

## PROVINCIAL RURAL SPORT DEVELOPMENT GAMES 'IN SEARCH OF STAR TALENT'

**By Jermina Kaka**

**Mankweng:** Limpopo Department of Sport, Arts and Culture held the provincial Rural Sport Development Games '*In search of star talent*' at the University of Limpopo, Turfloop, Capricorn District. The games were a culmination of leagues developed at traditional councils through Rural Sport Development Pilot Project incepted by the Department of Sport and Recreation South Africa (SRSA). Through these leagues different sport codes were played throughout the year including athletics, netball, football and Rugby for boys and girls, respectively.

The Ga-Seopela Traditional Council Team representing Sekhukhune District and Moletši Traditional Councils Team representing Capricorn District competed for a position one with the aim of representing the province during the national games to be held next month.

In her address during the official opening, the MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture, Onnica Moloi highlighted the importance of talent search at early age. "This is an opportunity of lifetime that you need to utilise to the best of your ability. Do your best and know that by being at this position you are the best in your respective sporting code. You need to have confidence in your strength and potential" said MEC Moloi as she was giving a word of encouragement to the youngsters.

MEC Moloi appreciated the presence of the Traditional Leadership Council Representative from Moletši and Ga-Seopela. "As athletes you must be grateful that your traditional councils, our department and Limpopo citizenry is rallying behind you. Be ensured that you have our support; you just have to do your best" said MEC.

"Limpopo is full of talent, we need to produce many of Caster Mokgadi Semanya's calibre, and we need more of the likes of Hlompho Kekana. We are appealing for your commitment as all that is possible and doable" said MEC Moloi as she was concluding her address.

The Rural Sport Development Games is focusing on the most disadvantaged communities, particularly in the rural areas and areas under traditional leadership. The programme is aimed at creating an integrated and sustainable mechanism of the development of rural sport