

Ziyawa 2025 Netball Tournament: Triumphs on and off the field!

September-October 2025



The Gijima Action Sport Arena teemed with energy on the 13th of September 2025, hosting the Ziyawa 2025 Netball Tournament. The event brought together five Senior teams and four Under-14 teams, who fiercely battled for the Championship titles.



The day kicked off with a match between Gijima Training Academy and Head Office, while the Under-14 players were ushered to the Gijima Cellars to enjoy a **Gijima Sport-themed** animation short film titled *Strike!*—with the added treat of popcorn. The themes reflected in the film promote **Reading** and **Fair play**, while discouraging **Gender Based Violence (GBV)**, **Substance Abuse**, and **Littering**.



Under-14 Champions: Dream Girls

These themes were also woven into the netball game live streams, featured on the Gijima Sport YouTube channel. The film sparks meaningful conversation about societal issues and encourages the youth to contribute positively to their communities.

After the film screening, it was time for the young players to shine on the court, as the games alternated between Senior and Under-14 teams.



Animation Film Screening

The tournament culminated in the Individual Under-14 Awards, celebrating outstanding players and crowning the Under-14 Champions: Dream Girls. But the action was not over yet.

Just before sunset, the courts ignited with an intense, nail-biting final between Welkom Real Stars FC and Gijima Training Academy, with the audience keeping the spirit of the game alive through *isgwijo* as they eagerly anticipated the outcome.



When the final whistle blew, the Gijima Action Sport Arena erupted in heartfelt cheers as Gijima Training Academy emerged victorious, claiming the Ziyawa 2025 Netball Seniors Championship title!



GIJIMA TRAINING ACADEMY

The sun set with the presentation of the Individual Senior Awards and the crowning of the Champions.

An antithesis to the Ziyawa Soccer Tournament, where Gijima finished as runners-up to Welkom Real Stars, this time they stood tall as Champions against Welkom. But Gijima's triumph did not end with their victory on the court.

One of the team's standout players, Team Captain, Amukelani Nkuna, was recognised for her exceptional performance, dominating the Individual Senior Awards List. Amukelani walked away with two awards—Best Player of the Tournament and Best Goalkeeper—a mark of her skill, dedication, and leadership. Earlier this year, her talent had already been acknowledged when she was selected for the Senior SPAR Squad of the Bojanala District Team.

Launched in January 2025, this unique initiative has opened doors for young participants by combining sport opportunities, such as netball, with professional training, giving the learners a hands-on experience in the security industry.

Amukelani's spirit and commitment on the court have been mirrored in her professional journey. Shortly after Ziyawa, she was called in for a job interview and was successfully placed within one of the Bidvest Protea Coin branches.

Through initiatives like the Security/Sport Internship, Bidvest Protea Coin continues to shape the futures of young people, creating stars both on and off the field.



Amukelani Nkuna



Amukelani was also an intern at the Gijima Training Academy, part of the Security/Sport Internship Programme initiated by Bidvest Protea Coin as its commitment to youth empowerment and skills development.



Bidvest Protea Coin Security/Sport Interns