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A SPECIAL FOCUS ON THE CASA GAMES 2024

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Bungoma County Assembly shines at CASA games

By County Assembly Communications Team

Bungoma County Assembly lit up the just-concluded County Assemblies Sports Association (CASA) Games with a dazzling display of talent, resilience, and teamwork, emerging as the overall champions. It was a thrilling week filled with excitement, as the team scooped multiple trophies and left a lasting mark on the competition.

The football team, captained by Noah Nakhanya, gave fans a nerve-racking show. After battling it out with Homabay County Assembly in a tense final, the match ended in a goalless draw. It all came down to penalties, where Bungoma kept their cool to snatch victory, defeating formidable teams like defending champions Trans Nzoia, Siaya, and Homabay along the way.

The women's volleyball team also delivered a spectacular performance, shining under the leadership of Hon. Dorcas Ndasaba, a former national volleyball star. Coached by Sam Wanjala, the team swept aside Uasin Gishu in the finals with a stunning 3-0 victory. Earlier in the semis, they dominated Makueni, showing incredible form.

Not to be outdone, the men's volleyball team kept the winning spirit alive, edging out Elgeyo Marakwet in a thrilling final. After tying at two sets each, Bungoma pulled off a 15-11 win in the deciding set. The team, led by Captain Hon. Francis Masai Chemion and Coach Jesse Wafula, outlasted tough opponents like Turkana and Uasin Gishu to claim the title.

The Dance team was equally impressive, bringing flair to the stage.

Bungoma emerged victorious in the Borrowed Folk Song, Borrowed Dance, and Modern Dance categories. While they settled for third place in Cultural Dance (Kamabeka), Own Folk Song, and the Beauty Contest, their performances captivated the crowd and judges alike.

In music, the County Assembly Choir struck a high note by clinching the top spot with their own composition, "Lugha Moja." Although they gave spirited performances in the set piece "Uwiano Katika Michezo na Utamaduni" and the sacred song "Hallelujah," they wrapped up those categories in fourth place.

The men's Tug of War team put up a tough fight, making it all the way to the finals before being overpowered by Nyandarua. Along the way, they knocked out Trans Nzoia in the semis and Homabay in the quarters, proving they were a force to be reckoned with.

Meanwhile, the netball team, led by Captain Margaret Mukenda, made it to the quarterfinals but bowed out against Kilifi. They had earlier topped their group and eliminated Kwale in the Round of 16, showing great determination and skill throughout.

Both men's and women's table tennis teams fought valiantly, but their journeys ended in the semifinals. The men's team, second only to Machakos in the group stage, was edged out by Kakamega, while the women were eliminated by Nyandarua despite earlier wins against Kakamega and Makueni. In the Darts competition, Bungoma made it to the quarterfinals but was stopped by Kirinyaga after defeating Nakuru in the Round of 16. The assembly also competed in pool, scrabble, ajua, swimming, and athletics, showing depth and versatility across multiple disciplines.

Bungoma's outstanding performance at the CASA Games is a testament to the hard work, unity, and passion that drive the County Assembly. From the football pitch to the volleyball courts, the dance floor, and beyond, the teams gave their all, making their county proud. This triumph not only brings home trophies but also highlights the spirit of teamwork and dedication that defines Bungoma.



The Speaker Hon. Emmanuel Situma and the Clerk Mr Charles Wafula display a certificate of merit awarded to the County Assembly of Bungoma by CASA



The Speaker Hon. Emmanuel Situma and the Clerk Mr Charles Wafula display a trophy awarded to the County Assembly of Bungoma for the best overall in the just ended CASA Games



The County Assembly team during the match pass parade

Bungoma Clerk hosts County Assemblies Clerks for Dinner at CASA Games

By County Assembly Communications Team

On the sidelines of the 2024 County Assemblies Sports Association (CASA) games, the Clerk of Bungoma County Assembly, Mr. Charles Wafula, hosted a special dinner for Clerks from various County Assemblies across Kenya.

The gathering, which celebrated collaboration and teamwork, also welcomed SOCATT Kenya Executive Director, Ms. Reginah Mutheu.

Among the notable attendees was Mr. Kamau Aidi,

Chairman of SOCATT Kenya and Clerk of Kirinyaga County Assembly, along with over 20 other County Assembly Clerks. The event included a private meeting for the Clerks, which was later joined by the Speaker of Bungoma County Assembly, Hon. Emmanuel Situma.

During the evening, SOCATT Kenya presented newly developed Committee and Procedure manuals to the Clerks in attendance, supporting standardized practices across the assemblies.



SOCATT Chair Mr Kamau Aidi and other Clerks during the dinner



The Clerk of The County Assembly of Bungoma Mr Charles Wafula and other Clerks during the dinner



Clerks during the dinner



The Speaker of the County Assembly of Bungoma Hon. Emmanuel Situma presents a SOCATT Manual to Clerks during the dinner

Bungoma County Assembly Celebrates CASA Trophies

By County Assembly Communications Team

The County Assembly of Bungoma held a ceremony to celebrate the remarkable achievements of its teams at the recent County Assemblies Sports Association (CASA) games. The Assembly was honored with the overall trophy, recognizing its outstanding participation and top performance in various sporting events.

During the CASA Trophies Handover Ceremony, the Speaker of the County Assembly of Bungoma and CASA Patron, Hon. Emmanuel Situma, praised the teams for their dedication and exceptional performance. The ceremony highlighted achievements in several categories, with Bungoma County Assembly teams securing first place in Choir Own Composition, Cultural and Borrowed Dance, Men's and Women's Volleyball, and Football.

The Short Put team earned a certificate for second place, while Tug of War received a trophy for second place.

Hon. Situma emphasized the importance of promoting a sports culture within the Assembly and suggested holding quarterly sports days. He encouraged County Assembly committees to allocate funds to support CASA games participation in the future. Deputy Speaker Hon. Stephen Wamalwa urged the teams to maintain their winning streak, noting that sustaining victory would be the ultimate challenge.

The Majority Leader commended the teams for their unity and spirit, encouraging them to uphold these values as they prepare for the upcoming East African Legislative

Assemblies Sports and Cultural Association (EALASCA) games in Rwanda. Sentiments that were echoed by the Leader of Minority Hon. Anthony Lusenaka.

County Assembly Clerk Mr. Charles Wafula highlighted the broader impact of the Assembly's success, which enhanced Bungoma's reputation as a Model County Assembly. He acknowledged the business opportunities brought to the county through the CASA games and encouraged regular sports tournaments for Assembly staff and members to maintain physical fitness.

Hon. Violet Makhanu, Chairperson of the Committee on Youth and Sports, called for increased funding for youth and sports programs, citing their role in the Assembly's

impressive CASA performance. She urged winning teams to begin preparations for future competitions.

Deputy National Organizing Secretary for CASA, Hon. Jack Kawa, commended Bungoma's role as a host and lauded the commitment of its staff and members. He noted that Bungoma's successful hosting of CASA had drawn positive attention, with other Assemblies planning retreats in Bungoma.

Board Members Ms. Jesicca Mayabi, Dr. Anthony Mabele, and Hon. Ali Machani also congratulated the teams and pledged continued support to inspire future achievements.



The Clerk of the County Assembly of Bungoma receives a trophy from The Chair Youth and Sports Committee Hon. Violet Makhanu



County Assembly leaders award a certificate of merit to Hon. Alice Kibaba



The Speaker, The Clerk and other leaders pose for a photo with captains of various teams



The Clerk of the County Assembly of Bungoma hands over a certificate to the captain of the men volley ball team Hon. Francis Chemion.

Governor Lusaka calls for County Assemblies to be granted autonomy, at the official opening of CASA Games in Bungoma

By County Assembly Communications Team

Bungoma Governor Kenneth Lusaka has called on the National government to fulfill its promise to grant autonomy to County Assemblies in Kenya. This follows the President's pronouncement to make County Assemblies autonomous during his visit to the County as he commissioned the state-of-the-art administration block at the County Assembly of Bungoma on 27th August 2023.

Speaking at Masinde Muliro Stadium in Kanduyi during the launch of the 5th Edition of County Assemblies Sports Association (CASA) games, Governor Lusaka stated that the move will improve the operational efficiency in the County Assemblies and also serve as a testament to the National Government's commitment to supporting the success of devolution in Kenya. Lusaka emphasized the need for independence among the 47 County Assemblies in Kenya.

"It is an honor for Bungoma to host such a big auspicious event making it the second biggest event to be held at the newly constructed Masinde Muliro stadium after Madaraka Day celebrations that were held here in June this year," said Governor Lusaka.

The autonomy will enable County Assemblies to have power and control over their budgets with direct approval from the Controller of Budget, without relying on the County Executive. This will be different from the current situation where County Assemblies require approval of their budgets through the County Treasury before proceeding to the Controller of Budget for final approval.

The County Assemblies depend on exchequer releases from the National Government, which go



H.E The Governor Bungoma County Hon. Kenneth Lusaka during the official opening ceremony for the 2024 CASA Games at the Masinde Muliro Stadium in Kanduyi

through the County Executive arms of Government that determine allocations to County Assemblies.

Lusaka also called upon the Salaries and Remuneration Commission to restore sitting allowances for Members of County Assemblies to enhance their welfare and motivate better representation of the electorate.

In addition, he called upon the government to establish a pension plan for County Assembly Speakers and provide security for Members of County Assemblies equal to that granted to Members of Parliament. Citing recent attacks on Members of County Assemblies, Lusaka said it was a wake-up call for the government to urgently address the issue.

He applauded the annual CASA games for their role in bringing together all 47 County Assemblies to foster unity and integration in the country.

The CASA Games patron and host Speaker, Hon. Emmanuel Situma, welcomed all participants of this year's sports bonanza to Bungoma County and urged residents to be good hosts to the visiting teams.

"I wish all the teams the very best. Your hard work and dedication have made this edition of CASA games a memorable experience. May the best teams win!" said Hon. Situma.

CASA Chairperson Peter Imwatok cautioned the participating County Assemblies against fielding non-staff and Members of County Assemblies to participate in the completion which was against the CASA regulations.

The event was attended by County Assembly Speakers, Clerks, Members of County Assemblies, and staff from across 42 County Assemblies. Also present was the Member of Parliament Kanduyi Constituency

Hon John Makali, Vice Chancellor Kibabii University Prof Odeo Ipara, and the leadership of County Assemblies Forum (CAF). With the slogan "CASA NI SISI NA SISI NI CASA," CASA Games 2024 officially kicked off as participants looked forward to putting their best foot forward in anticipation of victory at the end of the games.

Pictorials



Pictorial excerpt for CASA Games 2024

Continuation

Wambutu: Ok. You know Chela, just learning from you that Bungoma County Assembly has had robust legislative history since it's inception, is so unfortunate that I have not been keen enough to inform myself.

Chelagat : Don't blame yourself Wambutu (*saying it with a soothing voice*)-I will take it upon myself to inform you so that at the end of it all you will not be ignorant. Do you know the Bungoma County Flag, Emblems and Names Protection Act, 2015 was among the first laws passed by the Bungoma County Assembly?

Wambutu: (*Picks a glass of cold water and swallows it in a haste, takes a pause, holding a huge piece of ugali in his right palm*)-Ooooh!Is it the County law that provides the legal backing on the use of the County flag, the County Emblem and use of County titles and names in proper manner

Chelagat : Yessssss,(her eyes brightens).Well put Wambutu, I can see you can easily pick the short title of the County Act and interpret it to determine it's objective and purpose.

Wambutu: (Smiling sheepishly) –At least I can interpret.
(They all break into a long laughter)

Chelagat : Correct Wambutu, There is also the Bungoma County Alcoholic Drinks Control Act, 2015,The Bungoma County (Decentralized units)Administration Act,2015 and.....(Wambutu interjects)

Wambutu: Wait Chela is the Bungoma County Alcoholic Drinks Control Act, 2015 in operation because have not seen keenness in it's implementation in the County

Chelagat: You are right Wambutu,lack of regulations to implement the Act has been the major hurdle.

Wambutu: (As he sips the chicken soup from the plate, his eyes on Wechakulia-a popular newspaper vendor in Town as he enters through the hotel door)-How are you Wechakulia?

Wechakhulia: Fine Wambutu (flashing the local daily towards Wambutu Bungoma Mipasho)

Wambutu: (Eyes radiating and fixed on the local daily's heading with a big smile and reads with a raised voice) Bungoma County to host the 5th Edition 2024-County Assembly Sports Association(CASA) games from 18th October-27th October,2024

Chelagat : Waaaaau! That is good news, so we have a sporty week ahead? I will definitely be there to cheer our County Assembly of Bungoma MCAs and staff to Victory as they participate in their various disciplines.

Wambutu: Indeed, shall be there too Chela and wish our County Assembly MCAs and staff all the best as they participate, we shall catch up after the games in this very hotel for more on the legal framework. Please, give me that newspaper (his hands raised towards Wechakhulia as he finalizes chewing and swallowing the chicken wing)

Chelagat: Well, let it be so my friend Wambutu lets catch up after the games, I need to do my hair downtown , it looks horrible , thanks so much for Lunch(as she stands to wash her hands and leaves the hotel in a haste)

Wambutu: Much welcome(he raises, washes his hand and picks the local daily from Wechakhulia.He then sits down and starts going through it after paying him)

END

By Legal Services Department

Bungoma County Assembly organizes town cleanup initiative ahead of 5th edition of the CASA Games

By County Assembly Communications Team

In a commendable display of community service, the County Assembly of Bungoma organized a comprehensive town cleaning exercise on Monday, October 21, 2024. This Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activity aimed to enhance the cleanliness and overall appearance of Bungoma town while fostering a sense of civic responsibility among residents.

The cleanup activity was strategically held a day before the official launch of the County Assemblies Sports Association (CASA), scheduled for Tuesday, October 22, 2024. Hon. Emmanuel, Speaker of the County Assembly of Bungoma, expressed enthusiasm about the initiative. "This activity is a concrete way of demonstrating that every single one of us has a role to play in shaping a better tomorrow—whether through cleaning our shared spaces or encouraging inclusivity in all that we do," the Speaker stated. "It's an opportunity for us to significantly impact our town's cleanliness by leading by example and encouraging our constituents to follow suit."

Hon Peter Imwatok, the Chairperson of CASA, echoed these sentiments, adding, "As sportspeople, we understand the importance of a clean and healthy environment. This initiative is a testament to Bungoma's preparedness to host CASA games."

Local businesses and volunteers provided refreshments and cleaning equipment, including gloves, brooms, reflector jackets, brushes, wheelbarrows, and gumboots. The County Assembly hopes this cleanup will be the first of many such collaborative efforts.

"We envision this as more than just a one-time event," said Mr. Wafula, the Clerk of the County Assembly. "Our goal is to instill a culture of cleanliness and environmental responsibility that will last for posterity."

As Bungoma County takes this significant step towards a cleaner, healthier environment, it sets an example for other counties across Kenya. This partnership between the County Assembly and CASA demonstrates the power of collaboration in addressing community needs and fostering positive change.



Photos of various leaders during the town cleaning exercise ahead of the official opening of the CASA Games 2024



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