

Proud ... San SLOW (L) and CFO Timothy Musiime (R) pose for a photo alongside the winners of the par-3 challenge competition Brenda Ajiduru (2nd L), Annet Nakiyaga (C) and Serena captain John Muchiri. PHOTO/EDDIE CHICCO

Ssali to replace Mugerwa, Kyaggwe want trophy

BY GEORGE KATONGOLE

MASAZA CUP 2026

Kickoff: June 13, 2026 |

Launch: June 10

Teams: 18 | **Registration**

deadline: April 28

Kyaggwe record:

Runners-up (2024) | Third place (2025)

MUKONO. The anticipated arrival of youth-focused tactician Ronald Ssali has sparked renewed belief in Kyaggwe Ssaza's 2026 Buganda Masaza Cup ambitions, as the county officially launched their campaign in Mukono on Thursday.

Ssali, who previously coached at Buweekula and Bulemeezi Ssaza teams and excelled at St Mary's Kitende before joining Bukedea

Comprehensive, is expected to usher in a tactical identity built around possession-based football.

The campaign was unveiled under the bold theme "Mission Kikopo 2026: Ffe tuli Gumite", as Kyaggwe sharpen preparations for a season they believe must deliver silverware. Ssali is expected to work with William Kyeswa, forming a technical partnership tasked with reshaping Kyaggwe's playing philosophy and match management. The duo will be responsible for improving Kyaggwe's control in high-pressure knockout fixtures, an area that has previously cost them at critical stages. Former head coach Simon Peter Mugerwa, now elevated to Technical Advisor, will provide oversight.

Kyaggwe Chief Ssekiboobo Vincent Matovu, who presided over the launch alongside his deputy Fred Katende, delivered a firm



Camerederie.

David Mugalu netted the opener, his third goal of the 2026 tournament, setting Kyaggwe on the path to a first-leg victory.

PHOTO/
GEORGE
KATONGOLE

message on standards.

"We want 100% performance in every game. No experiments, no excuses," Matovu said, stressing that Kyaggwe must approach every fixture as a final. Kyaggwe enter the 2026 campaign with both momentum and pressure after finishing runners-up in 2024 and claiming bronze in 2025. Those campaigns

confirmed their rise as serious contenders but also extended their wait for a maiden Masaza Cup title.

The 2024 final defeat to Buddu and 2025 semifinal exit remain key reference points in their rebuilding journey. Matovu also revisited last season's costly decision to field a weakened side against Ssinga after early qualification.