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an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

**09 March 2023**

**Attention: News Editors, Journalists**

## **Media Invitation and Advisory: Chief Albert Luthuli Soccer and Netball Tournament 2023**

The Chief Albert Luthuli Soccer and Netball Tournament 2023 will take place on 25 March 2023 at KwaDukuza, Mellville Sport Ground, eDiphini Sport Ground and Luthuli Centre respectively. The games will start at 8:00am simultaneously. Twenty-four males and females' teams from the Under 15 league will participate. Teams will battle for a win of medals and trophies.

Preliminary to the big weekend of the 25<sup>th</sup>, the participating stakeholders will perform a draw launch. At the launch, there will be great prospects for the participating stakeholders to send messages of support and extend an invitation to the community of KwaDukuza.

Participating teams are from the most of KwaDukuza soccer and netball teams. KwaDukuza SAFA will coordinate the games. The games are brought to the youth of KwaDukuza under the auspices of the Luthuli Museum, iLembe District Municipality, KwaDukuza Municipality, KwaZulu Natal Province, Sports, Arts and Culture and KwaDukuza Local Football Association.

The Luthuli Museum would like to extend the invitation to KwaDukuza community to be part of this extravaganza tournament. The day is expected to bring fun not only to soccer lovers but also to families at large.

The tournament of this nature was first held in 2019 and aimed to celebrate the Chief Albert Luthuli, Africa's First Nobel Peace laureate. Closely facilitated by representatives from KwaDukuza SAFA referees who are key to the success of the event, the tournament will continue to be a great opportunity for friendly competition and social interaction.

For further information contact Luthuli Museum PR Officer, Zinhle Nyembe on email: [profficer@luthulimuseum.org.za](mailto:profficer@luthulimuseum.org.za)

### **Notes to Editor**

#### **Chief Albert Luthuli: Leadership through sport**

Chief Albert Luthuli had a positive impact in football on the early 20s. He linked soccer and human rights by defending Africans' right to play. Football was part of the larger struggle for equality and self-determination. His passion for the sport led to him being the first secretary

of the South African Football Association and becoming supervisor and secretary of the Adams College Shooting Stars Football Club in the 1920s.

In 1929 he was elected vice-president of the Durban and District African Football Association (DDAFA). Luthuli was nominated for president of the DDAFA in 1932 but declined. In the same year the association teetered on the brink of collapse when the president, secretary and vice-secretary were charged with mismanagement and suspended.

He was asked to serve with four others on a special Commission of Inquiry set up to investigate the charges. The Commission gave its findings in 1933 and recommended that a financial audit be undertaken on a regular basis and that a full-time secretary be employed. He was given the task of carrying out the financial audit. He played an important role not only in improving the administrative efficiency of the DDAFA but also in reconciling members who were in conflict.

He withdrew from soccer administration after he was elected as Chief of Groutville in 1936. However, in 1946 he participated with Rev. Bernard Sigamoney (an Anglican pastor from Johannesburg) in establishing the Natal Inter-Race Soccer Board, which organized competitions between African, Indian and Coloured teams in Natal.

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