

VARSITY CRICKET

Assupol TuksCricket took part in the Varsity Cricket Competition in Potchefstroom in January. This is always a tough competition and this year the standard of cricket was raised even more by the top university teams in the country. Assupol TuksCricket fought their way to the final with a very new and young team. After an exhilarating match, Pukke were crowned the new Varsity Cricket Champions.

Speaking about the tournament Assupol TuksCricket Head Coach, Kruger van Wyk said, "Naturally it was a big disappointment to lose in the final, but we I am excited for the way forward. I have no doubt that this Assupol Tuks team is going from strength to strength in the future as they showed such a lot of character throughout the tournament. What I appreciated about the players was their resilience and competitive spirit throughout the competition."

The SA USSA teams for the year were selected after this year's Varsity Cricket tournament. Tony de Zorzi, Rubin Hermann, Migael Pretorius and Lungi Ngidi were selected for the side and Thomas Kaber was selected as a non-travelling reserve.

Assupol TuksCricket Club Captain, Tony de Zorzi, spoke about Varsity Cricket saying, "This year was my first Varsity Cricket tournament and the crowds, the atmosphere and the overall vibe was great. This competition breeds an exciting cricket culture especially for the youngsters and gives the players opportunity to play on TV. The competition was up and down for us but the boys played well, especially in the final and where we pushed it right to the end. We have learnt a lot from the tournament and hopefully we take those lessons into next year."





2016/2017 NCU SEASON



After a long season, with a lot of cricket, Assupol Tuks Cricket won the NCU Premier League for the 7th year running. The Club has now qualified to represent the Northern Cricket Union in the Momentum National Club Champs Qualifiers at the start of April where they will play against the Premier League winners from Mpumalanga, Easterns and Limpopo to secure a spot to represent the Titans in the Momentum National Club Champs at the end of April.

For the first time in the history of the Club and the NCU, Assupol Tuks 2 finished second in the NCU Premier League, making Tuks the first club to have teams finishing in the number 1 and 2 spot in this competition. It was an incredible Club effort this season with 36 different players playing for Assupol Tuks 1 and 45 different players playing for Assupol Tuks 2 during the course of the season.



Apart from the success in all the competitions, we also want to ensure that we produce more than just cricket players, we also want to ensure that we positively grow our students and staff. The synergy within the Club is something that everybody feeds off and it inspires us all to help each other reach our personal and collective goals. The coaches within the setup are more than just knowledgeable and committed cricket people, they strive to make players better and help them to reach their full potential.

Assupol Tuks Cricket also managed to defend their title in the NCU T20 competition for the 5th year running when they beat CBCOB by 8 wickets in the final at SuperSport Park.

The new competition, the NCU Time Cricket Competition, took place over three weekends and Assupol Tuks 1 also won this competition.



Assupol Tuks Cricket would also like to congratulate the Assupol Tuks 3 team who won the NCU Reserve League this season and the Assupol Tuks 7 team who won the NCU Third League.

Part-time captain of the Assupol Tuks Cricket first side, Sean Phillips, spoke about the NCU Competitions and said, "The 2016/2017 season was a great success once again for the team and for individuals. Lots of opportunities were made the most of by players like you could see with the amount of senior provincial, franchise and international players that were produced by the Assupol Tuks Cricket system. This also meant that there was lots of space for young, new talent to step in to the setup. Even though it could be difficult for young talent to come in and step



up to the level we have at Assupol TuksCricket, this season's successes wouldn't have been possible without them.

"Assupol TuksCricket dominated the NCU Premier League once again and this proved again that the team reaps the rewards of their hard work. The NCU T20 competition was very exciting and there were individuals that put their hands up. Every team member played their part and this was evident again in the final against CBCOB; every team member pulled their weight and the team showed incredible character and never gave up. The NCU Time Cricket competition was a very interesting, new competition that many players hadn't played before. The Assupol TuksCricket brand of cricket was shown in this competition and the team once again reaped the rewards of hard work and ended first on the log, unbeaten in the competition."



"We can now look at the season that has finished and say with happy hearts that we are very satisfied with our performances and that we worked extremely hard to finish as the best In the NCU. We continued to build on our winning culture and made all players, coaches, management and directors proud. We have grown a lot as players and we look forward to seeing what this young team can achieve."



ANCHOR ACADEMY KIT HANDOVER

Assupol TuksCricket runs a cricket kit collection drive throughout the year to support other Clubs and Schools in need of help. This season, Assupol TuksCricket supported the cricket team from Anchor Christian Academy by donating old kit to their cricket team.

Anchor Christian Academy was opened in 1998 and is located in East Lynne. Pupils at this school are mostly from Eersterus and Mamelodi. The school only has about 150 students from Gr. R to Gr. 12 and all students work through the curriculum at their own pace. The school is also now introducing a vocational school and started this project by offering a yearlong chef's course to the students.

We would like to wish the school all the best with their future endeavours.



INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

During the season, Assupol TuksCricket once again produced a record number of cricketers that went on to the next level of representative cricket. Congratulations to the following players:

5x Protea Players (*AB de Villiers, Morne Morkel, FAF du Plessis, Lungi Ngidi, Henrich Klaasen*)

3x Protea Women's Players (*Sune Luus, Odine Kirsten, Mignon du Preez*)

2x SA u19 Players (*Ruan de Swardt, Mitchell van Buuren*)

4x Players in the National Academy (*Tony de Zorzi, Lungi Ngidi, Migael Pretorius, Thomas Kaber*)

5x SA USSA players (*Rubin Hermann, Migael Pretorius, Lungi Ngidi, Tony de Zorzi, Thomas Kaber*)

9x Titans Franchise Academy players (*Ruan de Swardt, Mitchell van Buuren, Craig Kirsten, Rubin Hermann, Kulani Baloyi, Nkosinathi Msiza, Sean Phillips, Ruben Trumpelmann, Dalen Mmako*)

2x SA Franchise Academy Players (*Ruan de Swardt, Mitchell van Buuren*)

5x Titans Cubs Players (*Nishan Pillay, Ruan de Swardt, Ruben Trumpelmann, Nkosinathi Msiza, Donovan Ferreira*)

1x Lions Cubs Player (*Mitchell van Buuren*)

1x Dolphins Cubs Player (*Jiveshan Pillay*)

6x Africa Cup Players (*Ruben Claassen, Tony de Zorzi, Thomas Kaber, Heinrich Klaasen, Aiden Markram, Lungi Ngidi*)

5x Unlimited Titans Players (*Lungi Ngidi, Heinrich Klaasen, Aiden Markram, Albie Morkel, Tony de Zorzi*)

6x Northern Senior Provincial Players (*Rubin Hermann, Ruben Claassen, Vincent Moore, Roger Arendse, Migael Pretorius, Thomas Kaber*)

1x SWD Senior Provincial Player (*Andrea Agathagelou*)

1x Easterns Senior Provincial Player (*David Mogotlane*)





ASSUPOL TUKSCRICKET ACCELERATION PROGRAMME

The Assupol TuksCricket Acceleration Programme gives a cricket player the opportunity to take their cricket to the next level with the help of an intensive termly cricket programme. This programme has been designed to suit the individual by giving a player the ability to design their own package by choosing their own session structure to suit their needs whether it will be a programme for a full year, in between their studies or around a season of cricket overseas.

Players can choose between cricket specific sessions, sports science sessions and other support service sessions. The programme has been divided into four terms and each term will have a minimum amount of sessions that a player must attend to make the programme effective. Players can decide on how many terms they would like to attend per year.

Cricket specific sessions include batting, bowling and fielding sessions with specific warm up and activation for players. The sport science sessions include strength & conditioning services, video analysis, functional movement screenings and scientific testing. The other support service sessions include nutrition and psychology. All sessions will be presented at the world-class facilities that Assupol TuksCricket has to offer including the CSA Centre of Excellence.

Players enrolled in the Assupol TuksCricket Acceleration Programme do not need to be member of the Club and can play cricket at a club of their choice. This programme will also offer all who have been involved, or who will be involved later on in the year pre-season matches in July.

At Assupol TuksCricket we have always taken pride in providing the best environment for players to chase and realize their dreams. We lead the way in producing world-class performers and the exciting new Acceleration Programme provides the platform for the new generation to experience the best coaching, sport science services and facilities that is on offer." Kruger van Wyk – Assupol TuksCricket Head of Programme

The first quarter has gone very well with the seven new players that we have enrolled in the Senior Programme and the four new players we have secured in the Junior Programme.

We look forward to welcoming the new players in the second quarters.



2017 INTERNAL CRICKET LEAGUE

The annual TuksCricket internal league was held from the 13th of February to the 15th of March. The TuksCricket B, D, E and Groenkloof Cricket Ovals hosted these matches on Sundays and Mondays. TuksCricket was fortunate to have sponsors for 2017 season, in Intercape and Tradall SA. This sponsorship was so instrumental in adding to an already 'groot gees' of the internal cricket league at the University of Pretoria. Through the sponsorship, the two finalists received prizes, for the 1st time in over a decade.

The competition this year was far greater than previous year, in that all the play-off matches were won off the last ball, including the final. The 2 sponsors were satisfied with their investment into the Internal League, and they would like to repeat this success in 2018.

The 2017 final was played between SONOP and MOPANIE, and was won by SONOP.

The success of this tournament also depends much on the SSC, and Njabulo Mhlambi played a critical in being the link between the houses and the cricket office.

Below are the final positions of the houses in the league:

1. Sonop
2. Mopanie
3. Olympus/Boekenhout
4. OP 1
5. Maroela/Kollege
6. OP 2
7. Olienhout
8. Vividus/House CA
9. Taaibos
10. House Dental/Tuks Village/Kiaat
11. Docendo/Nathouse/Hatfield Studios



ASSUPOL TUKSCRICKET HQ

Watch
this
space!

The Assupol TuksCricket HQ is nearing completion and we are looking forward to the official opening of the building on 23 May 2017. Staff have already moved in and enjoying their new offices very much. The first few matches have also been hosted at the new building, including a Assupol Tuks 1 matches and Senior Provincial matches.

The last few items are being finished on the building and everyone is waiting in anticipation to see the final product of this long awaited project.



ASSUPOL TUKSCRICKET GOLF DAY

The annual Assupol TuksCricket Golf Day took place on Wednesday 29 March at Zwartkop CC. This year was by far the best attended golf day and was definitely a great fundraiser for the Club! Thank you to all the sponsors, donors and players who made this day possible!