

KWAZULU-NATAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS RUGBY ASSOSIATION

# 26TH ANNUAL KZN INTER-DISTRICTS RUGBY TOURNAMENT

## 18-20 MAY



Hosted by Maritzburg College



#### **MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER**

It is a great pleasure for Maritzburg College to host the 26th Annual KZN Inter-district Rugby Tournament and to welcome all the teams and their supporters to our campus.

We sincerely hope that all who participate or spectate will enjoy all that is great in schoolboy sport, viz. the camaraderie, team-spirit, passion, commitment and sportsmanship. These were all noble ideals fostered in his rugby teams over 35 seasons by the late Mr Nicholson himself – ones of which we today need to be more mindful than ever.

A special word of thanks to the following: Chairman of KZNMPRSA, Mr Gerrit Coetzee, Chairperson of Sharks Primary Schools, Mr Nash Govender, Maritzburg College's Recruitment Officer, Mr Wian du Plessis, Granny Macs Catering, the College Business Team, the school's Estates team, and all the first aiders and other helpers, for all their hard work in making this tournament a reality.

Of course, a special welcome to the home of the Red-Black-White goes to all the players, coaches, managers and parents - we hope you have an enjoyable stay in Maritzburg.

I trust that you will all enjoy the few days' rugby, and wish you safe travels back home.

Yours sincerely

#### C J LUMAN HEADMASTER



#### **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN, KZNMPRSA**

The KwaZulu-Natal Midlands Primary Schools' Rugby Association warmly welcomes each player, official and supporter to the 26th Annual KZN Inter-Districts Rugby Tournament. We are proud to once again welcome you to the Capital City of our province and hope that you enjoy the camaraderie that the game of rugby has to offer.

We are blessed to once again make use of the magnificent facilities at Maritzburg College. Our sincerest gratitude goes to Mr Chris Luman, Headmaster of Maritzburg College and his staff who always go out of their way to make sure that this tournament runs smoothly. This year, Maritzburg College celebrates their 160th anniversary and we are delighted that this tournament forms part of celebrating this school's rich history.

This tournament also plays an important part in ensuring that the Sharks Primary Schools are ready to host the U13 Craven Week. For the first time in this tournament's history, Pietermaritzburg and in particular, Maritzburg College, will be the host venue for this premier event. On 25 June 2023, sixteen South African Primary School Rugby Unions, as well as the Zimbabwean and Namibian National Primary School Teams will ascend on our province in what is sure to be a rugby spectacle.

The purpose of this tournament is to select two U13 Teams that will take part in the Craven Week. We will also be selecting two U12 Teams that will be participating in an Inter-Provincial tournament in Klerksdorp, North West Province. We hope that each boy enjoys the experience that you share with rugby greats like Pat Lambie and Jesse Kriel who once graced these same fields.

This tournament does not only serve as a trial, but also serve as a competitive platform where six provisional districts compete against each other. It is for this reason that we hope that each player relishes this experience and simply enjoys playing the game that we all love.

Good Luck and Enjoy

Mr Gerrit Coetzee Chairman KZNMPRSA

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON, SHARKS PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Dear Parents, Officials, Players and Sponsors

It gives me great pleasure on behalf of The Sharks Primary Schools executive to welcome you to The Sharks Primary Schools provincial trials for 2023. At the outset I would like to place on record my thanks and appreciation to Maritzburg College our host venue. We are indeed privileged to once again be able to come to such a fantastic venue and use these amazing facilities. To Mr Chris Luman, the headmaster, and your staff, we thank you for your support of primary schools rugby. It is greatly appreciated. A huge thank you to Mr Gerritt Coetzee and the Midlands Primary School Committee for putting together these trials on behalf of Sharks Primary Schools. Your commitment and dedication to primary school rugby and in particular Sharks Primary Schools is highly rnmmendable and is greatly valued and appreciated. Thank you!

A special thank you To Mr Brian Van Zyl the president of The KwaZulu Natal Rugby Union and to Mr Noel Ingle the president of SA Schools for their incredible support of schoolboy rugby and in particular primary schools rugby at provincial and national level respectively. Your collective efforts are greatly appreciated. Thank you!

This year is an extremely exciting year for us as Sharks Primary Schools as we will be hosting the National U13 Craven Week Tournament at this very venue from the 25 June 2023 to 30 June 2023. We eagerly await the arrival of approxiD1ately 28 ul')der 13 representative teams from across the country as well as the international teams. of Namibia and Zimbabwe. This tournament will showcase the best young talent on these very fields.

These current trials form the first part of a player's journey towards selection into one of OUR representative teams and possibly a long and rewarding rugby career. Many an illustrious provincial and national rugby career started at these very trials. Thank you to you the parents for affording your child this opportunity to display their ability and talent at this level. Without the support of you the parents, these events and activities would not be possible. To.our players, make the most of this opportunity. that you have been given and be thankful for it. Play for your district badge and represent your district with pride and honour but most of all remember to enjoy the experience. Play hard but play fair and take back fond memories and new bonds of friendship.

At this juncture I would like to acknowledge the many school coaches who work tirelessly behind the scenes to give our players the best possible coaching and opportunities. These are the people that keep this wonderful game alive despite the huge workloads and tremendous financial pressures and are the real unsung heroes. We salute their passion, dedication and commitment.

Finally, I would like to wish all players well for the trials and look forward to reading out the names of the selected players at our squad announcement.

Nash Govender Chairperson - Sharks Primary Schools

### ABOUT MARITZBURG COLLEGE: THE HOME OF THE #RedBlackWhite

On 2 March 1863, the first headmaster of the Pietermaritzburg High School (as the school was then called), Mr W Calder, opened the doors of the school to "a group of thirty colonial ruffians", in a humble carpenter's shop in Longmarket Street. The said headmaster was later most memorably described as "a punishing ogre who lurked ominously in the Upper Schoolroom", which certainly did not augur well for the fledgling school! However, since those humble beginnings, the old High School - which was renamed Maritzburg College by 'The Father of College', third headmaster Mr RD Clark in 1888 - has weathered storms, wars, rinderpests, depressions and famines, and has grown and blossomed over the last 147 years. Indeed, as a leading KZN school with a long history, it should come as no surprise that College has produced an enviable number of Old Boys who have distinguished themselves in almost every field of human endeavour. Amongst its most illustrious former scholars it can count 11 senators, 6 generals, two admirals, a Commissioner of Police, 11 Officers Commanding of the Natal Carbineers alone, arguably South Africa's pre-eminent English author, 24 Rhodes Scholars, a Chief Justice, 9 judges and 3 Attorneys-General. But it is the prowess of its numerous sporting teams that perhaps gives the school and Old Collegians the greatest pride, and its tally of 210 international sportsmen to date - including 14 Springboks, 28 captains of international sporting teams and an Olympic gold medallist - makes for impressive reading.

#### AMONGST THE SCHOOL'S 325 INTERNATIONAL SPORTSMEN AND OFFICIALS AT ALL CODES, THE FOLLOWING 17 OLD COLLEGIANS HAVE REPRESENTED, OR FORMALLY BEEN SELECTED FOR, SOUTH AFRICA AT 15-MAN RUGBY:

Ernest "Baby" Shum (1912) Walter Clarkson (1921-1924) Cecil "Bill" Payn (1924) Bertram "Beevee" Vanderplank (1924) Philip Nel (1928-1937) (captain) George van Reenen (1937) Keith Oxlee (1960-1965) Ormond Taylor (1962) Andrew van der Watt (1969-1970) Joel Stransky (1993-1996) Jeremy Thomson (1996) Pieter Dixon (2000) Andrew "Butch" James (2001-2008) Peter "Bash" Grant (2007) Craig Burden (2012) Jessie Kriel (2015- ) Ntuthuko Mchunu (2022- )

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#### IN ADDITION, 14 OLD COLLEGIANS HAVE REPRESENTED OTHER COUNTRIES:

FOR ENGLAND: Hubert Freakes (1938-1939), Geoff Appleford (2002), Don Armand (2018)
FOR THE USA: Juan Grobler (1997-2001), Chad Erskine (2005-2007), Matthew Hawkins (2010)
FOR ITALY: Wim Visser 1999
FOR GERMANY: Frank Goedeke (2000-2001), Marcel Coetzee (2016-2019), Andrew Reintges (2023-)
FOR ZIMBABWE: Brenton Catterall 1991
FOR CYPRUS: Andrew Binikos (2009)
FOR SPAIN: Andrew Norton (2019)
FOR SINGAPORE: Warren Ansell (2016)

#### A FURTHER EIGHT OLD COLLEGIANS HAVE EARNED SELECTION FOR INTERNATIONAL TEAMS IN THE POPULAR SEVEN-MAN VERSION OF THE GAME:

Frank Goedeke (Germany 1999) Wayne Munn (SA 1999) Geoff Appleford (England 2001) Justin Hundley (USA 2007) Grant Rees (SA 2007) Matthew Hawkins (USA captain 2008) Andrew Binikos (Cyprus 2010) Marcel Coetzee (Germany 2016)

## FIXTURES FOR DAY 1:

Thursday 18 May (1st round, 50 min matches)

			GOLDSTONES			SNOWS
12:00-13:00	U13B	VS	KZN MIDLANDS DURBAN COASTAL C			
13:00-14:00	U13B	vs	DURBAN COASTAL SOUTHERN KZN	U13B	vs	PINETOWN & DISTRICTS NORTHERN KZN
14:00-15:00	U13A	vs	DURBAN COASTAL SOUTHERN KZN	U12A	vs	KZN MIDLANDS ZULULAND
15:00-16:00	U13A	vs	PINETOWN & DISTRICTS NORTHERN KZN	U12A	vs	DURBAN COASTAL SOUTHERN KZN
16:00-16:50	U13A	vs	KZN MIDLANDS ZULULAND	U12A	vs	PINETOWN & DISTRICTS NORTHERN KZN



## FIXTURES FOR DAY 2:

Friday 19 May (2nd round, 40 min matches)

			GOLDSTONES			SNOWS
07:40-08:30	U13B	vs	NORTHERN KZN KZN MIDLANDS			
08:30-09:20	U13B	vs	DURBAN COASTAL SOUTHERN KZN	U13B	vs	PINETOWN & DISTRICTS DURBAN COASTAL
09:20-10:10	U13A	vs	PINETOWN & DISTRICTS DURBAN COASTAL	U12A	vs	ZULULAND SOUTHERN KZN
10:10-11:00	U13A	vs	NORTHERN KZN KZN MIDLANDS	U12A	vs	PINETOWN & DISTRICTS DURBAN COASTAL
11:00-11:40	U13A	vs	ZULULAND SOUTHERN KZN	U12A	vs	NORTHERN KZN KZN MIDLANDS

### FIXTURES FOR DAY 2:

Friday 19 May (3rd round, PROVISIONAL, 40 min matches)

			GOLDSTONES			SNOWS
13:00-13:50	U13B	vs	DURBAN COASTAL PINETOWN & DISTRICTS			
13:50-14:40	U13B	vs	KZN MIDLANDS SOUTHERN KZN	U13B	vs	DURBAN COASTAL NORTHERN KZN
14:40-15:30	U13A	vs	ZULULAND PINETOWN & DISTRICTS	U12A	vs	ZULULAND PINETOWN & DISTRICTS
15:30-16:20	U13A	vs	KZN MIDLANDS SOUTHERN KZN	U12A	vs	ZULULAND SOUTHERN KZN
16:20-17:10	U13A	vs	DURBAN COASTAL NORTHERN KZN	U12A	vs	KZN MIDLANDS SOUTHERN KZN

## FIXTURES FOR DAY 3:

Saturday 20 May (4th round, PROVISIONAL, 40 min matches)

			GOLDSTONES			SNOWS
07:30-08:20	U13B	vs	KZN MIDLANDS DURBAN COASTAL			
08:20-09:10	U13B	vs	NORTHERN KZN DURBAN COASTAL C	U13B	vs	SOUTHERN KZN PINETOWN & DISTRICTS
09:10-10:00	U13A	vs	KZN MIDLANDS DURBAN COASTAL	U12A	vs	SOUTHERN KZN PINETOWN & DISTRICTS
10:10-10:50	U13A	vs	NORTHERN KZN ZULULAND	U12A	vs	KZN MIDLANDS DURBAN COASTAL
10:50-11:40	U13A	vs	SOUTHERN KZN PINETOWN & DISTRICTS	U12A	vs	NORTHERN KZN ZULULAND



## **TEAMS: MIDLANDS**

	MERIT XV	UNDER 13	UNDER 12
1	K. Mchunu	Elihle Maduna	S. Ntshikilana
2	N. Rushton	Jamie Fourie	S. Gilson
3	N. Machwane	Unathi Mhlongo	A. Kankqu
4	J. Cairns	Kayden Kalika	A. Dlamini
5	T. Mafu	Oluhle Nduli	F. Ridl
6	L. Keppler	Cole Baxter	M. Puddu
7	M. Ajibade	James Arde	W. Rossouw
8	H. Kwela	Oluvuyo Hlophe	L. Dube
9	T. Addison	Blake Bullough	J. Van der Westhuizen
10	J. Barry	Tristan van der Watt	G. Fyvie
11	N. Vezi	Kwandile Nkwanyana	S. Dube
12	A. Mnguni	Tyler Munyani	W. Badenhorst
13	P. Solomons	Owami Makhathini	D. Scrigna
14	W. Mthembu	Mkosinathi Mabena	N. Gabuza
15	A. Shandu	Judah Steyn	J. Ralfe
16		Ross Harvey	C. Tyler
17		Siyamthanda Dubazana	L. Ntomo
18		Leuna Lechesa	I. Ngcakani
19		L. Nene	S. Ngubane
20		Max Nicholson	L. Ngake
21			J. Witherspoon
22			K. Msomi
23			A. Kyle
СОАСН	Hayden Everill	Khumbelani Molefe	Gadge Sibisi
ASS COACH	Justice Ndebele	Devyn Camons	Hala Xulu
MANAGER	Kyle Barkley	Ryan Robbertze	Buntu Mdutyana

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## **TEAMS: DURBAN COASTAL**

	MERIT XV	UNDER 13	UNDER 13 INV	UNDER 12
1	Njabulo Luthull	Mothepu Dumisa	Michael Elliot	Ongani Moyo
2	Dru Mills	Declan Wessels	Sivuyile Nzimande (VC)	Vaughn Radley
3	Shalom Tshamalenga	Sphesihle Buthelezi (C)	Sibongakonke Mnyandu	Kian Ramsamy
4	Linathi Nompandana	Lulama Mfekayi	Mnini Zondo	Mason Allan
5	Lincoln Burger	Chayse Linley	Warwick Grady	Benjamin Grey
6	Asange Ngam	William Robson	Lwando Ngumbela	Thabang Mohapi
7	Everraud Raynard	Imminathi Tuntulwana	Caleb Goosen	Matt Swan (C)
8	Finn Mallet (C)	Tshepo Motloung	Nathan Vosloo	Jack Hill
9	Carter Barnard	Zibusiso Mnyandu	Hayden Ravenscroft	Luke Mallet (VC)
10	Emile Johannes (VC)	Oliver Rey (VC)	Jayden Marais	Taine Lawson
11	Seth Wessels	Asanda Mkhize	Sphele Kweyama	Wandile Sithole
12	Oratile Modipane	Cameron Cohan	Thomas Denysen (C)	Max de Charmoy
13	Sphesihle Nxumalo	Kyle Baylis-Lane	Unako Dladla	Benji Wimble
14	Joshua Bandle	Kyan Valjee	Zaid Ebrahim	Joel Pearson
15	Mitchel Rodgers	Matthew Schoombee	Christian Jacobs	James Maujean
16		Sandiswa Mdabe	Logan Van Wyk	Hasaan Mtshali
17		Olwenkosi Dumakude	Siseko Mkhefa	Luke Peschl
18		Matt Shannon	Dante van der Merwe	Awande Luthuli
19		Mholi Phili	Jordan Moore	Lethuthando Myaka
20		Landyn Nicholls	Cameron McLennan	Luke Robson
21				Jordy Rom
22				Lloyd Gonde
23				Abuk Malamane
СОАСН	Mr. Thomas Brown	Mr. Simba Bwanya	Mr. James Muter	Mr. Heino Beneke
СОАСН	Mr. Thomas Bratos	Mr. Shane Westman	Mr. Sipho Mkhize	Mr. Zoro Mahachi
MGR	Mr. Omo Mcwabeni	Mr. Moses Mpande	Mr. Tyson Ndlovu	Mr. Bennie Mashabane

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## **TEAMS: SOUTHERN KZN**

	Merit XV	UNDER 13	UNDER 12
1	BRAIDEN RIBEIRO	MVELO MGOBHOZI	QUIWIN DREYER
2	LUPHUMLO SONJICA	UNAKO SWANA	DIVAN DIXON
3	LUBABALO GONYELA	LUTHANDO MXHOSA	IVIWE HLATSWAYO
4	NGALI MATHEZA	KAYLIM GOLIATH	BLESSING MNDABA
5	КНИМО QHU	SIBABALWE MXHOSA	BLAISON ABRAHAM
6	RUBEN SMIT	AUBREY MKHIZE	TIAAN LABUSCHAGNE
7	AIDEN DU PLOOY	JUAN SMIT	HLALUMI NTONGANA
8	TEVEN STEADY	MONGI NXUMALO	TYLER SMIT
9	DANIEL STEYN	RONAN ROGERS	DREDON BRUSSOW
10	JUAN LINDEQUE	TROY VAN NIEKERK	BRAD APOSTOLIDES
11	TYRONE ALBERHT	KAMVA GCELU	ZIPHO MALINGA
12	KAI FRANKEN	SINAMAVA MBADU	MIHLE SIJEKU
13	TYLER HAWKINS	REINHARDT VAN DER MERWE	JAPHETH ONWUAMA
14	OREBOLOKE MOOROSI	INATHI ZAMA	OKHULE GUMEDE
15	MARTIN DE JAGER	LIEBEN VALENTINE	ZAYDEN DE CLERCQ
16		ZOLANI BAAI	BOKAMOSO KHIBA
17		DINI MSIZI	HLELO NDAWONDE
18		NKANYISO MKOLOKOTHO	MARCO JANSEN
19		OWAM TSHAZI	FRANCO HARMSE
20		ZACK APOSTILIDES	HLALANATHI MVIMBI
21			TYLER JARRATT
22			KADEN WILLIAMS
23			SIMANYE MANANA
СОАСН	IGNIS VERSTER	THULANI DYANTI	DEON VAN DYK
ASS COACH	ADRIAAN ZIETSMAN	JAQUE COETZEE	ROSS STEYN
MANAGER	QUINTON HADDON -DA	/IES	

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## **TEAMS: NORTHERN KZN**

	MERIT XV	UNDER 13	UNDER 12
1	Samkelo Msibi	Joshua Ntlou	Kwazi Mbona
2	Keith Steele	Samukelo Sibisi	Jurgens Booysen
3	Rowan Macdonald	Aphelele Nxumalo	Banele Nyandeni
4	Aphelele Zungu	Junior Shabalala	Mpilo Khumalo
5	Wonderboy Ndlovu	Carsten Meyer	Hanco Harding
6	Asanda Radebe	Sissipho Mkhize	FW Liebenberg
7	Ferdinand Brecher	Hannis Strydom	Lubanzi Mdladla
8	Josua Badenhorst	Essack Mahomed	Khethelo Khuzwayo
9	Malan Linde	Ayabonga Msimango	Anathi Mapongose
10	Liam Joubert	Anele Khumalo	Ayabongwa Mtetwa
11	Siyanda Lushaba	Lukhanyo Mthembu	Bradley Kayembe
12	Aliphe Madikizela	Christiaan v/d Merwe	Luyanda Mghabi
13	Russel Tembo	Wandile Ntshangase	Siyamthanda Ndaba
14	Acia Madikizela	Ibanathi Mbatha	Sandiso Mazibuko
15	Bandile Mchunu	Danrich Struwig	Bandile Madonsela
16		Siyamthanda Nkosi	Lubanzi Dladla
17		Zipho Ndaba	Kwenza Nzimande
18		Lwandiso Ngema	Holisisiwe Buthelezi
19		Wandile Maphumulo	Joshua Eckersley
20		Justin Duvenage	Melokuhle Buthelezi
21			Zanefa Ntshangase
22			Mthobisi Dhlamini
23			
Coach	Francois Swanepoel	Marcel Swartz	Leon Muller
Coach	Thinus Laatz	André Bester	Lennert Buitendach
Manager	Asanda Lurai	Sihle Mthembu	Matthew Stride
Chaperone	Alwande Sangweni	Zane Holiday	Janco Pistorius

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## **TEAMS: ZULULAND**

	Merit XV	UNDER 12	
1	Lethu Ntuli	Wandile Hadebe	
2	Kyle Spammer	David Saint	
3	Sphiwe Kwela	WP van der Merwe	
4	Jordan Baillie	Tristan-Deo Basson	
5	Lubabalo Saki	Syamthanda Mbatha	
6	Bradley Robba	Zibusiso Ntshangase	
7	Minenhle Gumede	Lian Oosterhuis	
8	Junior Mthethwa	Senzelwe Simamane	
9	Drew Verbaan	Jake ODell	
10	Samah Vilane	Kayden Viljoen	
11	Azande Xulu	Vusokuhle Khubisa	
12	Mvelo Xulu	Melokuhle Moeng	
13	Jose Serwanga	Makabongwe Nsibande	
14	Juan de Kock	Nhlanhla Hlophe	
15	Simunye Kunene	Zamo Mbatha	
16	Tumelo Nhlapo	Ziyanda Zwane	
17	Gcinamantungwa Khumalo	Awande Zulu	
18	Junior Mthembu	Khwezi Ntuli	
19	Ross Domleo	Aphelele Mahlobo	
20	Jacques Fourie	Devon Poggenpoel	
21	Khuselwa Simelane	Bayanda Zwane	
22	Mpumelela Mkhwanazi	Mqhele Nene	
23	Zemvelo Mbambo	Sibongamandla Qoma	
Coach	Sanele Mtshali	Refuge Mlambo	
Coach	Carlos Rodrigues	Steven Reynolds	
Manager	Wiseman Mokoena	Berné van Niekerk	
Chaperone	Lourens van Rooyen	Janco Oberholzer	

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### **TEAMS: PINETOWN & DISTRICTS**

	Merit XV	UNDER 13	UNDER 12		
1	Ellah Schonken	Nkanyezi Khumalo	Mason Judais		
2	Jonothan Chitzonga	Kwenzokuhle Mncwabe	Bandile Mahaye		
3	Hudson Strydom	Joshua Nombewa	Andile Ndlovu		
4	Matthew Thompson	Keaton Fisher	Kevin Jenvey		
5	Rijn Prinsloo	Khwezi Hlela	Jayden Theron		
6	Casey Marks	Kwande Magwaza	Pakeme Magubane		
7	Travis Asbury	Kyle Symes	Dieter Spies		
8	Ayabukwa Mbanga	Hlelo Mboma	Ryan Slade		
9	Ulrich van Tonder	Connor Wettergreen	Blaine de Jager		
10	Brodie Brigg	Thomas Schulze	Liam Bloem		
11	Louis van Dyk	Kyle Israel	Zonqoba Sibisi		
12	Siyanda Ntuli	Tyler Coetzee	Cruz Marks		
13	Lian Bezuidenhout	Kwandokuhle Ngidi	Dylan Bishop		
14	Menelisi Khati	John-Wayne Jantjies	Kofi Hinson		
15	Caleb Mokawem	Jonas Brophy	Ryan Storm		
16		Andile Ngwenya	Kuphelele Shabalala		
17		Thomas Hutchinson	Iminathi Thusini		
18		Daniel de Freitas	Buchule Chithi		
19		Jaden Millgan	Hlulumi Ndwanyazi		
20		Mason Wurdemann	Alwande Zulu		
21			Joshua Hoskings		
22			Siyathemba Dlamini		
23			Jordan Summerford		
СОАСН	K. STIRLING	H. ADAMSON	J. JURY		
ASS COACH	A. DYER	T. BALDO	M. MARTIN		
MANAGER	C. JURY				
CHAPERONE	T. van Staden (team manager) / T. Schoeman (team manager)				

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#### HISTORY OF RUGBY

#### **Early Years**

Founded in 1863, Maritzburg College played its first rugby match in 1870, against Hermannsburg. Playing on the old Market Square in the centre of town under Winchester Rules, College won by two goals to nil, in the first recorded rugby match played in the old Colony of Natal (let alone the whole of Africa – but that's another story altogether).

Rugby quickly became the game of choice at College and, apart from a short period of time in the 1880s and 1890s, when football enjoyed a considerable following, has remained the most popular winter sport at College.



The 1900 College First XV, captained by AS "Madevu" Langley, with its prized silver-ware – the Murray Cup. The dapper figure on the right is the headmaster, Mr RD Clark (MA) (Oxon).

Three Old Collegians appeared in the 1924 Springbok team to take on the touring British Lions: Bertram Vanderplank (front row, second right), Walter Clarkson (middle row, far left) and Bill Payn (middle of the middle row). The much-loved, versatile Payn represented what is today KZN at five sports, and famously ran the 1922 Comrades Marathon in his rugby boots.



A stand-out player in the early years was strapping farm boy, Philip Nel, who was the First XV captain and all-powerful head prefect of the school in 1921. Nel captained the Springbok team on its all-conquering tour of Australia and New Zealand in 1937. It remains the only Springbok team in history to have defeated the All Blacks in New Zealand. Such was the quality of the play of his imperious team that it was given the tongue-in-cheek accolade of being "the greatest team to leave New Zealand's shores". On the ship returning home, Nel formally announced his retirement from Springbok rugby by throwing his trusty old rugger boots into the sea. Like Alexander the Great, he had no more worlds to conquer.



The captain of the 1937 Springboks to New Zealand, Philip Nel (OC 1921) (far right), introduces a local dignitary to his team, during his team's triumphant tour of Australasia. The future rugby boss, Dr Danie Craven, appears second from the left.

#### Enter the Skonkwaan

Although rugby enjoyed great prestige in the first few decades of the 20th Century, the appointment as First XV coach in 1948 of Mr JM "Skonk" Nicholson was the great catalyst for future success. Skonk's effect was immediate: his 1948 side lost only to old rivals, Durban High School, and in the following year Skonk (himself a former head prefect of "School") produced his first unbeaten team. He retired in 1982, after 35 seasons as the coach of the First XV. During that time, 22 of his teams were unbeaten or lost only one match.



Skonk Nicholson poses with some of the senior members of his unbeaten 1963 Centenary XV, which included a record 10 Natal Schools' players, was unbeaten in a 17-match season, and set many records. The players are (from left to right) Andre Bruyns (future provincial cricketer), Anthony Egner (future Natal flyhalf), Colin Marsh (future MD of Shell SA), Andrew van der Watt (future Springbok winger) and David Anderson (captain).

#### Last 50 years

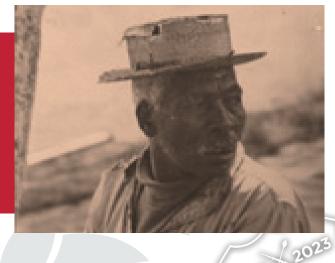
Outstanding teams in the last five decades include the 1972 First XV, which supplied 10 Craven Week players and conceded only one try in 19 matches; the 1978 First XV, which won all of its matches; the record-breaking 1985 team, which won all of its 18 matches, including a 44-0 triumph over Bishops and a 10-4 win over a Grey College side brimming with five SA Schools caps; the 1987 side that included SA Schools' captain Brenton Catterall and three other SA Schools' players; and the 1988 First XV, which won all 15 of its fixtures.

Despite the retirement of the much-loved Mr Nicholson in 1982, that decade was a period of almost unbroken triumph for Maritzburg College rugby, and from 1981-1990 losses were suffered only against Glenwood (twice), Hilton and DHS (once each) among KZN schools.

This rugby success continued into the 1990s, with the 1994 team delivering an unbeaten season against all South African teams, losing only to Gisborne BHS in the final of the World Schools' Tournament in Bowral, Australia. Another highlight of the decade was the unbeaten 1995 side, which enjoyed wins over Ermelo, Selborne, Grey High and Paul Roos Gymnasium, and big wins over Glenwood (61-13), Westville (62-6) and Kearsney (43-3). Skippered by Zane Aszalos, the 1995 XV contained two SA Schools' captains – Pieter Dixon (1995) and Richard Kelly (1996).

By 2022, the explosion of professional rugby around the world meant that the number of Old Collegians playing the sport on the international stage had increased dramatically, and Maritzburg College alumni have in the last 30 years won caps for the Springboks (including Joel Stransky, Butch James, Peter Grant, Jesse Kriel and Ntuthuko Mchunu), England, USA, Italy, Germany, Cyprus and Spain.

For decades, the school's redoubtable Chief Induna, Zablon Kwelha, was a loyal supporter of the First XV. He travelled widely by bus with the Maritzburg College boys to watch them play, often taking bets on their success with his contemporaries at DHS and Glenwood. An unofficial adviser to his great friend, Mr Nicholson, he fervently held the view that each College First XV should contain at least one red-headed player – "For extra fire!"



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## CONTACT DETAILS



Wian du Plessis recruitment@mcollege.co.za 073 244 9243/ 067 386 0806

First Aid:

**Robyn Brunzlaff** Brunzlaffr@mcollege.co.za

### **FIELD CO-ORDINATORS**



Show's Claude Pitout

### **MEAL INFORMATION**

Breakfast 07:00-08:00 Lunch 11:30-13:30 **Supper** 17:30-18:30



#### EPROARISETEORIS

2018 First XV captain and 2022 Springbok prop vs Wales, Ntuthuko Mchunu, gallops across Goldstone's, during a 70m dash towards the Michaelhouse try-line. On 9 July 2022, he came off the bench to represent the Springboks in the 2nd test vs Wales – in doing so, becoming Maritzburg College's 320th international cap.





It's a College try, and the bashers fly high on Basher Ridge!

## COLLECEFIRE

The College skipper, AJ Knoetze, prepares to direct the next movement, during his team's 28-5 win over PBHS on Goldstone's earlier in the season. He led his team to a 50-26 win over the same opponents two weeks ago and to a hard-fought, 34-30 win over KES last Saturday.





Current 1st XV coach, Mr K Elder (OC 2013), lunges to score - much to the jubilation of some supporters in the pulsating clash between the schools' First XVs on Reunion Day 2013. 2011 RWC Final referee, Craig Jounert (OC 1995), is well-placed to award the try. The match was won 40-44 by Glenwood, after a titanic struggle in front of about 8 000 spectators.

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