



## TRY TIME NEWS



### Tuks Women are BBRU League Champions!

AUTHOR: NINA EVANNA



Photo Cred: Marli van Rensburg

On Saturday 17 August all our TuksRugby teams assembled to play their respective Castle Lager Carlton League semi-finals with our ladies also playing in the BBRU Women's League semi-final.

Tuks JongSpan and Tuks Fezelas were hosted by Naka Bulle with Tuks JongSpan playing against Harlequins 3 and Tuks Fezelas facing the hosts, Naka Bulle 2.

UP-Tuks 1's incredible late charge in the second round of the Castle Carlton Cup's pool stages resulted with a secured semi-final spot. FNB UP-Tuks 1 were up against Northam Rhinos. It was a closely contested

game throughout and losing their flyhalf, Walter Visser, to injury did not make things any easier. Northam Rhinos were too strong in the end and managed to secure the win with a final score of 34-39. Special mentions go out to Hilton Gie, Divan Roelofse and Kamohelo Tlome on a great season.

Tuks Fezelas and Tuks JongSpan suffered similar results and failed to advance to the finals of the Castle Carlton Cup.

FNB UP-Tuks Women on the other hand managed to secure the win over TUT in the semi-final of the BBRU Women's League with a score of 17-10. This was the first time ever that

the team had advanced to the finals of the competition. The team were then up against the 2023 reigning champions, Harlequins, who they had a close loss against earlier in the season. With a clear goal in mind, the ladies put on an impressive show but it was a late penalty kicked by captain, Jessica Mare, that sealed the victory for the team. FNB UP-Tuks Women won the BBRU Women's League with a score of 14-12.

Looking back, it is safe to say that TuksRugby has had a very competitive season and after a short rest the teams will re-assemble as they begin preparations for the seven's season as well as the 2025 season.

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## **TuksRugby's Stand-out Players**

### **UP-Tuks 1: Dian 'Blokke' Coetzee**

Dian's scrum work in this season has been a force to be reckoned with, not to mention his impressive ball carries.



Dian Coetzee

### **Tuks Fezelas: Euan Groenewald**

Euan's never back down attitude and ability to lead by example as team captain has made him stand out during the 2024 season.



Euan Groenewald

### **Tuks JongSpan: Lesego Motlatla**

Lesego has grown exceptionally as a player during this season. He is a hardworking, determined player who always shows a positive attitude.

### **UP-Tuks Women: Lerato Tshabalala & Mbali Ndlovu**



Lerato Tshabalala

Lerato has been very consistent throughout this season and her outstanding performances brought exceptional value to the team.



Mbali Ndlovu

Mbali has shown a lot of growth this season and she has been extremely dedicated when it comes to self-improvement.





## RESULTS



### BBRU Women's Rugby League

|        |                   |     |    |    |                |
|--------|-------------------|-----|----|----|----------------|
| 3 Aug  | FNB UP-Tuks Women | 108 | vs | 0  | Atteridgeville |
| 10 Aug | FNB UP-Tuks Women | 76  | vs | 0  | Grizzlies RC   |
| 17 Aug | SEMI FINAL        |     |    |    |                |
|        | FNB UP-Tuks Women | 17  | vs | 10 | TUT            |
| 31 Aug | FINAL             |     |    |    |                |
|        | FNB UP-Tuks Women | 14  | vs | 12 | Harlequins RC  |

### Castle Carlton League

#### FNB UP-Tuks 1 Results

|        |            |    |    |    |                |
|--------|------------|----|----|----|----------------|
| 3 Aug  | Tuks       | 54 | vs | 45 | Naka Bulle     |
| 10 Aug | Tuks       | 44 | vs | 36 | Wolves RC      |
| 17 Aug | SEMI FINAL |    |    |    |                |
|        | Tuks       | 34 | vs | 39 | Northam Rhinos |



#### Tuks Fezelas Results

|        |            |    |    |    |            |
|--------|------------|----|----|----|------------|
| 3 Aug  | Tuks       | 36 | vs | 45 | Naka Bulle |
| 10 Aug | Tuks       | 62 | vs | 15 | Wolves RC  |
| 17 Aug | SEMI FINAL |    |    |    |            |
|        | Tuks       | 30 | vs | 32 | Naka Bulle |

#### Tuks JongSpan Results

|        |            |    |    |    |               |
|--------|------------|----|----|----|---------------|
| 3 Aug  | Tuks       | 50 | vs | 12 | Naka Bulle    |
| 10 Aug | Tuks       | 19 | vs | 14 | Wolves RC     |
| 17 Aug | SEMI FINAL |    |    |    |               |
|        | Tuks       | 10 | vs | 61 | Harlequins RC |

#### Tuks u20 Results

|       |            |    |    |    |            |
|-------|------------|----|----|----|------------|
| 9 Aug | SEMI FINAL |    |    |    |            |
|       | Tuks       | 17 | vs | 22 | Naka Bulle |

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# Tuks Captain Making BIG Moves

AUTHOR: NINA EVANNA

FNB UP-Tuks captain and loosehead prop, Ethan Burger, is a name that has been often mentioned over the last few years. The BEd student started off playing for Tuks YoungGuns and made his way through the ranks to the FNB UP-Tuks 1 team.

Ethan was an integral part of the team who won this year's FNB Varsity Shield competition. Following the FNB Varsity Shield campaign, Ethan won the FNB Forward that Rocks award and naturally this drew some attention to the young star. TuksRugby is known to be a breeding

ground for excellence and many of the players who have been through the club went on to achieve great things. Players such as 2021 FNB UP-Tuks captain, Sango Xamlashe, Stefan 'Bok' Coetzee, and many others left TuksRugby after being signed by provincial unions, which goes to show the caliber of players being produced at the club. Ethan Burger's fate is no different, however, after the phenomenal season that Ethan has had, it is no surprise that a club like Exeter Chiefs, an English professional club, showed an interest.

The news came shortly after the FNB Varsity Shield final and Ethan will be joining the UK based team in September.

'I am looking forward to this new challenge,' says Burger, 'Everyone dreams of playing professional rugby at some stage and I get to live out that dream and be part of a very professional set up.' Ethan added



that he is looking forward showing his new club what he can do and also being able to start this new chapter together with his wife.

Ethan is eager for this experience to elevate him as a rugby player and a person. When asked what his advice would be to any young player joining TuksRugby, this is what he had to say; 'Focus on your studies, if you don't pass you don't play. Keep your head down

and just keep working hard. At Tuks, if you work hard and you show up, you'll get a chance, and all you need is one chance.'

TuksRugby is proud to have been a part of Ethan's journey and wish him all the best in his rugby career.



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## Sonop are 2024 Residence League Champions

Photo cred: Reg Caldecott



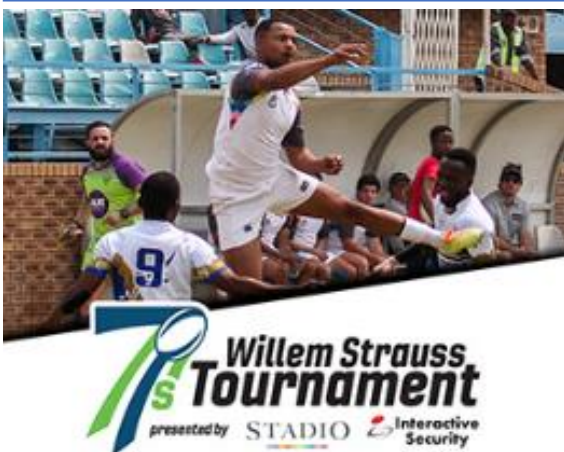
TuksRugby's annual Res rugby league never disappoints. This is a sporting event where students experience top notch excitement and student entertainment at its best.

After beating Mopane in the semi-final, Sonop were set to face Onderstepoort in the finals. Sonop had a convincing win over Mopane, 21-5, while OP secured the win over Maroela, 15-6. Sonop claimed a closely contested final 16-14, winning the 2024 Res Rugby League.

In the second division of the league, it was dejavu, as Sonop's second team beat Tuks Ekhasa, 21-20, to secure their spot in the finals and OP's second team played off against VOB with a final score of 26-20. This time around it was OP who proved to be the better team, beating Sonop with a score of 20-9.

TuksRugby wants to congratulate all the residences who participated in this season and we look forward to 2025.

### UPCOMING FIXTURES



**6-8 September**

**Hoërskool Nylstroom,  
Modimolle**

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UPCOMING FIXTURES



**USSA Rugby 7s is calling!**

**20-23 September**

**Sol Plaatjie University**



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA  
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA  
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA



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**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.

TuksRugby



TuksSport