

Local

Makerere, Ndejje rule university swimming

Aquatic Duel. Makerere and Ndejje emerged as the standout performers at the inaugural Uganda Aquatics-do overall honours in a tightly contested event held at the British School of Kampala where both institutions stamped their authority.

BY MAKHTUM MUZIRANSA

UGANDA AQUATICS INTER-UNIVERSITY GALA

How They finished - Women

Ndejje University	- 363 pts
Makerere	- 358
Uganda Christian	- 254

Men

Makerere	- 390
Ndejje	- 360
UCU	- 186

Makerere and Ndejje universities were last Saturday crowned as the respective inaugural winners of the men and women's categories in the Uganda Aquatics Inter University Swimming Gala held at British School of Kampala, Muyenga.

After over a decade of dedicated influence in primary and secondary school swimming, Uganda Aquatics is planning for the same effectiveness at the tertiary level.

"We want to make a huge contribution and create the right eco-system for university swimming too," Erick Kisero, Uganda Aquatics (UAQ)'s executive member representing central region and also acting as the federation's chief executive officer, said during the competition that attracted three of the most influential tertiary institutions in university sports.

"We know that AUUS (Association of Uganda University Sports) has a swimming gala then there are also opportunities to compete in the East Africa and World University Games. We want to add to that by having a competition early in the year that also doubles as a qualifier for the (UAQ) National Championships (held in July)," Kisero added.

For the swimmers, it was a taxing edition with very minimal rest between races. Makerere University's Chloe Mulogo called it "exhausting" and her teammate Namanya Ampaire called it "tough" while Ndejje's Swagiah Mubiru cast a tired look even during the awards ceremony. The Makerere Sharks topped the men's category with 390 points while Ndejje pooled 360 points and Uganda Christian University (UCU) 186.

Ampaire leads men

UCU's Ryan Asabo, 22, won the men's 100m freestyle (1:07.79) ahead of Makerere's Brian Magoba, 24, and Ndejje's Andrew Mwanda Kimbugwe. Asabo, however, ceded the 50m freestyle podium to Makerere's Ariyo Ahumuza (27.42), Ndejje's Silver Ogwang, and Ahumuza's brother Ampaire.

Ogwang, 23, clocked 32.89 to top the 50m backstroke ahead of teammate Willis Mulindwa



Fruits Of Hard Work. Captains of Makerere men and Ndejje women display their trophies after topping those respective categories at the Inter University Swimming Gala. PHOTO/PATRICK KAWALI

and Makerere's Godwin Ntale. Ntale recovered to take the 100m backstroke in 1:20.27 pushing Ogwang to second and Mulindwa to third.

Makerere Ampaire, 21, then clocked 1:20.43 to beat Ogwang and Kimbugwe to 100m breaststroke gold. Ampaire did not have to engage top gear as he beat Magoba and Mulindwa to first position in the 50m breaststroke (35.99).

Ampaire also topped the 50m butterfly in 29.78 ahead of Mulindwa and Ogwang then later the 100m fly (1:15.25) ahead of Asabo and Mulindwa. Ampaire then relied on his breaststroke prowess to top the 200m individual medley in 2:50.09.

Makerere also won the 4x50m

men's medley relay in 2:14.24 and the freestyle one in 2:01.88.

Mubiru turns swag on

Makerere stunned Ndejje in the 4x50m women's medley relay winning it in 2:47.77 but the latter recovered later on to win the freestyle one in 2:35.76. Eventually, the Ndejje Piranhas won the category with 363 points while Makerere had 358 and UCU managed 254.

Mulogo, 20, topped the women's 100m freestyle in 1:05.68 ahead of Ndejje's Swagiah Mubiru and UCU's Esther Atoo. The girls retained their positions in the 50m free with Mulogo winning in 31.07 - 25 microseconds ahead of Mubiru.

390PTS
MAKERERE
MEN

Woodhall, KT, Unstages D...