

ABI Coke Series

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On the 18 July 2007 the ABI Coke Series was launched at Ellis Park. 87 teams subscribed to take part in the competition, 26 teams took part at Hans Moore High School, 52 at Roodepoort Rugby Club, 4 at Klerksdorp HTS and 5 at Hans Merenski High in Limpopo.

It was my pleasure to be at Hans Moore for 4 weeks from 24 July to 16 August to take photographs and help in choosing the man of the match from the different teams and also to judge for myself the talent and depth of future rugby. Thank you Hans Moore and all that helped in the organising and preparation of all activities including ground preparation, music, food and beverage stall, first aid and referees.

Thank you to the schools that participated for the spirit in which they came to play, some had quite a distance to travel to the venue.

There were 3 categories into which the schools were divided, namely Big, Medium and Small according to the number of boys in the school. The competition was only for persons 17 years or younger or those who have another year or two at school, thereby qualifying them for next years 1st teams. It also gave the coaches an ideal opportunity to try out different combinations.

I was impressed by the talent that was produced by the different teams and also the teamwork that I saw, without taking anything away from the spirit in which the different teams displayed towards the competition and game, I cannot contain my dismay in which a small



number of personnel, parents and spectators behaved.

These type of incidents can be contained by proper enforcement of the rule. No spectators and or personnel allowed near or on the field, here is where the organisers and referees come in, the referee has the authority and fullest right to stop the match, and request that the people to get behind the boundary rope which have been erected but was ignored.

As usual there were a lot of remarks thrown about the quality of refereeing, some positive some negative. On the whole I found them to handle the matches quite well. The one referee who I found to be the most consistent in his rulings, control and fluidity of the matches was Douw.

Enough of the negative lets go to the positive, Of the 26 teams that took part in the competition here at Hans Moore. 5 went through to the quarter finals that took place at Roodepoort Rugby Club, 1 from A division, namely E.G.Jansen, 2 from B division, H.T.S.Sasol and Dinamika, 2 from C division, Delmas and Goudrif.

E.G.Janson went on to win all their matches and in the final came up against Potch Volkskool whom they convincely beat 36-14. E.G.Jansons No 14 wing Morne Stassen went on to score 4 of the six tries, well done E.G.Jansen you deserved it.

Dinamika from the B division went through to the finals and lost to Grenswag 7-10, well done Grenswag.

Delmas from the C division went through to the finals and lost to Nic Diedericks 8-10 well done Nic Diedericks. HTS Sasol and Goudrif unfortunately were beaten in the quarter finals by Grenswag and CBC Boksburg respectively.

A Coke team was chosen on merit of their performance during the series to play a Sharks under 18 Club teams at Absa Stadium Durban on 31st August. Of the 22 players chosen, no less than 8 were nominated from Dr EG Jansen High, this team went on to a fantastic win over the Sharks U/18 by 46-10, congratulations boys you did us proud.

There was also a Coke Lite team chosen from each of the two areas that took part in the series namely Lions and the Falcons. An ideal opportunity has presented itself for the Selectors to see and identify the potential players for next years Craven week teams.

All Coke pictures available at:

www.skolerugby.co.za