



Siyago

Who will Chiefs nex

This is one of the biggest talking points in Mzansi as Kaizer Chiefs supporters all over the country wait with bated breath to see who will be in charge of their club come the 2018/19 season. Steve Komphela has officially stepped down as the Amakhosi head coach, just a few months before his contract at the Soweto giants would

What the Siya crew has been told...

Kaizer Chiefs are weighing up their options on who will come in to replace Komphela. The Siya crew has it on good authority that the Chiefs management had already entered into informal enquiries with more than one potential candidate prior to Komphela's resignation. It seems that the writing was always on the wall! The fact that the club has now gone three seasons without lifting the league title is something that hasn't sat well with management, and the fact that they have also been eliminated from the Nedbank Cup means that they will have suffered three campaigns without a single trophy for the first time in the club's history. For a club of Amakhosi's history and stature, the fans have not found the barren run acceptable. It was originally thought that a strong

league finish and victory in the Nedbank Cup could have saved Komphela's job, given the good work that he's done elsewhere with the promotion of several youth players and lowering of the team's average age, but it has proven to be out of the mentor's reach. His case wasn't helped by the unruly behaviour of some of the Chiefs supporters, who played a part in forcing the club's hand. The 50-year-old became the first local coach to take charge of Chiefs in more than a decade when he was appointed at the start of the 2015/16 season, but his lack of success may lead to the club looking outside of South Africa for his replacement rather than looking inward into Mzansi. That's a decision that the club are yet to make.

What are the facts?

There will be changes. The specifics are not 100% clear at this point in time, with the only certainty being that Komphela will not be at the club, but the club has made it very clear that there will be a complete overhaul at Naturena following their poor run of form over the last three seasons. In a recent statement, the club revealed, "Decisive changes will have to be implemented at the end of the season to remedy the situation. At this stage, circumstances do not permit for us to make immediate changes. However, we are looking to have a complete overhaul of the team before the commencement of the new season." Chiefs supporters are unhappy. Their current trophy drought is unheard of at

the club, and the fans want a change. Under Komphela's tutelage, the club has broken numerous unwanted records, and the club is in desperate need for management to guide them in the right direction - starting with the appointment of a new head coach! The club was recently fined for the behaviour of their supporters as they threw objects at Komphela and his players following the 3-0 defeat to Chippa United, and that was followed by the sickening scenes at the Moses Mabhida Stadium. With no trophies and consistently dwindling attendance figures, it is time for Chiefs to make a change. All eyes are on the Chiefs hierarchy and fans are expecting a coach that can lead them back to their former glory days.

Who are the candidates?

Doctor Khumalo



Khumalo left Chiefs to go and work as Baroka FC's Technical Director, but would no doubt welcome a return to the club where he made his name if the chance came for him to take on a head coaching position - something that he has been craving for some time. It was said that one of his reasons for leaving in August was the fact that he hadn't been given that chance, and the crew has previously reported that he was one of the names in the running for the post should Komphela leave.

Chances - Medium

Nikola Kavazovic



Though it's been denied by the man himself, Chiefs' interest in Kavazovic has been reported both in Botswana, where he's coaching Township Rollers, and here in South Africa. The Serbian, who recently led Rollers to the CAF Champions League group stages for the first time, told the crew, "Nobody from the PSL has contacted me since I came to Africa last July... I am fully committed to Township Rollers and the CAF Champions League." The recent success of his fellow Serbians, Milutin Sredojevic and Veselin Jelicic, could open a door for him at Naturena.

Chances - High

Boys' radar. He's a very successful Mam Pitso Mosimane, and Jani Mokwena since he helped his cause. Chief of the fact that snatches could aid their thing Mosimane's 'Bra Mngqithi has turned positions in the past by a club like Amakhosi

Chances - Medium

Rob Hutting

When Hutting arrived at Chiefs as the Technical Advisor, there were those that claimed that he was waiting for the wings to take Komphela by the club football man who is Naturena, he could they be on the hunt. His record, however, terms of his coaching Dutelman having spent Europe's lower league

Chances - Low

Luc Eymael



Eymael is one of the frontrunners for the position at Naturena given the fine work that he has done with both Polokwane City and Free State Stars. The interest in him from Naturena has already been acknowledged by some of the involved parties, but Ea Lila Koto - who are on course for their best league finish in nearly a decade - would be reticent to let him leave. The Belgian, however, could well be tempted by the opportunity to take over at such a massive club. Eymael, however, has a contract with Stars and will need to be bought out of it.

Chances - High

Muhsin Ertugral



The Siya crew can categorically confirm that Chiefs were in touch with Ertugral's camp last year. Informal discussions took place at the time; however, the club did not pursue further because they hit a good run of form at the time and decided to stick with Komphela. They may struggle to sell Ertugral to the fan base due to his previous stints at the club and the fact that he's currently with a struggling Ajax Cape Town side.

Chances - Medium

Dan Malesela

Malesela is currently without a club - something that could be appealing to Chiefs - and has a reputation for playing an exciting brand of football. Chief at length about Komphela and the lack of flair in the man to try and play back to Naturena with Chippa United linked with a move to months ago.

Chances - Medium

Stuart Baxter



Baxter had lots of success during his spell with Chiefs, winning two league titles and two domestic cups during his three-year stint, breaking numerous club and PSL records along the way. He's currently part of a long-term project with Bafana Bafana, but the crew has already reported that there has been contact from Chiefs' management, who are interested in looking at the possibility of bringing him back for a second stint. It remains to be seen if Baxter is willing to risk his historical reputation at Chiefs with a second stint and should he join, he will surely want complete control of player movements.

Chances - High

Ruud Krol



When there's an open coaching position in South Africa, Krol's name is never too far away from the fray. According to sources close to the club, he is one of the coaches that have been offered for the position. Krol, who achieved success at Pirates, is known to be a big fan of Mzansi, and he knows the landscape of the PSL. He's been linked with Bafana in the past and, more recently, the Kenyan national team. The only downside could be his age, having just celebrated his 69th birthday.

Chances - Medium

Gordon Igesund

Igesund would doubt be interested in the position given that Amakhosi are one of South Africa's 'Big Three' that he has coached. As a stalwart PSL, the 61-year-old is the most and will be coaching in the top-flight upon his departure from Highlanders.

Chances - Low

Manqoba Mngqithi



It has previously been reported by Soccer Laduma that the 46-year-old is on the Glamour

SECRET AGENT... Every week, the Siya crew will speak to a top agent in SA to get their expert understanding of what's going on. For obvious reasons, the agent will remain anonymous.

"Historically, Kaizer Chiefs have achieved most of their success when there has been a foreigner at the helm. Of course, we don't know what the exact reasons for that are, but maybe players react better when it's a non-South African... There is also the possibility that some foreign coaches have more experience with regards to dealing with pressure and the man-management of egos at a big club like Chiefs. Whatever the reason, it seems to work. Look, Bobby (Motaung) was patient with Steve (Komphela) during his time with the club and, ultimately, it proved to be unsuccessful. One would argue that, having seen what's happened at the club, they now need to stabilise and bring in someone with a proven track record, someone with experience who can bring some stability to Naturena."



Amakhosi

Head coach for next season?

SIYA SPECIAL



expired. The mentor relinquished his post following a 2-0 to Free State Stars in the Nedbank Cup semi-finals, with a riot of irate fans baying for his blood. After months of speculation, what is certain now is that Chiefs will have a new head at the helm in the new season. The Siya crew takes a look into the situation, to see who could be in the running.

oven his worth at a...
 odi Sundowns under...
 the success of Rhu...
 departure will have...
 fans will also be aware...
 him from their r...
 ttle chances by bring...
 ins Trust' to an end...
 Down head coaching...
 but could be tempted...
 osi.

Shaun Bartlett



As a Bafana legend, former Amakhosi player and a bright up-and-coming head coach, Bartlett could be a good option for Chiefs if they want to look more towards the future. The 45-year-old is currently working in the National First Division with University of Pretoria, and having worked hard to obtain his coaching badges, would no doubt jump at the opportunity to take the next step in his managerial career should the opportunity arise. His lack of experience in the top-flight could work against him though.

Chances - Low



Ernst Middendorp



Another name that has had a spell at Naturena before, and who has achieved relative success across the PSL during his numerous stints at clubs such as Maritzburg United and Bloemfontein Celtic. The German is currently working as a Technical Director in Thailand for Bangkok United, but has been linked with several posts in the Absa Premiership since his departure from Maritzburg in 2016. He knows the club and the league, but his re-appointment may not be well met by Chiefs' fan base.

Chances - Low



Shakes Mashaba



A legend of the South African game, and a free agent, Mashaba, who was part of the South African national team set-up for nearly a decade, hasn't worked in club football for a long time, but could be seen as an old hand that could come in to steady the ship after a rocky few years for the Naturena-based club. He is a former Orlando Pirates player, though, which could potentially count against him.

Chances - Low



Veselin Jelusic



Jelusic has done an impressive job at Bloemfontein Celtic

since his arrival at the start of the season, and has previously been mentioned as one of the names that could make it onto the club's shortlist should they start looking for Komphela's replacement. Having battled relegation last season, Sivelele are on the brink of securing a place in next season's MTN8, and Jelusic will take a lot of credit for that. His Serbian counterpart Micho's success at Pirates could potentially help his cause, too.

Chances - Medium

Zlatko Krmpotic



Last week the Serbian was linked with the vacant post at Tunisian giants Club Africain, and he has good pedigree in Africa having been the assistant coach at TP Mazembe when they won the CAF Champions League in 2015, and most recently worked at Zambian powerhouse, ZESCO United. He's a free agent with a track record in Africa, both qualities that Amakhosi could be looking for, and has previously stated his wish to work in South Africa.

Chances - Low

Rob McDonald



The Englishman, who previously worked at Ajax Cape Town, is reportedly keen on making a return to South Africa, and the 59-year-old comes with a wealth of experience having played for the likes of Hull City, Newcastle United and Besiktas during his playing days. McDonald would be a left-field appointment though given the fact that he's been off the radar in Mzansi for so long now.

Chances - Low

Patrice Carteron



The Frenchman is no stranger to African football, having spent time in Mali, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Egypt during his time as a coach, and has previously been linked with a move to South Africa when Orlando Pirates were on the lookout for a new man at the helm. That being said, he is currently in charge of the

Phoenix Rising in America, and only took the job last year, making an exit unlikely at this point.

Chances - Low

Eric Tinkler



With experience of both playing and coaching in South Africa, Tinkler could be an option for the Glamour Boys if they're looking for a mentor who could aid them on the continent going forward. He has twice reached the final of the CAF Confederation Cup, and knows the pressures of working with a Soweto giant following his time at Orlando Pirates. He's currently a free agent.

Chances - Medium

Ruud Gullit



The Dutch legend has a history with South Africa, having spent time in the country in the past, and is currently on the hunt for a new job having left a position as the Netherlands' assistant coach earlier this year. He was linked with the Buccaneers back in 2012, however nothing materialised.

Chances - Low

Lothar Matthäus



Matthäus, a German legend, was one of the names put in the hat as a potential head coach of Bafana Bafana following Shakes Mashaba's departure, although he went on to confirm to Soccer Laduma afterwards that he never applied for the position. As a big name in global football, the 57-year-old could have the sort of stature that Chiefs are looking for, and he's currently without a club.

Chances - Low

The Unknown...



As previously mentioned, Chiefs will not be short of applicants for the job as one of Africa's most well known clubs. There is a big possibility that the club may catch everybody off guard by bringing in a shock name - possibly from overseas - who will be given the chance to turn things around at the club. Some big names such as Bernd Schuster, Roberto Mancini and Giovanni Trapattoni have been linked with moves to South Africa in recent years, and Amakhosi could look for someone with that kind of reputation as they seek a return to winning ways.

Chances - High

WATCH THIS SPACE!

The head coach position at Chiefs will be one of the most talked-about matters in South African football in the coming weeks and months, with the club having made no concrete statements about what lies ahead. One thing is for sure, the Glamour Boys need to make the right choice when deciding who will lead them forward next season, because the last thing they want is to end up in the same boat as other teams that have endured a dramatic fall from grace. If the club opt for an unknown factor, a new coach may take time to adapt to Mzansi's football landscape and, in the club's current state, the Chiefs management cannot afford to go another season with no success. The best option could be to appoint a coach that has experience in the PSL, and more importantly, a history of winning in the league. Chiefs need an experienced coach who can steer them in the right direction and create a foundation. A lot will depend on the clubs bosses... all eyes will be on them!

