



SPORT KLUB WINDHOEK

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Press Release

Re: German Bundesliga to visit Namibia

German professional outfit 1899 Hoffenheim will be visiting Namibia from 08 to 17 February. Although their first team is currently involved in the 2nd round of the Bundesliga they have sent their u/23 side to Namibia for a ten day training camp ahead of their second round start at the end of February.

Their program will be packed with training sessions, test matches and official visits to various different schools and other organisations. They will also travel to Swakopmund for a short 2 day desert training camp. The undoubted highlights will be their three test matches against a combined SKW/Ramblers team, Black Africa and a NFA team.

Rolf Beiter, PR manager at SKW, was very excited about the opportunity to play against a professional side from Europe: "This will benefit our players greatly since they will now be able to measure themselves against truly professional players who play in the big money leagues of Europe."

The SKW/Ramblers match will be staged on Friday 10 February at the Independence stadium kick off time is 19:00. Entrance will be for free and although it is "only" a practise match some good football should be on display. Says Harald Hecht, vice president of Ramblers: "Opportunities like these do not come around every day and Ramblers is proud to be associated with a visit of this magnitude. Football fans should make use of this chance to see a professional outfit, like Hoffenheim, right in their own back yard. All Namibians should contribute in making this a memorable occasion for the Hoffenheim players by marketing Namibia as a top class tourist and sports destination."

Rolf Beiter further stated: "Another advantage of their training camp is the height above sea level and the good weather in Namibia during this time of year. Hopefully they will return to Europe with the message that Namibia is an attractive country to host training camps on a professional level."

Also interesting is that Rolf Beiter and the current Hoffenheim u/23 coach Frank Kramer were team mates at FC Memmingen (Germany) from 1989 to 1994. Kramer then left Memmingen to join FC Bayern München. Their friendship however remains strong until today with Kramer visiting Namibia on two occasions, 1996 and 1998. During his visits he competed at the annual Christmas Cup event in the colours of SKW.

The trip to Namibia is co-sponsored by the Namibian Tourism Board and Air Namibia and was facilitated by Mr Lutz Pfannenstiel, a former Technical Director of Ramblers FC and who is currently responsible for International Relations and Scouting at Hoffenheim.

Yours in football,

Sport Klub Windhoek
Public Relations Manager