

HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY "Together We Deliver and Grow" OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER 40 Main Street, Private Bag X501, IXOPO 3276 Tel: (039) 834 8707 Fax: (039) 834 1701 Email: mbonaz@harrygwaladm.gov.za

16 May 2022 Media Statement

Mayor impressed about the growth of the Harry Gwala District Marathon

Harry Gwala District Municipality Mayor Cllr. Zamo Nxumalo, was over the moon with the growth of the Harry Gwala District Marathon which was held on Sunday, 15 August 2022.

This year's race saw about 700 athletes take part in competing in the 42.2km, 21km and 10km, from Highflats to UMzimkhulu.

Ayanda Ngcobo from Msinga was named the Harry Gwala Marathon Champion for 2022 after crossing the finish line at 2:18:08.

This race was supported by the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Sport, Arts and Culture.

The 42.2 k started from Highflats to Umzimkhulu. The 21 km and the 10 km races also followed along the same route. KwaZulu Natal Sport MEC Hlengiwe Mavimbela got the proceedings underway firing the race starting gun at exactly 6.30.

A Ngcobo was followed closely by Ndumiso Sokhela who took second place just one second behind Ngcobo with time- 2:18:08, in the third place was Tommy Skink with 2:20:04. Ngcobo walked away with the R50 000 prize. Female categories main race 42.2 km champion is Jennifer Koech from Kenya who did 2:58: 25, in the second place was Makhosi Mhlongo with 3:03:05, in the third place was Lisa Collett who did 3:03:30. District Mayor Cllr. Nxumalo, alongside the local Mayor, UMzimkhulu Cllr. Jabulile Msiya and uBuhlebezwe Cllr. Bathobile Ngubo were also part of the race. Mayor Nxumalo congratulated all the winners especially the athletes from The District who took part in this race.

This 7th annual Harry Gwala District Marathon made a return this year after being absent last year due to Covid-19 related reasons.

"I am glad that this marathon was a success especially when it had been absent last year, making a return this year, indeed it growing and we saw more people from the District taking part in the race. We would really like to thank MEC Mavimbela for making this race possible for us and the athletes," said Mayor Nxumalo.

MEC Mavimbela advised the winners to use their winnings wisely especially toward advancing their careers in athletics.

The winner Ngcobo thanked his coach from Black Diamond Club, Mr Xolani Mabhida, other athletes from his club, the Department of Sport and Harry Gwala District Municipality, his family and friends for the support.

## Winners

42.2Km

Males	Felames
1.Ayanda Ngcobo-2:18:08	1. Jennifer Koech- 2:58: 25
2. Ndumiso Sokhela-2:18:09	2. Makhosi Mhlongo-3:03:05

3. Tonny Skink-2:20:04	3. Lisa Collett- 3:03:30

## 21 km

Males	Female
1.Jobo Khatoane-1:02:12	1.Molulubele Makatisi-1:12:09
2.Elvis Tau-1:02:56	2.Methakane Letsie-1:13:52
3.Mfundo Chagwe-1:03:29	3.Jenet Mbhele-1:14:29

## 10km

Males	Females
1.Siyabonga Ndovu-0:28:06	1.Bathobile Mkhize-0:34:54
2.Ath -0:28:40	2.Mafole Elelloang-0:35:27
3.Kamohelo Mafolo 0:28:56	3.Reitumetse Thethana-0:37:47