



NSC SPECIAL

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INDEPENDENCE STADIUM, BAKAU



GMA CROWNED CHAMPIONS OF MAY DAY 2025 BASKETBALL 3X3 TOURNAMENT

The Gambia Maritime Administration (GMA) were crowned champions of the May Day 2025 Basketball 3x3 Tournament after a thrilling contest against Dock Labour Company at the Independence Stadium in Bakau on Sunday, 28th April 2025.

The competition, organized under the theme “Decent work and better wages for a sustainable work force,” brought together teams to celebrate May Day through sportsmanship and unity.

In the first round, Dock Labour Company edged past GMA with a narrow 12-11 victory, setting the stage for a competitive battle. However, GMA came back stronger in the second round, dominating with a 12-7 win to level the contest.

The final round saw GMA display great teamwork and determination, limiting Dock Labour Company to just three points while scoring seven themselves, securing a decisive 7-3 victory and clinching the championship title.

The tournament showcased the talents and spirit of the workforce, highlighting the important role of sports in promoting camaraderie, fitness, and resilience among workers.

In another sports. The Gambia Police Force were crown champions of both the male and female volleyball tournament.



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GAMBIAN WORKERS RALLY FOR IMPROVED CONDITIONS AHEAD OF 2025 MAY DAY

Staff from various institutions across The Gambia convened on 28th April 2025, at the PIA Hall for a one-day conference themed “Decent Work and Better Wages for a Sustainable Workforce.” The gathering formed part of the build-up to this year’s May Day celebrations.

Throughout the conference, participants deliberated on the conditions within their respective workplaces, focusing on key issues such as fair wages, workers’ rights, workplace safety, and career development opportunities. The discussions culminated in the adoption of a series of resolutions aimed at enhancing the working environment for employees nationwide.

These resolutions were formally presented to the Minister of Trade during the Workers’ Day grand march-past and sporting events on 1st May 2025 at McCarthy Square in Banjul.



VOVINAM ASSOCIATION PAYS COURTESY CALL, PRESENTS AWARDS TO SPORTS MINISTER

The Gambia Vovinam Viet Vo Dao Association today paid a courtesy call on the Honourable Minister of Youth and Sports at his office in Banjul, where they presented certificates and medals in recognition of the Ministry’s continued support to the growth of martial arts in the country.

The visiting delegation, which included their American counterparts, joined Gambian master Mamut Njie in presenting a certificate of appreciation for the President of The Gambia. The certificate was received by the Minister for onward transmission to the Head of State.

The visit came on the heels of the successful hosting of the first Vovinam overseas tournament in Africa, held in The Gambia from April 25 to 27, 2025. The event drew participants from the USA, Belgium, Italy, Benin, Senegal, and Mauritania.





SPORTS TAKE CENTRE STAGE AS MOYS BOSS CALLS FOR WORKERS' RIGHTS THROUGH SPORTS

In a lively display of unity, energy, and national pride, The Gambia today joined the rest of the world to commemorate International Workers' Day, with its much-anticipated May Day Sports activities under the theme: "Decent Work and Better Wages for a Sustainable Workforce."

Speaking to the McCarthy square in Banjul, Hon. Bakary Y. Badjie, Minister of Youth and Sports, reaffirmed the growing significance of sports as a force for national cohesion and economic progress. He used the platform to spotlight the ongoing call for decent work and fair wages not only in traditional sectors but also within the world of sports.

"Work is more than just a paycheck. It's about dignity and opportunity," the Minister said. "That's no different for those in sports our athletes, coaches, and the many professionals behind the scenes all contribute meaningfully and deserve respect and fair compensation."

Minister Badjie reflected on how sports continue to transform lives in The Gambia, citing its role in youth empowerment, health promotion, and national recognition on the international stage. He also encouraged greater investment in the sector, including improved infrastructure, more support for athletes, and stronger private sector engagement.

"We have to ensure gender equality, protect the rights of our young athletes, and help them prepare for life beyond the pitch or track," he emphasized.

The celebration brought together institutions, workers' unions, and government representatives — notably the Ministry of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration and Employment, Gambia National Olympic Committee and The Gambia National Sports Council - NSC under his Ministry in a festive atmosphere filled with sportsmanship and solidarity.

Minister Badjie closed by commending the National organising committee through National Sports Council for organizing the event, while encouraging all citizens to uphold the values of fairness, hard work, and opportunity for every worker.

"As we enjoy today's sports, let's not forget the effort and determination behind every achievement in sports and in life," he concluded.



GAMBIA POLICE FORCE CROWNED CHAMPIONS OF 2025 MAY DAY SPORTS AT MCCARTHY SQUARE

Banjul, May 1, 2025 — The Gambia Police Force emerged as the new champions of the 2025 May Day Sports, outpacing fierce competitors to claim the top position in this year's athletics competition held at the historic McCarthy Square in Banjul.

Organised by the National Sports Council (NSC) under the Ministry of Youth and Sports, in partnership with the Ministry of Trade, the Gambia National Olympic Committee (GNOC), and the Gambia National Trade Union Congress (GNTUC), the event brought together public and private sector institutions to celebrate workers through sports and unity.

With an impressive score of 132 points, the Gambia Police Force secured 1st place, dethroning previous champions and announcing their return to the top of national athletics. The Gambia Maritime Administration followed closely with 116 points to take 2nd place, while the Kanifing Municipal Council clinched 3rd with 112 points after a solid performance on the field.

Other top finishers included Bwinner (4th with 102 points), the Gambia Prison Service (5th with 99 points), and Edward Francis Small Teaching Hospital (6th with 98 points). The Gambia Civil Aviation Authority and Gambia Armed Forces tied for 7th place with 94 points each.

SESDO HOSTS 3RD ANNUAL GALA AS MINISTRY PLEDGES CONTINUED SUPPORT

The Serrekunda East Sports Development Organization (SESDO) held its 3rd Annual Award and Fundraising Gala Dinner on Saturday, May 3rd, at the iconic "East Bi" ground, bringing together key stakeholders, club representatives, and sports development partners.

The event was honoured by the presence of the Minister of Youth and Sports, alongside the Chairperson and Acting Executive Director of the Gambia National Sports Council (NSC), as well as senior officials from the Ministry.

In his remarks, the Minister congratulated the President and Executive Committee of SESDO for their impressive achievements over the past year, especially in infrastructure development and the successful organization of matches.

He also reaffirmed the Ministry's continued support and strong partnership with the zone, emphasizing the importance of grassroots sports development in the national sports agenda.

The gala dinner featured the recognition of clubs, athletes, and community leaders who have contributed significantly to the progress of the zone. Funds raised during the event will support ongoing and future sports development projects in Serrekunda East.



PICTORIAL - MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS





NATIONAL SPORTS COUNCIL HONORS MAY DAY SPORTS CHAMPIONS AT GALA BANQUET

The National Sports Council (NSC) of The Gambia rolled out the red carpet Saturday night for its annual awards banquet, a celebratory event dubbed "BANQUET," held at a local hotel in Kololi on Saturday 17th May, 2025. The gala gathered a multitude of institutions and key stakeholders from across the country to acknowledge and commend participants of the recent May Day Sports, culminating in the presentation of well-deserved accolades to the winners.

The banquet served as the culmination of the Workers' Day commemorations on May 1st, which saw Gambians join the global observance at Machatty Square in Banjul. This year's activities featured a vibrant march pass, insightful speeches by dignitaries, and a variety of sports competitions, all aimed at fostering stronger relationships among Gambian institutions. The NSC orchestrated this formal gathering to officially recognize and present awards to the triumphant teams and individuals from the sporting events.

A poignant moment of the evening saw the audience observe a minute of silence in heartfelt tribute to George Gomez, acknowledging his immense contributions to Gambian sports. In his opening remarks, Mahmud Lamin Jawla, the Acting Executive Director of the National Sports Council, lauded this year's May Day celebrations as an undeniable success, emphasizing that it was precisely this triumph that spurred the decision to host this official banquet.

Acting Director General Jawla delivered a special tribute to the visionary leader who initiated May Day Sports in The Gambia, the late Judge Frumus Gomez. Jawla described him as a figure whose enduring legacy continues to serve as a profound source of inspiration for current stakeholders in the same domain.

The Honorable Bakary Y. Badjie, Minister of Youth and Sports, extended his sincere gratitude to all participants of this year's May Day Sports. He also outlined several key recommendations that his ministry, on behalf of the government, is actively pursuing to further elevate and uniquely enhance future May Day celebrations.

The zenith of the evening was the eagerly anticipated awards ceremony, where accolades were presented to the deserving winners across various categories:

PICTORIAL - MAY DAY TROPHIES



- THE VOLLEYBALL AWARDS, BOTH MALE AND FEMALE, WERE SECURED BY THE GAMBIA POLICE FORCE
- BASKETBALL EVENT, THE AWARD WENT TO THE GAMBIA MARITIME ADMINISTRATION.
- THE TUG OF WAR AWARD WAS DECISIVELY CLAIMED BY THE GAMBIA ARMED FORCES, WHO DOMINATED BOTH THE MALE AND FEMALE CATEGORIES.
- YONNA FINANCIAL SERVICES WAS HONORABLY RECOGNIZED WITH THE BEST DRESSED AWARD.
- THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT RECEIVED THE PRESTIGIOUS MOST DISCIPLINED AWARD.
- THE COVETED TITLE OF OVERALL WINNER OF MAY DAY SPORTS IN THE GAMBIA 2025 WAS PROUDLY CLAIMED BY THE GAMBIA POLICE FORCE, WHO AMASSED AN IMPRESSIVE TOTAL OF 132 POINTS ACROSS ALL EVENTS IN WHICH THEY PARTICIPATED.



GAMBIA U-20 WOMEN'S TEAM ELIMINATED FROM FIFA WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

The Gambia U-20 women's national team has been knocked out of the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup qualifiers following a 5-0 loss to Ivory Coast in Abidjan, completing a 6-0 aggregate defeat over two legs.

The Lady Scorpions had earlier suffered a narrow 1-0 home defeat at the Independence Stadium, but hopes of a comeback were dashed as the Ivorians dominated the return fixture to book their place in the next round of the qualifiers.

This latest setback marks the fourth time this year that a Gambian national football team has failed to qualify for a major international tournament.

The senior men's national team, the Scorpions, failed to secure a spot at the 2025 Africa Cup of Nations in Morocco, finishing third in Group A despite back-to-back qualifications in previous editions. They also sit sixth in Group F of the 2026 FIFA World Cup qualifiers, trailing group leaders Ivory Coast by 12 points.

Meanwhile, the U-17 men's national team missed out on the FIFA U-17 World Cup playoff in El Jadida, Morocco, following a 2-1 defeat to Kenya. The team has not qualified for the tournament since 2009.

The U-23 men's national team also faced disappointment, having been eliminated from the African Nations Championship (CHAN) qualifiers after losing to Algeria in the playoff round.

The elimination of the U-20 women's team adds to a difficult year for Gambian football, with hopes of World Cup qualification once again falling short.



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DAVID HAFFNER RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF GAMBIA NATIONAL SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

David Haffner has been re-elected unopposed as President of the Gambia National Softball Association (GNSA) for another four-year term on Saturday 24th May 2025. His re-election took place during the association's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Elective Congress held on Saturday, 24th May 2025, at the Gambia National Olympic Committee (GNOC) Conference Room in Bakau.

The event, which commenced promptly at 10:30 a.m., brought together key stakeholders in Gambian sports. Among the dignitaries in attendance were Ebrima Secka, Program Manager at the National Sports Council (NSC); Sara Camara, Communications and PR Manager at NSC; and Bai Dodou Jallow, President of the GNOC.

In his remarks following the re-election, Haffner expressed gratitude to the delegates for the confidence reposed in him and pledged to continue advancing the sport of softball in The Gambia. He outlined plans to expand grassroots participation and enhance national competitions.

The AGM also served as a platform to review the association's achievements and challenges over the past four years, as well as to set priorities for the next phase of its development.

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