



Explosive summer action as Varsity Sports comes to Durban

THIS December, Varsity Sports will be heading to KwaZulu-Natal for the first time with both Varsity Rugby Sevens and Varsity Beach Volleyball, as the athletes show off their silky skills in front of the east coast crowd at King's Park in Durban.

The weekend of red-hot summer sports action, which will run through December 1-3, is in conjunction with Rage, The Sharks and the City of eThekwin.

The 10 universities vying for the Varsity Sevens trophy are North-West University (NWU), Nelson Mandela University (Madibaz), University of the Western Cape (UWC), University of Johannesburg (UJ), Central University of

Technology (CUT), University of Cape Town (UCT), University of the Free State (Kovsies), University of Pretoria (UP-Tuks), University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) and Stellenbosch University (Maties).

Six teams will fight it out in the Varsity Beach Volleyball with Vaal University of Technology (VUT), UJ, UWC, Tshwane University of Technology (TUT), University of Limpopo (UL) and UP-Tuks all competing for the title.

Maties will be looking to defend their Varsity Sevens title after defeating their Western Cape rivals UWC 19-5 in the final last year. UWC, however, will have the bragging rights going in to the Varsity Beach Volleyball after a close 33-29

victory over Tuks, who will be keen to extend their glorious 2016 Varsity Sports run in Durban.

Varsity Sports marketing executive Michael Varney is ecstatic that Durban will host this uniquely summer event.

"We are thrilled to be bringing the three days of the Varsity Sevens and Varsity Beach Volleyball festivities to Durban; simply put, there is nowhere better to be during summer!"

Varney also expressed his delight that Varsity Sports were able to align themselves with such befitting partners for the tournament.

"The partnership with The Sharks and the eThekwin Municipality has bolstered the status of the event and King's

Park promises to be a hive of activity from the fast-paced thrill of the Varsity Sevens and Varsity Beach Volleyball to the incredible crowd engagement — there really is something on offer for the whole family.

"5FM will be broadcasting live each day and will build up to the activity of the Rage Festival on the adjoining field."

Sharks communications manager Novashni Chetty is thrilled that the Sharks will play host to the bi-code event and wished all the sides well for the tournament.

"The Sharks are delighted to be the host venue for the Varsity Sevens and Varsity Beach Volleyball event. This three-day event will bring together par-

ticipants from around the country who will converge at Growthpoint King's Park for a weekend of competition and camaraderie. We wish all the teams participating the very best. May the memories made during this event stay with you for years to come," said Chetty.

Both tournaments will begin on December 1, with Varsity Sevens kicking off at 9 am as trophy-holders Maties take on newcomers and local side UKZN, while in the Beach Volleyball the first serve will take place when VUT take on UJ.

Matches will be broadcast live on SuperSport.

— Supplied.

