



## Dlangalala not feeling the pressure as Royal Eagles extend winless run

### NONDUMISO ZAKWE

ROYAL Eagles interim coach Zipho Dlangalala has insisted he is not feeling under pressure despite a winless five-game run in the National First Division.

The Pietermaritzburg side have struggled to shake their inconsistencies this season, with their last win stretching back to October 14 against Mthatha Bucks.

Their 2-2 draw away to Tshakhuma Tsha Madzivhandila at the weekend further highlighted their issues in defence, which took their overall num-

ber of goals conceded to 18 in 12 games.

Eagles cancelled out the Limpopo outfit's opening goal with a brace from striker Levy Mashiane in the 57th and 68th minutes respectively.

However, the home side managed to rescue a point heading into stoppage time. Speaking to *The Witness* yesterday, Dlangalala offered no excuses for his side's poor defending in the second half.

"We started well. The boys showed an intent to win the game but again it wasn't to be. We conceded, equalised, went ahead and conceded

again.

"Things didn't go our way. Unfortunately, it was one of those games where the dominating possession did not make the difference.

"But, overall I'm extremely happy with the boys. They managed to score goals and get themselves back in the game. Now, we just need to get better," he said.

The Midlands outfit find themselves in 14th position in the standings with 11 points from 12 games, which has left the 53-year-old tactician facing the prospect of the sack. He said: "We have a lot of quality



players in our team. I have faith in them. We can't dwell on negative re-

sults. We have to move forward and learn from our mistakes, but for them to do so, they need to be sharp upfront and also solid at the back," Dlangalala said.

Looking ahead, they will now prepare for an unpredictable visit from Black Leopards this Saturday, with being in high spirits following their 2-1 win over Super Eagles on the weekend.

Dlangalala added: "It's back to the drawing board. No one wants to lose and we are treating every team with the same respect.

"We need the three points on offer

but it won't be easy. We need to score more goals and avoid conceding."

Meanwhile, Highlands Park remain top of the log despite dropping points against Witbank Spurs in a goalless draw, while second-placed AmaTuks continued their good run with a 3-0 win over embattled Richards Bay.

The biggest win of the weekend came from Jomo Cosmos who handed Mbombela United a 4-1 thumping at Vosloorus Stadium.

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### STANDINGS

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Highlands Park	12	7	2	3	15	7	23
AmaTuks	12	6	4	2	16	12	22
Cosmos	12	6	3	3	20	10	21
Mbombela	12	6	1	5	15	15	19
Kings	12	4	6	2	10	7	18
Stellenbosch	12	4	6	2	10	10	18
Spurs	12	3	7	2	13	11	16
Leopards	12	4	4	4	10	9	16
TTM	12	4	4	4	10	14	16
All Stars	12	4	3	5	8	10	15
Bucks	12	3	4	5	11	16	13
Super Eagles	12	3	3	5	10	15	13
Lihlagathi	12	2	6	4	7	10	12
Royal Eagles	12	2	5	5	15	18	11
Richards Bay	12	1	7	4	8	12	10
Ubuntu	12	1	6	5	10	12	9

