

# Mafikeng Rugby Club to participate in NESER A League

**Mahikeng:** Having been crowned champions of their respective leagues for the past three years, Mafikeng Rugby Club has, after numerous meetings with the players and coaching staff, decided that it's time for a bigger challenge.

With the consent of the players and coaching staff the Management Committee has decided to enter the Club in the strongest league the North West has to offer, namely the NESER A League.

In order for us to make an impression in the top flight the club is going to need all the support and players that are available in and around the Mahikeng / Mmabatho area. We as a club however feel that nothing is impossible and therefore, with the support and dedication of our players, coaching staff and supporters we are confident of achieving success in the NESER A League. The fact that the Lions have regained entry into the 2014 Super Rugby tournament is testament of the fact that with a positive attitude, hard work and commitment from all parties concerned, Mafikeng Rugby Club can make this work. We are pleased to say that the vibe amongst the players and other club members seems very positive and everyone is looking forward to the enormous challenge that lies ahead for the 2014 season.

The Mafikeng Rugby Club Management Committee would like to extend an invitation

to everyone, players and supporters alike, to come and join us on our journey throughout the 2014 season and in this way help us turn our step up to the bigger league into a huge success.

In preparation for the mammoth task lying ahead of us in 2014, Coach Gavin Bremner has already got training underway and by the looks of things he is not pulling any punches. Despite the extreme heat he has got the players that are attending working very hard at their fitness. It is also pleasing to report that the number of players attending practice looks promising however we can always use more players to ensure the correct depth in our squad.

The chairperson of Mafikeng Rugby Club, Gampa Rousseau said that if there are enough players the club will initiate a development team so that all players can be kept active throughout the season.

However the new league does not only mean stronger competition, it is also a challenge financially in that we now have to travel not only longer distances but also more often. Gampa has indicated that he is currently

involved in discussions with a number of prospective sponsors and that matters look promising for the 2014 season. Should there however be any individuals, companies or organizations out there that may be willing to support the club by way of sponsorship, please feel free to contact Gampa on 083 633 5045. Any prospective players out there can also feel free to contact Gavin on 083 310 0623. Alternatively why not join Gampa, Gavin, his

coaching team and the players during their practices on Tuesdays & Thursdays at 18H30.

The Rugby Club hosts a prize giving every year in order to recognise the hard work of the players. 2013 was no different. Players and supporters streamed to the year-end function to witness Henkie Beukes receive his trophy for best player of the year. Thabang Molefi also received a trophy for most improved player of 2013.

## North West represented well at the Castle Superstars

**Mahikeng:** Two of North West's youth made it to the Castle Superstars squad this after Castle Lager announced its final team of the top 23 players (the Castle Superstars), that had been selected from the 45 prospects chosen last December through its Together For Tomorrow's Bafana soccer talent scouting initiative.

The 45 hopefuls arrived in Johannesburg for the training camp on, January 03 and have undergone extensive training supervised by South African soccer legends Phil Masinga and Neil Tovey as well as four other top coaches.

Lehlolonolo Marumo born in Orlando West Johannesburg has been playing in the local SAB league here in Mahikeng when he was selected for the team. The young star has been studying and living in Mahikeng where his soccer career started at Living Faith Prep School, then Mmabatho High school and subsequently Sol Plaatje Secondary School where he completed his schooling.

"I started playing for 15 Masters, then moved on to Western Tigers FC, then promoted to Mafikeng Rocks and later changed to Blydeville FC" said Marumo. Marumo also spent a year in Brazil at the OleAcademy in Riberao Preto ( in the then Themba Gwabeni squad)while he was still at Mafikeng Rocks. He was selected at the SAB trails held at Montshioa stadium late in 2013

and represented the province in Stellenboch, Cape Town where he made it to the last 45 that went to camp.

He was selected together with Gerald Gaona Modisane, a centre -half from Motswedi, Lehurutshe (Zeerust) identified by Mpho Nkontlha, his caretaker agent in 2011 at the Mothupi Tournament held at Lehurutshe stadium. According to Nkontlha the boy had exceptional talent and when he moved to Pretoria in 2012, to further his studies he was snapped by Arcadia Shepherds. He also trained with Ajax Cape Town for a while. He was playing for Arcadia Shepherds football Club which participates in the SAB league in Tshwane when he was selected for the squad, and played in the provincial play offs representing Gauteng both made it to the last 23 man squad which played against Roses United (2-1), Supersport united (3-0), Amatuks (2-1), Pirates (4-2) and Wits (4-2). The boys have been placed at Premier Soccer League PSL teams which they could not reveal at the time of the interviews.



Chairperson of Mafikeng Rugby Club, Gampa Rousseau, handing over a trophy to player of the year 2013, Henkie Beukes.



Coach Gavin Bremner (back) looks on as Gampa Rousseau hands over a trophy to most improved player of 2013, Thabang Molefi.

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Please be advised that the above bids have been cancelled.  
The Department apologises for any inconvenience this might have caused.

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