



Chokoe upbeat about upcoming NFD season

By MTHOKOZISI MKHONZA

THE upcoming 2017/18 National First Division (NFD) season will be a humdinger as no one is taking anything for granted.

There's five former Premier Soccer League (PSL) clubs: Black Leopards, Highlands Park, Jomo Cosmos, University of Pretoria and Stellenbosch FC, who will be eager to bounce back into the top flight.

The five NFD rookies: Uthongathi, Ubuntu Cape Town FC, Tshakhuma Tsha Madzivhadila FC, Super Eagles, and Richards Bay FC, will want to cement their place in the league.

In the past few seasons we've seen new clubs struggling and end up getting relegated due to lack of experience and proper management.

Super Eagles from KwaZulu-Natal and Uthongathi, who are the only clubs from Free State, are new from the ABC Motsepe League.

Ubuntu, Tshakhuma and Richards Bay bought statuses of former NFD teams who were in the league in the past season.

But the struggle will be the same for these teams, only Richards Bay could have things

easier under the guidance of well-experienced Roger Sikhakhane, who recently promoted Thanda Royal Zulu to the Absa Premiership before selling their status to AmaZulu.

Limpopo side Tshakhuma Tsha Madzivhandila are confident they will bring enough competition in the league.

The club's head coach, Sello "The Gloved One" Chokoe, said: "We're expecting a tough competition, but with the technical team I have we'll rise. We're not here to add numbers. We have a plan and it has to work."

Sello 'The Gloved One' Chokoe will be running the line for Tshakhuma in the upcoming season.

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