



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

**SPORT AND RECREATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

BUDGET ADDRESS BY THE MEC FOR ARTS, CULTURE, SPORT AND RECREATION, MS HLENGIWE MAVIMBELA, MPL, ON THE TABLING OF THE SPORT AND RECREATION BUDGET IN THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

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FINAL COPY

Madam Speaker
Honourable Premier and Colleagues in the Executive
Deputy Speaker
Honourable Members
Distinguished Guests, Business Leaders,
Leadership of the Sport Federations and Recreation Entities
Representatives of different Media Houses
Ladies and Gentlemen

Honourable Chairperson,

I'm honoured to present this budget speech under totally different circumstances, what has become known as the "new normal". Our normal way of doing things has changed as our lives are disrupted by the outbreak of COVID-19. As people we have had to adapt to isolation and lockdown, and the physical and mental needs have been affected.

We note the recent pronouncement by Minister Nathi Mthethwa on the gradual opening of the sport and recreation sector, including the resumption of play for professional non-contact sport.

As we grapple with the devastating effects of COVID-19 on all aspects of our lives, I am reminded of the famous quote by former President Nelson Mandela that I used in my Budget Speech last year. Today, I want to extract one sentence from that quote and repeat it because of the impact it has on the present crisis we are enduring: "*Sports can create hope where there was only despair*".

Honourable Chairperson

The current situation has forced us to think out of the box in coming up with innovative ways of delivering our mandate, looking at sport and recreation in the new normal.

With this budget presentation coinciding with the commemoration of Youth Month, we look up to young people to lead the way in coming up with innovative solutions to our challenges. The hosting of the Comrades Marathon virtual race on 14 June is an example of how we can turn a rather gloomy situation into positive energy, utilising modern technology. The Comrades has over the years symbolised youth energy as it was held on the 16th of June from 1995 till 2006 and remains at the centre of Youth Month activities to date. The Department is supporting the virtual race, which has been dubbed - Race the Comrades Legends.

Young people are a priority for this government led by the African National Congress.

The 2020 January 8 Statement of the ANC, which guides the mandate that we are implementing, states as follows:

“We call on young people and students to lead the skills revolution, and to be the champions of innovation and entrepreneurship. Following in the footsteps of earlier generations, we call on the youth to take a leading role in building a better, peaceful country, Africa and world.”

In this regard, I am inspired by the story of Nhlanhla Lucky Phakathi who grew up in KwaMashu, and took up sailing courtesy of the funding the Department continues to make to promote the maritime industry in township and rural schools. He later became a cadet with African Marine Solutions (AMSOL) and was part of the crew of the research vessel, SA Agulhas 11. He spent his entire summer on the pack-ice in Antarctica.

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON THE SPORT AND RECREATION SECTOR

Honourable members, the sport and recreation sector has been devastated by the National lockdown, which affected the livelihood of federations, athletes, coaches, technical officials and support staff mainly due to cancellation of sport events.

Events like the Comrades Marathon, Spar Ladies Race, aQuelle Tour Durban Cycle Race, World Football Summit and the African Swimming Championships were cancelled. In addition, Government organised events such as the KZNDSR Youth Run which annually attracts over eight-thousand runners from schools across the Province, National School Sport Winter Games, National Youth Camp and National Indigenous Games Festival, amongst others also became casualties of the pandemic.

Sihlalo ohloniphekile

Ngenxa yokubhekelela umthelela walolu bhubhane kubasebenzi balo mkhakha, Umnyango uzibophezele ngokukhipha isamba sika-R7 million ukuba iyofakwa esikhwameni se-Provincial Relief Fund, ukuze kwelekelelwe abadlali, abaqeqeshi, yizimenenja, osomaqhinga nongoti bezukulolongwa kwemizimba, izinhlangano zezemidlalo, izikhungo zezokungcebeleka kanye nemboni yezokuzivocavoca

ezingeni lesifundazwe. Bonke laba bazithola bekhahlanyezwa wukumiswa nokuhoxiswa kwezemidlalo ngenxa yokubheduka kwe-COVID-19.

Le mali itholakale ngenxa yokuhoxiswa kwezinhlelo zoMnyango ngekwata yokuqala yonyaka ka 2020/21. Usuku lokuvala ukwamukela izicelo olwalubekwe ekuqaleni selwelulelwe kumhla ziyisihlanu (5) kuNhlangulana (okuyinamhlanje). Lokhu kwenziwe ukuze kunikeze abadlali, ikakhulu labo abasuka ezindaweni zasemakhaya, ithuba lokuthumela izicelo zabo, ngoba sikhulwa ukuthi abantu abaningi bebengakwazi ukuhambela amahhovisi ethu ezifunda ngenxa yemigomo yokumiswa kokusebenza kwezwe, esithe ukuxegiswa njengamanje njengoba sesisesigabeni sesithathu (3).

Kulesi sikhathi esinzima kwezomnotho, le mali izothi ukwehlisa amaphaphu okwesikhashana kulabo basebenzi bezemidlalo abathintekayo. Sisebenza kanzima nokho ukuqhamuka nesixazululo esizosiza ukugcina umsebenzi wale mboni yezemidlalo uqhubeka. Sizoghubeka nokuxhumana nezinhlangano zezemidlalo (Sport Federations) ukuze siqinisekise ukuthi kunohlelo olucubungulisiwe kahle, futhi oluhlanganisa yonke into ukuze kuncishiswe ukulahlekelwa kanye nolubavumela ukuthi bakwazi ukuba nozinzo esikhathini esizayo.

CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE

Honourable members

The Department has achieved a **99,7%** expenditure at the end of the 2019/20 financial year. The under-expenditure of R1,3 million was as a result of non-compliance by planned beneficiaries with the PFMA and Treasury regulations for *Transfer payments to non-profit institutions*

The Department received an *unqualified audit outcome with matters of emphasis* from the Auditor-General with respect to the 2018/2019 financial year. Strict internal control measures are in place to prevent unauthorised, irregular and, fruitless and wasteful expenditure. The Department is on track to sustain its 100 % achievement in respect of payments of invoices within 30 days.

We have adopted a zero tolerance to fraud and corruption and a fraud prevention strategy and plan is in place.

Funding policy & transformation: The Department has finalised the Funding Policy that was commissioned at the end of the 2019/20 financial-year. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that financial and non-financial support is managed in a transparent manner. The funding policy will give guidelines, management of transfer payments and establish fundamental principles that will be used to assess and evaluate request proposals from community organizations and entities. The policy also guides the process of bidding and hosting for major signature sport events.

Last year, we committed to reducing the high vacancy rate of 13% in the Department. We have made significant progress with the filling of vacancies with **54** vacant posts

being filled and our vacancy rate reduced to **5%** which is well within the 10% set as the provincial norm. We will continue to prioritize the creation of jobs to ease the burden of unemployment, especially amongst the youth.

KZN Athletics: Last year, we reported that KZN Athletics was placed under administration by Athletics South Africa. I am happy to report that remarkable progress has been made with the governance of the Association and they will be having elections later this year. The department has worked closely with the Administrator, Athletics South Africa (ASA) and the Task Team put in place to pave the way towards a democratically elected board. The Association has temporarily closed-down their Academy in Utrecht with athletes relocated to their homes. The Department has budgeted **R1,9 million** to assist the Association to get its developmental programmes back on track and to support all efforts to reinstate the governance of the sport.

INNOVATIONS

Online exercises

As part of our response to the current situation the Department is utilising online platforms to promote active and healthy lifestyles, utilising sport stars with messaging advocating safety and adherence to Lockdown regulations. Leadership and cabinet also participated in this programme which was published on social media, television and various online platforms.

For individuals from disadvantaged communities, access to broadband Internet is often problematic or non-existent. Radio and television programmes that activate people as well as distribution of printed material that encourages physical activity has been used in bridging the digital divide for many households from disadvantaged areas.

E-Sports

The Department is exploring opportunities within the E-Sport and gaming industry which is growing at an astronomical rate. One fifth of the population in SA participate in E-Sports. A total of 70% of gamers are below the age of 35 whilst 80% of gamers are men and only 20% women. Therefore, there are ample growth opportunities within this sector. A thorough analysis is necessary here before we decide on the extent of our support for this sector in the Province.

ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION

As the Department of Sport and Recreation, we remain committed to our vision to enable an active and winning Province and to utilize sport as a powerful tool to achieve socio-economic transformation of our society. Our programmes are guided by the priorities set by the 6th Administration of Government, which include, among others, economic development and job creation. We are exploring ways and means of ensuring that our people benefit from the entire value chain of sport, beyond the field

of play. This includes educating athletes to exploit all opportunities available to ensure their sustainability even after their playing careers are over. In addition, the department has identified sport apparel (soccer/netball kits and bibs and T-shirts) as a vehicle to empower local co-operatives.

There is a drive towards ensuring that KZN plays host to major national and international events such as football and rugby derbies, as a contribution towards the development of sports tourism particularly in rural areas and townships. The Department will open channels of communication with all key role-players including the Premier Soccer League, South African Football Association, SA Rugby, Cricket South Africa and Municipalities with the view to hosting major sporting spectacles in KwaZulu-Natal when regulations permit. This will be linked to development programmes including coaching clinics.

Equine Industry: Traditional horse racing (standard bred) commonly known as *umtelebhelo* is on the rise in terms of popularity in KwaZulu-Natal. Horses are owned by ordinary families and there are 11 fully operational associations with approximately 400 horse owners as members. This new equine industry therefore presents many opportunities to uplift the economy in rural areas such as skills development for grooms and jockeys, race stewards as well as farrier training and breeding programmes to improve the bloodline profile of indigenous racing horses. The production of racing equipment for horses and jockeys through the artisanry programme based in all districts is also targeted. The artisans are able to produce leather products, harness and horse shoeing.

The hosting of rural horse racing events with its associated hospitality and arts industry are the main contributors to the local economy. Whilst consultations regarding the hosting of the Dundee July for this financial year are still to be concluded, the event contributes approximately R20 million to the local economy and creates over 500 job opportunities.

Ward-based Intervention Programme:

The Department has introduced the Ward-Based Intervention Programme which will be rolled out in 225 prioritised wards, as part of the District Development Model. The programme is designed to reach broad sectors of the population, and affording them access to participation and a share in the wider sport community and programmes aimed at improving their health status.

At the centre of this system is a Club Development System that will allow the Department to take in a “*basket of key services*” to the Wards. A total of 153 Activity HUBS will be strengthened through the Community Recreation Mass Participation Programme.

Programmes promoting physical activity and health will be implemented after-school, targeting learners in over 2 000 schools. The Department will develop and implement

a youth club system in the Wards as a means to reinforce a positive attitude in our youth, thereby bringing about positive behavioural change.

The basket of services will see the implementation of programmes aimed at making clubs self-sustainable with skills development, employment of healthy lifestyle coordinators delivering programmes targeting crime, substance abuse and obesity. Clubs will receive the necessary training to support business growth and entrepreneurship. The Department will provide sport equipment and attire to over 1 100 clubs to encourage the youth to participate in on-going programmes.

The Club Development carries a budget of **R17,6 million** and is funded by the Mass Participation and Sport Development Conditional Grant.

EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH

Capacity building: In partnership with the KZN Sport Confederation, Sport Federations, Entities and other key stakeholders we will ensure the provision of capacity development and technical cooperation services to support the development and implementation of national policies and approaches for the best use of sport to advance health and well-being. We are embarking on a programme to implement training on E-Learning to ensure sustainability of skills development programmes.

In this regard, training targets have been reprioritised to the 3rd and 4th quarter to ensure that all beneficiaries can access training and development modules. The Department is investigating the use of techno-hubs, Thusong Centres, sport federation and confederation offices and District Services Centres to serve as access points for online training.

Sport Legends: Recently, the Department launched the KZN Sports Legends Programme in partnership with the KwaZulu-Natal Sports Confederation. The Province of KwaZulu-Natal has a rich history of producing sports stars in different sport codes who have put the Province on the map. However, it is saddening to see that some of our sporting greats cannot make ends meet at the end of their careers.

The KZN Sports Legends Programme will ensure that the legends are given the necessary skills through relevant capacity building courses and workshops to enable them to use sport to enhance social cohesion and address behavioral and lifestyle challenges to youth. Legends will also be linked to the delivery of key programmes within wards – including school sport and club development as talent scouts, coaches and mentors.

We will work closely with the KZN Sport Confederation in ensuring that the Trust Fund for legends is formed and implemented within the parameters of sound governance, legal, ethical and administrative requirements. The Trust Fund will assist legends with

empowerment programmes and skills to sustain themselves after their playing careers.

I would like to take this opportunity to express our condolences to the family of the late South African football legend Cedric 'Sugar Ray' Xulu who passed-on recently at the age of 81. Sugar-Ray is an icon of South African football and is considered as one of the greatest players to grace the soccer fraternity.

We also extend our condolences to friends and family of another football veteran Jerry Mohlakoane, and Lamontville Golden Arrows former captain, Nkanyiso Mngwengwe who recently passed away at the age of 30. May their souls rest in peace.

Healthy lifestyles: Harnessing the power of physical activity may be one of our most valuable tools to maintain quality of life and improve mental health.

In the immediate future our programmes to promote physical activity and health, will focus on the following:

- Promoting physical activity through online platforms.
- Radio and television programmes that activate people as well as distribution of printed material.
- Procuring sport packs for distribution to old-age homes, homeless shelters and Centres and Organisations for disabled people.

In the long-term we will reintroduce our mass participation programmes to ensure we uplift the mood of the people and enhance the development of physical fitness in all stages of life.

TRANSFORMATION:

Rugby Development: Following the success of the Springboks in the Rugby World Cup last year, there is a need to ensure that we seize this opportunity to promote rugby at all corners of the Province. In our efforts to further transform the sport, the Department has partnered with the KZN Rugby Union in implementing the Hotspots Rugby Development Programme in all Districts.

The programme, including support for the Rugby Academy carries a budget of **R2,580 million**, which targets youth groups at over 320 schools. The programme employs development coaches and includes “Tag” rugby, extensive coaching and talent development. The programme ends with a Provincial Talent Identification competition involving all Districts with a talented players winning bursaries to rugby playing schools in the Province.

Cricket Hubs and Regional Performance Centres (RPC) Development Programme: This programme is run in partnership with KZN Cricket Union and Cricket South Africa (CSA). The Department will invest **R2, 270 million** towards cricket development in the Province. The programme, has been implemented in 55 Townships and 17 Rural Hubs to develop cricket at grassroots level. The programme culminates into a Provincial Rural and Township Cricket Championships with the best players gaining entry into the academy system. Current Proteas all-rounder, Andile Phehlukwayo is a product of this system.

In addition, the **Rural Sport Development Programme** with a budget of **R4,4 million**, will target 100 clubs within selected traditional councils as identified by the House of Traditional Leaders, with the aim of uplifting sport in rural areas, as well as farming communities.

Karate Development: The Department has begun to support the development of karate within the Province and has assisted with provision of specialized equipment and logistical support to clubs to participate in major tournaments. Karate South Africa is the official governing body for the sport in the country. A number of kyokushin disciplines have remained outside this structure. We will continue with our efforts to unify this sport and have begun the process of consultations in partnership with the KZN Sports Confederation. Karate promotes self-discipline and the Department will prioritise efforts to teach women and girls self-defense classes through our Anti-Gender Based Violence and Sport-against-Crime programmes. We will also support the hosting of major karate tournaments in the Province.

Football development: Support for professional football is through the hosting of the **KZN Premier's Cup** with the Department investing **R5 million** into the tournament. Each of the seven teams (3 PSL and 4 NFD) participating in the tournament receive a preparation fee for the Tournament. The Premier's Cup comes with a developmental model where each club is committed to hosting coaching clinics to identified schools.

The hosting of the Premier's Cup in this financial year is dependent on the impending announcement by the PSL on completing its season which has been disrupted by the Covid 19. All participating clubs have committed to participating. It is encouraging that the regulations have been relaxed to allow professional contact sport, including football, to resume training. We will work closely with our teams to ensure that there is strict adherence to the regulations.

Promoting Women's Sport.

Our focus on women in sport continues to be a priority for the Department. The Department has a responsibility to create an enabling environment for women's participation in sport at all levels.

Our effort to promote women's sport is structured around three main types of interventions:

- *Enforce the right of girls and women to participate in physical activity and sport at all levels*
- *Protect participating girls and women from harassment, misconduct and abuse*
- *Use sport to promote gender equality and empower girls and women*

Government's funding to the South African Football Association (SAFA) will be biased and concentrated to the areas of Women's football and development of women football in schools. While the roll-out of the National Women's Football League commenced this year, a clear sustainability plan is required. Presently Durban Ladies are provided with technical support and also benefit from the Elite Athlete Development Programme (EADP) at the Prime High-Performance Institute. Sunflower Ladies are also supported through the EADP and received support to participate in the National Play-offs. This support will be extended to all teams playing in SAFA's Provincial Women's League in all Local Football Associations (LFAs).

On netball, let me congratulate Gugu Ngema for being elected as President of Netball KZN and I expect that under her stewardship we will unify the Netball Associations under a common cause. Through the Club Development Programme, we will continue to invest in the development of netball throughout the Province with the provision of equipment, training and support for developmental netball leagues in all local municipalities.

We have invested substantially in the promotion of the KZN Netball Super League which is the only semi-professional league of its kind in the country. We have continued to support the KZN Kingdom Stars in the Brutal Fruit National Premier League through our Elite Athlete Development Programme. Our National Proteas captain and three-times KZN Sportswomen of the Year, Bongliwe Msomi, continues to lead the way for our homegrown talent in the National team. We will increase our investment in this code as we prepare to host the 2023 Netball World Cup in South Africa. At present, our allocation for netball is **R7 million** annually.

Disability Sport: As part of service delivery, the Department has planned and projected a budget to roll out disability sport programmes. The Department hosts an Annual Provincial Disability Games which culminates from district elimination competitions. Talented athletes who are disabled are also given an opportunity to participate in the EADP where they receive scientific and medical support to participate at the highest levels. A **R10 million** budget has been set aside for disability sport in the Province.

Revival of Boxing: There is an urgent need to address the challenges facing boxing in the country. Part of our efforts to revive boxing and supporting athletes, the

Department hosted a tournament to honor boxing Legend Tap Tap Makhatini in Eshowe. This was the first venture for the recently launched Tap Tap Boxing Academy.

Key strategic priorities of the Department in promoting boxing in the Province, including elevating female boxing to new levels are as follows:

- A Provincial Indaba has been hosted with professional stakeholders involved in boxing and a Strategic Plan was developed for boxing.
- A Provincial Professional Boxing Association is in place to ensure that a unified programme of action is implemented.
- A Promoters Association has been formed to assist with ensuring the promoters are able to deliver tournaments .
- The Department works closely with KZN Olympic Style Boxing Association (amateur boxing), KZN Professional Boxing Association and KZN Promoters Association to promote development, marketing and transformation of boxing in the Province.
- Female boxing is prioritised from amateur through to professional. The Department has a number of the top ranking female boxers in the country on the Elite Athlete Development Programme. Amongst them are National Age-Category Champions Phiwokuhle Mnguni and Nomusa Ngema

School Sport: School Sport remains a major factor that impact on the rate and extent of transformation, it is the bedrock of our entire development continuum and a necessary foundation to aid us to achieve our goals. School Sport will be funded through the Mass Participation and Sport Development Conditional Grant **of R35,2 million**. The funding will be allocated for school sport initiatives including leagues and support in the form of playing equipment and attire as well as competitions.

Sport scholarships will be awarded to qualifying high performing athletes to ensure we develop more podium finishes at international competitions thus instilling national pride and uplifting the mood of citizens. The Department has budgeted for 25 sport scholarships to be awarded in the 2020/21 financial year. The scholarships are awarded to athletes to assist with tuition fees at school or tertiary institutions and for sport related expenses such as equipment, transport and special nutritional requirements.

In order to embed this foundation, the Department of Sport & Recreation together with the Department of Education are currently finalising the review of the existing Memorandum of Agreement signed between both departments in 2017.

The Department of Sport & Recreation will facilitate the establishment of school sport structures whilst the DoE will initiate the process. The KZN Sport Confederation will lead the process of formalising the school sport structures.

We are pleased to note the commitment by DoE to ensure that all new schools built will have basic infrastructure to encourage learners to engage in sporting activities.

Age-Cheating in School Sport: The Department has supported the KZN Rugby Union as it intensifies its investigations into schoolboy identity fraud within the school's rugby system. Recently a prominent primary school enrolled two pupils into the school in Grade 6 who provided the school with false documentation. The documentation withstood all scrutiny as it was genuine. The two players concerned used documentation that belonged to two younger boys. The problem of fake IDs and birth certificates, lying about ages and borrowing players from neighbouring schools – are just some of the underhand, win-at-all-costs tactics that are rife in school sport. We will work with stakeholders, including the Department of Education, to root out this practice.

Provision of sport infrastructure

Progress is being made with construction of sport facilities to correct the imbalances of the past, but progress is notably slow due to limited allocation of budgets for this purpose. Finding the right modality to managing the sport infrastructure when it is constructed, is still a challenge with respect to maintenance and delivery.

Our infrastructure budget of **R59,1 million** will be allocated for the provision of new Sport and Recreation facilities and the repairs to existing ones. This is part of the Department's contribution and intervention towards addressing backlogs in sport and recreation infrastructure in the Province, especially in rural and disadvantaged communities. The Department has reviewed its Infrastructure Development Plan with more focus now placed on the construction of basic sports-fields with all amenities.

The Department plans to support municipalities in the construction of eight Sport and Recreation facilities. In addition, we will deliver 22 mobile containers with gym equipment to prioritized wards to promote healthy lifestyles. The containers are a fitness solution with an outdoor layout.

The Department will commence with the construction of four basic sport and recreation facilities in various municipalities.

Hub Fitness Centres will be constructed this financial year. These Hub Fitness Centres will include a jogging track, two 7-a-side soccer fields with artificial turf, combo court, container as an office/storeroom, outdoor gym and aerobic area.

ACADEMIES: The Department has budgeted **R7,9 million** to support eight Sport Academies and 13 Sport Focus Schools across the Province. Academies will be funded through the Mass Participation and Sport Development Grant and will provide specialist training and sport scientific support to talented athletes.

The district academies of sport are an integral part of sport development, as their scope is directly linked with community sport and the school sport programme. They play a key role in talent identification, selection and development. They facilitate access to communities' sport facilities and to specific scientific and medical support.

The Elite Athlete Development Programme will continue to promote transformation in sport through the implementation of talent optimization, high performance programmes, as well as the provision of scientific and medical support. The Department will offer the programme to 110 athletes representing 18 codes of sport such as athletics, aquatics, football, netball, cycling, boxing, canoeing and triathlon and will provide high performance screening, testing and training, dietary and medical care.

CONCLUSION

Transformation will always be at the centre of Government policy as we enter the second phase of our democratic transition.

Government recognizes that whilst a lot has been achieved since 1994, more work still needs to be done to address the imbalances of the past. In this regard, sport federations will be critical partners in fast-tracking transformation in sport.

Guided by the Transformation Charter, sport federations must focus on changing demographic profiles on and off the field of play, ensuring equitable access, resource availability and skills development.

Sport is also critical as a driver of peace and unity in the Province hence the introduction of the ward-based intervention programme which will ensure continuous engagement in sport and recreation activities at a ward level. These include but are not limited to the promotion and development of Saturday and Sunday leagues – towards drug free, crime-free and healthy communities.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Honourable Chairperson, the budget for the 2020/21 for the Department of Sport and Recreation is **R481 217 000**, of which **R88 023 000** is a conditional grant for the Mass Participation and Sport Development Programme.

FUNDING – 2020/21 MTEF (R'000)	
Programme 1	113 268
Programme 2	367 949
TOTAL: DEPARTMENT OF SPORT AND RECREATION	481 217