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# African Kurash Union



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## ACTIVITY REPORT 5 AUGUST 2022 – COACHING AND REFEREEING SEMINAR

### COACHING SEMINAR:

A seminar explaining the new IKA grading and coaching syllabus was presented on the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2022 by Mr. Thomas Dunker the AKU president in Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth). He was assisted by Urbain Keya from Congo doing the French translation. The following 12 federations were represented: DRC, Cameroon, Benin, Ghana, Congo, Mauritius, South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Botswana and Eswatini. Several athletes also took part in the seminar.

The grading system of lines and stars was thoroughly explained expanding on what grade may be awarded by national federation, continental federation and IKA.

This was followed by a practical session showing all the relevant techniques to every grade on video and the allowing attendees to practice some of the techniques. Some interesting discussions and ideas followed and everyone agreed that the syllabus is well done and will be of great assistance to promote Kurash on our continent.



After the seminar every federation received a USB drive containing relevant IKA information and video on the grading structure, kurash techniques, refereeing rules, scoreboard, history and other documents.

All federations are fully committed to make use of this official IKA grading system. Utilizing the correct IKA names However the correct pronunciation is a problem and having this on video will be helpful.

## **REFEREEING SEMINAR**

The refereeing seminar was conducted by Guy Blanchard AMBETO the AKU refereeing director, He speaks English and French. From the 12 federations present 5 are French speaking and the rest English and Portuguese speaking.

The seminar was started with the instruction of the new scoreboard program written by Darren Louw from South Africa. The software is written using latest technology and works on any 32 bit or 64 bit computer as both versions are available for download and installation. It is also functional on all versions of windows.

The program is very easy to use, most functions are menu driven and actions are done with the mouse button although some keyboard shortcuts are available. The software is available for download from the following destination free of charge and we hope that this will be used by kurash federations all over the world so that referees and athletes are familiar with the scoreboard wherever they compete internationally.

A special word of thanks to Darren who put a lot of effort and time into providing this program. Also to everyone who commented and proposed changes to the trial version.

Right after the presentation of the new scoreboard, Mr Guy Blanchard AMBETO took over for the referee seminar with 15 participants from various countries. The first presentation was about the referees growing procedures by standardizing the qualification of referees to a similar system as the one used for grading. According to that, all federations can now upgrade and certify referees on a national level from line 1 to line 4 as follow:

- Line 1: Attendance in the Refereeing course
- Line 2: Participate and officiate as a referee in Inter Clubs
- Line 3: Participate and officiate as a referee in provincial or departmental events
- Line 4: Participate and officiate as a referee in the national championships

From there, federations may allow the line 4 referees to participate in the Continental events whereby they will get the Line 5 and thereafter been eligible for the International IKA 1 Star, 2 Star and 3 Star certified referees by IKA.

We proceeded with the introduction of referees, presentation of players, how evaluate scores, the correct gestures and the variety of penalties we use, duties of corner judges and explaining the winning conditions. Video and demonstrations were also used to

We were supposed to run this tournament in two gilams, but due to lack of suitably qualified referees we decided to hold the competition only on one gilam. The positive impact of this was that more “mat time” under continental conditions will be given to our referees. The following four referees were allocated to arbitrate in the 18<sup>th</sup> African Kurash Championships:

- |   |                      |          |                            |
|---|----------------------|----------|----------------------------|
| - | GUY BLANCHARD AMBETO | (2 star) | From the Republic of Congo |
| - | BILL BARNAND         | (Line 5) | From South Africa          |
| - | TEDDY RITA           | (Line 5) | From Mauritius             |
| - | RODDY BEAUGRET KIBA  | (Line 5) | From Republic of Congo     |

### **Acknowledgement:**

On behalf of all AKU federations I would sincerely like to thank the IKA and the Uzbekistan government for making the funds available for us to facilitate the seminars. This would not have been possible without their support. We really received positive feedback from all participants who expressed their desire to participate in the next event planed for December in Congo with IKA officials present.



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Thomas Dunker  
President AKU