



Kakamega County Water And Sanitation Company



WASCO SPORTS EDITION

NEWSLETTER 006

APRIL 2022

Kakamega Scoops The Runners Up Trophy In WASCO Football



Ag. CEO Ms Christabel Ashiono holds the trophy at Moi Stadium Kisumu after WASCO closing ceremony

Kakamega County Water and Sanitation Company (KACWASCO) football team's dream of winning WASCO title were shattered by Nairobi Water who beat them 5-4 on post-match penalties.

The entertaining match was the climax of the week-long championship as both team settled for a barren draw during regular time in a mouthwatering final match at Kisumu National Polytechnic grounds.

Penalties were used to determine the winner and Kakamega who were cheered by the partisan fans that danced to isukuti tunes were unlucky as they lost one penalty while their opponents netted five to carry the day.

Kakamega cruised to the finals after sinking Embu 2-1 while Nairobi qualified after an earlier win awarded to Nakuru Water who had humiliated them 5-4 in penalties in the other semi was overturned after their appeal against Nakuru who were found guilty of fielding ineligible players.

Kakamega coach Isaac Mare commended his team for reaching the finals which he termed as one of the toughest matches.

"We were the best team ever but we lost in the penalties. Luck was not on our side during the penalty kicks. The playground was muddy making it hard for my players to play well. I am satisfied with the results because penalties can go either way and this year it was not our side. We live to fight another day," said Mare.

The Team Captain Athanus Masheti said the decision by WASCO officials to award Nairobi against Nakuru worked against them as they were prepared to face Nakuru.

"We knew and were prepared to meet Nakuru who had edged out Nairobi in the semi finals. Nairobi filed a baseless petition against Nakuru and to our surprise it was ruled in their favor. This disoriented our preparedness as each team has a way of playing and we had learnt how to deal with Nakuru," said Masheti.

Team manager Benard Wandere said the penalties have been their greatest undoing in the past and promised to work extra hard to emerge victorious in the next editions.

"We have been runners up for the longest period and we needed a win. We live to fight again next time," said Wandere.

The officials thanked Company CEO Ms Christabel Ashiono for her support to the team that enabled them perform better.

"The CEO has been of great support to us. She did her best to ensure the team prepares adequately and travelled for the championship," he said.

Ms Ashiono who was at the grounds to cheer her team lauded them for making it to the finals and emerging the runners up.

"We are happy for our team. Whichever the result we have given our best. This is the true spirit of sportsmanship," said Ms Ashiono.

She also thanked County staff who turned up in large numbers to cheer the team.

"I was surprised and touched by the love and support staff from other Departments showed us during the finals," she said.

The CEO noted that the WASCO games that brought together over 50 Water companies across the country provided a learning avenue through benchmarking and sharing ideas.

"We have benefited a lot from these games. We were not here only to win but to learn and benchmark," she said.

She announced that as a Company they will start a Sports Academy to nurture talents in all sports especially for staff.

"We will start the Sports Academy to ensure we nurture talent in all sporting activities. This will make us always prepared for such tournaments and other games," she said.

Kisumu Deputy Governor Mathews Owili closed the five-day championship as the Chief Guest on behalf of his Governor Prof Anyang Nyong'o.

The next edition will be held August next year in Narok County.

KACWASCO Commits To Reducing Revenue Loss Through Non-Revenue Water Activities



Ag. CEO Christabel Ashiono addressing Officials during the opening ceremony

Kakamega County Water and Sanitation Company (KACWASCO) acting CEO Christabel Ashiono has said the Company is committed to reducing revenue loss through non-revenue water.

She said non-revenue water activities like illegal connections, pipe bursts, water theft and spillage continue to pose a challenge to Water Service Providers (WSP) across the country.

She was speaking during the official opening ceremony of Water Companies Sports Organization (WASCO) games at Jomo Kenyatta International Stadium in Kisumu County.

The ceremony was graced by Defense Cabinet Secretary Hon Eugene Wamalwa as the Chief Guest.

The CEO urged all stakeholders in the water sector to collaborate in a bid to reduce water and revenue loss as per this year's theme; reducing

non-revenue water through community engagement and sports.

"I call upon all stakeholders especially partners to support Water Service Providers in the area of non-revenue water to reduce it to below 20%. This will help the water companies reduce water loss and improve on supply of the commodity to users and revenue collection," said Ms Ashiono.

She appreciated the Governor H.E Dr Wycliffe Oparanya for supporting KACWASCO to meet its mandate of supplying water to its consumers.

"I am grateful to our Governor for the immense support that has seen the Company deliver on its mandate without hitches," she said.

She asked Water companies to embrace benchmarking as a way of interacting and sharing ideas on enhancing service delivery.

"I want to thank the

CS Wamalwa for his passion, commitment and dedication towards supporting WASCO games and water service providers and championing water matters in the country," the CEO said.

She added; "At the end of this tournament everybody will emerge a champion."

CS Wamalwa urged Water Service Providers to develop measures and also engage the community on ways of reducing non-revenue water.

"It is regrettable that we cannot account for 47% of water we harvest which is lost through non-revenue water activities yet our country has scarcity of water. We should learn from Nyeri County on the policies and measures they have put in place resulting to reduced non-revenue water to 16%," said Wamalwa who was accompanied by CAS for Water and Sanitation Mr Andrew Tumur.

In Their Own Words



"I congratulate the team for reaching the finals. They carried our flag high and we must commend them for the excellent performance."

H.E Hon Dr FCPA Wycliffe Oparanya Governor.



"I laud my boys for giving their all to reach the finals despite short time they had for practice and preparations. They have made us proud. We will always honor and celebrate them for their efforts that placed KACWASCO on the sport map."

Ms Christabell Ashiono Ag. CEO



"We were the best team but luck was not on our side especially during penalties. We live to fight another day. Congratulations boys for your efforts and sterling performance."

Benard Wandere Team Manager



"The games were tough but the team played well advancing to the finals. They are our heroes and we celebrate them. We are committed to nurturing talents and next year we will win the tournament."

Isaac Mare Coach



"I watched the game and the boys played international and professional game. They were the best side. Congratulations."

John Otido Head of Security and Enforcement



"The boys entertained sports enthusiasts with their high level game. From the opening match to the last one, they showed the desire to win the championship but in sports there must be a winner and a loser. Well done boys."

Peter Atsiaya Head of Governors Press Unit

Company To Establish Sports Academy To Nurture Talents

The Company by engaging her staff in sports they would have ample time to free up their mind and give better performance at work. The CEO said the Academy will also ensure the Company has enough players and participants for various games in readiness for WASCO tournament which takes place every year.

She said the Academy will offer all sporting activities and mentorship for staff. She was speaking at Kisumu National Polytechnic grounds after cheering KACWASCO football team during finals against Nairobi Water where Nairobi won in post match penalties.

"We will start the Academy with the main aim of nurturing talents among staff. The Academy will help us have sports men and women for all sporting activities," said Ms Ashiono. She noted that always prepared for the tournaments.



Bush Orondo (Quality and Assurance manager) encouraging players during half time

Kakamega Edge Out Eldoret 2-1 To Advance To WASCO Finals

Kakamega County Water and Sanitation Company (KACWASCO) football fought gallantly to beat Eldoret Water and Sanitation Company (ELDOWAS) 2-1 at Kisumu National Polytechnic grounds to advance to the finals in the ongoing WASCO games.

Wilfred Aswani opened the scores for KACWASCO in the 24th minute.

Eldoret intensified their hunt for an equalizer and their efforts bore fruits when Collins Otieno equalized in the 32nd minute ending the first half in a one all draw.

The energized KACWASCO team came in the second half to hunt for more goals which paid off in the 69th minute bundling

ELDOWAS out of the championship.

Team Captain Athanus Masheti said the match was tough and needed a lot of concentration to win.

"This was a different ELDOWAS from the one we played with during the opening match. The game was tough but we managed to contain them and secure the win," said Masheti.

The Team Coach Isaac Mare said; "It was a tight game. We have some injuries which strained us a bit but we are ready for the finals."

He said he will be making slight changes in the team ahead of the finals.

"I urge the players to maintain high discipline while in the field. Our resolve is to be the champions," he said.

How Cheering Squad Rocked WASCO Games

Dressed in official Company attire and armed with vuvuzelas, the cheering squad did not disappoint during the five-day WASCO championship in Kisumu.

Rocking the Moi Stadium during the opening match, led by Josephine Ikua, the squad cheered the team as the boys drowned ELDOWAS 4-0 to advance to the next level.

As Ikua led the vuvuzela bandwagon, Faith Mutsami showcased her dancing prowess entertaining football fans who turned out in large numbers at the stadium to watch the game.

When Ikua took the backseat during the Quarter Finals between KACWASCO and Embu Water, she handed over the baton to Ms Linet Wasaba who rocked the Kisumu National Polytechnic grounds clad in white and black and would be occasionally seen making short prayers whenever the team advanced towards the opponent's side.

And God answered her prayers as KACWASCO won 1-0 to qualify for the semis.

During the semi-finals, Ms Wasaba and Ikua led the squad interchangeably.

Cheering out their hearts giving morale to the boys as they fought hard to defeat ELDOWAS 2-1 in the thrilling semi final.

On the final day, the Company acting CEO Ms Christabel Ashiono dispatched Isukuti dancers and took lead of cheering squad as Ms Wasaba assumed the deputy cheerleader roles.

Dancing to Isukuti tunes from the start of the game to the final whistle and even celebrating the defeat in the hands of Nairobi Water in post match penalties.

For them, KACWASCO were the best team and won because Nairobi Water were baby carried by WASCO officials to reach the finals through numerous petitions that were ruled in their favor despite being bundled out by Nakuru Water.

At the climax, Isukuti rocked the Moi Stadium singing 'Lero ni lero' which made players and fans from all teams and walks of life to join the dance. ELDOWAS team seemed to enjoy the tunes more than the natives.



Kakamega Sails Through To Quarters In WASCO Games

KACWASCO football team qualified for quarter-finals of the ongoing Water Companies Sports Organisation (WASCO) championship in Kisumu City County.

Kakamega won their second match without kicking a ball after their opponents Mombasa Water Supply and Sanitation Company failed to show up for the championship that has brought together all Water Companies drawn from all over the country.

The result saw Kakamega top Group B and book a ticket for the quarter-finals.

During their opening match, they humiliated ELDOWAS (Eldoret) 4-0 thereby showing their intention of winning the title.

"We have a direct ticket to the semis because Mombasa have not turned out for the tournament. We are now top in Group B," said Benard Wandere, the Team Manager.

"We will be at the finals. We are committed towards lifting the trophy this year," he said.

Kakamega Drowns Eldoret 4-0 In WASCO Games

Kakamega County Water and Sanitation Company (KACWASCO) opened their WASCO games with a 4-0 win against Eldoret at Moi Sports Stadium in Kisumu City County.

The goals by Gilbert Anunda, Ainea Andete, Wilfred Aswani and Hamisi Hassan elevated the team to first position in their Group.

All four goals were scored in second half after a barren draw in first half despite KACWASCO failing to convert many chances into goals.

"We missed many chances

in the first half. However, we corrected the mistakes in the second half which served to our advantage. We are now waiting for the next game which we must win to advance to the semis," said Isaac Mare, the team coach.

Anunda opened the score sheet during the sixth minute into second half motivating his teammates to score more sealing the win.

"In the first half our finishing power was poor and we had to work on it. In the second half the team was re-energized and hungry for goals. We managed to get the goals and now we are sure of trouncing Mombasa in the next game," the Coach said.

Athanus Masheti, the team captain expressed confidence in the team banking on their past performances as runners up in the last four consecutive editions.

"Our only worthy competitor is Nairo-

bi team. We are confident we will trounce them if we up our game and address our few challenges especially on the finishing," said Masheti.

Team Manager Mr Benard Wandere lauded his team for the sterling performance in their opening match noting that it motivates them to go for more victory in the next matches.

"Opening with a win is very encouraging. Our target this year is winning the trophy," said Wandere.

KACWASCO was to face off with Mombasa in their second leg but the game failed to kick off as Mombasa failed to turn out for the tournament.

In another match played in the same Stadium, the defending champions Nairobi survived narrowly after edging out Siaya 2-1 in their group matches.



Wilfred Aswani; The Star Who Propelled KACWASCO To The Finals

The Company's football team consistent wins to the finals were not a walk in the park. It took the concerted efforts and coordination of the first 11 and the entire management to work hard to shine in the limelight of the WASCO championship in Kisumu County.

The high spirited team vowed not to concede any defeat sinking all its opponents with an eye on the main trophy. The aim was to ensure they netted the highest number of goals as much as time could allow them to.

Every player did his best to convert any chance to a goal but it is the spirit of one Wilfred Aswani that elevated the team further to secure a win in each game it played.

The 28-year-old number nine (9) striker scored a total of four (4) goals, one in the opening match against ELDOWAS, one in the quarter finals against Embu and two against ELDOWAS in the semi finals.

He did not have any claim in the finals as the game ended with a barren draw during regular time, however scored his shot in the penalties against Nairobi.

"Embu was the toughest team in the whole tournament. Their defense was compact and hard to penetrate. I took advantage of their goalkeeper's fault to score," said Aswani.

Other players that also scored between one to two goals were Gilbert Anunda, Hamisi Hassan and Ainea Andete. It is worth noting that Aswani also emerged the top scorer in the team during the 10th edition of WASCO games held in 2019 in Embu County.

"I could possibly be among the top scorers if WASCO was to recognize individual efforts of players. I am still proud that I have helped built our Company's image and marketed myself," he said.



Wilfred Aswani



WASCO Games Through The Lense



