ISSUE 06 / 30 JUNE 2026

THE PRESS

https://za.7eliteacademy.com/ 050 030 2942 capetown@7eliteacademy.com

Player Spotlight

We have a very special player in our spotlight this month - Tatenda Mushonga. Tats has been with us for 2 years now, and is not only an exceptional goalkeeper but a great human being. We are trying to help him to get qualified as a Goalkeeper Coach, a role he has been filling for the past 6 months, and are seeking sponsors to help to cover the cost of his UEFA-C licence. So far, we have R19 500 of the R42 000 in!

Please contact Mike (mike.darby@7eliteacademy.com) if you can help Tatenda to fulfil his dream and embark on a career in football!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Garden Route Tour
10-19 July 2026

We're all getting really excited about our upcoming U21 Garden Route tour! We'll be travelling to **Hermanus**, **George**, and **Plettenberg Bay** from 10–19 July during the final week of the school holidays.

It's been an amazing end to the month for us, with great player opportunities opening up: Fisher Othiambo has been invited to trial at Tuks, an excellent professional team in the National First Division; Jesse van As and Deven Garde are heading to the UK in August for two weeks at Fleetwood Town FC and Marine FC (7 Elite UK); and Tatenda Mushonga is getting a great opportunity in coaching. Few things make us happier than seeing our players getting opportunities and seeing pathways open up to them!

ON THE FIELD

Our recent form continued with another excellent month on the field. We have now won 10 of our last 11 league matches, climbing into the top four and building strong momentum as the season progresses. The players have continued to show tremendous commitment and consistency, with their hard work on the training ground translating into positive performances and results each week. "Consistency > Intensity"

Sandwiched between our league fixtures was the Kenpark U23 Tournament, where a squad made up predominantly of our U18 and U19 players competed exceptionally well against older opposition. After a series of impressive performances, the team was unfortunately eliminated in the Round of 16 following a penalty shootout. Despite the disappointment, the tournament provided invaluable experience for our young players and highlighted the exciting talent coming through the academy.

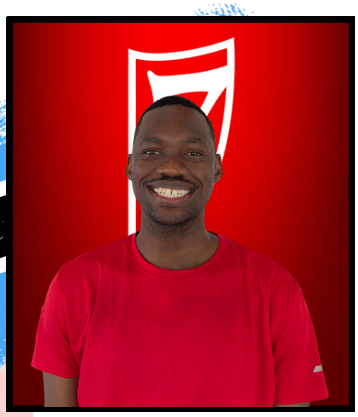
A special congratulations goes to **Jesse van As**, who, at just 16 years old, was selected for the Team of the Tournament. Jesse will now have the opportunity to represent the tournament select side against Stellenbosch University, a fantastic achievement and well-deserved recognition of his outstanding performances.

Looking ahead, we're excited for an action-packed July. We'll be competing in the next round of the Coke Cup while also embarking on our Garden Route Tour, where we'll play seven matches across Plettenberg Bay, George, and Hermanus. The tour will provide another valuable opportunity for our players to test themselves against quality opposition, continue their development, and build on the momentum we've created in recent weeks.

WELCOME

We were delighted to welcome two new players to the programme this month. Clinton from Botswana has returned after spending a month with us last year and is now back for an even longer stay as he begins his Gap Year programme. Joining him is Ichawila from Zambia, who has also started his Gap Year journey with us. Welcome, gents—we're excited to have you both as part of the 7 Elite family!

Ichawila Sichilongo
19 years old



Clinton Patrick
21 years old

GALLERY