnikati who will be contesting the preliminary qualifiers of the 2025 Africa Cup of Nations, starting in March and of course the 2026 World Cup qualifiers where unsurprisingly we have already lost the opening two matches.

This weekend, dear reader, the tournament enters its Last 16 stage having already proven it has not lost any of its magic of being a reincarnation of the

romantic biblical story line of a little David slaying a lardy Goliath. Royal Leopard, two times losing finalists in 2016 and 2018, have already crashed out after losing on penalties to First Division outfit Tambankulu Celtics, Moneni Pirates and Rangers FC have all been booted out of the tournament.

Launched in grand style at Lozitha Palace on a cool Tuesday evening of November 10 2015, the Ingwenyama Cup announced its arrival with a staggering E9 million sponsorship package spread over three years.

From the moment its patron, His Majesty King Mswati III announced the sponsorship package, it shook the football landscape from its very foundations. A new bigger and better tournament had been born.

It entered the football cauldron like a breath of fresh air. It was a

watershed moment. It is now history that red and white glamour side, Mbabane Swallows went on to beat their nemesis Royal Leopard 2-0 in the Cup courtesy of goals by wing wizard, Banele 'Pupu' Sikhondze in the 23rd minute and midfield dynamo, Njabulo 'D4D' Ndlovu with five minutes left on the clock on the memorable Sunday of March 13, 2016.

The Ingwenyama Cup is the crème de la crème of Swazi soccer. **IBUYILE!**

In true spirit of the tournament, let us not drink and drive as we go to the soccer stadiums and on our way home after the games. Let's obey all traffic laws and be safe. Avoid the mourning after.....have a safe weekend. Buckle up! Ibuyile!

**Yours in Sports
LWAZI DLAMINI**

INGWENYAMA CUP LAST 16 IN PREVIEW

BUCKLE UP! EPIC
BATTLES GALORE!

Felix Badenhorst.

Sibusiso Masilela
Sports Reporter

The Ingwenyama Cup last 16 frenzy is here!! Boys will be separated from men during the next hurdle of the prestigious knockout tournament blending football with culture. We give an in-depth analysis of the last 16 matches which are scheduled for the weekend.

**Milling Hotspurs vs
Piggs Peak Rangers
Saturday, 3pm
Venue: Prince of Wales Ground**

The battle of the minnows will take center stage at Prince of Wales ground with both sides looking to book their places in the last eight. There is more to play for the two teams in the tournament as a win will increase one of the two sides' chances of winning the E40 000 best Super league / National First Division and further get E75 000 for reaching the quarterfinals.

►Continued to Page 5



Banele Pupu Sikhondze.



►Continued from Page 4

Both sides have not reached the last 16 by fluke as they knocked two premier League teams in Rangers and Moneni Pirates respectively during the opening round.

Ezulwini United vs Seven Dreams Saturday: 3pm

Venue: Kalanga Technical Centre

Odds favours United heading to this clash after their 4-1 over Shiselweni super league minnows Nyanyali Celtics and they have to more vigilant against stubborn National First Division boasts of seasoned players in their disposal.

Seven Dreams are blessed with some capable premier league players such as Sandile 'Onyango' Dlamini and Richard MCcreesh formerly with Manzini Wanderers and Mbabane Swallows respectively.

Seven Dreams will have to pull up their socks after sneaking into the last 16 on penalties against Xolani United and they will have to do deal with the United threat.

The minnows will be coming to this match with confidence after recently winning the First Division first round E50 000 carrot.

Mbabane Swallows vs Tambankulu Celtics Saturday :3pm Venue: Mayaluka Stadium

The tournament most successful team Mbabane Swallows are faced with a tricky assignment as they will be hosting giant slayers Tambankulu Celtics down east at Mayaluka Stadium.

The treasure hunting Umkhonto ka Shaka will have to be vigilant against the sugar belt side which booted out Royal Leopard during the opening round to boost their chances of winning their fourth title in the six-year-old knockout tournament.

Swallows mentor Caleb Ngwenya will not want to disappoint the hordes of team supporters that are expected to cascade the venue in numbers to support the red and white glamour side.

Young Buffaloes vs Illovo Saturday: 3pm Venue: Mayaluka Stadium

A humdinger is on the cards between the two premier league sides as both sides will now want to slip in the second hurdle.

Buffaloes are favourites to win this match due to the experience and depth in their squad. The army side Mandla 'Sitofu' Dlamini is blessed with seasoned players in his camp who were part of the squad that won the 2018 edition such as Sandile 'Saviola' Gamedze, Sihlangu Mkhwanazi, Mpendulo 'Mphetha' Dlamini, among others.

Illovo are also not pushovers as they have showed some promising signs under the tutelage of Sitsebe coach Zwelibandzi 'Botsotso' Khoza.

Mbabane Highlanders vs Louis XIV Sunday :1.30pm Venue : Mavuso Sports Centre

Two finalists Mbabane Highlanders will be looking to book their place in the last eight at the expense of the National First Division minnows who knocked out fellow compatriots Malanti Chiefs in the opening round.

Pressure will be on Highlanders as they have to grind positive results to keep their hopes of winning the richest knockout tournament after their two unsuccessful spells to appease their long-suffering supporters.

►Continued to Page 6

►Continued from Page 5

'Inkunzenyama' head coach Dumisani 'Du' Makhanya will have to come with a master plan to diffuse the danger posed by the minnows which is under the leadership of former Manzini Wanderers player Mancoba Mahlindza.

Manzini Wanderers vs Madlenya
Sunday: 4pm
Venue: Mavuso Sports Centre

A blockbuster clash awaits fans as the two sides will face off in the biggest match of the round. A lot will be at stake in this including revenge which the revamped Manzini Wanderers will be seeking revenge against the early season pacesetters that claimed their scalp in the early league meeting.

The crowd pullers are coming to this match with their confidence high following their two wins against Sisonkhe and Green Mamba in all competitions which brought back hope to the team's long-suffering fans.

The William 'Masondeza' Gamedze led side remains one of the feared teams this season due to their good league run which earned them the giant killers.

Madlenya have also produced one of top goal scorers award strong in speedy striker Lethokuhle Gamedze who has already netted three goals in the tournament.

Green Mamba vs Sea Birds
Sunday :1pm
Venue: King Sobhuza II Stadium

Another crunch date between the two premier league sides



Mlamuli Nkambule.

in the defending champions Green Mamba and Manzini Sea Birds. The correctional service side is coming to this limping after their recent midweek league defeat to Manzini Wanderers which will cause head coach Ernest Mavuso to strategize heading to this crunch assignment.

Mavuso will have to make sure that he gets the best of his troops such as Sabelo 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa, Njabulo 'D4D' Ndlovu and Mthunzi 'Xavi' Mkhontfo in their quest to keep title hopes alive.

Sea Birds cannot be taken lightly as they are parading one of the experienced squads in the lands which include the likes of Muzi Tsabedze, Mthokozisi Gwebu and Sabelo 'Sawa' Gamedze, among others.



Lethokuhle Gamedze.

Nsingizini vs Denver Sundowns
Sunday :3pm
Venue: King Sobhuza II Stadium

Cup specialist Nsingizini Hotspurs will be out to transform their early cup success into the Ingwenyama Cup after winning the early season silverware the MoMo Cup. The Shiselweni based will welcome Denver Sundowns at their own fortress where they will continue to chase their second piece trophy this season. Nsingizini are likely going to parade ex Sundowns player Alvin Shabashie after the deadlocked Ghanaian international recently move to 'Insingizi yezulu' from the 'Kappa boys. Sundowns coach Milton Dlamini will have to come up with a master plan to upset the home side.

INGWENYAMA CUP SHOULD BE PLAYED TWICE A YEAR — PRINCE HLANGABEZA

Sibusiso Masilela
Sports Reporter

Ingwenyama Cup Chairman Prince Hlangabeza has called for the re-invention of the tournament.

The prince recently urged the stakeholders to consider staging the tournament twice a year during the last 16 draw.

The Chairman says the tournament plays a key role in nation building by blending football with culture.

“The tournament should be played twice a year due to its significance in the country and I hope the sponsor will consider changing the current format. It would be exciting Emaswati enjoying themselves in the tournament both in football and culture,” he said.

The Prince further urged the nation to follow the road safety precautions throughout the country.

“Let us stay safe on the roads by following all the safety measures on the road so that we can have a successful tournament safely and healthy. We are looking forward to a successful tournament in 2023,” he said.

The Prince further thanked the tournament Patron His Majesty King Mswati III for his continued support to

the six year old tournament.

“We are grateful for the support of the Patron since the inception of the tournament in 2015 and it has continued to grow and unite the nation over the years,”.

M b a b a n e Swallows are the most successful team in the tournament with three titles while Y o u n g Buffaloes and Green Mamba have both won the tournament once.

T h e Correctional services side are the

defending champions of the tournament after beating capital city giants Mbabane Highlanders 2-0 at Somhlolo National Stadium where they went home E1.4million richer.

Former South African President Jacob Zuma has graced two finals of the richest knockout tournament bankrolled to the tune of E3.4 million.

Ingwenyama Cup
Chairman Prince
Hlangabeza.



INGWENYAMA CUP TOP GOALSCORER AWARD CAN BE A BONUS — ‘SMOOTHIES’

Sibusiso Masilela
Sports Reporter

2023 Ingwenyama Cup current leading goal scorer and Ezulwini United captain Mphucuko ‘Smoothies’ Dlamini says winning the top goal scorer award will be a bonus for him.

The former Moneni Pirates and Mbabane Highlanders attacking midfielder is currently sitting on top of the charts with four goals under his belt helping the premier league side beat Nyanyali Celtics 4-1.

Dlamini is a favourite for the E10 000 worth prize money where he is competing with the likes of Lekuthuthula Gamedze (Madlenya), Banele ‘Banny’ Mdluli (Manzini Wanderers) who are tied at three goals.

“Winning the award can be bonus since my main target is to help my team do well in the tournament. I will continue working hard in the next matches to ensure that the team reaches greater heights in the tournament,” he said.

Meanwhile, Manzini Wanderers striker Banele ‘Banny’ Mdluli appealed for unity from the entire ‘Weslians’ family.

“I am happy with my current performance in the team especially during the cup match against Sisonkhe. We urge our supporters to continue



Mphucuko
‘Smoothies’ Dlamini.



Lethukuthula
Gamedze.



Banele ‘Banny’ Mdluli.

supporting us as we are pushing hard to change the fortunes of the team,” he said.

The race lives on as the richest knockout tournament enters the last 16 this weekend with some mouthwatering clashes. The current top three top scorers

Mphucuko ‘Smoothies’ Dlamini (Ezulwini United) — 4 goals

Lethukuthula Gamedze (Madlenya) — 3 goals

Banele ‘Banny’ Mdluli (Manzini Wanderers) — 3 goals

‘Weslians’ Simanga cup tied

It’s a blow for the ‘Weslians’.

Manzini Wanderers new striker Simanga Shongwe is cup tied in the SMVAF Ingwenyama.

The ex-Mbabane Swallows appeared for his former team Sisonkhe FC against the hub giants during the last 16.

Shongwe won’t available

for the crunch last 16 clash against Madlenya FC. Nsingizini Hotspurs new signings Alvin Shabashie and Yeki Khumalo will both appear for the Hluthi based side despite their recent move from Denver Sundowns and Moneni Pirates respectively. The ‘Weslians’ Management Committee Chairman Berger Nxumalo lamented the absence of the player.

“Simanga won’t be able to feature in the Ingwenyama Cup as he is currently cup tied and we are confident the available players will do the job inside the field of players. Our main goal is to restore the image of the team and we won’t do it alone but with the support of the entire ‘Weslians’ family.”

Shongwe has replaced South African striker Thabiso Mokenkoane who recently joined Township Rollers.





SHISELWENI TO KICK START INGWENYAMA CUP CULTURE COMPETITION



Culture was part of the entertainment during the grand opening of the Ingwenyama Cup on January 7 at Somhlolo National Stadium.

Ntokozo Magongo Sports Reporter

The Ingwenyama Cup Culture competition will kick-off on February 10 under Shiselweni Region.

The regional competitions are qualifiers for the main say that will be held alongside the football finals. The qualifiers will then move to the Manzini Region the following day with the event held at Mavuso Sports Centre.

Hhohho Region is with its event held at Buhleni Sports Ground on February 17 and Lubombo will be last on February 18 at Siteki Sports Ground.

Culture spokesperson Sandile 'Msandi' Nxumalo said all was set for the qualifiers and he announced the songs that to be competed.

"The registration deadline is on January 26 whereby we are

expecting all registration forms to have been submitted to the Regional Administrator (RA) in all the four regions. We are happy with the response we got so far and lot of communities shave shown interest in being part of the culture competitions," he said.

Nxumalo announced that the prizes for this year's competitions have been increased but they

will be allowed on a later date.

Nxumalo then also announced the songs that will be competed for. He said Lutsango will be competing by singing the song 'Live liyafana' while Sibhaca will compete with the song, 'Sambamba tsekwane inyoni yemasoka elunyaweni igidvwa njengalonyaka. Ingadla will be competing with the song 'Ligcebesha LeNgwenyama lisemaveni.



Ingwenyama Cup Culture PRO Sandile 'Msandi' Nxumalo.

Regional culture competition:

Dates	Region	Venues
February 10	Shiselweni	King Sobhuza II Stadium
February 11	Manzini	Mavuso Sports Centre
February 17	Hhohho	Buhleni Sports Ground
February 18	Lubombo	Siteki Sports Ground

Songs to be competed:

Lutsango	Live liyafanana
Sibhaca	Sambamba tsekwane
Ingadla	Ligcebesha LeNgwenyama lisemaveni
Timbongo	Tibonga Emakhosi Lakhona (Praise singing)
Emajaha	Their song to be announce soon

MBABANE SWALLOWS RULES INGWENYAMA CUP

Ntokozo Magongo
Sports Reporter

Mbabane Swallows is the dominant team in the Ingwenyama Cup, having won it three times in the past five editions.

They made history by winning the first three editions between 2015 and 2018. Others who have won in the biggest tournament in the country are security forces, Young Buffaloes and Green Mamba.

Mbabane Highlanders have reached the finals twice but they are yet to lift the trophy having lost to Young Buffaloes and Green Mamba respectively.

2015/ 16 Final: Mbabane Swallows 2-0 Royal Leopards

Mbabane Swallows were the first team to win the Ingwenyama Cup when they beat Royal Leopard 2-0 in the finals played at the Somhlolo National Stadium. They pocketed the first prize of E1.1 million while the runners-up, Royal Leopard took home E500 000. The event was graced by His Majesty King Mswati III.

2016/ 17 Finals: Mbabane Swallows 1 -0 Young Buffaloes

Mbabane Swallows were back at it again as they were crowned the champions of the Ingwenyama Cup for the second time in a row. They beat army side, Young Buffaloes 1-0 in the finals also played at Somhlolo National Stadium. They were handed



the E1.1 million first prize with Buffaloes taking home E500 000.

2017/ 18 Finals: Mbabane Swallows 2-0 Royal Leopard

Mbabane Swallows and Royal Leopard were both back in the finals under the same tournament. Leopard wanted it the most as they wanted a revenge for losing in the finals in the first edition (2015/16). Mbabane Swallows proved their superiority in the tournament as they won 2-0 after extra time and were handed the trophy to take it home. They also took home E1.1 million with Leopard getting the consolation prize of E500 000.

2018/ 19 Finals: Young Buffaloes 4-1 Mbabane Highlanders

Army side Young Buffaloes reached the finals for the second time in the fourth edition of the Ingwenyama Cup while Mbabane Highlanders were making their debut in the finals of the tournament. Young Buffaloes wanted it the most having lost to Mbabane Swallows in the 2016/

17 edition. They made it the final as they thumbed Highlanders 4-1 in a one-sided final.

Buffaloes' victory came in front of His Majesty King Mswati III, members of the Royal family as well as former South African President Jacob Zuma. Buffaloes took home the E1.3 million increased first prize money while Highlanders went home with E530 000.

2019/ 20 Final: Green Mamba 2-0 Mbabane Highlanders

Green Mamba reached the finals for the first time in the fifth edition and they went all the way to be crowned the champions. They beat Mbabane Highlanders 2-0 in front of His Majesty King Mswati III. They took home the increased package of E1.4 million.

Ingwenyama Cup past finals results:
2015/16 M/Swallows 2-0 R/Leopard
2016/17 M/Swallows 1-0 Y/Buffaloes
2017/18 M/ Swallows 2-0 R/Leopards
2018/19 Y/Buffaloes 4-1 M/Highlanders
2019/20 Green Mamba 2-0 M/ Highlanders
2023/24

INGWENYAMA CUP INTERESTING FACTS

Sibusiso Masilela
Sports Reporter

The 2023 Ingwenyama Cup has already some big surprises following the recent kickoff of richest knockout tournament in the country.

1. Royal Leopard biggest— last 32 shock

Two times runner up Royal Leopards were the biggest casualty in the last 32 after they were stunned by National First Division side Tambankulu Celtics in the lottery shootouts.

Two other Premier league sides Moneni Pirates and Rangers also bites the dust at the hands of Pigg's Peak Rangers and Milling Hotspurs respectively.

2. Denver Sundowns — last 32 big winners

Denver Sundowns were the biggest winners of the opening round with a 5-0 win over Lubombo based side Malahleni United booking their place in the round 16 where they will take on Nsingizini Hotspurs.

3. Seven NFD contesting for the E40 000 NFD/ Super League best finisher carrot

Eight National First Division teams are possible contenders for the E40 000 best finisher prize for both National First Division and Super League teams. Some of the



Royal Leopard players.

contenders include Tambankulu Celtics, Seven Dreams, Louis XIV, Milling Hotspurs and Pigg's Peak Rangers respectively. The four regional teams failed to advance to the next round of the tournament including the regional winners Young Lovers who went lost 2-0 to Nsingizini Hotspurs.

4. Birds, Bull heed to Ingwenyama Cup mandate

Capital city giants Mbabane Swallows and Mbabane Highlanders both heeded to the mandate of the tournament, which is to blend football with culture.

The two teams' supporters

were clad in colorful kangas during their matches against Lozitha Spurs and Black Swallows during the round of 32 matches at Somhlolo National Stadium.

Big ups to both teams' marketing committees for coming up with such great initiatives as both teams created a carnival atmosphere at the country only football meacca.

5. Moment of silence for the late

A moment of silence was observed in honour of the late Manzini Wanderers player Kwanele Dlamini during the round of 32 matches.

► *Continued to Page 14*



Moneni Pirates players.

►Continued from Page 13

The former Denver Sundowns died after he collapsed during a stokvel tournament played at Ndunayithini during New year eve.

The player's demise resulted in the postponement of the Wanderers match against Sisonkhe to further date where the hub giants booked their ticket to the next round with a 3-0 win over the National First Division side.

6. Swallows the most successful team in the tournament

Capital city giants Mbabane Swallows remain the most successful team in the SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup.

The 'Beautiful Birds' have won the richest knockout tournament three times since its inception six years ago.

Umkhonto ka Shaka won a treble between 2015 and 2018

under the leadership of the late Chairman Victor 'Maradona' Gamedze.

Inspired the late outspoken gaffer Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati, the crowd managed to outfox the likes of Royal Leopards twice and Young Buffaloes in the finals to clinch the richest knockout competition in the land.

Army Buffaloes have only won it one in 2019 after beating Mbabane Highlanders 4-1 in a final that was also graced by former South African President Jacob Zuma.

Defending champions Green Mamba won it once in 2019 after they got the better of Highlanders by 2-0.

The full Ingwenyama Cup breakdown

Champions - E1 400 000

Runners-Up- E530 000

Semi-Finalist Losers -(E210 000 x 2 teams) - E420 000

Quarter Finalist Losers -(E75 000

x 4 teams) - E300 000

Participation Fee (E10 000 x 14 PLE Clubs) E140 000

Participation Fee (E5 000 x 14 NFD Clubs) E70 000

Best Finisher- (NFDL & Regions - beyond last 32) E30 000

Individual Prize Category
Player of the Tournament - E15 000

Top Goal Scorer - E10 000

Best Goalkeeper -E10 000

Referee Team of the
Tournament-E 10 000

Best PRO- E 6 000

Media Prize Category

Best Traditional (Print) Media -E10 000

Best Digital (Electronic) Media -E10 000

Best Broadcast- E10 000

ADMINISTRATION – National
Phase- E300 000

Regional Phase Tournament
(Refer to the Regional Phase

Rules & Regulations) -E287 000

Total Football Budget

-E 3 558 000



LET'S STAY SAFE — SMVAF CEO

**Sibusiso Masilela
Sports Reporter**

Sincephetelo Motor Vehicle Accident Fund Chief Executive Officer (CEO) David Myeni has encouraged people to stay safe on the roads.

This was during the 2023 Ingwenyama Cup last 16 draw.

"We encourage members of the public to stay safe on the roads by following the road safety precautions so that we can have a safe nation. We are happy with the impact that is made by football to spread the road safety gospel and we pleased with the smooth proceedings of the tournament," he said.

Mbabane Swallows remains the most successful team in the tournament with three titles while Young Buffaloes and Green Mamba have both won the tournament once.



**EFA Competitions Chairman
Comfort Shongwe.**



SMVAF CEO David Myeni.

Dr Comfort Shongwe pleased with Ingwenyama Cup progress

Ingwenyama Cup Management Committee Chairman Dr Comfort Shongwe says they are happy with the progress of the tournament.

This was during the recent last 16 draw held at the SMVAF offices.

"We are quite excited with the return of the tournament and commend the good behaviour of

teams during the opening round. The sport is still on recovery stage from post Covid-19 pandemic and we are looking forward to an exciting action during the last 16," he said.

Shongwe also thanked the sponsor for the continued support to the sport and urged teams to show fair play throughout the tournament.

► *Continued to Page 17*



Manzini Wanderers PRO Muduzi 'Mr G' Ginindza and Madlenya FC PRO Comfort Jele.

► *Continued from Page 16*

"We are grateful for the continued invest of the sponsor and we appeal for teams to show fair play in order to protect the integrity of the sport,"

Madlenya eyeing semifinal spot

Manzini Wanderers should worry in the Ingwenyama the last 16 as their opponent Madlenya is to reach the semifinals of the richest knockout tournament in the country.

This was revealed by the Siphofaneni based side Marketing and Communications Officer Comfort Jele during the recent last 16 draw.

"Our main goal is to reach

the semi-finals and Manzini Wanderers won't stop us from achieving our goal. We will do our level best to make our supporters happy in the tournament," he said.

Meanwhile, his Wanderers counterpart Mduduzi 'Mr. G' Ginindza said they were geared up for the match.

"We will do our best to promote the Manzini Wanderers brand by grinding positive results. We will not afford to break the good record which we started against Sisonkhe," he said.

The two teams were both knocked out in the quarterfinals in the previous edition by Mbabane Highlanders and Tambankulu Callies respectively.

defend title

Ingwenyama Cup defending champions Green Mamba have vowed to defend the crown.

The Correctional Services side Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Mandla Sibiyi said they were going to fight to defend the richest knockout tournament in the country.

"We are confident that we will defend the title and we will do our level best to achieve our main goal. We won't underestimate any team in the tournament until the end," he said.

'Inyoka Eluhlazana' clinched the last edition with a 2-0 win over capital city giants Mbabane Highlanders through Mxolisi Mkhonto and Mthunzi 'Xavi' Mkhontfo goals in each half.

Green Mamba vow to

BACK TO SCHOOL TIPS FOR ROAD USERS



As every parent is preparing for school opening very few of them are preparing the very children for school. Payment of school fees and other amenities for a child may come void of their safety on their way to and from school.

This is evident in the numerous accidents realized around the country involving pre-, primary, and high school going children, something that can be totally avoided if parents and other road users invested their interest, attention and road use behavior for the safety of the pupil.

It is not enough for instance to secure transportation for a minor child going to school without ascertaining the road worthiness

of the vehicle and the road use behavior of Malume ferrying kids to and from school.

However, a lot of responsibility lies with motorists who get to share the same road space with these pupils whether they are passengers in other vehicles or pedestrians walking along or crossing the road to school.

The behavior and speed of motorists in these areas can be appalling sometimes and very few would be cognizant of imminent danger or even fatality that can be imposed by their excessive speed and reckless driving.

Schools transport

Some parents do invest in

the safety of their children by arranging and pay for transport for their children.

However, they are not, at times appraised how road worthy that vehicle is and how many children are loaded in there. Malume the driver for children is apt to have many clients whose children go to different schools. He may compensate for lost time by excessively speeding so to get all the children to school at the same time.

In the event he overspeed he may lose control and plunge the pupils into an accident. Here is an appeal to other motorists as well to use the road correctly to spare everyone's life.

Other pupils are regulars on public transport and often overloaded in a bid to get them to school as early as possible.

Parents and Teachers ought to thresh out the issue of how pupils safely get to school. Some of motorists fail to adhere to stipulated speed when they pass through schools and fall culprits of knocking down pupils as they cross or walk along the road to school.

Designated crossing areas

It is painful that many pupils are hit by speeding and recklessly driven cars just as they are

crossing the road to school.

That is when the child believes (s)he is safe because they have been taught where it safe.

It is imperative therefore that motorists respect the school environment as from the day of school opening by killing their speed and spare the life of a child.

This easier than first by being adherent to the road signs and markings where reduction of speed is mandatory. High school children are as much vulnerable in that some of them leave school late and become hitch-hikers so that they get home in good time.

They tend to desperately

attempt to stop any passing vehicle for a ride very close if not right in the course way for the vehicle.

TAKE AWAYS

- **KILL YOUR SPEED AND SPARE THE LIFE OF A CHILD**
- **PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR SCHOOL-TALK GOOD ROAD SAFETY CONDUCT**
- **RESPECT THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT AND ALLOW CHILDREN TO CROSS SAFELY**
- **DON'T OVERLOAD CHILDREN IN SHOOOL TRANSPORT**
- **LOOK OUT FOR SCHOOL GOING CHILDREN ALONG THE ROAD AND CALM YOUR SPEED**

20-21
January

WEEKEND FIXTURE

SATURDAY 20 JANUARY 2024

Prince of Wales

Milling Hotspurs FC Vs PPK Rangers FC
1500hrs

Mkhuzweni Stadium

Ezulwini United FC Vs Seven Dreams FC
1500hrs

KaLanga Stadium

Young Buffaloes FC Vs Illovo FC 1500hrs

SUNDAY 21 JANUARY 2024

Mavuso Sports Centre

Mbabane Highlanders FC Vs Louis XIV FC 1330hrs
Manzini Wandererd FC Vs Madlenya FC 1600hrs

King Sobhuza Stadium

Green Mamba FC Vs Manzini Sea Birds FC 1300hrs
Nsingizini Hotspurs FC Vs Denver Sundowns FC 1500hrs



AVOID THE MOURNING AFTER

visit: www.mva.org.sz/accident-prevention/



Remember to obey all traffic safety laws!