



## TRY TIME NEWS

### Women's Tag Rugby Tournament Success

AUTHOR: VALERIE BELLADONA



**Tournament winner, House Mags**

On Wednesday 21 February TuksRugby hosted its very first First Years Res Tag Tournament with great success. This tournament was created specifically for the women's residences with the idea of introducing the oval ball to the ladies without the intimidation of contact. A total of 8 women's residences competed in the tournament and the competitive nature of these teams was something to be noted.

The support from the Rag Partners was also something exceptional and added to the overall atmosphere of the tournament. With 50 Varsity Shield tickets up for grabs for the best supporting partners, the men's residences did not disappoint.

The tournament started with pool games and eventually the semi-

finalists were announced. In semi-final number one, House Khutso was to face private residence, Heroes and it came down to the wire with House Khutso securing their spot in the final. In the second semi-final, Asterhof played against House Mags where House Mags proved to be the stronger team. The teams had a short break following the semi-finals in which they could regroup and strategize as they prepared for the finals. It was House Mags who claimed the title as well as the R5000.00 prize for their residence, but House Khutso did not walk away empty handed as they won R2500.00 for their house.

Women's program coordinator, Libbie Janse van Rensburg, says "I think this event was a huge success and we achieved what we wanted with it. There were some very talented ladies and hopefully we can convince some of them to give rugby a try." "The over-all spirit and vibe was also great, the men's res' really showed up and the support was great."

House Erica and their Rag partners, Mopanie, won the best spirit and support award. This event is a step in the right direction for women's rugby at UP and will hopefully become an annual event and maybe even a league in the future.

**FNB Varsity Shield**  
Game 1  
**Player of the Match**  
**Kamohelo Tlome**



**FNB Varsity Shield**  
Game 2  
**Player of the Match**  
**Marco Venter**



**SAVE THE DATE**

**3 April**



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**Allister Williams**

**Coaches Corner:**

**John-William Wessels**





**FNB UP-Tuks Player**

# Player in Focus: Allister Williams

**AUTHOR: NINA EVANNA**

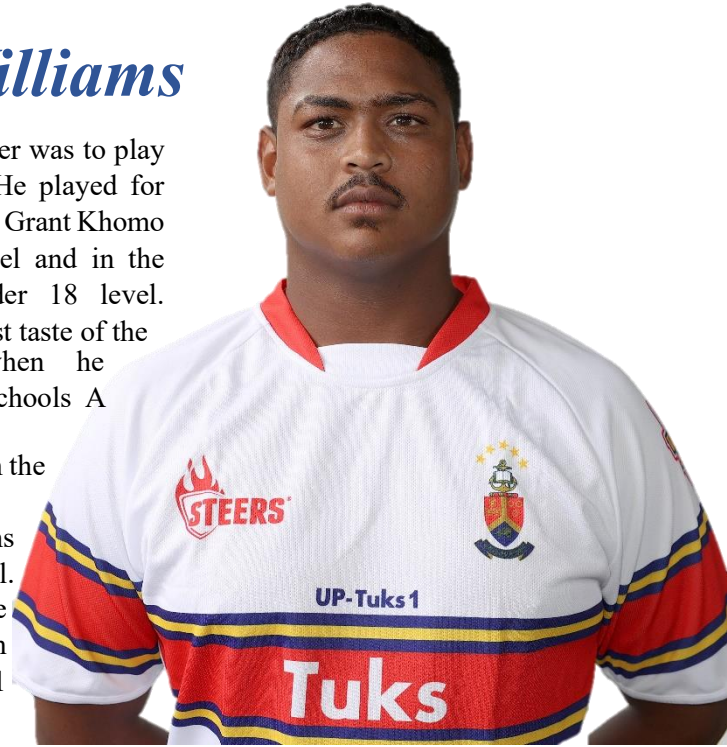
Co-Captain of the FNB UP-Tuks 1 team, Allister Williams, wants to leave the jersey in a better place... by winning the FNB Varsity Shield and restoring Tuks' place in the Varsity Cup competition.

Matriculant of the prestigious Paarl Boys High School, it is no surprise that Allister is a player who exhibits great leadership and talent on the field. Growing up in a family who loves rugby also cemented Allister's path towards rugby, he played cricket up to the age of 15 but by then the rugby bug had bit him and he then shifted his focus to only rugby.

Representing his high school from under 14 up to under 19, the natural

step for the young player was to play at a provincial level. He played for Western Province in the Grant Khomo Week at under 16 level and in the Craven Week at under 18 level. Allister also had his first taste of the green and gold when he represented the SA Schools A side in 2019.

It was no surprise when the young hooker was contracted by the Lions as soon as he left school. Allister played for the under 21 Lions team who then won the u21 Currie Cup in 2021.



With such an impressive CV, Tuks was not oblivious to this talented player. Allister realized as most players should that an education is just as important as a rugby career. He made his debut for UP-Tuks in 2022 against old rivals, Maties.

Allister says 'It is a massive honor and privilege to be co-captain of such a prestigious university knowing all the legends who have had this responsibility before me. It is also my first time being a captain of a team so I'm very excited for the journey.'

Allister idolizes players such as New Zealand's Dane Cole and Cody Taylor as for him, they are true examples of how the game of hookers are played. When asked if he would fancy playing in a different position,

Allister brags about his try scoring abilities and says he believes that in a different life he may have been a winger.

### **PLAYER FACTS**

**If you could have any superpower, what would it be?**

*Ability to predict the future*

**If you were an animal, what animal would you be?**

*Lion. (Fearless)*

**What is your favourite post-game meal?**

*Pizza*

**What is your go-to song?**

*No Role Models by J Cole*



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**Coaches Corner:**

**John-William Wessels**

**Varsity Shield**

**Merchandise**





**OTHER NEWS**

# Coaches Corner: John-William Wessels

**AUTHOR: NINA EVANNA**

John-William has been working in the field of rugby for 10 years. Hoërskool Menlopark matriculant, John-William competed in numerous sports and already at the time started to get involved with youth coaching as well as refereeing. Following matric he studied education through UNISA while furthering his rugby qualifications.

John-William has coached and managed numerous teams over the years and is no stranger to hard work, and that is exactly why he fit in so well with the TuksWomensRugby Varsity Cup team management. Joining the staff as backline coach, John-William brings experience as well as heaps of patience. This is however not the first time that John-William will be wearing the Stripe. In 2014 he coached the under 11 TuksYouthRugby side, staying with the team up to under 16 and following this he was elected as vice chairman and head of high school coaches at TuksYouthRugby.

Although this is his first time coaching a women’s team, John-William is up for the challenge. ‘The game stays the same at the end of the day, but the ladies are hungry to learn and that’s what makes it so exciting to coach them’, says John-William.

With a clear vision set, John-William adds that working with the other coaches and staff is a delight and where one may be lacking the other fills in.

‘We have a very young squad that we are working with,’ John-William mentions, ‘I hope to help grow the squad and to spark a passion and love for the game of rugby within these ladies, providing them with the needed skills and determination to continue playing rugby in the long-term.’

The FNB UP-Tuks Women’s team will play their first Varsity Cup match against FNB Maties on 5 April.



**FNB UP-Tuks Women’s Backline Coach,  
John-William Wessels.**  
Photo cred: Reg Caldecott



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**Varsity Shield**      **Results**      **Upcoming**  
**Merchandise**           **Events**





**OTHER NEWS**

**R100.00**

**AVAILABLE NOW**  
Purchase at the  
Rugby Office

**RESULTS**



**FNB Varsity Shield Results**



**FNB UP-Tuks 36**

**vs**

**FNB UFH 0**

**FNB UP-Tuks 61**

**vs**

**FNB CPUT 10**



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**Upcoming Events**





UPCOMING EVENTS



# FNB Varsity Shield



## 2024 Fixtures

DATE	TIME	GAME	VENUE
8 MARCH	19:00	FNB UP-Tuks vs FNB WSU	Sisa Dukashe Stadium
15 MARCH	19:00	FNB UP-Tuks vs FNB Varsity College	Tuks Stadium
22 MARCH	19:00	FNB UP-Tuks vs FNB UKZN	Howard College Stadium
5 APRIL	19:00	FNB UP-Tuks vs FNB TUT	Tuks Stadium
12 APRIL	15:00	FNB UP-Tuks vs FNB Madibaz	Tuks Stadium **TV Game (SuperSport)
19 APRIL	FNB VARSITY SHIELD SEMI-FINAL		
26 APRIL	FNB VARSITY SHIELD FINAL		



# FNB Varsity Cup Women's



## 2024 Fixtures

Date	Time	Game	Venue
5 April	16:30	FNB UP-Tuks Women vs FNB Maties Women	Danie Craven Stadium
12 April	12:30	FNB UP-Tuks Women vs FNB UKZN Women	Tuks Stadium
19 April	FNB VARSITY CUP WOMEN SEMI-FINAL		
26 April	FNB VARSITY CUP WOMEN FINAL		

## Mission Statement

Striving to develop quality student-athletes within a high performance environment who will graduate with meaningful degrees.

Preparing young athletes for a life after rugby, competing for championships on and off the field, for future generations to follow.





2024 || March || 037



UPCOMING EVENTS

# FNB TuksRugby GOLFDAY

PRESENTED BY TW PROFILE

3 April 2024

### Venue

Wingate Country Club

### Shotgun Start

11:00

### Format

4 Ball Alliance, 2 Scores to Count,  
Scramble Drive

### Prices

4 Ball - R4500 (INCL VAT)

*Halfway, dinner & playing shirt included*

Hole sponsor - R3000 (INCL VAT)

*Sponsors are required to provide their own tables and chairs*

### Entry/ Booking

4-Ball: [https://bit.ly/3uekuxn\\_](https://bit.ly/3uekuxn_)

Hole Sponsor: <https://bit.ly/48m6r6V>

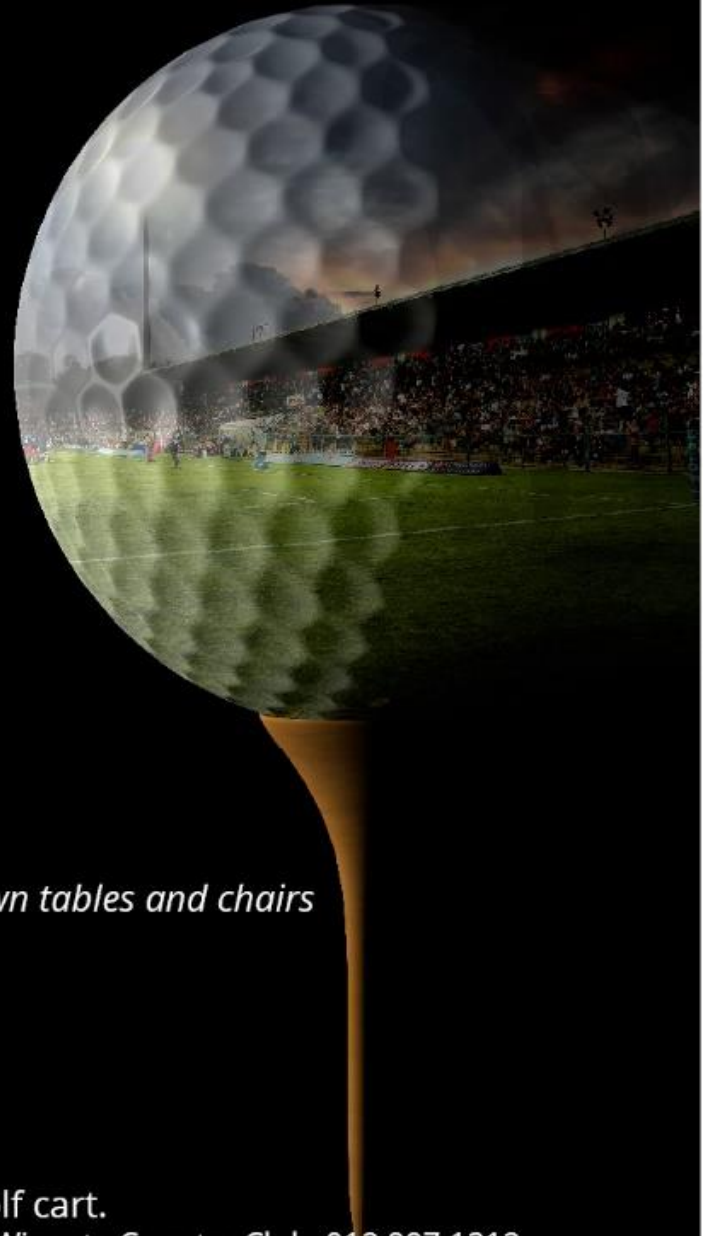
### Please note

Entry fees do not cover the cost of a golf cart.

For your golf cart rental, contact Pro Shop at Wingate Country Club, 012 997 1312

### For any further information please email:

[tuksrugby@up.ac.za](mailto:tuksrugby@up.ac.za) and or [conrad.boshoff@up.ac.za](mailto:conrad.boshoff@up.ac.za)



TuksRugby



TuksSport