

RABADA WINS BIG!

Gauteng Awards see stars walk tall

By SUNSPORT REPORTER
CRICKET South Africa (CSA) chief executive Thabang Moroe has praised South African fast bowler, Kagiso Rabada, for adding the Gauteng Sportsman of the Year title to the multitude of awards he has received this year.

"It represents a wonderful double for him after he was previously named South African Cricketer of the Year for the second time and almost swept the boards at our own awards function," Moroe said. "Prior to that, the ICC honoured him in January when they named him in their select Test Team of the Year for 2017. And for a period he was the No 1 ranked Test match bowler, the youngest player ever to achieve this honour."

"Above all, he comes across as a man of great humility who has his feet firmly on the ground and will continue to be a wonderful role model for all our aspiring young cricketers."

It was truly a night to remember as hundreds gathered at the Silverstar Casino in Mogale City on Sunday to celebrate the province's top sporting talent.

Refiloe Jane, who recently signed a contract to ply her trade in Australia, walked away with the Sportswoman of the Year award following her heroics and consistent performance for Banyana Banyana.

The province's MEC for Sport, Faith Mazibuko, said: "This was truly a spectacular evening of celebrating sporting excellence in Gauteng. It is such a tremendous honour to have been able to recognise those who have performed so well, have shared our stories of success and have developed up-and-coming talent in the past year."

Kagiso Rabada received highest honours at the Gauteng Awards – well deserved considering his consistency.

Photo by Gallo Images



THE WINNERS

COMMUNITY MEDIA OF THE YEAR:
Soweto TV

COMMUNITY BASED SPORT & RECREATION OF THE YEAR:
Mpho Makhoba for Tennis

SCHOOL SPORT ATHLETE OF THE YEAR: Alwande Skhosana for Wheelchair Tennis

SPORTS JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR: Charles Baloyi for Daily Sun

MOST PROMISING TEAM OF THE YEAR: Troyeville Primary School Under-13 Boys Volleyball Team

MOST PROMISING PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Wandisile Simelane for Rugby

ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR: Siyabonga Ndlovu for Physically Disabled and Visually Impaired

TECHNICAL OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR: Daphne Dawn Bird for Aquatics

COACH OF THE YEAR: Nico Coetzee for Wrestling

SPORT TEAM WITH A DISABILITY: Gauteng Wheelchair Basketball Senior Men's Team

SPORTSMAN WITH A DISABILITY: Jacques Joubert for Visually Impaired Judo

SPORTSWOMAN WITH A DISABILITY: Khethiwe Zulu for Wheelchair Basketball

SPORTS TEAM OF THE YEAR: Gauteng Jaguars Netball Premier League Team

SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR: Refiloe Jane for Football

SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR: Kagiso Rabada for Cricket

MEC SPECIAL AWARDS:
Professor Yoga Coopoo
Josina "Granny" Tellie
Norman Hlabane

The following categories were determined through public voting:
SPORTS FAN OF THE YEAR:
Mamello Constance Makha

SPORTS PROGRAMME OF THE YEAR: Diala Mzansi-Soweto TV

SPORTS PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR: Kgothatso Montjane