## ST STITHIANS COLLEGE BASKETBALL U16 TOURNAMENT 2020 14 - 16 February



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## **POOL DIVISIONS**

#### POOL A

ST GEORGE'S College (Zimbabwe) ST CHARLES College (KZN) KING EDWARD VII (Gauteng) ST ALBAN'S College (Gauteng) MORRIS ISAACSON (Gauteng) ST ANDREW'S (Eastern Cape)

#### POOL B

MARU-a-PULA (Botswana) MARITZBURG College (KZN) PRETORIA BOYS (Gauteng) JEPPE HIGH (Gauteng) LETHUKUTHULA (Gauteng) BISHOP BAVIN (Gauteng)

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL: BOYS' COLLEGE

'One man can be a crucial ingredient on a team, but one man cannot make a team.'

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

It is once again a pleasure to welcome you all here today to what has become our annual U16 Basketball Tournament. Wonderful to see so many familiar faces and just as gratifying to see so many new ones.

A tournament such as this highlights so many aspects of what is best about sport. Apart from the obvious health benefits, sport brings together a mixture of people from different communities, backgrounds, religions and beliefs and offers a new way to meet others with whom we may not interact from day to day. Through

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training, and by working towards specific goals we develop confidence as well as expertise, and on occasions such as this we are able to put our new-found skills to the test.

# A GENERATION RISING

## **POOL DIVISIONS**

#### POOL C

KEARSNEY (KZN) ST JOHN'S College (Gauteng) ST DAVID'S MARIST INANDA (Gauteng) USUTU FOREST (Swaziland) WESTVILLE ( KZN) ISSA (Northwest)

#### POOL D

ST BENEDICT'S College (Gauteng) ST STITHIANS College (Gauteng) MICHAELHOUSE (KZN) QUEENS College (Eastern Cape) WINDHOEK INT (Namibia) CLIFTON College (KZN)

It is through a sport such as Basketball that we learn the power of the team and the importance of a team mindset, whether it be winning, losing or training together.

To everyone involved in the planning of this event I offer my thanks for the many hours that have been spent in ensuring the tournament's success. Thank you as always to the coaches and to the parents for your tireless enthusiasm and support, to the First Aid teams who are always on stand-by, to the ground staff for their preparation of this venue, and to our sponsors for their generosity. I must make special mention of the Basketball Committee who have worked so hard towards ensuring the success of this tournament: your dedication to our school and to the young men in our school is valued and appreciated and I thank you most sincerely for everything you have done so selflessly.

As South Africans we know only too well the power that sport has to lift people and to create hope: it strengthens the bonds we have and helps us to create new ones. To all the players, my wish for you is that you enjoy your time on the courts over the next few days: they are the culmination of all your efforts and of your hard work in preparing for this event. May you strengthen the bonds you have and forge new ones in the days that lie ahead.

Yours faithfully Mr David du Toit

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## MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN OF PARENTS BASKETBALL COMMITTEE: BOYS' COLLEGE

"What you are as a person is far more important than what you are as a basketball player." John Wooden

I feel honoured to be part of the Basketball Community at St Stithians. Having come from a basketball family, and being involved in one way or the other at most amateur levels of the game, I have a deep passion in ensuring that this beautiful game grows from strength to strength not only in our school and community, but in the country as a whole.

We are now in an unprecedented new phase of growth for the sport, not only in our school but in South Africa and Africa as a whole. With the launch of the NBA Africa league, the rise of FNB Varsity Cup Basketball, and the continued success of the NBA Basketball without Borders programme there is now a genuine path for those with talent to make it into the top Universities in both



the United States and Europe and ultimately into professional leagues around the world.

It is therefore fitting that St Stithians hosts the most prestigious U16 Tournament in Southern Africa, with many teams on the waiting list and clamouring to gain an invite to our tournament. We have the opportunity to showcase the sport at its best, and with two development teams taking part this year, have a further opportunity to inspire and better the lives of many more.

I want to acknowledge the great work done by the previous committee. Having to start from zero is no easy task and they managed to stage two very successful tournaments over the years. I would also like to thank the school and all the departments that helped in making this event a success. It is truly an honour to work with like-minded and driven people. Our sponsors and parents, whom without their support, this event would not have been possible. Our goal as a committee is to assist the school in building a sustainable basketball programme which will produce not only boys and girls with great work ethic and sportsmanship, but also inspire them to be the future leaders and to make a difference in whatever they choose to do.

Finally, I would like to thank the 2019/2020 committee for all your hard work in making this year's tournament the success that it is. It has been an honour serving with you.

Good luck to all the participants in this year's tournament. Play hard, play fair, respect all and most importantly, have fun doing so.

Yours faithfully Russell Kwong Hing

## MESSAGE FROM U16 CAPTAIN: ST STITHIANS BOYS' COLLEGE

As we all know basketball is one of the fastest, if not the fastest growing sport in South Africa and I'm proud to see that basketball is growing at St Stithians College as well. The College has showed a lot of support to the sport which is why it continues to grow. This is well deserved support as Saints is currently regarded as one of the top basketball schools in the country. This isn't because we are lucky with good players that attend the school, it's because of the support, effort, good coaching and the overall programme at Saints. The programme looks to create a good basketball skills foundation.

Being in the U16A side is a huge achievement for a young player and I'm honoured to be leading this team from the front. We have



a team of hard-working players that all have a common goal.namely, to be competitive in every single game we play whilst displaying integrity and sportsmanship on the court at all times. We want to give it everything we've got at every tournament we play this year, which includes the St Stithians U16 Tournament hosted by us this weekend.

As hosts of this tournament, we plan to dominate the court but still represent the school's values. This tournament provides a great opportunity for new bonds and friendships to be made between the various participating schools as we all share a common interest and passion, basketball. The tournament also enhances the growth of basketball, not only in the country but across borders into Africa with all of the esteemed teams from different countries attending.

I think every boy playing in the tournament knows it will be tough, however we have prepared well by putting in a lot of hard work and training both early mornings and late evenings. We want to welcome all schools from South Africa and beyond to our U16 Basketball tournament. We hope it is a tournament and memory you won't forget. Let's compete and most importantly, let's have fun.

Yours faithfully Thabang Simelane (U16 Basketball Captain 2020)

Front Row (L-R): Zaid Motala, Simba Manikai, Thabang Simelane, Kyle Wesley Middle: Coach Fungai, Liam Mali, Milan Dingaan Back Row (L-R): Anesu Dzinotyiwei, Makgesa Lekgwathi, Yashiel Rajpal, Samuel Oluwadare, Rick Van DenHeever, Adrian Kamotho, Thami Hlongwa, Masedi Dilotsolthle







#### LETHUKUTHULA SECONDARY SCHOOL BASKETBALL



This year, the St Stithians College Basketball U16 Tournament is excited to welcome the Lethukuthula Secondary School to our 2020 event. Lethukuthula is our second development team participating in this year's event and their involvement in the tournament is due to the generous support of African Proficient Group, who have sponsored the team.

Lethukuthula Secondary Schools is situated in Katlehong (one of the oldest townships on the East Rand). Although the majority of the school's learners come from underprivileged communities, Lethukuthula have managed to consistently produce outstanding matric results: 2015 = 95% 2016 = 99,5%. 2017 = 91,5%. 2018 = 90,22. 2019 = 94%. In 2020, Lethukuthula is working towards its target of a 100% matric pass rate.

Basketball is a hugely popular extra-mural activity at the school. It started in 2010 and despite limited facilities and access to resources, Lethukuthula Secondary School has managed to achieve several accolades. In 2010, the U15 side were named District Champions and in 2018,

the U18 Team were Champions of the Masakhane Games The school is also very proud of the players who were selected to represent Gauteng abroad in Italy last year.

We thank African Proficient Group for their support of basketball and their generous contribution to ensure that the young players from Lethukuthula Secondary School are a part of this year's event.

We wish them all the best.



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#### MORRIS ISAACSON HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Morris Isaacson High school is a school known for its rich history as it played an important role in the start of the Soweto Uprising in 1976. With such great history, it has also produced great South African icons like Tsietsie Mashinini and Dr Ivan Khoza.

The basketball program was formed in 2017 through a partnership between Soweto Basketball Academy and Morris Isaacson High school. Since the start of this program, the MIHS basketball teams (boy and girls) have been the most formidable and successful high school basketball team in Soweto for the past two years. We won back to back the Soweto High Schools Basketball Championships in 2017 and 2018 with both Boys and girls teams.



The School Basketball Team is known as the Morris Isaacson Warriors



Morris Isaacson Warriors team for the u16 St Stithians Boys' College 2020 Tournament





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#### Lightning Siren

The College has a lightning system linked to the SA Weather Bureau. In the event of lightning within a 15km radius of the College, the alarm will be sounded with one long siren. When you hear the siren, you need to take shelter out of the open immediately. Move off metal grandstands immediately. Do not panic and do not run, but make your way towards the nearest school building or your vehicle (if close by) and take shelter until you hear the all-clear, which is two shorter sounding sirens. The system is set to give us the all-clear only after 31 minutes of no lightning activity within our 15km radius



### ST STITHIANS COLLEGE