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MTN-FAZ SUPER LEAGUE 2025/26 SEASON KICKS OFF WITH EXCITING FIXTURES

ZESCO NDOLA GIRLS BEGIN TITLE DEFENSE AGAINST TRIDENT QUEENS

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MTN SUPER LEAGUE 2025/26 SEASON KICKS OFF WITH EXCITING FIXTURES

By Lucky Chama



The 2025/26 MTN Super League season is set to kick off on Saturday, 16 August 2025, with reigning champions Power Dynamos FC launching their title defense against former champions Red Arrows at Arthur Davies Stadium in Kitwe.

Record 13-time champions Nkana FC will travel to Kabwe for a clash against newly promoted Prison Leopards at Presidents Stadium, in what promises to be a stern test for both sides.

ZESCO United, representing Zambia in the CAF Confederation Cup this season, will begin their campaign with a Copperbelt derby against Konkola Blades, one of the league's newest entrants, at Levy Mwanawasa Stadium.

Three promoted teams – Kansanshi

Dynamos, Mines United, and Prison
Leopards – will enjoy home
advantage on their top-flight entry.
Kansanshi will host Kabwe
Warriors at Independence Stadium,
while Mines United take on
Mufulira Wanderers at Godfrey
Chitalu Stadium.

defending
Dynamos
Stadium.

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Nchanga
Kabwe W
Leopards

will host ZANACO FC in Mazabuka at Nakambala Stadium, while NAPSA Stars entertain Green Eagles at Woodlands Stadium. Nchanga Rangers will welcome Mutondo Stars in Chingola, and Nkwazi FC face Green Buffaloes at Edwin Imboela Stadium in Lusaka.

Week Two Preview

Week Two, set for Saturday, 23 August 2025, features an exciting clash between Green Buffaloes and

defending champions Power
Dynamos FC at Edwin Imboela
Stadium.

Warriors at Independence Stadium, Meanwhile, Green Eagles host Nchanga Rangers in Choma, and Mufulira Wanderers at Godfrey Chitalu Stadium.

Elsewhere in Week One, MUZA FC will host ZANACO FC in Mazabuka at Nakambala Stadium,

Meanwhile, Green Eagles host Nchanga Rangers in Choma, and Kabwe Warriors will face Prison Leopards at home in Kabwe. ZANACO FC meet Kansanshi Dynamos at Sunset Stadium, while Konkola Blades host MUZA FC in Chililabombwe.

Other fixtures include Mufulira Wanderers against NAPSA Stars at Shinde Stadium, Mutondo Stars versus ZESCO United at Arthur Davies Stadium, Nkana FC entertaining Nkwazi FC at Nkana Stadium, and Red Arrows welcoming Mines United at Nkoloma Stadium.

Kick-off for all matches is scheduled for 15:00 CAT.

ZESCO NDOLA GIRLS BEGIN TITLE DEFENSE AGAINST TRIDENT QUEENS AS 2025 EDEN UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE KICKS OFF

By Lucky Chama



Defending champions ZESCO Ndola Girls Football Club will launch their 2025 Eden University Women's Super League campaign at home against Trident Queens at the Trade Fair Grounds on Saturday, 16 August 2025. This encounter holds extra significance as the two sides faced each other on the final day of last season.

Record titleholders Green Buffaloes Women, who have dominated the league over the years, will begin their quest to reclaim the championship away from home when they take on YASA at the OYDC. This opening fixture presents a stern early test for both sides, with Green Buffaloes eager to lay down a marker in their bid to regain their crown.

Elsewhere on opening day, Chipata Girls will welcome Amazing Grace to the David Kaunda Ground, while Red Arrows Women host Konkola

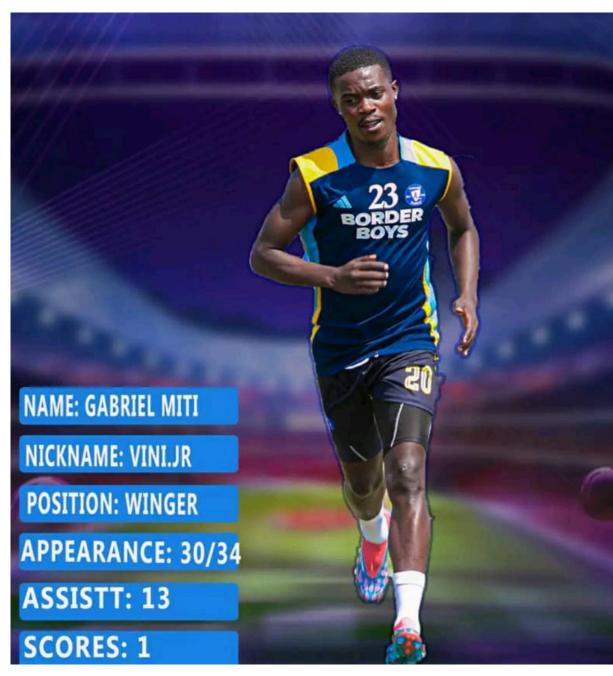
Blades Queens at Nkoloma Stadium in what promises to be an exciting encounter. Nkwazi Queens will be in action against The Elite Ladies at Edwin Imboela Stadium, as both sides look to start the season on a positive note.

Green Eagles Women will go head-to-head with Luyando Foundation at NASDEC, a clash that could prove pivotal for both teams as they aim to establish early momentum. ZANACO Ladies will lock horns with Nchanga Rangers Queens at Sunset Stadium, with each side eager to make an opening statement.

Meanwhile, ZISD will square off against Kamfinsa Blue Eagles at Independence Stadium, while Indeni Roses are set to take on National Assembly at Indeni Sports Complex in what promises to be a fiercely contested match.

SPOTLIGHT: GABRIEL "VINI JR" MITI SHINES AS KEY PLAYMAKER FOR CHIRUNDU UNITED FC IN 2024/25 SEASON

By Fulltime Desk



Chirundu United FC's 2024/25 campaign saw the rise of one of their brightest talents—Gabriel Miti, affectionately known by fans and teammates as "Vini Jr." The dynamic winger proved to be a vital asset to the team, delivering consistent performances that made him a standout figure throughout the season.

Miti featured in 30 of the team's 34 matches, underlining his importance to the squad's overall strategy and attacking setup. His tireless work rate on the flanks, combined with excellent technical ability and vision, saw him contribute an impressive 13 assists—the highest for any player on the team. His creativity and precision in the final third made him a constant threat to opposing defenses and a reliable source of scoring opportunities for his teammates.

Though primarily tasked with creating chances, Miti also added a

goal to his name, demonstrating his versatility and willingness to step up when needed. Interestingly, he was also the most assisted player in the squad, proving just how central he was to Chirundu United's offensive play both as a provider and as a finisher.

Beyond the numbers, Miti's leadership qualities, discipline, and football intelligence were evident in every match he played. His ability to read the game, maintain attacking coordination, and uplift his teammates made him one of the most influential figures in the dressing room and on the pitch.

As the club looks ahead to the next season, Gabriel "Vini JR" Miti's performance has undoubtedly set high expectations, both from the supporters and the technical bench, who will be counting on him to spearhead the team's ambitions in the future.



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BOTSWANA COACH WARY OF UNDERESTIMATING 'MATHEMATICALLY OUT' ZAMBIA IN CRUCIAL COSAFA **UNDERESTIMATING** BOTSWANA **CUP CLASH**

By FullTime Desk



As Botswana prepares for their next coach Morena Zambia, head Cuthbert Ramoreboli is sounding a opponents being "mathematically out" of the tournament. Ramoreboli's experience in football dictates a careful approach, warning against the psychological pitfalls of facing a team with seemingly nothing to lose.

Following a goalless draw against Comoros in Group D, a result which Ramoreboli felt was not a true reflection of the match given the numerous opportunities his side created, attention now turns to a Zambian team that has yet to register a point. However, the Botswana coach is not taking their struggles for granted.

"I've seen teams losing matches to teams who are about to be relegated," Ramoreboli stated, underscoring his

COSAFA Cup fixture against elimination does not equate to an give us something". easy victory. For Botswana, the "most important thing about the Adding to the challenge, Ramoreboli note of caution, despite their match is to say as much as also highlighted logistical hurdles for mathematically they don't have a the upcoming game. He noted that chance... it's for us to prepare the previous playing surface "did not psychologically, prepare tactically do us a favor because I think it was and and try our level best to be bit heavy". Compounding this, the ready for the match".

> The stakes remain high for factors, the coach remains resolute, Botswana, as they aim to secure asserting, "we have to do what we positive results in the tournament. can to make sure that we get a Ramoreboli insists that his team positive results". must not dwell on Zambia's current standing or speculate on the outcome For Coach Ramoreboli, the if Botswana wins.

focused can we try our level best to to formidable challenge. get a positive results," he explained, adding that the team has "few things

belief that a team's mathematical to work on which I think they can

team has "just a day to prepare for the next match". Despite these

upcoming fixture against Zambia is not just about points; it's a critical Instead, the focus must be on test of his team's mental fortitude and maintaining concentration and tactical discipline against an striving for a positive result. "What is opponent who, despite their current important is for us to say can we be position, could still prove to be a

MAGULA JOINS CAPS UNITED AFTER LEAVING **FOREST RANGERS**

By Zimpapers Sports Hub



AILING giants CAPS United have begun beefing up their side by signing experienced DR Congo striker Chris Mugalu.

The veteran centre forward, 34. arrives at the Green Machine from Forest Rangers of Zambia, where he

spent the last six months.

CAPS United are desperate to turn around their fortunes following a difficult start in the first half of the 2025 season. Makepekepe have been struggling in front of goal with only 10 goals to show from the opening

14 games.

Mugalu is expected to provide the spark upfront, complementing the likes of Nyasha Chintuli, Jayden Bakari and Emmanuel Joseph Mbollo of Cameroon.

COSAFA CUP EXIT: A PAINFUL SETBACK, BUT ASSISTANT COACH INSISTS "NOT ALL IS **LOST' FOR ZAMBIA**

By Lucky Chama



Zambia's journey in the COSAFA Cup has concluded earlier than hoped, with the team facing an early exit from the tournament.

The Chipolopolo Boys suffered a 1-0 defeat to Comoros in their opening match.

However, despite disappointment, Assistant Coach Beston Chambeshi remains resilient. Chambeshi says there is still something for the Chipolopolo to fight for in their final group stage match against Botswana.

Chambeshi openly conveyed the profound disappointment felt within the camp, acknowledging:

"It's painful because the mission we came for hasn't been fulfilled, which is not healthy for the team or even for our nation, especially to our supporters. They know it's sad."

Despite the early elimination, Chambeshi is resolute on concluding their COSAFA Cup campaign on a positive note. Emphasising the importance of this final fixture, he stated:

"We have the last game against Botswana to play. I think we make sure we go there and do the job

tomorrow; we need to, and we have to finish on a good note."

The tournament, even with the premature exit, has served as a crucial platform for player development and assessment. Chambeshi highlighted the team's key strategy was to integrate fresh talent and provide valuable competitive experience.

"We are trying by all means to give each and every one a game."

This developmental approach is expected to continue in their final match. The assistant coach hinted at potential changes, stating:

"Tomorrow we may have two or three changes in the team which played the first game."

Looking ahead to the decisive match against Botswana, Assistant Coach Chambeshi issued a cautionary warning against complacency.

"I know Botswana and coached there; it's not a team we should underestimate. So all we need to do is just to psych our players mentally and physically. They have to be late for tomorrow's game.



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TUCHEL SUFFERS FIRST DEFEAT AS ENGLAND **MANAGER AGAINST SENEGAL**



England slumped to their first defeat under Thomas Tuchel as Senegal secured a fully deserved victory in the friendly at the City Ground.

Tuchel's side laboured badly throughout and were second best to impressive opposition, who became the first African team to beat England's men.

A frustrating night for the Three Lions actually began well for them as they took the lead after seven minutes when captain Harry Kane pounced for his 73rd England goal.

That came after goalkeeper Edouard Mendy failed to hold Anthony Gordon's shot, but it was as good as it got for England, who were sunk by goals from Ismaila Sarr, Habib Diarra and Cheikh Sabaly.

Dean Henderson, in for regular

keeper Jordan Pickford, was kept busy as the hosts struggled away from their usual Wembley base, and Senegal drew level five minutes before the break when Kyle Walker switched off to allow Sarr to steal in at the far post.

It was the first goal England had conceded under Tuchel in four games, and Senegal probed England's defensive vulnerability throughout.

The visitors got the lead their dominance merited when Diarra exploited space behind England's defence to beat Henderson, firing through his legs at the near post just after the hour.

equaliser, with Mendy making they were well beaten in the end. amends for his earlier error by

producing fine saves from substitute Morgan Gibbs-White and Bukayo Saka.

Tuchel's side also had a late strike from Jude Bellingham ruled out for handball against Levi Colwill after a video assistant referee (VAR) intervention.

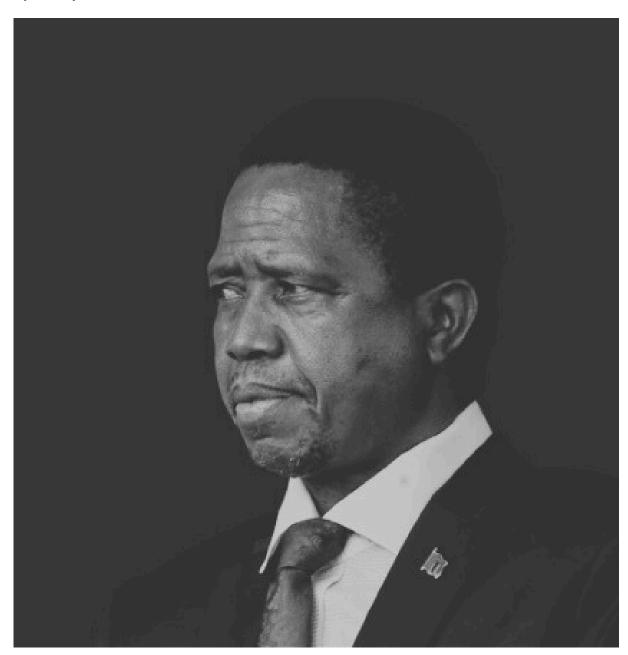
But Senegal wrapped up the win in the dying seconds of stoppage time when substitute Curtis Jones lost possession, allowing Sabaly to finish England off with a cool finish, sparking an angry reaction from the home supporters who remained inside the City Ground.

England had 15 wins and six draws from their previous 21 matches England went in search of an against African opponents, but here



VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION **POSTPONES** NATIONAL LEAGUE FIXTURES IN HONOUR OF LATE PRESIDENT EDGAR LUNGU

By Lucky Chama



The Zambia Volleyball Association (ZAVA) has announced the postponement of all Week 3 fixtures of the National Volleyball League, which were originally set to take place on 14th and 15th June 2025 at the Olympic Youth Development Centre (OYDC) in Lusaka.

In an official statement released to the public, ZAVA expressed its deep regret over the rescheduling but emphasized that the decision was made out of respect for the period of National Mourning following the passing of Zambia's 6th Republican President, Dr. Edgar Chagwa Lungu. The late former head of state passed away on Thursday, 5th June 2025, while receiving medical treatment in South Africa.

"All stakeholders and volleyball fans are hereby informed that the scheduled fixtures will be played on a date to be communicated in due course," the statement read. "The Association extends its heartfelt condolences to the Lungu family and the entire nation during this period of grief."

The postponement underscores the sporting fraternity's solidarity with the country in honouring the memory and legacy of the late President Lungu, who served Zambia with distinction.

ZAVA assured fans and teams that a revised schedule will be released once the period of National Mourning concludes.

