

Africa Connects

2011 Africa Centre Cup Soccer Tournament



July 2011

www.africacentre.ca

The Beautiful Game !



Team Ethiopia in action against Team DR Congo at Poplar Park sports fields.

Photo Credit: T. Bumbeh

The 2011 Africa Centre Cup Soccer Tournament has another successful year!

By Africa Centre Staff

EDMONTON - There is nothing better to celebrate Canada's birthday than a game of *football* between your brothers and other ex-pats! Coupled with a host BBQ, cold drinks and other fun activities for family, and friends, it's truly Canadian, eh?

The festival atmosphere was infectious, as neighbors adjacent to the Poplar Park sports fields in north Edmonton joined in on the music and family-friendly activities which took place alongside the competitive action of the games being played in the annual Africa Centre Cup Soccer Tournament July 1 and 2.

Twelve teams from various Edmonton African ethno-cultural communities celebrated the tournaments theme of unity and fraternity, continuing a tone set by the Mayor's declaration on June 18 acknowledging the United Nation's proclamation of 2011 being the Year for People of African Decent.

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What is the Africa
Centre?

Sponsors

... and more!

4th Annual Tournament

- 12 local Edmonton based teams.
- 26 games played over two days!
- Africa's newest country South Sudan participated in this year's tournament!
- Over 500 spectators, family and friends each day.

... from the front page

With eight of the twelve teams continuing to single elimination playoff the next day, a highlight for everyone was the participation of Africa's newest country, South Sudan. The team made it through the group play, to compete for the championship as one of the wild-card teams—in their inaugural year participating in the tournament, and under the flag of their own nation.

The defending champions from last year tournament Ghana, was eliminated by the surprise dark horse team, Uganda. The Ugandan side seemed to slowly be building momentum each year - as one of the founding teams. Playing in every tournament to date, defeating last year's champion Sudan was, "very satisfying" said Team Manager, Nelson Kibanda, also one of the event chairs'.

"This tournament and the teams playing exemplify the Africa Centre's motto of, *Prosperity through hard work and cooperation!*" said Tesfaye Ayalew, Executive Director of the Africa Centre - the organization backing the championships. "We are so proud to be able to bring together African Communities in Edmonton through positive events such as this yearly soccer tournament." This years focus of, "creating a festival atmosphere so families can attend and spend the entire day together," was a formula that was indeed successful, with over 500 people on-site each day.

As kids played in the bouncy castle, and the DJ played tunes on the turntables, the smell of the BBQ food provided a welcomed distraction to the teams who were defeated in their games, as they sat down to share a bite to eat with their opponents.

"We were so fortunate to have such supportive community partners that helped to make this event grow each year" says Tesfaye, "Next years tournament will be even better!"



- T. Ayalew



- T. Bumbelh

The Organizing Committee and Volunteers

Thank you everyone!

Alison Cammaert
Amandla Ngwenya
Ameen Kadri
Brenda Smith
Chris Arsenault
Darcy Hans

Dominic Sithole
Jabulani (JB) Dube
Keli Tamaklo
Lucy Abu
Merhert Worku
Mike Chow
Nasu Saffa

Nelson Kibanda
Patrick Chieriro
Ruth McIntyre
Tesfaye Ayalew
Thomas Bumbelh
Tich Tamanikwa
... and many more!



- T. Bumbelh

Tournament Results

Group A

	W	T	L	G/D	Pts
Zimbabwe	2	1	0	+6	7
Nigeria	2	0	1	+5	6
DR Congo	1	1	1	-2	4 ^{*w/c}
Ethiopia	0	0	3	-7	0
DR Congo vs. Ethiopia	7				6
Nigeria vs. Zimbabwe	0				3
Zimbabwe vs. Ethiopia	3				0
Nigeria vs. DR Congo	3				0
Ethiopia vs. Nigeria	1				6
DR Congo vs. Zimbabwe	2				2

Group B

	W	T	L	G/D	Pts
Sudan	3	0	0	+7	9
Uganda	2	0	1	+5	6
South Sudan	1	0	2	-4	3 ^{*w/c}
Liberia	0	0	3	-8	0
Sudan vs. Uganda	2				1
South Sudan vs. Liberia	3				0
Liberia vs. Uganda	0				2
Sudan vs. South Sudan	3				0
Liberia vs. Sudan	0				2
Uganda vs. South Sudan	4				0

Group C

	W	T	L	G/D	Pts
South Africa	3	0	0	+16	9
Ghana	1	1	1	+8	4
Eritrea	1	1	1	-7	4
Cameroon	0	0	3	-17	0
South Africa vs. Eritrea	8				0
Ghana vs. Cameroon	9				0
Cameroon vs. South Africa	2				9
Eritrea vs. Ghana	2				2
South Africa vs. Ghana	2				1
Cameroon vs. Eritrea	1				2

Championship Games all held on Saturday, July 2, 2011

1 st Group A - Zimbabwe (Sat) 1000-1200 Field A	Uganda		
2 nd Group B - Uganda	(Sat) 1300-1500 Field C	Uganda	
Wildcard #2 - South Sudan (Sat) 1000-1200 Field D	South Africa	(Sat) 1800-2000 Field C	Uganda
1 st Group C - South Africa			Africa Centre Cup 2011 Champions
1 st Group B - Sudan (Sat) 1000-1200 Field B	Sudan	Ghana	
2 nd Group A - Nigeria	(Sat) 1300-1500 Field B	South Africa	
2 nd Group C - Ghana (Sat) 1000-1200 Field C	Ghana	(Sat) 1600-1800 Field B	Sudan 3 rd Place
Wildcard #1 - DR Congo		Sudan	



The Africa Centre

The Council for the Advancement of African Canadians in Alberta
op/as

The Africa Centre

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***"Prosperity through hard work
and cooperation!"***

What is the Africa Centre?

The Council for the Advancement of African Canadians in Alberta (CAAC) is a non-profit, non-political and non-religious organization registered under the Society's Act in Alberta. The founding member countries are: Somalia, Sudan, Sierra Leone, Congo, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Uganda. The Board of Directors are respected leaders of African organizations and have earned the respect and trust of the African communities through their community works. The purpose of the CAAC is to advocate on behalf of its members on issues of interest and concern, to manage a one-stop multi-purpose centre where culturally appropriate programs, services and activities are delivered to members of the community. The Organization strives to create opportunities for access and full participation of members of the African community in all aspects of society including economic, social, cultural and educational endeavors and contribute to the holistic development and wellness of the African individual, family and community. Essentially, our motto is *prosperity through hard work and cooperation*.

Objectives:

1. Manage and administer the African Center.
2. Create a welcoming, safe and supportive environment, provide resources and integrated services to meet individual need. Encourage Africans in Edmonton to be active participants in all civic opportunities and responsibilities of our city, province and nation
3. Develop and coordinate programs and services to address the diverse needs of African youth including after school programs, stay-in-school initiatives, peer support and mediation, crime prevention, business training, the environment, health, leadership development, recreational and sports activities.
4. Engage in programs and activities that create economic, educational, social, cultural and professional opportunities for its members. Develop and implement activities that encourage voluntarism, increased civic understanding, responsible citizenship leading to active participation in all levels of political activities;
5. Create a hospitable place for new African immigrants and champion Edmonton as a place of choice for African immigrants. Establish and maintain connection with the City to facilitate the attraction of African immigrants to Edmonton.
6. Seek and provide opportunities for economic development through collaboration and partnerships with other communities, agencies as well as public and private institutions



- T. Bumbelh

- T. Bumbelh

- T. Ayalew

Our Generous Event Supporters:



Big Brothers Big Sisters



African Community
Liaison Committee



www.sportfactor.net