



PRESS RELEASE 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2018

**We are excited to announce new milestones in Youth Soccer in Namibia in 2018.**

It is with tremendous pride that today we

- launch the bigger and better 2018 HopSol Youth Soccer League.
- can announce to have over 2000 youth soccer players registered.
- launch the HopSol Youth Soccer League at the coast.
- Inform about the Black Africa HopSol Team and the Future Champions Cup in Gauteng/RSA



After the huge success of the 2017 season it was a big challenge for us to do better and improve on the current status, but we are very proud to have achieved it by nearly doubling the players registered in the Khomas region: from just over 800 players to nearly 1400 players. We have 4 more schools and 2 more clubs / academies.

We have added another age group, on request of the clubs and schools, to allow more players to compete in the HopSol league. We also changed the modus of the league format in the older age groups, to have more exiting competition right up to the end of the league. The older age groups will be decided in Play-off games this year.

Here is the breakdown of all participating schools, clubs and academies for the Khomas Region only:

| HOPSOL YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE " KHOMAS " |    |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---------------------------------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| TEAM                                  | U9 | U10 | U11 | U13 | U15 | U17 | U19 |
| ATHLETIC CLUB                         | X  | X   | X   | XX  |     |     |     |
| CONCORDIA COLLEGE                     |    |     |     |     | X   | X   | X   |
| DELTA SECONDARY                       |    |     |     |     | X   | X   | X   |
| DOEBRA                                |    |     |     |     | X   | X   | X   |
| DTS                                   | X  | X   | X   | X   | X   | X   |     |
| FALCONS                               | X  |     | X   | X   |     |     |     |
| FORTIS                                |    |     |     |     |     | X   |     |
| HAGE GEINGOB                          |    |     |     |     | X   | X   | X   |
| HOBASEN BLUE BOYS                     |    |     |     |     | X   | X   |     |
| JAN MOHR                              |    |     |     |     | X   | X   | X   |
| MANDUME PRIMARY                       | X  | X   | X   | X   |     |     |     |
| MH GREEF                              |    | X   | X   | X   |     |     |     |
| NAMUTONI PRIMARY                      | X  | X   | X   | X   |     |     |     |
| PAY                                   |    |     |     |     | X   | X   |     |
| RAMBLERS                              | X  | X   | X   | XX  | XX  | XX  |     |
| ROCKY CREST                           |    |     |     |     | X   | X   | X   |
| SKW                                   | X  | X   | X   | XX  | X   | X   | X   |
| WALDDORF                              |    |     |     |     |     | X   |     |
| WINDHOEK FOOTBALL CLUB                |    |     |     |     |     |     | X   |
| WINDHOEK GYMNASIUM                    | X  | X   | X   | X   |     | X   | X   |

We welcome Windhoek Gymnasium, Windhoek Football Club, Jan Mohr, Rocky Crest, Waldorf, and the Hobasen Blue Boys from Rehoboth and Physically Active Youths as new members to our HopSol Youth Soccer League family.



Due to the positive impact the HopSol Youth Soccer League made to over 850 players, the positive media echo and our perfect organization, we have been approached by many regions to please assist them to set up equally successful leagues.

We have listened. We had a lot of good, internal and external meetings and we decided to roll out our success story.

We are very excited to announce the launch of the HopSol Youth Soccer League Coast, kicking off on 7<sup>th</sup> of April. With the assistance of long-time League Coordinator Georg Engelbauer 5 clubs from Swakopmund and 2 clubs from Walvis Bay joined us, with a total of 32 teams participating in the league.

Find below the list of teams from the Erongo region participating.

| HOPSOL YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE " COASTAL " |    |     |     |     |     |     |
|--|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| TEAM                                   | U9 | U11 | U13 | U15 | U17 | U19 |
| SWAKOPMUND FOOTBALL CLUB               | X  | X   | X   | X   | X   |     |
| SWAKOPMUND SPORT DEVELOPMENT CLUB      | X  | X   | X   | X   | X   |     |
| SWAKOPMUND UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB        | X  | X   | X   | X   | X   |     |
| TEENAGE FOOTBALL CLUB                  | X  | X   | X   | X   | X   |     |
| GENESIS FOOTBALL CLUB                  |    |     |     | X   | X   |     |
| HIDDEN STARS FOOTBALL ACADEMY          | X  | X   | X   | X   | X   |     |
| NARRAVILLE FOOTBALL ACADEMY            | X  | X   | X   | X   | X   |     |

**With the joining of the Erongo Region, we do have now over 2000 players registered, which we believe is unique in Namibia!**

All fixtures for the 2018 league have already been uploaded on our webpage: [www.hopsolsoccer.org](http://www.hopsolsoccer.org)





## The Black Africa HopSol Team

Black Africa FC was invited to participate at the Future Champions Cup. As the club does have a youth academy, Black Africa FC approached the HopSol Youth Soccer League, if we could assist and select a team to participate. Future Champions is one of the most sought-after tournaments in the world and it would have been stupid not to accept such a challenge. Above all, however, it would have been detrimental for our youth soccer development, if we hadn't grabbed this opportunity with both hands.

The Future Champions Cup Gauteng was established during the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ as a partnership between Rights Holder Global Sports International and Gauteng Provincial Government.

The Future Champions International Cup has grown to become one of the most prestigious and elite U17 football tournaments in the world. Eight of the top U17 clubs from North and South America, Europe, Asia and Africa are invited to compete in this event, along with four South African U17 teams. These twelve teams battle it out for the title of Future Champions during the weeklong tournament. Previous clubs that have participated include Manchester City, DC United, Everton, FC Barcelona, Paris St Germain, Shandong Luneng and Atletico Mineiro. The tournament receives national and international media coverage, with matches broadcast live on Super Sport throughout Africa.

### Summary of 2018 Tournament

The 2018 Future Champions Gauteng International will be taking place from 19 – 24 March 2018 at the world-class Nike Training Centre in Soweto. All teams play a total of five games, finishing the week with a ranking of 1 – 12. Teams will be accommodated together at the spacious Kopanong Hotel, with ground transportation and accompanying escorts provided throughout the week. Various cultural activities, such as a night of interactive drumming and music as well as a visit to the Lion Park, will be included in the programme.

**Under the experienced guidance of ex- Bundesliga professionals Collin Benjamin and Razundara Tjikuzu, the HopSol League has selected a squad of 25 players to participate as the Black Africa HopSol Team which are currently coached 4 times a week to prepare for this high-level tournament. The final selection of the team will be done end of February.**





## Let's power:

The 1<sup>st</sup> game of the 2018 season will be kicked off on Friday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> February, at 14h30 at the SKW Sport fields in Olympia, and will continue through the whole afternoon and Saturday as from 08h00.

Thank you:

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# HopSol

Youth Soccer League



*Let's Power !*