



sport & recreation

Department:
Sport and Recreation South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PRESS STATEMENT

For Immediate Release: 16 September 2009

For further information, please contact:

Manase Makwela

Spokesperson: National Department of Sport & Recreation

Telephone: 082-782-1759

Luvuyo Veli

National Co-ordinator

Telephone: 073-741-7156

5TH ANNUAL NATIONAL INDIGENOUS GAMES TO BE HOSTED IN KZN

“Together Celebrating Our Heritage, Today, 2010 And Beyond”

It is a growing concern that so many of the world’s precious indigenous belongings are facing extinction. Plants, animals and indigenous knowledge systems are facing the harsh reality of extinction through a combination of man-made causes and in some cases Acts of Nature.

Among our precious essentials at risk, is the rich heritage of our South African culture. Our youth are at risk of losing the vision of our forefathers and their strong cultural beliefs and traditions. Left ignored, this will become a serious challenge in our effort to protect our future generations. As the saying goes *“the nation that forgets its background will never find its future”*.

2/....



sport & recreation

Department:
Sport and Recreation South Africa
ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU-NATAL



sport & recreation

Department:
Sport and Recreation South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





sport & recreation

Department:
Sport and Recreation South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

For this reason the Department of Sport and Recreation initiated the National Indigenous Games in 2003 as part of a mass participation to “Get the Nation to Play” and in doing so protect our heritage from facing extinction in the years to come. The first Games were hosted in Limpopo and thereafter various other provinces played host to the event.

This month marks the success of this initiative with the hosting of the 5th Annual Indigenous Games Festival hosted by KwaZulu Natal from the 24th to the 26th of September at the University of KwaZulu-Natal Howard College Sports Grounds.

Nine games that have formed a foundation in the many different cultures of our country will be played, namely; Intonga/Induku, Morabaraba/Umlabalaba, Ncuva, Juskei, Amagende, Kgati/Ingqathu, Khokho, Dibeke, Shumpu and Drie Stokies.

Through these games, the Department has been successful in:

- Preserving and protecting the Indigenous Games
- Promoting inter-community relations and social cohesion within provinces and across the country
- Empowering various sport and recreation associations and federations with sport administration skills
- Facilitating sustainable sport development and infrastructure
- Encouraging active and healthy lifestyles
- Promoting friendship and a “common goal” orientation among communities through the playing of these games at taxi ranks, community centres and parks, etc.

Teams from all over the country will be arriving in Durban on the 24th of September with high aspirations of not just competing, but also to be a part of this prestigious heritage event.

3/....



sport & recreation
Department:
Sport and Recreation South Africa
ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU-NATAL



sport & recreation
Department:
Sport and Recreation South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





sport & recreation

Department:
Sport and Recreation South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Approximately 900 athletes, over 200 officials and 400 VIP guests including MEC's and Premiers are expected to attend.

The event officially starts on the 24th of September with an opening ceremony at 18h00 at Gate 10, Howard College Sports Grounds, University of KwaZulu-Natal.

The games commence early on the 25th at 08h00 and run over 2 days. A round-robin system will be played to determine the winning teams in the semi-finals and finals on the 26th of September.

The Games will then be closed with the official closing and award ceremony where the winning teams will be honoured with the prestige of taking home the 2009 Indigenous Games winning trophies and medals.

ends.



sport & recreation

Department:
Sport and Recreation South Africa
ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU-NATAL



sport & recreation

Department:
Sport and Recreation South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

