

Publication: NewAge,The (Sport) Publication Date: 22 Feb 2018

Page: 11

AVE: 62973.37 Circulation: 36000 Part: 1 of 1

Samaai on the long jump trail

TNA REPORTER

WORLD Championship long jump bronze medallist Ruswahl Samaai will begin this season at the second Athletix Grand Prix meeting on March 8 at Tuks Athletics Stadium in Tshwane.

With what promises to be a good year for him, Samaai wants to use the Tshwane leg to prepare for upcoming events.

Samaai earned a bronze medal in the closing round of the long jump final at the World Championships in London last August.

The 26 year old has shown an appetite for big competition and will be looking to make a big impression in his opening competition at Tuks.

"2018 is a big year for me. My bronze in London has taken me to the next level after making the Olympic final in Rio and winning bronze at the 2014 Africa Championships and then gold there in 2016," Samaai said.

"So I am looking forward to rep-



LONG GOAL: Samaai will prepare through the Tshwane series. PICTURE GETTI

resenting my country at the African Championships to defend my title and hopefully at the World Cup and the Continental Cup. My journey will start at Tukkies."

He will be up against, among others, former national champion Zarck Visser.

The flamboyant Visser has a best of 8.41m behind his name which he jumped in Bad Langensalza (Germany) in 2015.

Visser has struggled with injury of late, but was still able to jump 8.22m in Madrid in 2017.

sport@thenewage.co.za



