



**LIMPOPO**  
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS & CULTURE

Media release

Monday, August 03, 2015

For immediate Editors and Journalists

### LIMPOPO HONOURS TSIKO "THE CRUEL JUNIOR" MULOVHEDZI

The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture in partnership with Vhembe District Municipality, Thulamela municipality and Mathole Motshekga Foundation will host a congratulatory welcoming dinner to celebrate the victory of Tsiko "The Cruel Junior" Mulovhedzi who has won the IBO welterweight title, recently. Tsiko demolished the defending champion Ali 'rush Hour' Funeka in five rounds to win the IBO welterweight belt at East London's ICC Centre.

Tsiko was born and bred in Thohoyandou area at a village called Mbaleni outside Sibasa town. He is a son of a well-known traditional boxing legend called James "The Cruel" Ratshilumela. This is the same father who has instilled the love for boxing to him and as it was genetic, it was inherent for him to be a champ. From a tender age of 11, Tsiko started boxing at Musangwe seasonal games at a well-known venue like Tshifudi and Tshitavha village. After conquering the amateur boxing level, he then enrolled at Makwarela Boxing Club under the mentorship of Mr Ramasuvha whom credits much of his success to his stable foundation that was laid by him. He then fought at most local boxing competition until he became a professional boxer in 2005 through Mclouds Boxing Gym in Johannesburg. Starting from Junior Welterweight division of which he won 7 of the 10 fights, winning three with TKO, in 2008 he upgraded to Welterweight division. In 2011, he joined Nxums Boxing Gym stable and that's where he fought an international fight against Jeremy Joshua of Namibia. He had since fought 24 bouts, of which 3 was a draw and he lost 6 and won 15 bouts. Tsiko joined Mabunda Boxing Gym in 2014 under Charles Mabunda and John Chabalala where he was signed by Ayanda Matiti as his promoter in April 2015. After holding the South African Welterweight title he then sets his eyes on the IBO welterweight title held by Ali Funeka.

The congratulatory gala dinner to honour and celebrate Mulovhedzi's victory will be held as follows:

**Date : 07 August 2015**

**Venue : 2 Ten Hotel in Thohoyandou  
Thulamela Municipality  
Vhembe District**

**Time : 18:30 for 19:00**

For more information and interviews arrangements, please contact  
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