



News.
Updates.
Stories.
More.



PRESIDENT HICHILEMA BUYS OVER 20,000 TICKETS FOR ABSA CUP FINAL

President Hakainde Hichilema has purchased 22,000 tickets for today’s ABSA Cup final between Zesco United and Red Arrows, set to take place at Levy Mwanawasa Stadium in Ndola... pg 4



KATONGO MWEEMBA'S FAZ VICTORY AS "NEW HOPE" FOR ZAMBIAN FOOTBALL

pg 2



KEITH MWEEMBA VOWS URGENT CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS AND UNITY IN ZAMBIAN FOOTBALL

pg 2



ZAMBIA ROARS AT AFRICA MMA CHAMPIONSHIPS, THREE FIGHTERS REACH HISTORIC FINALS!

pg 3



WELCOME BONUS
100% SPORTS BONUS
UP TO 1,000 ZMW

KEITH MWEEMBA VOWS URGENT CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS AND UNITY IN ZAMBIAN FOOTBALL

By Joseph Tembo



Newly elected Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) President, Keith Mweemba, has pledged sweeping constitutional reforms and immediate action to unite the Zambian football community, describing it as a non-negotiable priority for his first 100 days in office.

Speaking in his first official address following a decisive victory in the FAZ elections, where he secured 45 votes against Andrew Kamanga’s 20 and Adrian Kashala’s 17, Mweemba emphasized that structural change and inclusivity will be the cornerstones of his administration.

“It’s an urgent matter, constitutional reforms, statute reforms. The constitution is the supreme document. It creates the institution,” Mweemba said, explaining that many of FAZ’s current statutes, including the Code of Ethics and player transfer regulations, lack the force of law and must be urgently reviewed.

He expressed a strong commitment to democracy, media freedom, and equal opportunity, promising fair

treatment for journalists and all stakeholders across Zambia’s 10 provinces.

“We want to allow people freedom of expression. Journalists must be treated fairly and given equal opportunities. That must be the same even to the provincial leadership. There must be no segregation,” he said.

Quoting political philosophers James Madison and Abraham Lincoln, Mweemba framed his vision around democratic principles such as political tolerance, constitutionalism, and the rule of law.

“Democracy is a government of the people, by the people, and for the people,” he stated. “It entails majority rule but with respect for minority rights. We want to promote freedom of expression, but not the freedom to abuse.”

A key highlight of his immediate agenda is national reconciliation within the football fraternity. He extended an olive branch to suspended or banned individuals in

Zambian football, urging them to engage in dialogue and rejoin the sport in line with regulations.

“Reconciliation and the uniting of the football family start today,” Mweemba declared. “Football is a spirit game. Everybody must be united, legends, officials, and supporters. We need to seek wisdom from those who came before us.”

He reiterated that while the long-term development of Zambian football would be guided by a comprehensive strategic plan, some reforms, especially legal and governance-related—must begin immediately.

“We want to sit down with my executive and then call for an emergency stakeholders meeting. Government and the corporate world are key partners. Together, we must bring back the glory days of Zambian football.”

Ending his address, Mweemba made an earnest appeal to the media: “I cannot do it alone. Help me start uniting the football family today.”

KATONGO HAILS MWEEMBA’S FAZ VICTORY AS “NEW HOPE” FOR ZAMBIAN FOOTBALL

By Lucky Chama



Former Chipolopolo captain and iconic 2012 Africa Cup of Nations winner, Christopher Katongo, has delivered a strong message of support and optimism to the newly elected president of the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ), Keith Mweemba.

Mweemba’s victory at the FAZ elective Annual General Meeting saw him garner a significant 45 votes, outpacing the incumbent Andrew Kamanga, who received 20 votes. Adrian Kashala secured 17 votes, while Emmanuel Munaile received zero.

The winds of change also swept through the Vice President position, with Mutale Ngandu emerging victorious over Dr. Justin Mumba.

In a heartfelt statement, Katongo, a revered figure in Zambian football history, expressed his elation at the election outcome.

“When Zambian people want change, CHANGE happens,” Katongo declared.

“From the bottom of my HEART. Thank you Mr. Keith Mwemba,” the former skipper continued, directly addressing the new FAZ president.

“Congratulations. This progress and a new hope. Football is key to national development.”

Katongo’s message resonates with the sentiment of many football stakeholders and fans who anticipate a fresh direction for Zambian football under Mweemba’s leadership. His emphasis on “progress” and “new hope” suggests a belief that the incoming administration can usher in a positive era for the sport, recognizing its crucial role in the broader development of the nation.

The election of Mweemba and Ngandu marks a significant turning point for FAZ, and the support from influential figures like Christopher Katongo will undoubtedly add weight to their mandate as they embark on their tenure. The Zambian football fraternity will be keenly watching to see how this new leadership will shape the future of the beautiful game in the country.



WELCOME BONUS

100% SPORTS BONUS UP TO 1,000 ZMW

18+



2025 ABSA CUP FINAL



Clive Hachilensa
Assistant Coach - ZESCO United

Despite not scoring many goals, we’ve made it this far and come Saturday, even a lone goal will be enough. If we have to defend it, we will



Kalilo Kakonje
Assistant Coach - Red Arrows

We haven’t had the best run of games this season, but this is a cup final and we’re approaching it with a different mindset. Our goal is to defend the title and secure a positive result, especially in the presence of the Commander-in-Chief, the Republican President, Mr. Hakainde Hichilema

 **Zambian Premier League**

NOCZ PRESIDENT CONGRATULATES KEITH MWEEMBA ON FAZ PRESIDENCY, PLEDGES CONTINUED COLLABORATION

By Lucky Chama



The National Olympic Committee of Zambia (NOCZ) President, Alfred Foloko, has conveyed a message of hearty congratulations to Keith Mweemba on his recent election as the President of the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ).

In a statement released today, President Foloko, speaking on behalf of the NOCZ Executive Board and the entire Olympic Movement in Zambia, underscored the significance of Mweemba's election. He stated that this achievement clearly

demonstrates the "trust, belief, and confidence" that the Zambian football fraternity has placed in his leadership.

Foloko also highlighted the long-standing positive relationship between the NOCZ and FAZ. He emphasized football's crucial role as a "most influential and unifying sport" in Zambia. The NOCZ, he affirmed, is proud to collaborate with FAZ in promoting Olympic values, bolstering grassroots development, and preparing athletes

for high-performance events such as the upcoming Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games.

Expressing optimism for the future of Zambian football under Mweemba's guidance, Foloko stated his confidence that his leadership, alongside the newly elected FAZ Executive, will usher in "a renewed sense of purpose, innovation, and professionalism."

The NOCZ looks forward to strengthening cooperation with FAZ in key areas such as the development of women's football, coach education programs, and enhanced preparedness for international competitions.

Foloko acknowledged that this is a critical juncture for Zambian sport and believes that greater synergy between sporting associations, federations, and national bodies like the NOCZ can elevate the entire sporting ecosystem in the country to new heights.

Concluding his message, Foloko assured Mweemba of the NOCZ's unwavering support as he embarks on this new chapter dedicated to serving the game and the nation.

ZAMBIA ROARS AT AFRICA MMA CHAMPIONSHIPS, THREE FIGHTERS REACH HISTORIC FINALS!

By Lucky Chama



Lusaka, Zambia - In a stunning display of skill and determination, Zambia has etched its name into the history books of African Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) at the ongoing Africa MMA Championships. Against all expectations, three of the six Zambian athletes who traveled to the prestigious tournament have fought their way to the finals, guaranteeing the nation at least three silver medals and with a strong chance of clinching continental gold.

The trio of Miracle Chipito, Mutinta Mweene, and Tryford Mwaanga have captivated fans and experts alike with their exceptional performances throughout the championship. Their remarkable achievement means that half of Zambia's contingent are now poised to compete for the coveted title of African champion.

In a particularly inspiring narrative, Zambia's two female representatives, Miracle Chipito and Mutinta Mweene, have proven themselves to be among the elite fighters on the continent. Having embarked on their MMA journeys relatively recently, their rapid ascent to the finals is a testament to their raw talent, unwavering dedication, and the burgeoning strength of women's combat sports in Africa. They stand as trailblazers, setting a new benchmark and inspiring a generation of female athletes across the continent.

Tryford Mwaanga has embodied the true Zambian fighting spirit, showcasing immense grit and courage in the flyweight division. He has fearlessly faced the best the continent has to offer, never backing down, and his perseverance has

earned him a well-deserved spot in the final. He now carries the hopes and dreams of a nation that is increasingly embracing the sport of MMA.

Zambia is also extending its support to Winifred Agara of Nigeria, who is competing independently. Finding camaraderie and support in the Zambian corner, Agara's presence underscores the unity and shared spirit within the African MMA community.

While the focus now intensifies on the final matchups, Zambia also celebrates the commendable achievements of Jarcel Chimbwe and Killian Lungu, who both secured hard-earned bronze medals. Their valiant efforts against formidable opponents have contributed significantly to Zambia's overall success at the championships. Fight Times (Zambian Time) for the Finals are as follows:

Winifred Agara (Nigeria) vs Ntoto Castro (Angola) – 16:12

Miracle Chipito (Zambia) vs Helena Sachilombo (Angola) – 16:36

Tryford Mwaanga (Zambia) vs Wilson Manuel (Angola) – 16:48

Mutinta Mweene (Zambia) vs Maria Liberal (Angola) – 17:00

Fans across Zambia and the continent can catch all the live action on IMMAF.tv and witness this historic moment for Zambian MMA. The nation rallies behind Miracle, Mutinta, and Tryford as they step into the cage to compete for continental glory! This is more than just a proud moment; it is a resounding statement about the rising power of Zambian MMA on the African stage.

BRAVE YOUNG CHIPOLOPOLO BOW OUT OF AFCON U20 DESPITE UNBEATEN RUN

By Joseph Tembo



Zambia's U20 national team bowed out of the TotalEnergies CAF U20 Africa Cup of Nations on Friday night despite a spirited 1-1 draw against South Africa at the 30 June Air Defence Stadium in Cairo. The result saw both teams finish their group stage campaigns unbeaten, but heartbreakingly, Zambia missed out on a quarter-final spot.

It was a tense, high-energy encounter from the first whistle, with South Africa drawing first blood in the 8th minute through Kutlwano Letlhaku, who finished off a quick counter-attack led by Mfundo Vilakazi.

The Young Chipolopolo responded with characteristic resilience, levelling the score just four minutes later. Bonephanseo Phiri calmly slotted home from the middle of the box after a pinpoint delivery from David Hamansenya, giving Zambian fans hope of a comeback.

Zambia continued to press, especially in the second half, growing into the match and nearly stealing it in stoppage time when substitute Perkins Mumba Mwale forced a brilliant save from the South African goalkeeper. Keeper Leevison Banda also put in a strong performance, keeping out multiple efforts from the lively Vilakazi.

Despite ending the group phase unbeaten, with one win and three draws, Zambia's tally of six points saw them finish fourth in Group A. The team opened their campaign with goalless draws against Egypt and Sierra Leone before defeating Tanzania 1-0 and then drawing with South Africa.

South Africa, Sierra Leone, and Egypt all finished with seven points, with the South Africans topping the group on goal difference. Sadly for Zambia, that left them just outside the qualification spots.

This early exit is a tough pill to swallow for Zambia, who lifted the U20 continental title in 2017. While the team showed defensive solidity and fighting spirit, they struggled to convert chances, scoring just two goals in four matches.

Friday's match saw tensions boil over at times, with yellow cards handed to Eliya Mandanji of Zambia and Gomolemo Kekana of South Africa in a fiercely contested affair.

Although their journey ends here, the Young Chipolopolo leave the tournament with heads held high, unbeaten, proud, and with lessons to build on for the future.

MOJABET

WELCOME

BONUS

100% SPORTS BONUS
UP TO 1000 ZMW

Join Now

PRESIDENT HICHILEMA BUYS OVER 20,000 TICKETS FOR ABSA CUP FINAL

By Joseph Tembo



President Hakainde Hichilema has purchased 22,000 tickets for today’s ABSA Cup final between Zesco United and Red Arrows, set to take place at Levy Mwanawasa Stadium in Ndola.

With the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) elections now concluded, attention shifts back to the pitch, where Zesco and Arrows will battle for the coveted title. As tradition dictates, the Head of State will be the guest of honour at the

match, which is expected to draw thousands of fans.

Levy Mwanawasa Stadium, which has a seating capacity of 45,000, will see nearly half its seats filled courtesy of President Hichilema’s gesture.

“The Republican President, Mr. Hakainde Hichilema, has bought 22,000 football tickets for the people of Zambia,” announced Copperbelt nister Elisha Matambo. “The Head of State wishes to watch the AB

MiSA Final with the people of Zambia and interact with them.”

The tickets are being distributed on a first-come, first-served basis from the Ndola District Commissioner’s Office.

“We invite the public to collect their tickets and join the President for this event. See you at Levy Mwanawasa Stadium this afternoon,” the statement concluded.

'THE PRETENDER REPLACING A LEGEND - A NEW ERA DAWNS AT REAL MADRID'

BBC



In what has been the worst kept secret in the footballing world, Xabi Alonso has finally told his Bayer Leverkusen players he will be leaving the German club at the end of the season.

He will be soon be announced as the new head coach of Real Madrid - once the departure of current boss Carlo Ancelotti is officially confirmed.

An inevitable, if bittersweet, conclusion to Ancelotti's second spell at Real Madrid.

And finally, the much expected transition, with the Italian legend stepping aside to take charge of the Brazil national team, and the young pretender Alonso returning to the Bernabeu as his successor.

This changing of the guard, from the club's most decorated coach to a rising star in management, is symbolic. It marks the end of an era and the beginning of a fascinating new one.

A situation facilitated by the innate reasonableness of Bayer Leverkusen who, true to their word, stood by the gentlemen's agreement between coach and club that they would not stand in Alonso's way should he receive an offer he could not refuse.

Madrid are now preparing for a future led by their former midfielder, with president Florentino Perez viewing Alonso as the long-term answer.

The 43-year-old's success at Leverkusen has elevated his profile, and Real believe he possesses the tactical sharpness and emotional intelligence to lead a generational transition.

Last year, he led Leverkusen to a Bundesliga title, without losing a game, and the German Cup in his first full season as a senior club manager.

But the task Alonso faces at Real is enormous.

He will inherit a squad in flux, needing to balance Kylian Mbappe's presence and Vinicius Jr's leadership, with the Brazilian about to sign a longer contract. Alonso will also need to integrate

youngsters like Endrick and Arda Guler, phasing out the old guard and delivering trophies immediately. He'll also need to navigate a boardroom that wants influence, a fanbase that demands instant success, and a media environment that will hold him to impossible standards from day one.

Alonso has the tactical credentials, but this is Madrid where talent alone doesn't guarantee survival.

Before his tenure starts, Real must win at Barcelona on Sunday to retain any realistic hopes of retaining their La Liga crown. Victory for the Catalans would put them seven points clear at the top with just three games to play.

More likely, the goodbyes have already begun.

After winning La Liga and the Champions League last season, a campaign without a trophy would serve to justify the club's decision to end the Ancelotti era.

But before then, the Bernabeu will get its chance to applaud him one last time, to give the Italian the send-off that accurately reflects and acknowledges the enormity of his contribution to the club.

Fifteen trophies, more than any manager in the club's history, in two eras of success, steadiness, and quiet revolution. Ancelotti brought dignity and calm to chaos. He won with style, without needing to shout, and restored order when the club was on the edge.

And now, as he prepares to leave for Brazil, Real prepare to start again with Alonso at the helm.

HISTORY: FACTS ABOUT 2007 THE YEAR THE ABSA CUP WAS FIRST PLAYED!

By Chibulu Musonda



Well, in the form of the Barclays Cup-the forerunner to the ABSA Cup sponsored by Absa Bank Zambia.

Tomorrow record holders ZESCO United face current holders at Levy Mwanawasa Stadium in Ndola for a chance to lay hands on the glittering trophy and a K1 MILLION boon-the biggest prize money in the land of work and joy.

Lets look at some fun facts in Zambian football when this prestigious club cup competition commenced:

1. Rainford Master Kalaba won the golden boot with 23 goals for ZESCO UNITED piping club mate Enock Sakala in second place by a goal.

2. Kabwe Warriors won the now defunct BP Top 8 thrashing Nakambala Leopards 3-1 with Emmanuel Mayuka netting a hat-trick. Kelly Kumwenda replied for the now defunct Sugar Boys.

Mayuka finished third with 15 goals

in the race for the golden boot.

It was the last time Warriors won a Cup and appeared in the ABSA Cup final for the first time last year only to be beaten by Red Arrows at Heroes Stadium.

3. ZESCO United won the Super Division and the ABSA Cup. A double feat neither Zega Mambo nor Arrows can achieve tomorrow. Arrows, ironically, denied Power Dynamos that pleasure this year.

4. ZAMTEL FC, yes Zamtel had a club based in Ndola, Forest Rangers, National Assembly and Nakambala Leopards were relegated from the Super Division.

5. Current Zanaco coach Mumamba Numba was playing for the Bankers and finished the season on 11 goals.

Now China based Chipolopolo 2012 Africa Cup winning stalwart Stoppila Sunzu was playing for Sharp Konkola Blades.

BOOST YOUR WIN!

AVAILABLE ON FOOTBALL, BASKETBALL, AND TENNIS.

LEGS

5

10

15

30

BOOST

7%

20%

40%

150%

MOJABET

18+