



HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

“Together We Deliver and Grow”

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We want more women in Boxing-Speaker Harry Gwala District Municipality.

"A woman's place is no longer in the kitchen. It could also be in a boxing rings."

Those were the sentiments shared by Harry Gwala District Municipality Speaker Cllr. Sibongiseni Mdunge, when he was speaking during the women in Boxing Week Municipal program held at the municipal main office in Ixopo today (24 August 2022).

This event by Boxing South Africa (BSA), aims at address the various barriers of entry and upwards mobility for women in boxing.

Boxing South Africa said this is one of the major steps in eradicating stereotypes in the world of boxing by hosting a women's week which started on the 22nd and will end on Friday.

The Women in Boxing Municipal visit is in collaboration with South African National Amateur Organisation (Sanabo).

Speaker Mdunge in his welcoming remarks said women should take this opportunity and be more involved in sport as a way to fight social ills and especially gender based violence.

"A woman's place is no longer in the kitchen, we longer expect them to be fetching water and cooking only but we want them to be more involved in sport. We want female boxers and female athletes to take the centre stage. We want more women in boxing. We are hoping that involving the youth in sport could fight the scourge of gender base violence. As the municipality our core function is water and sanitation but we also want to promote and support sport programs that empowers the youth," said Speaker Mdunge.

Acting CEO Boxing South Africa Mr. Nsikayezwe Sithole said there is so much more that needs to be done to ensure that women in boxing thrive, that includes promoting female boxers, attracting female athletes. Sanabo President Mr. Siyabulela Mkhwalo shared the sentiments and said women need to start in a young age to involve themselves in boxing.

Miss Phiwokuhle Mnguni (21), from Dundee who is a commonwealth game medal winner 2022, said she started boxing as early as 12 years.

“Boxing has saved me from lot of social ills especially as someone who grew up in a township. I have also travel many places because of boxing and I encourage other females to join me especially at a younger age so they can grow in the sport. I started boxing when I was just 12 years and it has been amazing journey, “she said.

Local Municipalities were encouraged to open their local halls and facility to host boxing match and have more boxing clubs.

ISSUED BY HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY
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