

Pretoria-Joburg race was last run 8 years ago

Ultra runners welcome return of the City2City

By **Neville Khoza**

Ultra runners Sikhumbuzo Seme and Lizzy Ramadimetja expressed their excitement that the City2City marathon will finally make its return this month.

The 50km race between Tshwane and Johannesburg returns on March 31 after an eight-year hiatus. Backed by the Gauteng provincial government, the event offers a staggering R1.2-million in prize money.

The winners in the men's and women's races will each walk away with R200,000, with the runners-up taking R100,000 each.

The 50km ultra-marathon will start at Centurion Rugby Club at 6am and finish at the Wanderers sports club.

Seme and Ramadimetja said the race returned at a perfect time as it will help them with



Lizzy Ramadimetja and Sikhumbuzo Seme at the launch of the Premie's Social Cohesion Games and the City2City Ultra Marathon at Hilton Hotel Sandton, Johannesburg, yesterday. /VELINHLAPO

their preparations for the Comrades Marathon up-run in June as City2City has a hilly

route. "I hope it will return again next year and stay on after that.

From the first day I heard about the race, the preparations went straight to it," Seme told

the media during the race's launch in Sandton yesterday.

"The plan is to be in the top three on the podium. This is part of the Comrades preparations. I'm very happy for the premier [Panyaza Lesufi] to have made sure that the race returns. It has a lot of history. It will help us as athletes to prepare for Comrades.

"The race is very tough... there are a lot of hills and the plan will be to stick with the leading pack until the 42km mark; that's where the race starts," Seme added.

Ramadimetja shared Seme's sentiments: "I'm happy that the City2City marathon is back and it's a big thing for me because I'm an ultra runner, so at least we have something that we will be celebrating.

"I'm also training for Comrades and when I saw that it (City2City) is giving money to the top 10, I knew that I should enter."

Meanwhile, Lesufi said the plan in the future is to have the marathon staged on April 27, to mark Freedom Day celebrations.

Ngema back in boxing ring action against Mbokazi

Rumours boxer had decided to quit fistic sport

By **Bongani Magasela**

The death of Mlungisi "Killer Shark" Dlamini in 2010 caused so much distress in Esikhawini's boxing that no world champion has since been produced in that town in

KwaZulu-Natal. Dlamini held both the World Boxing Foundation (WBF) and International Boxing Organization (IBO) belts in the lightweight division.

One of SA's most promising fighters, he was killed in a motorcar accident near Harri-smith. He was 27 years old and undefeated with an impressive fight record of 22 wins, with 14 knockouts and a draw.

Possibly his best perfor-

mance was when he knocked out the experienced Zolani Marali in the fourth round at Emperors Palace in Kempton Park to win the vacant IBO lightweight belt.

It was until 2019 that at least an international champion was produced from his home town. Mfundisi Ngema won the WBF International junior featherweight belt. Ushered to war by Charity Mukondeleli, who deputised for head trainer Bernie Pailman, Ngema out-pointed Tshepang Babui over 10 rounds in Gaborone, Botswana.

Sadly he was not given the opportunity to defend his belt. WBF president Howard Goldberg gave Ngema an extension but no promoter showed interest in him until Goldberg vacated the title.

A matriculant from Khula High School in Empangeni, Ngema spent the whole of 2023 without a single boxing match and there were rumours that he had decided to quit the fistic sport. Sowetan reached to the former champ who dismissed rumours of retirement. "If that is what some

people wished, then they will be disappointed to hear that I will be in action on March 30 in Escourt," said Ngema, who has been a professional boxer since 2015.

He will feature in an international tournament that will be staged by promoter Hlula Dladla's Hle-Jobe Promotions at Estcourt Town Hall where Nkosinophile Sibisi and Trevor Ngonyama will fight for the WBF intercontinental title.

Ngema will take on Khanyisani Mbokazi in the featherweight division. Ngema made his debut in that weight class with a points win over 10 rounds against former WBO Inter-Continental bantamweight holder Siboniso Gonya in Mooi River, KwaZulu-Natal, in what was Ngema's last ring appearance in 2022.

"I want to use this upcoming fight to show promoters that I am still a force to be reckoned with," said Ngema who still has years to win the SA title. "Yes, I am turning 30 in November but I will fulfil my wish of becoming a South African champion before I retire from boxing."



Former WBF Intercontinental champ Mfundisi Ngema returns to action in Estcourt. /SUPPLIED



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MTK 33/2023	PROCUREMENT OF A FUEL CELL TEST STATION (RE-ISSUE)	GAUTENG	NOT APPLICABLE
MTK 31/2023	PROCUREMENT OF A LASER DIFFRACTION PARTICLE SIZE ANALYSER (LD-PSA)	GAUTENG	NOT APPLICABLE

Only bids received at the time of the closing of the tender will be considered.

Prospective bidders are advised to download bid documents from the Mintek/ Sabeex website: <https://secure.sabeexdms.com/organisation/view/5496>

A non-refundable tender fee of R500 is payable either by bank deposit or Electronic Fund Transfer. The banking details are available on the tender document.

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TENDER CLOSING DATE: 05 APRIL 2024 AT 12:00 PM



Blouberg Municipality

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ERRATUM

Blouberg Local Municipality is publishing this erratum in relation to vacancies advertised on the 20th February 2024 on Sowetan Newspaper:

- The closing date for the following Senior Manager positions is 20 March 2024
 - Director: Technical Services
 - Director: Economic Development and Planning
 - Chief Financial Officer

**For Enquiries: 015 505 7100
Municipal Manager
Mr. Refilwe Ramothwala**

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