

Grand Opening Safe-Hub II

EVENT REPORT



Celebrating the Opening of AMANDLA's Gugulethu-Manenberg Safe Hub

The 10th of May marked the Grand Opening of AMANDLA EduFootball's Gugulethu-Manenberg Safe-Hub, an artificial football field based on the premises of the Gugulethu Comprehensive High School. The Safe-Hub will be home to all AMANDLA EduFootball programmes going forward and aims to create a safe space that bring together the power of football and learning to empower youth and change lives. More than 700 children, parents and coaches joined the celebrations on the day and participated in the activities the day had to offer.

But what happens exactly when a new football facility is unveiled and handed over into the hands of hundreds of excited kids? Certainly they want to play football and enjoy themselves. And that's exactly what AMANDLA EduFootball's Opening Event was all about: a colourful fun-filled day with lots of entertainment and ball-activities for the whole community.

Many eager kids were already queuing at the gates of the facility prior to the opening time of 9am. A newly recruited group of youth leaders from both communities, Manenberg and Gugulethu organised fun activities for the different age groups in the morning, before the start of the games in the afternoon. The official ceremony started off with a speech from the school principal Mr Boo. In a symbolical act the principal of the Gugulethu Comprehensive High School cut the ribbon and officially opened the facility to the communities of Gugulethu and Manenberg.

The first artist of the day, 15-year-old rapper Mosh got the crowd whistling and cheering with his smooth lyrics about life in the township streets. Amongst other great local artists, ball juggler Mzoo showed off his talent and left the crowd mesmerized with his tricks of handling the ball.

The afternoon was solely dedicated to football. Many rounds of 5-a-side matches for U13, U15 and U19 girls and boys were played to make sure that everybody present would get an opportunity to play a match at the new facility. AMANDLA's Safe-Hub will now be available to young people from Gugulethu and Manenberg, with a variety of after-school programmes being offered on a daily basis. Registration for individuals and teams is open until 20 June 2014. Information on AMANDLA's programmes can be accessed at the facility in the afternoon on a daily basis or by contacting AMANDLA Manager Mr Sugars Qinga on 021 447 8261.