

Jaguars jump into semi

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The Gauteng Jaguars will head into the playoff stage of the Brutal Fruit Netball Premier League as the only unbeaten team.

That's after a resounding win over the KwaZulu-Natal Kingdom Stars at the University of Pretoria's Rembrandt Hall this past weekend.

The defending champions cruised to the 76-23 victory.

It was almost two minutes into the match before the first goal was scored – and that first one belonged to the Stars.

But this was the last time they were in the lead as the Jaguars soon opened up a 17-4 lead by the end of the first quarter.

With the Stars only managing two goals in the second period, that margin was extended even further with the teams reaching half-time on 38-6.

Apart from their height advantage, the Jaguars were far quicker and more accurate than their KZN opponents.

This made all the difference.

"We're very happy and very proud of the girls for pulling it through and making it to the end of the pool matches unbeaten," said Jaguars assistant coach Rozanne Matthyse afterwards.

"It wasn't specifically a goal we set before the tournament. We just wanted them to play good netball."

Matthyse, whose team have booked an automatic spot in the semi-finals after topping the log, explained that in order to prepare for next weekend's back-to-back playoff



Izette Griesel of the Jaguars is challenged by Gibisela Kalipa of the Kingdom Stars during the past weekend's Brutal Fruit Netball Premier League match between Jaguars and Kingdom Stars at the Rembrandt Hall Pretoria. **Photo: BackpagePix**

matches, the team had played a tough game in training on Thursday.

"We are obviously focusing on next weekend and making sure that the girls follow a strategy for those games so that's

what we were testing and it paid off. From the beginning we had a common team goal and we knew we were going to work very hard to achieve that goal, which is to be excellent and brilliant in everything we do," she concluded.