



# All Stars chasing a PSL play-off spot

**MIKE DE BRUYN**

UBUNTU CAPE TOWN currently find themselves in a season-high 14th place on the 16-team NFD table and out of the relegation zone for the first time in four months.

A fourth win of the year is theirs for the taking when they entertain basement-dwellers Mthatha Bucks at Athlone today (3.30pm kickoff).

Town's victories to date have been against teams in the top-half of the table, like last time out when, on home turf, they beat Pretoria University 3-1.

So a repeat performance should deliver a positive outcome against Bucks, who held Black Leopards to a goalless stalemate last time out to score a point that could well count when the season has run its course.

Whoever wins this fixture could well end up avoiding relegation.

NFD leaders Highlands Park have opened an 11-point lead over Tshakhuma Tsha Madzihandila (TTM FC) with eight rounds to go,

The "Lions of the North" seem on course for a straight return to the PSL.

The Tembisa side take a 17-match unbeaten record into their tie with Witbank Spurs at the Pumas' Rugby Stadium.

Spurs (32 points) sit in sixth spot are in the hunt for a place in the promotion play-offs seeing they are one of four teams just four points adrift of TTM FC.

The other three are Real Kings (35), former PSL outfit Jomo Cosmos (33) and Leopards (32).

Spurs, who held Park to a goalless away draw in the first round, have never lost to their rivals on home soil.

The third and final match of the day features two teams with much to play for.

Third-bottom Uthongathi FC welcome seventh-placed Cape Town All Stars to the Princess Magogo Stadium knowing they are only two points above the drop zone.

They've managed only four wins

from 22 starts, while All Stars have bagged three more from the same number of games.

The Cape raiders moved two places up to seventh after a point earned in a goalless stalemate with Leopards took their tally to 30. More importantly, the men from the Mother City are only four points shy of third spot.

From a Cape perspective, Stellenbosch FC entertain Kings at the Athlone Stadium tomorrow (Sunday, 3.30pm kickoff) – the first-round match ended in a draw.

The Winelands side are eighth and on the same number of points as All Stars.

Last weekend Stellies lost 2-1 to Cosmos in Johannesburg.

Winless from their last two starts at this time of the season may well be courting disaster for a side that made it into last season's play-off.

**Other fixtures (home teams first):** Richards Bay v Pretoria University; Mbombela United v Jomo Cosmos; Royal Eagles V TTM FC; Black Leopards v Super Eagles.

