**HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY**

**“Together We Deliver and Grow”**

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**HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MARATHON**

**MEDIA STATEMENT:**

Attention: News Editor, Sport Editor, Sport Journalist and Journalist.

Harry Gwala District Marathon-2023

The 8th annual Harry Gwala District Marathon is set to attract top athletes in this year’s race.

Harry Gwala District Municipality in partnership with uBuhlebezwe Local Municipality, uMzimkhulu Local Municipality, the Department of Sport and Recreation, Genius Athletic Club and other stakeholders are ready to host another successful Harry Gwala Marathon on Sunday, 14 May 2023.

This marathon is expected to host athletes who will descend from all over the country and SADAC, to participate.

Although this year’s marathon will not be a qualifier for the Comrades Marathon, because of its close proximity to the Comrade marathon, but it shall be used by athletes to prepare themselves for June Comrades Marathon.

Harry Gwala District Mayor Cllr. Zamo Nxumalo has called upon athletes to participate in the Marathon especially athletes in the district.

“This Marathon is growing gradually since 2014, few participants have been attracted throughout South Africa as well as other African Countries. Even this year we want more athletes to come forward and run the race. They can train for the upcoming Comrades Marathon and other races, the district is a perfect place to do so as it has been discovered that it has got cleanest air,” said Mayor Nxumalo.

The marathon will start at: R612 Highflats and finish at UMzimkhulu College.

The 42.2 km race will start at 06:30 am, followed by the 21.1 km which will start at 7:00am and the 10 km will commence at 07:15 am. There will also be 5km Fun Run, which can be registered for on the day of the race.

Athletes in this marathon will get to share prize money over R400 000.

The main race (42.2km) the first Men and Women will walk away with R50 000, second place R30 000, third place R15 000, 4th position R 10 000, 5th position R 8 000, 7th position R 6 000, 8th position R 5000, 9th position R 4 000 and position 10 will receive R3 000.

Prizes for 21.1 km for the first Men and women there will get R10 000, second place R7 000, third place R6 000, until position 10 whom will get R1000.

For 10km the winners will get R5000, position 2 will receive R3 000 and 3rd position will receive R2 000.

For the race walk (10 km) for the first men and women there will get R2 000, second place R1000 and 3rd place R800. All finishers will receive medals.

The first Harry Gwala District athletes (male and female), affiliated with Harry Gwala Clubs to complete the event will each receive R5000 (42.2 Km only).

Entry fees for 42.2 km is R350, 21.1 km is R300, 10 km is R250 and 5km Fun Run R100. Athletes will require to obtain temporary licenses for 10km and 21.1km.

Late entries from 1 May 2023, will pay R50 more for each category.

Athletes are urged to enter now following the link:

<https://www.eventtiming.info/entryonline.php?id=325>, where there will find an application forms. Form will also be available at Harry Gwala main offices in 40 Main Street Ixopo, and other Local Municipality offices in the district and Harry Gwala District Municipality’s website.

ISSUED BY HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY COMMUNICATIONS UNIT.