

VYG

Vision targets Primus League promotion

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- Quick fixation not the solution for Rwanda's soccer
- Vision table tennis academy dominates national club open touney

In the CLUBHOUSE
Vision FC is Rwanda's
U-17 CHAMPION
2011/12

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Message from the founder and president of Vision Youth Group



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Steve Mutaboba

Partner Football Academies in Rwanda

Inyange Industries, Kigali Rwanda

Parents and care takers of the members of VYG.

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John Bosco BIRUNGI, President and Founder

Afrique RAMBA, Secretary General

Faustin MBUNDU, Chairman VYG

Dr. Lonzen Rugira PHD, Career Mentor VYG

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This is the fifth edition of the VYG Magazine and in itself is an achievement so my message to thank the people that have enabled Vision Youth Group to get to where it is today. Any NGO without stable funding struggles to stay afloat and ours is not any different so I call upon whoever reads this article and believes in our cause to come and join us.

There are still very many talent kids out there and many of whom are so under privileged that they could end up on the streets! The worst part of this is that these could be the future stars of the nation, and we all know the stories of the many famous African sports people that have come from near survival beginnings to being global stars!

When we started VYG, the aim was to build an organization that would identify and train young less advantaged but talented boys and girls in various sports like football, table tennis, tennis, basketball, swimming and in music and other activities. We envisioned that they would later make a living from these activities or at least this would be a platform for them to be better prepared to face life's enormous challenges.

Our dream is far from being achieved, having started four and half years ago and now having some national players in our teams is something to be proud of but we cannot lose focus of the initial objectives. The biggest challenge we face is not having our own premises and of the above activities we have only achieved setting up a football academy and a table tennis academy.

Two and half years ago we started a girls team and we had to drop it because of funding challenges yet in a few months it has also become one of the best teams. The sports

center project will go a long way in enabling us to achieve our goals and much more for the nation. We would like Rwanda someday in the near future to be a source of players for the top clubs in the World and to also feature in continental and global tournaments like African Nations Cup and the World Cup. We are grateful to Kigali City which has given the go ahead for us to give them a proposal to develop "tapis rouge" into a modern sports center and future home of VYG. We are on a fund raising drive to seek funds to develop this project and all are welcome to support us!

Many of us are passionate about sports and we even fail to sleep when our so called 'clubs' that we support in foreign leagues loose games; "why don't all of us do something about our local sports in Rwanda?" The days of blaming the government and the federations are long gone and we need to wake up! What we need from them is just fair rules of the game and organizational support but I do believe that passionate individuals and corporate sponsors can drive the much needed change.

We at Vision, are for example creating a fan club and would like to grow it such that we can begin creating value for corporate sponsors! A major source of discouragement is when bigger clubs like APR and Kiyovu come and confuse our players and take them and waste them in the name of giving them money and a better life! Even today we have unresolved issues with these clubs; Esperance is even illegally using one of our players to play in the second division league.

This is where FERWAFWA needs to be stricter because at a tender age kids can be confused and in the process we will destroy what we all intended to create. So I appeal to the authorities to discourage these actions and put in place and enforce more stringent transfer rules.

We thank our supporters and friends, our coach staff and more importantly our boys of Vision football club and our boys and girls of Vision table tennis club for being part of us and just to let them know that we are proud of them each day that comes!

We are even more proud of them when they keep winning because we don't like the second position in anything we do but when we do loose, we accept it and learn from it. One of our greatest joys is seeing the players we started with now becoming shinning stars like Juma, America, Kagina, Eric, Vivence, Kabange and others....

**On behalf of VYG
founding members...
John B. Birungi**





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FUTURE STARS: Vision Fc U-12s in drills with FA's Alby. Two players from the club represented Rwanda in the Copa Coca-Cola International Camp.

Vision FC pair represent Rwanda at Copa Coca-Cola International Camp/Tournament

TWO U-17 players Juma America Kalisa and Juma Nizeyimana, who feature for Vision Football Club, represented Rwanda at the 2012 Copa Coca-Cola International Camp/Tournament.

The event took place in Pretoria, South Africa, for 12 days from August 28th–September 8th.

Kalisa and Nizeyimana were drawn from the players of the 2012 Copa Coca-Cola Football Tournament which was won by APE Rugunga early this year.

Kalisa who studies at Lycee Nyamirambo emerged the top scorer with 7 goals while Nizeyimana from Akumunigo Portugal secondary school was voted the best player with three goals under his belt.

The club's general manager Jean Paul Mudaheranwa said, "Having two of best players picked is a sign of recognition from the club management. This shows that our players are gaining a lot in as far as acquiring football knowledge is concerned,"

"This is going to motivate other players to work hard such that they can be able to get a once in a life-time opportunity to represent the country in big

tournaments," added Mudaheranwa.

The young players had a dream opportunity of being mentored by five Chelsea FC coaches who have trained international professional players like John Obi Mikel from Nigeria, Didier Drogba from Cote d'Ivoire and Michael Essien from Ghana.

They were tutored in mechanics that would see the budding teenagers improve their ball control, shooting, dribbling, and ball passing amongst other skills.

They competed with other teenage players from Nigeria, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Lesotho, Rwanda, Burundi, Congo, DRC and Mauritius.

Zambian schools won the Copa Coca-Cola championship after accruing 16 points from eight games. Zambia won four and drew four matches from the eight games they played to top the group with 16 points.

Among the teams Zambia beat were Nigeria and Mozambique, who both suffered 1-0 defeats, while Malawi forced a barren draw in the last game.

In second position was Tanzania with 14 points while Malawi was third with 12 points.



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Vision FC lifts Idd Cup



Vision Fc supporter Steve Mutaboba flanked by Vision president and players during the celebration party.

VISION FC added silverware in their cabinet after defying odds to lift the 2012 Idd cup in August 2012 at Stade regional de Kigali.

Vision FC who evicted SC Kiyovu after a hard fought 2-0 victory marched into the semi finals to thoroughly outclass Police FC 3-2.

They clashed with Dream Team to whom they had conceded 0-2 in the group stage. It was a revenge mission for Coach Bonny and his young troops.

Their game approach was all that was needed to help them evict their challenging rivals Dream Team. Vision FC hammered Dream Team 4-1 to clinically end their campaign on a successful note in the finals and thus lift the Idd Cup which had attracted U-17 clubs in the country.



Vision Fc players during their tour of Burundi.



Vision FC players celebrating their lone goal against favourites APR FC.

Vision FC is Rwanda's U-17 Champion 2011/12

Vision FC emerged maiden champions of the national U-17 tournament after defeating the elite academies in the country.

The club comprised of brilliant and skilled players and won the title after beating APR FC which was dubbed to be one of the strongest academies in the country.

The victory means that Vision FC has not only elevated its football standards but has even groomed real talents ready to take Rwandan football to the next level.

Having been drawn against tough clubs, Vision exercised hard work combined with

determination, excellence and discipline to achieve its ambition of claiming the title.

They were grouped alongside Police, Esperance, Ntemba, Gitikinyoni, Imena and Rayon Sport in Pool A.

Vision topped the group with 29 points, one point ahead of Police FC.

After a rigorous group stage action, eight teams reached the quarter finals. They include; Vision FC, George Weah, Ruhengeri, Rwamagana, Huye, Police, APR and Byumba. In the quarters, Vision eliminated Huye following a 3-1 victory to reach the last four. Police beat Musanze 2-1 with APR defeating

Rwamagana 2-0 in the other quarter final fixtures.

In the semi final, Vision FC was paired alongside Police. A lone goal from Vision was enough to see them through to the final where they would battle APR who had dispatched Musanze 2-0.

The excellent start had to be maintained and so it happened. Vision FC dominated APR and snatched a 1-0 victory in the last minutes of thrilling encounter to be declared champions of Rwanda. Juma Nizeyimana was on target for Vision from a free kick 25 yards.

Vision Youth Group on a mission to attain sustainability

Given the impact they have brought to Rwanda's football, Vision Youth group through Vision Football Club is a developing club which is facing many challenges financially just like any other football clubs in the country.

The organization which celebrated its four years' anniversary in September, 2012 boasts of many achievements with their football academy which has different age category players; U-21, U-17, and the U-15 and the table tennis academy which has U-15's and U-10's.

Given the sponsorship they get from committed individuals, Vision FC and Vision TTC has sacrificed its best to not only identify and develop talents but go as far as nurturing players for the national team. A real example is goal keeper Olivier Kwizera who was loaned to Isonga FC and has three caps on Amavubi national team.

A club which holds training sessions three times a week at Mumena stadium and Nyamirambo Tapis Rouge is on a mission to engage in activities that reward them financially so as to sustain the growing number of players as well as cater for other expenses.

According to VYG General Manager Jean Paul Mudaheranwa, the club has purchased a coaster bus to operate on different routes in the city so as to provide revenues which will be channeled in developing the club.

Other activities that are being planned include; setting up a restaurant in Nyamirambo and reviving their sports trading business Vision Sports Ltd. You may ask why Nyamirambo? In Nyamirambo, Vision FC is popular because of its young football stars that are making headlines day in, day out. And there is nowhere else they would set up a restaurant than the place that all of them call home. This will cater for their own internal feeding needs as well as the needs of the surrounding commercial population of traders which would make this business profitable.

The profits which will be realized in these activities will go into taking charge of the football and table tennis clubs' expenses as well as setting up a hostel and a gym.

However, plans are also underway to search for a corporate sponsor. Preliminary discussions have started with local and regional commercial banks to support the cause.

The club is also appreciative to vision partners who have raised \$50,000 to purchase a bus to help the organization sustain itself.



IN SAFE HANDS: Vision Sports Chairman Faustin Mbundu, PS in the ministry of Sports, Edward Kalisa, Vision President, John Bosco Birungi with Vision treasurer Raymond Karangwa during Vision FC's U-17 match against APR.

Quick fixation not the solution for Rwanda's soccer

Rwanda's football custodians FERWAFWA under the pressure of demanding fans always try to achieve excellent performances yet in real sense they have invested in eggs that can easily break without serving the nation for long.

The biggest problem for Rwanda's soccer has been quick fixation. Truth be told, you can't build a strong house on a weak foundation. Let's not be fooled into thinking we can achieve success without a strong base upon which this success must be founded. Even if we hire a genius like Sir Alex Ferguson to handle our beloved Amavubi Stars under similar situations, nothing will be achieved.

On many occasions in the previous AFCON qualifiers, we have always missed on qualifications without a reason. Many will see it as being unlucky, others will point to poor preparations, others will say Juju but this is all not true! Our problem has always been quick fixation.

Football fans around the country are now happy and applauding FERWAFWA for the changes undertaken to promote local football talent, some top clubs like APR have adopted a policy to recruit only local players. This is a great move but it will take a while for the boys to get experience and their impact to be significant in the regional and continental tournaments.

High expectations for every campaign

At the beginning of every campaign, Rwandans are full of expectations with many composing songs like "This is our time" an indication that the jinx is going to be broken this time.

After drawing Nigeria 0-0 in Kigali in Feb-

ruary, everyone was hoping that Rwanda would pull a positive result in Nigeria in the second leg. We have always come close but the true is that our national team is not yet ready to battle with Africa's best forever.

It has been said over and over again that invest in youth structures and the end product will be there for all to see and fully appreciate. The way to go is to develop youth football academies!

It is a fact that Rwanda is a den for great talents and the likes of Jimmy Gatete, Haruna Niyonzima, Olivier Karekezi, Desire Mbonabucya, Jimmy Mulisa, Sibomana Abdoul, are just but a sample. However, their success and achievements are as a result of self determination and individual efforts.

Haruna and Karekezi have had to endure harsh and testing times in their careers to reach where they are now. The Yanga Fc midfielder had to spend a couple of years in Rwanda while Karekezi had stints in Rwanda as well as before moving to Sweden and Norway and back to Rwanda.

Elias Uzamukunda and Salomon Nirisariki are playing in lower leagues in Europe something that is laying concrete foundations for their careers in future.

Millions of such talents remain in Rwanda where there are no youth structures.

The biggest question we should ask is; what are we doing locally to grow the technical skills of our young players? What are we doing to improve the technical standards of our coaches in the league, youth structures (academies) who spend most of their time with these players before they are set for national teams?

We have players on the national team who



can't string meaningful passes together in a match. We have players who can't cross well and more worryingly, others even lack ball control skills. Of course our biggest problem is having hardly any 'real' strikers! Like it or not, these are our best and they have to be on the team. Who takes the blame? National football league coaches and why? Here is the reason. Concentrating on quick fixes and ignoring to accept the fact that we have to fix our technical part of the game.

Who takes the blame for this?

This should be blamed on the Federation and club administrators who have consistently failed to set up the right youth structures. It's amazing that in Rwanda, you find league coaches concentrating on teaching players how to throw, control and pass the ball instead of dealing on role play, tactical growth and systems of play.

It's one other reason why most of our play-



ers can't play well in any other system apart from the traditional 4-4-2. These clubs must be forced to incorporate youth ranks in their programmes.

Rwanda is full of naturally talented players but deprived of skill and technique. Take this example, South America has great natural talent and enjoy excellent technical development and growth. Europe has less natural talent but rely on classroom lectures for the less talent they have. Just imagine if Rwanda had the technique and skill of those guys, our own Salomon Nirisariki would be mentioned in the same sentences as the Rio Ferdinand, Allesandro Nestas and Thiago Motta of this world.

Qualifications of our big league coaches

How many Coaches in our national football league have the right qualifications? How many youth coaches do we have in our primary and secondary schools plus the so

called academies?

This is the root cause of our qualification heart breaks and until it's sorted, Rwandans will never heal or get their soccer to where it must belong. We can't qualify by accident at the expense of our competitors who have invested in youth structures and reaping what they sowed. Take an example of Zambia, Ghana, Egypt, Cameroun and Nigeria.

Can you believe that most of the players in the successful eras of early 2000's played at 1999 All Africa Games in South Africa in which Rwanda was not part? What happened next?

Why expect to reap where we didn't sow?

Like it or not, majority of our players are not good enough technically like those elite countries in Africa. There is no denying the fact that we have lots of talent but are immature in tactic and technique regardless of how much time they have spent playing the

beautiful game.

This is the best explanation why most of our players can't make it Europe. How many have been dropped back home in the recent past? I won't disclose them but they are there.

We must take lessons from football developed nations where a child at the age of 10 is taught basics of the game like passing, throws, set pieces and rules of the game among others.

As they grow older, they are then taught systems of play, tactics and overall game play. Most of those players are not as talented as our boys here but the foundation makes the difference.

Countries like Spain and Germany (the best in Europe at the moment) have over 45,000 fully licensed federation accredited youth coaches doing the job all over the country.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The views expressed in the article don't reflect those of VYG.

Nizeyimana propels Vision FC into last 16 of Amahoro Cup

Peace Cup Results

Interforce	0-1	Vision FC
Rayon	7-0	Rwamagana
SEC	1-0	Gicumbi
Etincelles	8-0	UNR
Amagaju	2-1	Akagera
Kiyovu	0-0	Musanze (Pen 2-4)
Espoir	3-0	Sorwathe
Aspor	3-0	United Stars

Vision Fc stunned old timers, Interforce Fc 1-0 to book their place in the round of 16 of the Amahoro Cup in a match played at Ferwafa grounds.

Juma Nizeyimana continued his impressive form with the lone goal of the game.

Vision Fc Coach Bonne Chance Rugamba Kasim was all prariss for his young team saying,

“It is our first time to participate in Peace Cup so we need to reach far as possible as we can”

“The side is inexperienced but we will do all we can to work on that”

“We are waiting to see who will play in next round and we are ready for anyone who will be our opponent” said the former Rayon Sport and SC Kiyovu player.

In other games, Rayon Sport cruised into the Peace Cup last 16 with a 7-0 thumping of second division side Rwamagana City at Stade de Kigali on Sunday.

However, SC Kiyovu’s misery continued after they were knocked out of the competition by fellow top flight division side Musanze 4-2 on penalties.

The heaviest win of the day was registered at Mumena stadium as Primus league strugglers Etincelles thrashed second division side

National University of Rwanda 8-0. Espoir beat Sorwathe 3-0 in Muhanga.

Amagaju secured a 2-1 win over Akagera, SEC Academy beat Gicumbi 1-0, while Aspor registered a 3-0 win over United Stars. The winner will represent Rwanda in the 2014 Caf Confederation Cup.

Defending champions APR FC booked their place in the round of 16 after overcoming 10-man second division side Sunrise 4-0.

But it was agony for last year’s runner-ups Police FC, who were knocked out by Primus National Football League rivals AS Muhanga 3-1 on penalties at Mumena Grounds after a goalless draw in normal time.

Another Primus League side La Jeunesse was also ejected from the competition by second division side Pepiniere 5-3 on penalties shoot-out. Normal time had ended goalless.



MAKING HISTORY: Vision FC line-up that stunned Interforce to advance into the last 16



Vision Partners, Supporters and Sponsors

V VYG management and the kids from Vision FC and Vision Table Tennis Academy send their sincere gratitude to the partners, sponsors and supporters of VYG.

We are grateful for all who have offered financial and non-financial assistance which has helped us reach where we are today.

Being in the second division and now playing in the Peace Cup for the first time is not easy achievement when we remember the early days of 2009 when we started.

Specific gratitude goes out to the following;

- The founding partners of Vision Youth Group.
- The Ministry of Youth and Sports especially the Permanent Secretary, Edward Kaliisa and his team who have been close to us and supported us in many ways.
- FERWAFa, The President, Vice President and Secretary General as well as the second division league steering committee.
- Mujib Kasule, the founder and President of Proline Football Club in Uganda. He was instrumental in giving the initial ideas when Vision had just started that led to the big things that have happened. Proline was the first partner club for Vision and we cherish the friendly games that we played in 2009 and 2010, the water filled football fields, the laughs, the cheers, the interaction and the strong competitive spirit between the two teams.
- Steve McCauley, a friend and strong supporter of Vision from London and has made introductions and gone strides to assist Vision in many ways in Europe and Africa.
- Les Howie, a friend and supporter of Vision who has personally donated kits several times, provided coaches through project Umubano. More importantly his work with the Ministry of Sports and FERWAFa in building the fundamentals of sports development in Rwanda has gone a long way in transforming the sports federations.
- Inanc Cifti, a friend of Vision from Turkey and has made introductions to big sports personalities like Hakan Sukur, the Turkish Galatasaray legend.



Steve McCauley

- Volkan Kazova, a new partner and supporter of Vision who has committed resources to VYG and is also involved in linking Vision to bigger teams and seeking sponsorship for the Sports Center project.
- Celestin Musabyimana, former VP of FERWAFa and current member of CAF Exco, is a friend and supporter of Vision and has also made several introductions including big names in the football world like David Dein, a founding member of the English Premier League.
- Steve Mutaboba, a new partner and supporter of Vision and is also actively involved in assisting the Club to seek foreign sponsors. He has also committed personal resources towards funding VYG's budget and in acquisition of a team van.
- Partner Football Academies in Rwanda, Augustine Munyamamutsya of SEC Academy and Jack Kayisire of Dream Team Academy have been friends of Vision and we associate with them because we share a common vision.
- Nyamirambo vision fun club - the group of 100 or so supporters in Nyamirambo who move and follow Vision everywhere, we thank them because their encouragement and support has given the boys the courage to achieve big things!



Vision Sports President, John Bosco Birungi with Turkey legend Hakan Sukur

HAKAN SUKUR SPO



US\$3m sports center project gets city nod

Vision Youth Group's plans to build a state-of-the-art sports complex in Kigali which will cost an estimated US\$3m (Rwf 1.95 bn) has received a boost from the City of Kigali. In a meeting held recently the district authorities gave the VYG a go ahead to apply for the land title and present their development proposal.

The project, which will be called Vision Sports Center and will be named after the main sponsor of the project. It is on a 31,500 square meter piece of land located next to Nyamirambo Regional Stadium. The planned estimated building area is about 6,000 square meters.

The concept of the project is to set up a fully fledged sports centre with a standard football ground which has a seating area, a sports hall for indoor racket games and events, a tennis court, a basketball court, a music studio, a gym, a recreational pub, an office block and an apartment block.

The land belongs to the city of Kigali and is currently used for religious crusades, campaign rallies and sports. This is the first home of Vision Football Academy and even to date the club still uses it when the Mumena synthetic pitch is not available.

The project is to be implemented in phases depending on availability of funds. VYG officials have been in discussions with foreign prospective sponsors including the legendary Turkish Hakan Sukur who pledged to assist in attracting sponsors from Turkey and also in building partnerships with top Turkey based football clubs.

HAKAN SUKUR spent the majority of his professional career with Galatasaray, being a three-time Gol Kralı (top goalscorer) of the Süper Lig, representing the club in three different spells and winning a total of 14 major titles.

Sukur represented Turkey a total of 112 times, scoring 51 goals, making him the nation's top goalscorer and 19th in the world. He netted 383 goals throughout his club career, as well as the fastest ever in a World Cup, in 2002.

He retired from football in 2008, only scoring once in single digits for his main team in 13 seasons; nicknamed the "Bull of the Bosphorus", he was renowned for his heading ability.

SPORTS CENTRE COMPLEX



AERIAL PERSPECTIVE OF SITE

Hakan Sukur's Factfile

Date of birth	1 September 1971 (age 41)		
Place of birth	Adapazarı, Turkey		
Height	1.91 m (6 ft 3 in)		
Playing position	Striker		
Youth career			
	Sakaryaspor		
Senior career*			
Years	Team	Apps[†]	(Gls)[†]
1987–1990	Sakaryaspor	41	(19)
1990–1992	Bursaspor	54	(11)
1992–1995	Galatasaray	90	(54)
1995	Torino	5	(1)
1995–2000	Galatasaray	156	(108)
2000–2001	Inter Milan	24	(5)
2002	Parma	15	(3)
2002–2003	Blackburn Rovers	9	(2)
2003–2008	Galatasaray	146	(55)
Total		540	(258)
National team			
1987–1988	Turkey U16	6	(2)
1988–1990	Turkey U18	13	(1)
1990–1993	Turkey U21	16	(5)
1992–2007	Turkey	112	(51)



Vision Sports President, John Birungi with Turkey legend Hakan Sukur (R) and Rwanda's Consul to Turkey, Inanc Ciftci.



GIVING BACK: The PS in the Ministry of Sports, Edward Kalisa with new VYG benefactor, Volkan Kazova during their visit to VYG's table tennis training session.



Vision table tennis academy dominates national club open tourney

Vision Academy has dominated the Remera table tennis club tournament which was aimed to raise the level of young talented players and bring all table tennis players in the country together. This is at a time when the table tennis federation is almost defunct with just a name left to it and with no accreditation and affiliation to the continental or global table tennis federations. The tournament was held in Kigali last week and Vision Academy was the overall winner after it dominated all teams were in tournament including host Remera Table Tennis Club, Vision Table Tennis Academy, Inkuru Nziza Club and Club Rafiki. In youth side (U15), in boy's category, François Regis Ishimwe of Vision won the event after beating Christian Rutayisire 3-2, for the girls Maombi Akimana won after beat Bonette Irabaruta 3-1. For the U18, Venant Ndayishimiye of Remera TT club was the win after hits Prince Uwimana 3-1, for the girls Assoumpta Amanda wins the tourney after beating Francine second name 3-2. For the senior men Yves Ndizeye who is also the Vision head coach thrashed Emmanuel Berwa of Inkuru

Nziza club 3-0. Yves Ndizeye said that the tourney was organized to help the young players to raise the level of competition which will help them in future. "This shows that the kids are hungry to win and they are gaining more confidence which is good for me as coach and for the future and ahead of the upcoming competitions," "The younger players are gaining more experience and I'm sure it will help the future of Table Tennis in Rwanda, I am happy with the confidence and the progress they have made in the tournament and I have full of hope that we have bright future with these young players" he said. At the conclusion of the tournament, Vision Youth Group donated \$100 to each participating club to enable them officially register their clubs with Rwanda Governance Board (RBG) with an aim to build accreditation with the National Olympic Committee (NOC). The table tennis federation has had problems with the NOC because it only has two officially registered clubs and it can only be recognized if it has at least three clubs. With the push from VYG, the federation should be able to attain this.





Vision keen to strengthen youth dev't

One of Rwanda's football academies Vision FC has put all emphasis on promoting talented young players aged between 10 and 17 years across the country.

According to the team head coach, Bonne Chance Kasim Rugamba the aim is to build a strong foundation through promoting the young players, who are the future of the country's football.

"Our ambitions are to train as many young players across the country so that in future we can have many players who can feature for the national team, we don't want to rely on foreign players and that's our ambition in our academy" the former Kiyovu Sports and Rayon Sports player said.

Rugamba was selected for Amavubi for 12 years; he played for SC Kiyovu for 17 years and two years for Rayon Sport.

"We need to work with young players so that in future we can have players who are capable to feature in our national teams, in Vision FC we have many young players so we are giving what it needs so they can be on top" he said.

Vision this year participated in Burundi's President Pierre Nkurunziza's tournament where Vision secured second place after winning one game, lost two and drew three with Nkurunziza



academy 'La Message'.

"We are proud of participating in this tournament because we shown good character and discipline which was the main thing in the tournament.

The teams in particular demonstrated an inspiring level of determination and high level of playing football.

Teams from RDC, Burundi and Rwanda were among the participating teams with Vision and Dream Team from Rwanda.

Vision Youth Group has found relative success with youth development programmes in recent years, which has seen some players get into the national team in the U-17 and





Vision enters the national second division league

The partners and management of Vision Youth Group are grateful for the support that FERWafa, the Ministry of Sports and the National Second Division League committee offered in supporting Vision FC to get into the second division league. The critics that were against the idea have now been completely proven wrong given the excellent performance the team has had; currently in second position in its group and stands a good chance for promotion.

Vision Youth Group President John Birungi says that this has not only given the players the best chance to shine nationally but more impor-

tantly an opportunity to play many more competitive matches.

"European youth sides are much better than ours because they always play many more competitive games given the better organization, resources and infrastructure availed to them", he noted.

Birungi also says that the push to the second division has come off of the constant advice the Academy has received from the England FA coaches that have been interacting with the management and the players for the past two years. He gives special thanks to Les Howie of the FA who has been at the fore front of this and Steve McCauley who has given Vision sev-

eral links to European sports organizations.

"What the new management of FERWafa is doing is absolutely the right thing to do which is to give young players a chance to compete, gain confidence and build a professional team spirit", says the VYG President. "The club had almost missed the chance to go to second division given a late application but the national sports authorities reconsidered and we are grateful for that", he added.

Vision FC had defeated every academy including the then national U-17 team that had represented the country in Mexico and so there was no other place to go apart from the second division league.





Vision targets Primus League promotion

The now second division side Vision FC is targeting to play in next year Primus National League according to the head coach of the team.

The team is second position in group B with 24 points behind the leaders Bugesera who has 29 points, but the coach is buoyant for the next games.

Coach Bonny said that the main target is to be in first division next year, “we need to be there but if it does not happen we will continue to work hard so next year we will be where we wanted to be”.

Vision has more than twenty players who are under 17, and Rugamba is keen to promote them next year for senior team.

“We have started to work with the young talented players since 2009 and there’s good progress and we have promoted some of them to national teams, we trained them and this helped them to progress well,” he said. Vision has 30 players in second division. The former Amavubi player said

“We have started their ambition so that they can be a strong squad in future and good players for the upcoming years, we are preparing for the future of our country and we trained with discipline as it is the main key to success in football and sports in general”.

“Through their love of soccer, these boys have become confident because they are playing in second division. It’s incredible to see improvement every year, this league helps them to get experience and motivated in this game, I hope in future we will have stronger players who are able to play for big clubs”.

Vision is in second position with 24pts but Rugamba believes the team can make the first appearance in the Rwanda Primus league next year.

VYG IN HISTORY

Vision FC in Pictures
through the years

















