

HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY "Together We Deliver and Grow" OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER 40 Main Street, Private Bag X501, IXOPO 3276 Tol: (020) 824 8707 East: (020) 824 1701

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All roads to the Harry Gwala District Marathon.

Following the successful launch of the Harry Gwala District Marathon, number of applicant has grown for this race which will be held on the 15th of May 2022.

The Harry Gwala District Municipality launched the Marathon in Kokstad on Tuesday (26 April 2022).

The honourable Mayor Cllr. Zamo Nxumalo said the people of Harry Gwala District were excited about this race making a return and also Athletes are eager to be part of the race.

"It very exciting that this race makes a return, it is exciting the people of Harry Gwala District as well as athletes who will take part. The number of people registering for the race is growing each day. We encourage everyone to gets involved in this race, the young and old," said Nxumalo.

The hosting club Genius Athletic Club manager, Themba Gumede, said more than 500 people have already registered to be part of the race, following the launch more people are registering for the race.

"So far more than 500 people have registered as we launch the race, more people are expected to register as we get closer to the race date. More people are now even more interested to be part of the race," said Gumede.

The race technical director Celi Makhoba, said all is in order and athletes should be preparing themselves to run a beautiful race on the day.

This is the 7th annual race, which makes a return this year after being absent last year due to Covid-19 related reasons.

Harry Gwala District Municipality is in partnership with uBuhlebezwe Local Municipality, uMzimkhulu Local Municipality, the Department of Sport and Recreation in the District, Genius Athletic Club and other stakeholders.

Present at the launch were both Local Mayors uBuhlebezwe, Cllr. Bathobile Ngubo and uMzimkhulu Mayor, Cllr. Jabulile Msiya, they also encouraged everyone to be part of the race and also make sport part of their lives.

The race will start from 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. Introduced this year for the first time is the Race Walk 10km. This new exciting introduction to both man and women also carries amazing prizes.

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 until position 10 whom 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 for the first men and women there will get R2 000, second place R1000 and 3rd place R800. All finishers will receive medals.

Athletes are urged to enter now following the link:

<u>https://www.eventtiming.info/entryonline.php?id=488</u>, 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 on the district website. Entry fees for 42.2 km is R300, 21.1 km is R250, 10 km is R200 and 5km Fun Run R100. The new race walk 10km entry will be R200. Athletes will require to obtain temporary licenses for 10km and 21.1km.

Entries are opened until 11 May, after that an added R50 will be paid for late entries. This race is also a Comrades Marathon Qualifier.

ISSUED BY HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY COMMUNICATIONS UNIT.