



Arnold Classic Games Volunteer Programme provides vital experience to students

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The 2017 Arnold Classic Africa will make use of hundreds of volunteers from around Johannesburg and will offer vital work experience to sports management students.

Following the inaugural Arnold Classic Africa in 2016, the Gauteng Sports Confederation has again been tasked with managing a skilled team of more than 500 volunteers to assist in running 2017 edition of the popular multi-sport competition.

The international multi-sport event is held in partnership with the Gauteng provincial government and the SA Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (SASCOC) this year and 10 more events will be added to the bill to bring the total to 50 events. The GSC has taken to the tertiary education institutions to source capable volunteers.

“After thorough consideration, we thought it best fit to have sports science students from selected universities and colleges in the province as volunteers this year,” said GSC secretary general Yaseen Lombard.

“This programme also serves as an opportunity for sports sciences and management students to be exposed to the professional side of the sports world over the duration of the Games. This exposure will give them invaluable experience in their future career prospects.”

Indemnity forms were distributed to the University of Johannesburg and Exercise Teachers Academy, a sports college in Randburg, which are amongst the schools that were selected to be a part of this programme.

The first round of interviews commenced on 27 February 2017. The second phase of the programme will commence on the 18th of March 2017, where all volunteers will undergo thorough training to ensure they are ready for the Games. The decision to limit the selection of volunteers to learning institutions is influenced by the professionalism that is required to make the event a success.

The Arnold Classic is anticipated to go bigger and better this year, and as a result the team of volunteers must also be of a high standard. With 10 more sports codes added to the 40 featured in 2016, the workload will be higher and the volunteers have to be able to deliver.

Michelle Price, the organiser of the Arnold Games Africa said they expected the competition to draw thousands of spectators this year.

“Last year the spectators exceeded all expectations and with 10 more events we are banking on even more support from enthusiasts from across the country. Our volunteers therefore must be on point to ensure a successful competition.”

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Issued on behalf of Gauteng Sports Confederation by GRIT Communication. For more information or for interviews please contact Trevor Neethling on trevor@gritstrategy.com or 0842428668.