



Greenside High School

Sports highlights and achievements 2019.

Greenside High School believes strongly in the Nelson Mandela quote that says: “Sport has the power to change the world; it has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to the youth in a language they understand. Sport can create hope, where there was once only despair. It is more powerful than governments in breaking down racial barriers. It laughs in the faces of all types of discrimination. Sport is a game of lovers.”

We are truly grateful as a school that our learners are exposed to 13 sporting codes and many see themselves having career opportunities in the respective sporting codes that we offer at our school. Even though we were faced with a few challenges in the year, we have also developed and our perspectives and goals have broadened.

We would like to celebrate the achievements of our learners this far in all respective codes.

Rugby

The focus in every year is to introduce the girls to appropriate technique and develop a safe and competitive environment. They had a very successful league competing with 12 schools and the U16 girls being undefeated in 2019 and our U18 only losing 1 friendly game. Almost all the girls both u16 and u18s were invited to the National Rugby Week trials. Two senior girls unfortunately did not make it in the last trials and three players were chosen for the u18 National Week Team. Five girls in the U16 team made it to the national week that was hosted at Jeppe Boys High School. Two of our players were awarded the Women of the Match at the National Women's Rugby Week by the South African Rugby Union: Lindokuhle Mlotswa for Under 18 and Tanya Shava Under 16.

After the National Women's Rugby Week, we received communication that two of our learners were invited to the High Performance Camp in Cape Town, by the South African Rugby Union. Furthermore, two of the girls and 2 of the boys were invited to play 7s in the Soncini Games on the 26 – 27th October to represent Gauteng: Naqiyaah Nalla, Unathi Nkala, Tristen Abrahams and Grant Bird

We are slowly growing in the sport and it is very pleasing to see that our girls are falling in love with the sporting code and are being afforded opportunities from doing what they love. Not only are the girls excelling, but so are the boys. Isa Adams was invited to the second round for the U16 Craven week for the Golden Lions.

Basketball

2019 has been a pleasant year for Greenside Basketball. Our teams performed exceptionally well.

Onenda was awarded Female of the Year Award at the Johannesburg East District Awards. She plays for the Gauteng Province Basketball team and they took part in the national Basketball summer games where they achieved second place. The girls played in the Northern Conference League's finals on the 16th of March at Redhill College in Morningside. The girls were awarded 2nd place, losing to Norkem Park High School.

The boys also played well. Unfortunately, they only played 6 out of 9 scheduled matches. The three matches that they missed were forfeits due to other schools pulling out of the league and being penalized for administrative defaults (e.g. not having player's documentation). The boys lost against Barnato Park High School during play-offs

In terms 3 and 4 we entered 4 teams into the Johannesburg School Basketball League, which is one of the biggest basketball league for high school scholars. The teams are: Under 15 Boys and Girls as well as Under 17 Boys and Girls. These teams comprise of learners in grades 8- 11. The teams have performed well in the league. The Under 17 and 15 Boys will play in the Quarter Finals of the league on the 11th of October in order to make it into the semi- finals. More so, both our Under 15 and 17 girls have made it right through to the semi- finals which will take place on the 12th of October 2019.

Our Under 15 girls were also entered into the Junior NBA league for the very first time. Junior NBA is tough basketball league that is inclusive of a lot of private school teams. Our brave and courageous young girls made it up to the play- offs.

Onenda Olenga was selected to attend the Ball in Motion (BMI) all Africa camp at Sun City and was awarded the Most Valued Player award. She was also selected from this camp to play in the Basketball without Borders Tournament, which is the biggest basketball youth camp in Africa. This camp was held in Senegal In September 2019, Onenda, once again, made it into the junior provincial basketball team which will play in September for the Soncini games and in the National Summer Games in December.

Soccer

Boys' soccer was highly successful this year. The first team was unbeaten, but could not advance to the quarter finals because they were short of points. The biggest highlight was the under 16 team who won the Discovery Cup. It was awesome to see one of our own learners playing for Kaizer Chiefs at the Multi-Choice leagues. We are extremely proud of Kamohelo Haola for his outstanding achievements.

The Girls' Soccer highlight for the year was both our junior and senior teams placing 3rd in the league. Leila Chammai continues to make us proud by playing in the JWV

District team and for a very well-known organization that empowers young women in sports, Goals for Girls.

We hosted the annual Greenside High School Women's Soccer Tournament in August and it was a great success. The aim of the tournament is to empower young women to believe in themselves and to courageously conquer their sporting goals. We also hosted the Goals for Girls program at our school and the aim of this program is to help young women to use soccer as a tool for self-confidence and learn how to conduct their personal brand as a woman in sport. We also had the privilege of spending the day with Natalie Du Toit and few of the American soccer girls' facilitators.

Cross Country

The Cross-Country season produced some excellent results and has set a good foundation for next season. The senior boys, in particular, excelled beyond any previous achievements.

At the Paarlauf Relay, held at Bryanston High each year, our team finished third. The previous best position had been ninth.

At each of the league meetings, Mohammed Kadwa, Mmeli Sibiya, Ndhihwuvo Mkhawa and Thato Mokone, finished consistently in the top fifteen places, with Mohammed and Mmeli finishing second and third respectively.

All of our boys were chosen to represent the Northern Areas team and were then chosen to be part of the team that participated at the inter-provincial held at Thaba Trails. Mohammed and Mmeli came in the top ten and Ndivhwuvo and Thato finished in the top thirty. To put this achievement in some perspective: at the start of the season there would have been hundreds of athletes in each of the four districts, and these numbers are called to only twenty per region.

Touch Rugby

Touch Rugby at Greenside High School has grown tremendously. A lot of learners went for the Gauteng Touch Rugby Association trials with many of our learners making the respective A-D league provincial teams. Eleven of our learners played for Gauteng

Province team at the National Junior Touch Rugby Tournament during the September holidays, in Cape Town and achieved: 1 gold, 1 silver and 7 bronze medals.

Swimming

We successfully concluded an often exciting, nail-biting and rain-interrupted season of swimming. The highlight of the season being five of our learners progressing to the Prestige Swimming Gala. There were exciting events such as a workshop on diving and turning by a swimmer from the Gauteng side.

We can commend our learners for their dedication and commitment throughout the season, with their spirits remaining high come rain or shine. It is always a pleasure seeing our teachers working with a diverse group of learners, from those doing their Physical Science homework on the bus to the louder counterparts that needed a bit more encouragement to get out of the pool. They kept pushing harder with every stroke, and, with their impeccable behaviour, always remained the greatest ambassadors for Greenside High School.

Midmar Mile was a great success in February and Ziyaad Kharva was selected for the Swimming South Africa LEVEL 2 to represent his district - Central Gauteng Aquatics in Limpopo, Polokwane from 3rd – 5th April 2019. He was also selected to participate in an Open Water event by Swim South Africa in Slovenia.

Cricket

Cricket has grown from strength to strength as, for the very first time, we were able to field a full ladies' team this year that competed against other schools, not such a bad start for our cricket girls. We admire their bravery as they faced schools that have been on the field for a while.

In boys cricket we have full teams for U14, U15 and OPENS who did very well and are still doing amazingly well this term with one of our own (matric learner, Jaymeen Patel), who continues to play for Wanderers Cricket Club at a senior level and for central Gauteng representing Gauteng at U19, level. We are extremely proud of all our players as we honoured them early this year with caps for the number of hours they put in the sun fielding and batting and making the school extremely proud.

Hockey

We are proud to report back on a successful hockey season for both the boys' and the girls' teams. Despite struggling for numbers on occasions, we still kept going. The girls started with a junior and senior side, both having a winning start by beating Parktown Girls. Players dropping out meant that the junior side eventually got cut. This did not slow down the senior girls though. They ended with only one loss to their name.

The boys celebrated similar accolades. Struggling for numbers, the boys managed to dig deep during the season, being runners up in the Roosevelt tournament. The boys were also undefeated until the last match where they lost it in the last play off for the season.

In total the girls played 10 matches (winning 5 drawing 4 and losing 1) and having the most successful girls' season in recent memory. The boys managed a record of 8 games (4 wins, 3 draws and 1 loss) and an outstanding team.

Tennis

There has been a lot of improvement in both participation and the winning of matches. The boys are dedicated to the sport as they played about two matches a week, every week. The girls did amazingly well in their matches despite some being cancelled on account of the weather. We are very excited to have welcomed Ms Reed as the girls' tennis coach and we know Coach Williams and Ms Reed will help the tennis players succeed. Overall, tennis is flourishing, and we are so proud of the sportsmanship shown.

Squash

This year, we had about 25 boys play in Greenside High's Squash team.

The juniors had lots of fun learning how to play squash, improved their game substantially and are looking very promising.

Even though some of the U19 games proved challenging, their outstanding senior players continued to excel at their game.

We look forward to monitoring the progress of all the squash players in the next season.

Netball

Our netball pre- season started in February this year, with our first tournament being at the Greenside Derby which took place at De La Salle Holy Cross School On the 9th of March, with 80% of our teams winning their matches. The momentum of our girls picked up as we continued taking part in numerous sports festivals and derbies hosted by our neighbouring schools like the Maragon High School Festival, Dainfern College Derby, St. Peter's Derby, Rand Girls High School Festival (where our first team girls came 3rd place). The girls gained a lot of experience playing schools that are in higher leagues than they are and their commitment and humility during these tournaments are commendable. We are exceptionally proud of all our outstanding netball players and our incredible coaches as well as the teachers that assisted

Chess

The love for chess is developing and more learners are keen to learn chess from beginners' stage. This year, in particular, has seen a decline in the number of seniors participating and this resulted in promoting some juniors to fill the roles of seniors. The coach has been exceptional with the juniors. The seniors, too, could have benefitted from the coaches expertise if they had attended more regularly. The spread of practice also allowed more learners to attend to other sporting codes and do chess as well.

The following are the results for junior teams:

Section B: Greenside attained position 2.

Section C: Greenside attained position 3

Section D: Greenside attained position 3

Overall there is a promising talent that, if nurtured, can bear fruitful outcomes. We also encourage learners to participate in outside tournaments so that they can better their position in high school tournaments.

Robotics

Greenside High School Robotics is a brain sport, an Olympic sport, a team sport, which excites young minds and keeps adults wondering what it is about.

This years' World Robot Olympiad (WRO) theme was 'Smart Cities.' Our Robotics learners participated in two categories: The Regular category and the Open category.

In Regular category, the name 'regular' gives the false impression of what these industrious learners do. This is 'the' most difficult, most demanding, category, requiring precision and attention to detail. If the doctor were to check your blood pressure while you are participating in the competition, he would book you off work for at least a week. The learners come with their robot disassembled (might be up to 100 pieces), no borrowing of any sort from any team, cell phones off, their stuff searched, put in a secluded section in the competition hall, and they should not have any communication with anyone outside.

The Open category is not easy either, it requires learners to follow the year's theme, do research, build a robot and its environment, programme it, and test it until it does the required outcome. The learners have 6 months to do this before presenting to the competition judges.

These Robotics enthusiasts, the brilliant young minds of the future, participated in the World Robot Olympiad South Africa Provincial and National competitions held in July, August and September this year. They did exceptionally well. Two (2) Regular category teams participated in the Provincials and five (5) Open category teams proceeded to the Nationals. Three (3) teams from Open category scooped prizes: Two junior teams (2) won Bronze (3rd place) – Regeneration and Robo Cops, and one (1) junior team won Gold (1st prize) –LLA 2005, they became the National Champions. If not for the new WRO SA rule, introduced this year, of taking only one team from 'elementary, junior, and senior', these learners would have gone on to compete in Europe, in Hungary.

We truly appreciate our external coaches and teachers who are always investing their time to make sure that our learners are excelling in their respective sporting codes. Not only do they coach them about the sport but they also empower them through teaching them life skills through sports: discipline, respect, leadership, networking and sharing.