

Assupol TuksCricket raises funds for conservation



This year, Assupol TuksCricket widened their community outreach spectrum and started a conservation project to help raise funds for the Black Rhino Reserve Wildlife Trust. The Trust was formed to assist in preserving fauna, flora and tourism activities in the Pilanesberg National Park Wilderness area. Part of their function is also to assist with rhino anti-poaching activities.

The goal of the project was for players, staff and other stakeholders to take hands and raise funds together to assist the Trust in their good fight to protect our wildlife. Together, the players and staff each raised funds in a project selling raffles tickets over the last few months. With these funds and a contribution from Assupol, the Club managed to raise R30 000 for the Black Rhino reserve Wildlife Trust to aid them in their conservation efforts. This is hopefully only the start of a long relationship between Assupol TuksCricket and the Black Rhino Reserve Wildlife Trust.

The handover of the money coincided with the Elite Squad's Pre-Season teambuilding break-away from 19 -21 August. This year the break-away was hosted in the beautiful Pilanesberg area at African Elegance Tented Lodge on a private concession close to Sun City and the Pilanesberg Private Lodge which is situated in the wilderness area of the Pilanesberg National Park. The aim of this weekend was for the team to come together before the rush of the season and talk about their goals and vision for the season. It was an extremely fruitful time together where 25 senior and junior players together decided on their values and culture, both on and off the field for the season ahead.

During the time away, the team was also treated to some time in the Pilanesberg National Park with a private safari in one of the country's most beautiful Parks.

Black Rhino Reserve Wildlife Trust to dart two white rhinos. The first was massive bull that had been reported injured. He had a wound and they wanted to determine what had caused it. All were very relieved when the vet confirmed that it was caused by another rhino in a Territorial battle. The wound was treated and the group had an opportunity to take pictures and admire this impressive beast. The second rhino was a female which needed to be notched. This is done for identification purposes as well as taking DNA samples and inserting microchips for easy identification. This rhino was then also given a name as she has never been darted before. After a brief discussion amongst the players they decided to name the rhino "Blanche" which is their team manager. Updates will be regularly sent to the team on the well-being of this rhino cow in future.





This incredibly humbling experience took the team through each step on how the rhino anti-poaching unit go about an operation like this and took them right through to the point where the team assisted with the notching. Part of this once in a lifetime opportunity was that all involved could get the experience of getting close to these gracious animals and see how exceptionally they were created.

Assupol TuksCricket Head of Programme and Head Coach, Kruger van Wyk spoke about this experience, "This project came at the start of our outreach month where we are supporting both conservation and community programmes. At the start of September, we will be hosting our annual cricket day with the Soweto Pioneers Cricket Club in Association with Assupol. I'm incredibly proud of the players who are buying into both our programmes and this weekend could definitely not have been a success without them. It is important for us to be successful both on and off the field and for us, part of excellence off the field includes making a difference to people and in conservation. This impacts us all as human beings and leads to growth in who we are as people and how we perceive the world out there. We would like to thank the Black Rhino Reserve Wildlife Trust for allowing us to share in this opportunity and for all the efforts

they put into conservation. This really was an amazing experience that all of us will carry with us for many years to come"

Deon Strydom, co-founder and trustee of the Black Rhino Reserve Wildlife Trust said "The power of combining sport and conservation efforts is extremely strong to create awareness and spread the word of the current issues regarding the poaching. The public need to know what the facts are and they need to act to support these causes to preserve the creation. This cricket team can only be successful if I look at the character of the guys and the passion from the entire coaching staff. We are looking forward to a great working relationship and making a difference together. Thanks to Kruger and Blanche for sharing our vision and to get the project off the ground. I could see the impact the few days had on some of the players that had never been on a safari let alone the privilege to be involved in a rhino darting. The feedback was immense and we are excited to partner with this group and their supporters and sponsors"

The whole experience was a humbling, eye opening experience for all involved and fuelled the fire in the team to continue efforts to help the anti-poaching activities in the country.



Cricket day with the Soweto Pioneers Cricket Club and Assupol

On Saturday 8 September, Assupol and Assupol TuksCricket continued their collaboration on a project to assist the Soweto Pioneers Cricket Club with the development of their cricket. This is part of Assupol's sponsorship initiatives with the Club by taking hands with the community of Soweto through the Hugh Masekela Heritage Festival.

The Johannesburg based Club brought 12 players, 8 coaches and 8 members from their executive committee for a fun-filled clinic and T20 match at the Assupol Tuks Oval. This day was an incredible opportunity for both Clubs and it really was a day enjoyed by all. Assupol TuksCricket batted first and scored 147 but Soweto Pioneers managed to clinch the game by 5 wickets in the last over.

Assupol TuksCricket Head Coach, Kruger van Wyk said, "We are very excited to be able to be involved with Soweto Pioneers Cricket Club alongside Assupol, our major sponsor. We really hope that this is a project that we can take even further to help with the development of their players and the empowerment of their coaches."



INDIVIDUAL

Congratulations to the following players who played representative cricket on various levels:

Africa Cup:

Easterns: Aron Visser and Dyllan Matthews

Northerns: Neil Brand, Leus du Plooy, Rubin Hermann, Jiveshen Pillay, Ruben Trumpelmann and Donovan Ferreira

Mpumalanga: Blake Schraader

SA u19:

Chris van Noordwyk (Coach)

Curtis Campher

Wandile Makwetu (Captain)

Gideon Peters

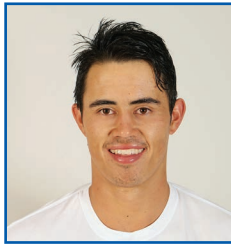
SA Emerging Team:

Tony de Zorzi

Jiveshen Pillay

Congratulations to Nthabiseng Ledwaba on being selected at the Vice-Chairperson for the Northern Cricket Union!

Representatives



Aron Visser



Dyllan Matthews



Neil Brand



Blake Schraader



Donovan Ferreira



Jiveshen Pillay



Leus du Plooy



Rubin Hermann



Ruben Trumpelmann



Momentum Kit Handover

As the winners of this year's Momentum National Club Championships, Assupol TuksCricket got the privilege to hand over cricket kit that was donated by Momentum to a development club of their choice in their Union to assist with further development of cricket in the region. This year, Assupol TuksCricket decided to donate the kit to the Differently Abled Cricket Club. With the assistance of this kit, we hope that they can continue to develop more differently abled cricketers in the the Union. We would like to thank Momentum for this wonderful opportunity and wish the Differently Abled Cricket Club all the best for the upcoming season.



Assupol TuksCricket Upcoming Season

Everyone at Assupol TuksCricket is excited as the 2018/2019 Season kicks off on the weekend of 29 September. All players; men, women, junior and senior, alike, have worked incredibly hard during the pre-season to ensure that the season lying ahead is another memorable one!

The season will start with the NCU T20 Competition, which Assupol TuksCricket has successfully won for the past 8 seasons where after all the other NCU Leagues will commence. The USSA A Cricket Week has been moved back to December and will be hosted in Stellenbosch during the first week of December.

The pre-season included many different components of strength & conditioning, fitness and cricket specific training. The preseason also included a teambuilding weekend where the Elite Squad spent some time together as a team and to put together their cricket plans for the season ahead.

The rest of the club teams, the women's team and the Junior Division have also started eagerly with their training as they all look forward to a summer full of good cricket.

Talking about the season ahead, Assupol TuksCricket, Head Coach, Kruger van Wyk said, "After a very productive off-season, where players worked extremely hard to progress their skills and conditioning levels, everyone is excited about getting out into the middle for what will be another full season."



We would like to wish all our teams the best in all upcoming competitions and leagues.



Assupol TuksCricket had the great honour of hosting the inaugural Noord-Suid Schools T20 tournament during the weekend of 21 - 24 September.

16 schools took part in the whole tournament at the Assupol TuksCricket fields as well as other fields within Tshwane for the round robin and play-off matches. The final was well contested between H/S Centurion and H/S Menlo Park at the Assupol TuksCricket Oval, and the crowd was far greater than imagined.

It is exciting to see the potential of the tournament and being able to assist in producing future cricketers by hosting the tournament on our facilities.



TuksSport

Assupol TuksCricket

Women's Cricket

Join the
Assupol TuksWomensCricket team
for the 2018/2019 season.

Any level of cricketers are welcome,
including beginners!

Official Welcoming:

Join us on Tuesday 4 September at
17h00 at the Assupol TuksCricket
HQ for the official welcoming to
the new season and learn all about
Assupol TuksCricket!

Training Times:

Tuesdays & Thursdays
16h00 – 17h00

Contact Details:

Zolani Gubuza on
012 420 6151 or
zolani.gubuza@up.ac.za

