



23 July 2019

## DSACR TO HOST BOXING TOURNAMENT IN HONOR OF MANDELA

Delivering her maiden Budget Vote Speech, the Free State MEC for Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation Ms. Limakatso Mahasa stated that, “We will prioritize the revival of boxing in 2019/2020, but this will be done without dropping the bar of other Sport and Recreation programmes.” It is against this background that the Department will host a Boxing Tournament as part of Mandela Month activities to honor the late Former President Nelson Mandela.

Former President Nelson Mandela was an avid boxer and sportsman. In his autobiography he wrote, “Boxing is egalitarian. In the ring, rank, age, colour and wealth are irrelevant... I never did any real fighting after I entered politics. My main interest was in training; I found the rigorous exercise to be an excellent outlet for tension and stress. After a strenuous workout, I felt both mentally and physically lighter.”

This Boxing Tournament will feature eight (8) professional bouts and two (2) amateur bouts. The main bout will see Free State’s Matshidiso ‘Scorpion Queen’ Mokebisi against Kabisile Tshabalala who hails from Gauteng Province as they will battle it out for the SA Junior Lightweight Title. The Main bout will be between Free State’s France Ramabolu and John Bopape from Gauteng Province. A number of other bouts will also form part of this tournament which will take place as follows:

### **Weigh In and Press Conference:**

**DATE: 25 JULY 2019**

**TIME: 12:00**

**VENUE: BLOEM PLAZA, BLOEMFONTEIN**

Private Bag X20606, Bloemfontein, 9300

Business Partners Building, Cnr Henry and East Burger Streets, Bloemfontein

Tel: (051) 410 4735 Fax: (051) 410 4786 Email: tankiso@sacr.fs.gov.za

**Tournament:**

**DATE: 26 JULY 2019**

**TIME: 15:00 – 18:00**

**VENUE: THABO VUYO SECONDARY SCHOOL, ROLELEATHUNYA  
(ROUXVILLE)**

**ENTRANCE: FREE!**

“In his youth, Nelson Mandela enjoyed boxing and long-distance running. Even during the 27 years he spent in prison, he would exercise every morning. As a department we have resolved to revive boxing in the province by implementing a number of measures such as appointing a provincial Boxing Manager, hosting Boxing Tournaments across our municipalities, hosting a Boxing Indaba and training Boxing Officials who will assist as promoters both nationally and internationally” stated Free State MEC for Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation Ms. Limakatso Mahasa.

**Your media house is invited to attend this event.**

**Issued by the Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR)**

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