



TOUGH TEST FOR AMATUKS

AMATUKS' new coach Zipho Dlangalala is determined to turn things around in the National First Division (NFD) after winning only five of their 18 games this season.

The team are currently 11th and tomorrow play at home against Witbank Spurs in what should be another tough encounter. "Spurs are on a high since former Bafana Bafana coach Shakes Mashaba took charge. I see Saturday as a 50/50-game," said Dlangalala.

"Spurs have big, robust players who tend to play the long ball. It would be foolish to take them on at their own game.

"I want the AmaTuks players to play to their strengths. Our players might be small in comparison but they are quick, skilful and creative. So I am confident that they will carve out scoring opportunities."

Dlangalala has been around the block as a coach in South African football.

He was an assistant coach at Mamelodi Sundowns and Chippa United and helped to improve the skills of the Under-23 players at Orlando Pirates. He has also coached at Royal Eagles.

"From a financial viewpoint Tuks might not be the biggest club, but they have lots of spirit and heart. That is why I am excited to be involved," he said.

It is vital to Dlangalala that every player at Tuks Football appreciates what the club offers. "It is the biggest football club in South Africa with the most players and fields as well as excellent facilities and support staff. Clubs all over the world would like to have what Tuks have."

But Dlangalala is realistic to the challenge that awaits him.

"There are still 12 games, in other words, 36 points to play for. I see us being involved in a race and we must pace ourselves and concentrate in every game."

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