



FEDERATION OF UGANDA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATIONS

# MONTHLY

NEWSLETTER

January - April 2021

Highlights Edition

## Hippos take Africa by storm

Uganda may not have won the Africa U20 Cup of Nations but their fairy-tale run was etched into the memories of many football fans. The journey to the final was characterised by free-flowing football, team work, goals name it.

Despite being debutants at the tournament, the Hippos did not show feet of clay and took care of one opponent at a time.

This was the first time that Uganda reached a continental final since 1978 when the Uganda Cranes coincidentally fell to Ghana.

Derrick Kakooza who was the top scorer with five goals and left back Azizi Kayondo made the tournament's best XI with Morley Byekwaso as the coach.

For their brilliant journey, FUFA rewarded the 40-man contingent with a cash prize of USD 160,000.

FUFA also promised to set up a local committee of ten coaches including Byekwaso and his assistant Simeone Masaba to keep monitoring these players.

For the World Cup dreams, Corona Virus is to blame



# Uganda Cranes miss out on AFCON joy



Uganda Cranes quest to return to Africa Cup of Nations for a third successive time ended on a disappointing note after finishing third in group B of the 2021 AFCON Qualifiers.

Uganda drew goalless with Burkina Faso in the penultimate game but lost 1-0 in the decisive game thus missing out on qualification.

Attention will now shift to the 2022 FIFA World Cup Qualifiers where Uganda is in the same group with Mali, Rwanda and Kenya. However the Cranes will do this job without Head Coach Johnathan McKinstry who was relieved of his duties.

# Dismal show at CHAN



# Maiden AFCON appearance for Sand Cranes

The Sand Cranes will for the first time play the coveted Africa Beach Soccer Cup of Nations after sealing the ticket in March. The withdrawal of Ghana gave the ticket to Uganda to qualify for the 2021 edition that will be staged in Senegal in May.

Uganda Beach Soccer Association Chairman, Deo Mutabazi was delighted with the milestone reached and believes this will give them pride having seen the game rise from nothing. 'We had humble beginnings ten years ago but making it to Africa Beach Soccer Cup of Nations gives us satisfaction. It has been a journey of highs and lows but we hope we can use this opportunity to even become better.'



The Uganda National Beach Soccer Team-Sand Cranes.

Group A		Group B		
AS	SENEGAL	SENEGAL	VS	CONGO DR
AZ	CONGO DR	TANZANIA	VS	UGANDA
AI	TANZANIA	CONGO DR	VS	TANZANIA
AA	UGANDA	UGANDA	VS	SENEGAL
		CONGO DR	VS	UGANDA
		SENEGAL	VS	TANZANIA

# Busy times for Uganda Referees

The opening months of the year 2021 have seen Ugandan referees swing into action with a series of activities. The Ugandan referees have been active with duties on the pitch officiating in domestic and international competitions, undergoing physical fitness tests, attending refresher courses and securing their official FIFA badges for the year 2021.

Fitness is a key element for referees to keep on top of their game.

In February, a fitness test for 50 National and Elite Referees was organised at the Omondi Stadium-Lugogo. It was aimed at ensuring the match officials are in good physical state.

In the same period, 23 Uganda referees received their FIFA badges for 2021. Meanwhile 31 referees attended a three day FIFA Member Association Beach Soccer Referees Online course at Jevine Hotel – Kampala under FIFA Beach Soccer instructor Lakhdar Benchabane.

## FUFA Referees fitness test



Referees undertaking the drills at the StarTimes Stadium, Lugogo

## Referees receive badges for 2021



Referees in a group photo after the event at Jevine Hotel

## Beach Soccer referees during the FIFA MA Online course at Jevine Hotel



Ronnie Kalema (L) handing over FIFA badge to Beachsoccer referee Kawagga Bazirio Kennedy

## Ivan Kintu Bayige nominated for Beach Soccer World Cup-Russia



# FUFA-UPL draw strategy to create better league product



FUFA Deputy CEO-Football, Decolas Kiiza and Club Officials during the FUFA-UPL Breakfast meeting in February

There is no doubt that the Uganda Premier League has grown leaps and bounds over the past years. Gone are the days of bickering between FUFA and clubs, internal wrangles and playing of parallel leagues.

However, despite the progress, FUFA believes it is high time they looked at the league as a better commercialised brand. This was the discussion at the FUFA-UPL breakfast meeting held on 24th February at Imperial Royale Hotel.

‘We must have a common agenda and that is to create a commercial good. Football is business and our league has potential to become better if we lay out a clear strategy on how to improve.’ said FUFA President, Eng. Moses Magogo.

It was at this meeting that a decision was reached to form committees that will look at areas of sporting and football business.

FUFA also promised to facilitate club administrators to trips to other African countries to go and learn what they are doing better.

On the same day, FUFA met with coaches from Uganda Premier League with emphasis hinged on finding a better technical approach to the game.

Some of the areas discussed included; player identification, football curriculum, infrastructure & equipment, sports science and technology plus football coaching and management.



KCCA FC Chairman, Martin Sekajja making his point during the meeting.



Police FC Chairman AIGP, Asan Kasingye highlighted the challenge about officiating.

# Resumption of other FUFA competitions

## FUFA Big League

Following a decision by the FUFA Executive Committee on the resumption of five more competitions including the 2nd Tier League (StarTimes FUFA Big League), FUFA held a consultative meeting with StarTimes FUFA Big League clubs on 26th February, in preparation for the forthcoming season. The decision was taken for the start of the league. The first round went on smoothly and it is on a break.

## Stanbic Uganda Cup

The 2020/21 Stanbic Uganda Cup 47th edition attracted a new partner, Plascon. The Paints company added colour to the knockout tournament with a package of UGX 132M to a knockout tournament that took into account for only teams playing in the Uganda Premier League and FUFA Big League. The tournament started at the round of 32 with games played on a home and away basis except for the final. The tournament has now reached the round of 16.

The winner of the tournament takes home UGX 50M and represents Uganda in the CAF Confederation Cup.

### Table standings of the StarTimes FUFA Big League 2020/2021

#### First Round



**STARTIMES FUFA BIG LEAGUE**

**Elgon Group**

Sn	Club	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Arush Hill SC	7	4	3	0	12	4	8	15
2	Gadafi FC	7	4	1	2	8	7	1	13
3	Black Power FC	7	4	0	3	10	8	2	12
4	Katuka FC	7	4	0	3	7	6	1	12
5	Calvary FC	7	3	1	3	5	5	0	10
6	Mobile Heroes FC	7	2	3	2	5	5	0	9
7	Masons FC	7	2	1	4	7	8	-1	7
8	Padtha Mack Angels FC	7	0	1	6	1	14	-13	1

**Rwenzori Group**

Sn	Club	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Toro United FC	7	5	1	1	18	8	5	16
2	Nyembyibwa FC	7	4	2	1	10	3	7	14
3	Proline FC	7	4	1	2	13	8	5	13
4	Lwero United FC	7	2	2	3	6	10	-4	8
5	Ndeje University FC	7	1	4	2	7	8	-1	7
6	Water FC	7	2	1	4	7	9	-2	7
7	Kagadi Homemakers FC	7	1	4	2	7	11	-4	7
8	Temboro and Tiles FC	7	0	3	4	4	10	-6	3

■ Direct sporting promotion to 1<sup>st</sup> division ■ Teams for play offs ■ Relegation to 3<sup>rd</sup>



# Restart of Women's Football after a year



Ikwaput Fazila(R) has scored 7 goals so far

After a year of no action for girls and women, efforts were made to see football returns and FUFA last month gave the green light to two Women League Competitions- the Super League and Elite League.

However, given the prevailing circumstances in regard to COVID-19,



there are changes in the playing format with teams divided into groups and playing all games at the FUFA Technical Centre, Njeru.

Both the FUFA Women Super League and FUFA Women Elite League will be played in a tournament format.

FUFA Women Super League kicked on 19th April while the FUFA Women Elite League will get underway on 2nd May. 10 teams are taking part in the FUFA Women Super League while 16 for the 2nd Division League (Elite League).



# Missed Opportunity for Uganda U17 team

Uganda U17 National Team (The Cubs) was supposed to feature at the 2021 Africa U17 Cup of Nations but Morocco pulled out of hosting the tournament at the 11th hour due to COVID-19.

After a remarkable display at the CECAFA Zonal Qualifiers where Uganda emerged Champions, the Boys were ready to extend their adeptness at the finals.

Players such as captain Ibrahim Juma, Oscar Mawa and Tavis Mutyaba had already attracted attention even before the start of the tournament.



# Giving FUFA House a new look



Efforts have been made to give the FUFA Complex a corporate look. With two office blocks (Executive and Business House) officially commissioned last year by FIFA Secretary General, Fatma Samoura, renovation of the original FUFA House (Football House) started in February in a bid to create more office space.

Ms. Sumaya Kiwanuka, the FUFA Projects Manager states that the renovation will give the House a better look but also create a better working environment.

‘The plan is to add one more floor in order to create more office space. FUFA is a corporate body and therefore, the home of football must suit modern trends.’

The Football House accommodates offices of FUFA Deputy CEO-Football, Competitions Department, Legal, Procurement Referees, 102.1 FUFA Fm and National Teams.

# Global recognition

Crested Cranes striker and U17 Women's National Football Team captain Juliet Nalukenge was named in Goal.com Next Generation top ten wonder kids for the year 2021.

Nalukenge who for the past two years has proved to be unstoppable guided Uganda to winning COSAFA U17 Championship and CECAFA U17 Girls' Championship in 2019.

Before cancelling of the 2020 FIFA U17 Women's World Cup, Nalukenge led the scoring charts in the Africa qualifiers with five goals and Uganda was preparing to face Cameroon at the final hurdle.



## 24<sup>th</sup> FUFA EXCO Meeting



# Football to Parliament



FUFA President, Eng. Moses Magogo has always preached that football must be to places where decisions that run the country are made, in this case the Parliament. With challenges such as funding, infrastructure, legislation and policies top of the list, the need to have someone that will present the plight of not only football but sport was evident.

It is upon this background that he sought for an elective position and was on 14th January voted as the Member of Parliament for Budiope East Constituency in Buyende district.

Besides, representing the people of Buyende, Mr. Magogo indicates he will carry the agenda of sports to the floor of Parliament.

'I want to give assurance to the sports fraternity that my contribution in terms of presenting the challenges we face as an industry will reach the floor of Parliament. We have made some progress but it's time we engaged another gear and that definitely requires everyone including government to come on board.' He said.

# 2021 FUFA Elections

The 2021 FUFA Elections roadmap is on course as leaders have already been voted into office at the District and Regional Levels. The exercise that started in March will climax with election of the FUFA President and Executive by 31st August.

'We started the FUFA Electoral exercise by releasing the road map. There are several activities lined up including Civic education, display of registers, nomination process, election and declaration of results from the District Football Associations (DFAs), Regional Football Associations (RFA) to the FUFA Executive Committee' confirmed Mathias Bwire, the FUFA Electoral Committee Chairman.



# FUFA-Sports Media Engagement

FUFA has held yet another successful media engagement with the members of the fourth estate building on what was organised in 2014 (Lugogo), 2017, 2018 (FUFA Technical Centre-Njeru) and 2019 (Imperial Royale).

The Event was the first of the quarterly meetings this year between the local soccer governing body and sports media, held at Jevine Hotel in Rubaga, Kampala on Tuesday, April 6, 2021.

Eng. Magogo hinted on the significance of the interface and FUFA's progress since 2013 when he took over office, highlighting the success story in the eight (8) focus areas of FUFA.

Eng. Magogo also used the occasion to reveal his intentions to contest again for the FUFA Presidency. Good Luck Mr. President



# Four Ugandans attend CAF Safety & Security Officers' Retreat in Cameroon

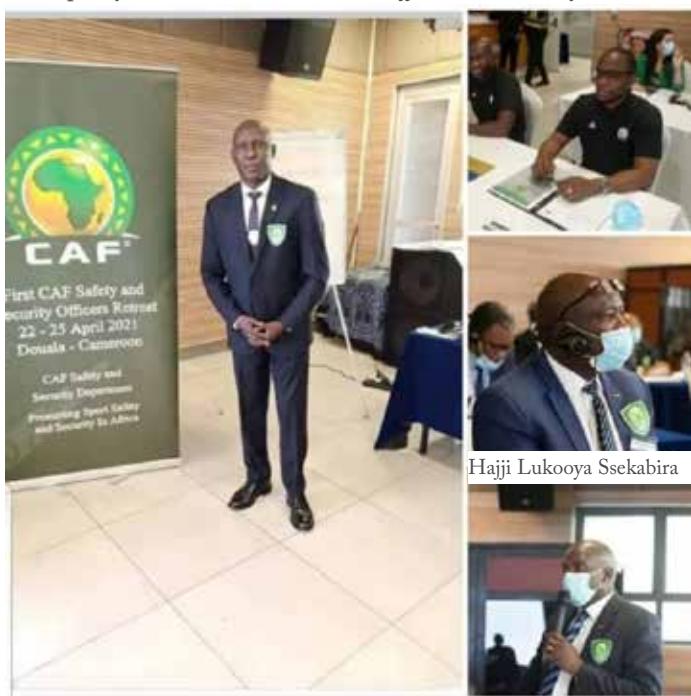


Ugandans Dixon Okello, Hajji Jamil Ssewanyana, Hajji Abdul Lukooya Ssekabira and Humphrey Mandu in Cameroon for the first ever CAF Safety and Security Officers' Retreat.



Humphrey Mandu

Hajji Jamil Ssewanyana



Hajji Lukooya Ssekabira