

Only victory will suffice for Stallions

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MASENO. Uganda's representatives at this weekend's Maseno Amadi Open in Western Kenya are a mixed bag with varying expectations. The competition in Kenya's hockey hub will pit clubs against secondary schools and university sides.

For the men, Kampala Hockey Club (KHC) Stallions, with a vastly senior team, have overlooked today's Rockets Open at home to make their fifth appearance and test themselves against different opponents while Weatherhead have a relatively younger squad making their debut.

The latter's coach Vincent Kasasa will derive confidence from the fact that his team comprises of students from St Mary's

College Kisubi and St. Charles Lwanga Kasasa, who participated in the East Africa Regional School Games last year. The latter were runners up losing gold to Kenya's St Anthony School on goal difference.

It could be a change of environment but Weatherhead players won't be operating in unfamiliar territory. They arrived on Thursday morning to allow time for acclimatisation ahead of games.

Stallions have improved in every edition. They were runners up in 2015, semi finalists in 2014 and didn't progress from the pools in 2013 and 2012. Only hoisting the trophy will feel like an achievement.

"The team is physically better than I found it (in December) but my worry is our indiscipline," Stallions coach Bernard Bwire, who will miss the tournament, said.