

UOC PEDIA

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Dr. RUKARE ATTENDS DOHA 2025 FORUM

Dr. Rukare Donald, President of Commonwealth Sport and Commonwealth Games Uganda, attended the Doha 2025 Forum, joining a roundtable on human rights in sports under the theme 'A Level Playing Field: Advancing Human Rights Across the World of Sports.'

The panel featured global organizations and stakeholders discussing labor standards, child safeguarding, stakeholder engagement, and human rights guidelines in sport. Dr. Rukare emphasized Commonwealth Sport's integration of human rights into its strategic plan, recruitment practices, indigenous peoples' declaration, inclusive para programs, and efforts to address historical injustices, while stressing the need to align national laws with international human rights standards.



Dr. Donald Rukare during the forum

AWIISI SUMMIT 2025

The African Women in Sports Initiative (AWIISI) Summit 2025, held in Kampala, brought together sports stakeholders to advance collective action against gender-based violence (GBV) in sport.

The summit honored fallen sports heroines Rebecca Cheptegei, Damaris Muthee, Agnes Tirop, and Eudy Simelane, reinforcing that safe sport is not a privilege but a right. Rossette Sayson, Chairperson of the UOC Gender Equity and Diversity Commission, urged the media, coaches, officials, athletes, and parents to uphold ethical standards, promote responsible reporting, and strengthen athlete safeguarding.

Highlighting the role of leadership, Elijah Njawuzi, Administrator at the Uganda Olympic Committee, emphasized that *“as gatekeepers, it is our responsibility to ensure we do not overstep our boundaries.”* He noted the collaboration with the Gender Equity and Diversity Commission to develop a handbook aimed at engaging men and boys, a key step in fostering accountability and making sport safer for all.

The summit concluded with the African Women in Sports Declaration, affirming that the safety, dignity, and equality of women and girls are non-negotiable foundations of sport in Africa.



During the summit

G.I.R.L.S AGAINST GBV PROJECT ToT WORKSHOP

The G.I.R.L.S Against GBV Project, implemented by Swans Sports Club in partnership with the Uganda Olympic Committee and Uganda Rugby Union, conducted a 3 days Training of Trainers workshop from 28th to 30th November 2025 at Innophine Hotel, with support from Olympic Solidarity.

Teachers, coaches, mentors, and safeguarding focal persons were equipped with skills in safeguarding, child protection, gender-based violence (GBV) prevention, mental health support, life skills, and monitoring and evaluation. The training emphasized ethical conduct, safe reporting mechanisms, and the use of sports values particularly respect to challenge harmful gender norms.

Participants committed to strengthening safeguarding systems by updating policies, appointing focal persons, and creating child-friendly reporting channels, reinforcing that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.



Participants during the ToT Workshop

G.I.R.L.S Against GBV RUGBY TOURNAMENT 2025

The G.I.R.L.S against GBV Rugby tournament 2025 was held on Wednesday 3rd December as part of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, using rugby as a platform to raise awareness, challenge harmful norms, and promote gender equality and respect. The event brought together 10 schools and organizations and over 140 students, with 200 participants.

The festival took place at Kids Pioneer School, Entebbe, where participants united in a vibrant rugby showcase that emphasized dignity, safety, fairness, and zero tolerance to violence. Through sport-based engagement, young people were educated, safe sporting spaces were promoted, and role models were empowered to champion respect both on and off the field.

The initiative highlighted the importance of including boys in conversations on GBV, encouraging respect, empathy, and positive masculinity as key tools for prevention. Guided by the shared values of Olympic Solidarity and rugby, the festival strengthened collective responsibility and reinforced a shared commitment to protecting every child and athlete while building safer, more inclusive communities.



Rugby players after winning medals

GAME CONNECT VOLLEYBALL WORKSHOP

The Game Connect Volleyball workshop was conducted at Mariam High School, Kampala, from 8th to 12th December 2025. The five-day training, facilitated by Uganda Volleyball Federation, brought together coaches, liaison officers, project coordinators, and youth participants from Kampala, Kamwenge, Adjumani, and Kyangwali Refugee Settlements.

The course combined theoretical instruction with practical court sessions, covering passing, setting, attacking, spiking, serving, blocking, and digging, as well as training in mini volleyball for beginners, nutrition, sport psychology, and safe sport practices. Participants also undertook practical assessments to demonstrate the technical skills acquired and assess their readiness to coach.

The training aimed to strengthen Game Connect Volleyball clubs, build skilled and confident coaches, and promote safe and inclusive sporting environments as participants returned to serve and inspire youth within their communities and refugee settlements.



Practical court session

The 4th Edition of the ANOCA Youth Games (AYG) 2025

The 4th Edition of the ANOCA Youth Games (AYG) 2025 was held in Angola from 8–20 December, bringing together young athletes from across Africa.

Uganda fielded 13 athletes in five disciplines; Athletics, Swimming, Table Tennis, Basketball 3x3, and Breaking and also participated in leadership forums through Brandina Kyalimpa. Team Uganda won six medals: two silver (Baskaline Cherotwo in Women's 1500M and George William Ntulume in Breaking) and four bronze (Keren Chelimo in Women's 3000M, Joseph Francis Sebatindira in Boys Singles Table Tennis, Jemimah Nakawala in Girls Singles Table Tennis, and Joseph & Jemimah in the Table Tennis Team event). Uganda's performance highlighted both sporting excellence and leadership engagement, marking the Games as a proud moment for the nation's youth athletes.



Athletes and coaches during the opening ceremony

HOIMA STADIUM WAS OFFICIALLY

The Hoima Stadium was officially opened on 24th December 2025, marking a major milestone in the development of sports infrastructure in the region. The facility was unveiled as a modern venue designed to support sports development, talent nurturing, and community engagement.

The opening brought together government officials, sports leaders, athletes, and community members, highlighting the stadium's role as a hub for competitive sport and youth empowerment. The event marked the formal commissioning of the stadium for use in national and regional sporting activities.

The stadium was opened to provide a safe, accessible, and high-quality sporting facility, supporting training, competitions, and large-scale events. Its development reflects ongoing efforts to strengthen sports systems and promote participation at all levels.

The opening of Hoima Stadium underscored the commitment to using sport as a tool for development, fostering inclusion, economic growth, and opportunities for young people while elevating Uganda's capacity to host major sporting events.



Hoima City Stadium

Uganda Boxing Champions League Season 4 Finale



Dr. Rukare and the champion

The grand finale of the Uganda Boxing Champions League Season 4 was held on 26 December 2025, marking an exciting close to another thrilling season of boxing excellence. The event attracted a vibrant audience and distinguished guests, including Dr. Don Rukare, President of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) Uganda and President of Commonwealth Sport, alongside musicians, celebrities, politicians, and other notable figures.

The finale celebrated not only the athletes' skill and determination but also the growing popularity of boxing as a sport that unites communities and inspires young talent across the country.

Looking ahead, anticipation is already building for Season 5, which is scheduled to kick off in April 2026, promising even more action, talent, and memorable moments in Uganda's boxing arena.

The 2025 Uganda Open Table Tennis Championship



During the ceremony

The 2025 Uganda Open Table Tennis Championship, organized by the Uganda Table Tennis Association (UTTA), came to a spectacular close on December 8, 2025 at Kabojja International School. The finale was a full-house event that brought together veteran icons and rising stars, creating an unforgettable night of skill, passion, and promise for the sport in Uganda.

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