



ASA CRITERIA TOO TOUGH!

Body slammed for sidelining top athletes

By CHARLES BALOYI
 UNIVERSITY of Pretoria athletics head Danie Cornelius has accused Athletics South Africa (ASA) of leaving potential runners behind ahead of the eagerly anticipated IAAF world championships in Britain next month.

Cornelius, who has been an athletics administrator for many years, went as far as questioning the tough selection criteria set up by ASA.

The world running athletics body, IAAF, has its own qualifying criteria, but ASA has come up with an even tougher one with the hope of taking the best team to Britain in three weeks' time.

Cornelius, who runs a successful athletics academy, says it's hard to

motivate athletes who've been left out of the 24-member preliminary squad heading to the biggest athletics showdown in the world.

On Wednesday, ASA announced the preliminary list, but some of the big guns were missing. Most local athletes had only managed a B qualifying standard, as they found it hard to make ASA's tough criteria.

But Cornelius expressed his disappointment when talking about the many high-profile names missing on the list.

Said Cornelius: "I think ASA are being hush on our athletes. They may have their own reasons for leaving out the athletes, but I believe they left those who could potentially get us medals."

ASA's deadline to qualify for the world champs is 23 July.

Henricho Bruintjies, Emile Erasmus (100m), Cornel Fredericks (400m hurdles), Le Roux Hamman (400h), Constant Pretorius (400h), Reinhardt van Rensburg (800m), are athletes that fall under the Tuks stable, who haven't made the SA team.

"Some of the athletes will lose have their sponsors."

Henricho Bruintjies did not make the cut for the World Championships in London.
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