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THE NEW WAVE

FOOTBALLERS MAGAZINE



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THE CROWN BELONGS TO THE MIGHTY
Mighty Stars FC etched their name into history by capturing the 2026 U19 Super Cup crown.

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FOOTBALLERS MAGAZINE

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A MESSAGE FROM ONE OF THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS



A Message from the Tournament Director: Reflecting on the Success and Growth of the U19 Super Cup

"As the final whistle blows on another spectacular edition of the U19 Super Cup, I am filled with immense pride reflecting on what we have achieved together. What began as a vision has matured into a premier launchpad for elite youth talent. Our journey since 2021 has been defined by rapid growth, exceptional football, and an unwavering commitment to excellence.

A special and historic congratulations goes to Mighty Stars FC, the official winners of this year's tournament. Their tactical brilliance, resilience, and outstanding sportsmanship on the pitch embodied the very spirit of the U19 Super Cup. Lifting the trophy this year is a monumental achievement, and their victory sets a new benchmark for excellence in youth football.

Since our milestone year in 2021, the tournament has experienced exponential growth. We have expanded our footprint, attracting a higher caliber of academies, elite clubs, and technical talent each year. The level of competition witnessed on the pitch this season is a testament to how far we have come. The U19 Super Cup is no longer just a regional tournament; it is a vital fixture on the global youth football calendar.

An event of this magnitude is never without its hurdles. This year presented us with unique operational and logistical challenges. However, thanks to the resilience, adaptability, and tireless efforts of our organizing committee, we managed to overcome these obstacles swiftly to maintain the integrity of the competition.

Thank you to the incredible clubs, partners, and agents whose dedication, support, and eye for talent made this year's U19 Super Cup a massive success, alongside the passionate followers who brought life to the tournament from day one.

We are incredibly excited about what lies ahead. Work has already begun to make next year's tournament our most prestigious and flawless event yet. Thank you for being a part of our story, and we look forward to welcoming you all back in 2027.

Thank you for believing. Thank you for standing with us."

The Cup Of Champs!! !

S Gonya

FROM WEEKEND FIELDS TO BIG STAGE: THE INSPIRING JOURNEY OF AMAHLE BATYI & SAMKELO NDWANYA







Amahle Batyi defied the odds by signing their first National First Division (NFD) contracts. While Samkelo Ndwanya just signed his first professional contract with the same club.

For years, they poured their hearts into the amateur game, fueled by nothing but raw passion, determination, and an unwavering belief in their dream. Now, their relentless hard work has paid off, proving that talent knows no boundaries and that the journey from the grassroots to the grandest stage is completely possible. This monumental milestone is not just a victory for them, but a beacon of hope for every young player laced up on a local field, proving that with enough grit, the ultimate call-up is always within reach.

COACH'S CORNER :
COACH LIBERTY

MIGHTY STARS FC U19 COACH

Author: **Solwethu Gonya**



Fresh off a historic triumph at the U19 Super Cup, head coach Liberty is not just building a winning squad—they are shaping the next generation of footballing elite. In this exclusive edition of Coach's Corner, we sit down with the mastermind behind the tournament-winning campaign. Coach Liberty reflects on the raw philosophy of youth development, the grueling road to the trophy, and what it truly takes to transform young potential into championship pedigree.

Coach, congratulations on the win! What was the very first emotion or thought that went through your mind when the final whistle *blew?*

"Honestly? Relief and pride. Relief because the boys executed the plan perfectly, and pride because I saw how much they wanted it for each other. When that whistle blew, my first thought was - these boys deserve this moment."

This tournament features the best of the best. Where does this U19 Super Cup title rank in your coaching career so far?

"Honestly, this ranks as the best. Not because of the trophy, but because of who we won it with. These U19s, their attitude, their discipline - to see them lift this Super Cup, that's my biggest achievement as a coach."

Which unsung heroes stepped up during this tournament that might not get the headline credits, but made this victory possible?

Great question. Everyone talks about goalscorers, but for me the unsung heroes are the boys who didn't start. The ones on the bench who pushed the starters every day in our super cup journey

How do you think lifting a major trophy like the Super Cup will impact these players as they transition toward senior-level football?

For me, this trophy is their CV. When they go for trials at senior level, they can say - I was a Super Cup winner against elite opposition. That shows character, winning mentality. That's what senior coaches want

Your team faced some incredibly tough moments in the final. What did you tell them during the breaks to keep them focused and composed?

"I just told them to breathe. Finals get tough, it's normal. I said - we've been here before in training, we've prepared for this tough moment. Stick together, talk to each other, and play one minute at a time. Don't chase the game, let the game come to us. Stay calm, stay composed, trust your brother next to you."



AGAINST ALL ADDS, THE ZULU BOYS HAVE OFFICIALLY CEMENTED THEIR STATUS AS A RISING POWERHOUSE BY CLAIMING THE RUNNERS-UP SPOT IN THE U19 SUPER CUP.



Author: **Solwethu Gonya**

"The Zulu Boys' path to the podium is a testament to the power of a long-term vision. When they debuted in the tournament in 2024, they faced an abrupt and humbling early knockout. Returning in 2025, they pushed deeper into the competition, only to suffer a heartbreaking exit in the quarterfinals.

Entering the 2026 edition, external expectations were low, with many writing them off before the first whistle. Instead of allowing past setbacks to define them, the team used them as fuel. They dismantled elite opposition, rectified past tactical errors, and marched into the final match with the poise of seasoned veterans.

While the ultimate trophy remained just out of reach, the Zulu Boys captured something far more enduring: universal respect. They transformed from tournament underdogs into a team that dictates the tempo of the game. Every player, coach, and staff member shares in this historic milestone, which sets a brand-new standard for the club's future.
The U19 Super Cup silver medal is not just an award; it is a declaration that the Zulu Boys belong on the big stage. The football world will no longer overlook them.



Zulu Boys Football Club was established in 2025 with the vision of developing and exposing youth football talent in the township of Saldanha, within the SAFA West Coast Region.

The club participated for the third time in the Cup of Champs.



Mighty Stars Football Club

Mighty Stars Football Club was established in 2022 with the vision of developing and exposing youth football talent in the township of Hermanus, within the SAFA Overberg Region. Under the leadership of Club Chairman Mr. Madikane, the club leverages sport as a powerful catalyst for youth empowerment and sustainable community development.

THE CROWN BELONGS TO THE MIGHTY

"In a masterclass of tactical discipline and unyielding resilience, Mighty Stars FC etched their name into history by capturing the 2026 U19 Super Cup crown. Spearheaded by an instant-impact strategy under their coaching staff and a resolute 1–0 victory over a formidable Zulu Boys FC side in the final, this rising youth squad didn't just win a trophy—they delivered a definitive statement on the future of grassroots football leadership.

This victory represents far more than just adding silverware to the trophy cabinet. It is a definitive statement on the future of grassroots football leadership. Mighty Stars FC have set a new benchmark for youth development, proving that with structured coaching, elite mentality, and community backing, local talent can conquer the grandest stages.

As the celebrations settle and the gold medals catch the light, one thing is certain: this U19 Super Cup crown is not an endpoint. It is the arrival of a new footballing powerhouse. The future belongs to the Mighty.

EXCLUSIVE: The Journey Continues – U19 Super Cup Finalists Set for Ultimate Cape Showdown

Author: **Solwethu Gonya**

Mighty Stars FC & Zulu Boys FC

Following a thrilling and fiercely contested tournament, the Board of Directors of the U19 Super Cup is proud to announce an unprecedented next chapter for our two tournament finalists.

In our unwavering commitment to elite youth development, both the champions and runners-up have earned the exclusive opportunity to test their mettle against two of the country's most revered football institutions: Stellenbosch Academy and the Ubuntu Football Academy.

This high-profile initiative is designed to provide our standout young athletes with a premier platform to experience professional-grade competition and showcase their immense talent. In the world of modern football, exposure is everything—and at this level, you never know exactly who is watching from the stands. Whether it is top-tier scouts, technical directors, or academy talent spotters, this is the ultimate stage for these players to catch the eye of the footballing elite.

MATCH DATES & VENUE DETAIL:

Official fixtures, kickoff times, will be confirmed and released in the coming days.

Issued by the Board of Directors, U19 Super Cup.



U19 SUPER CUP 2026

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS WINNERS

THE NEW WAVE
FOOTBALLERS MAGAZINE



DEFENDER OF THE TOURNAMENT

UNAKO KOTA



GOLDEN GLOVES WINNER

IMANGE KIBIDO



GOLDEN GLOVES WINNER



GOLDEN BOOT WINNER

IMANGE SIZINZO



PLAYER OF THE TOURNAMENT

OFFICIAL U19 SUPER CUP CLUB RANKINGS

POS	CLUB	P-N	
1	MIGHTY STARS FC	22>1	↑
2	ZULU BOYS FC	8>2	↑
3	BOTRIVIER UNITED FC	16>3	↑
4	KEINMOND YOUNG STARS	17>4	↑
5	GRABOUW STARS FC	1>5	↓
6	ZWELITHEMBA UNITED FC	4>6	↓
7	REAL ATTACKERS FC	1-6	↑
8	VIVO UNITED FC		↑

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At The New Wave Footballers Magazine, our mission has always been to champion the future of the game. That is why we are thrilled to announce our official partnership with the U19 Super Cup! Together, we are stepping onto the pitch to shine a spotlight on the incredible young talent rising from ekasi. Through this collaboration, we will be sharing the powerful stories, struggles, and achievements of these upcoming stars. More than just coverage, this platform will provide these players with vital media exposure and help them build professional player profiles to unlock future opportunities. This is more than football—it is about rewriting the future of our grassroots heroes.

We will launch a dedicated feature section in every monthly edition of the magazine, which will also be cross-published on the official U19 Super Cup website and across all their social media channels.

L. Sajini

THE

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