



WHERE LEGENDS ARE BORN

24 July 2026

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

BAYVIEW FOOTBALL CLUB, BAYHILL UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB AND THE BAYHILL PREMIER CUP COMMIT TO PROGRESSION, SPORTSMANSHIP AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE

The Bayview Football Club, Bayhill United Football Club and the Bayhill Premier Cup are pleased to announce that following a constructive engagement between the respective leadership structures, the matter involving derogatory remarks on the part of Bayview Football Club has been amicably resolved.

Mr. Mark Rodrigues has offered a sincere and unconditional apology and has formally retracted the remarks made on a public platform. The apology has been accepted by Bayhill United FC and the Bayhill Premier Cup in the spirit of reconciliation, mutual respect and the greater interests of football.

All parties are united in the belief that football, particularly at community and grassroots level, is far bigger than any individual disagreement or difference of opinion.

Western Cape communities continue to face serious socio-economic challenges, with young people growing up in environments affected by crime, violence and substance abuse. In such circumstances, football is not merely a game; it is a vehicle for hope, discipline, purpose and opportunity. Every football field represents a safe space where young people can learn the values of teamwork, respect, leadership and sportsmanship while being kept away from the dangers that exist on the streets.

“As leaders and custodians of the game, we acknowledge that our words and actions have consequences. We therefore collectively reject politics, division and unsporting conduct that have the potential to undermine the progress of community football and negatively impact the young people who look to us for guidance and inspiration.” – Said Mr Denzel Swarts, HOD of Marketing and Partnerships – Bayview FC.

Bayhill Premier Cup Tournament Director, Mr Rayaan Alie added; “We are pleased to have come to a consensus after matters could not be remedied via traditional channels in the past. We unilaterally accept the apology given by both Mark and the Bayview FC Executive. It takes a big man to admit to a fault, and we cannot dismiss this gesture as a mere means to an end. We also accept that our stance to have distanced ourselves from the Bayview football club was ultimately not in the best interest of the members of their club and the greater Mitchell’s Plain community in which both clubs reside. We look forward to receiving and honouring future applications from Bayview FC to the BPC Tournament and trust that the privilege of acceptance and inclusivity will not be taken for granted.”

BAYHILL PREMIER CUP





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“The encounter with the new Bayview FC executive was very refreshing, and we look forward to seeing a revitalised Bayview FC compete amongst South Africa’s elite once again.”

Mr Denzel Swarts further added; “This moment serves as a reminder that while disagreements may arise, the welfare of the youth and the future of football must always remain our highest priority.”

Bayview Football Club, Bayhill United Football Club and the Bayhill Premier Cup reaffirm their commitment to progression in the interests of football development, strengthening relationships within the football fraternity and creating opportunities that empower young people both on and off the field.

Together, we remain committed to building communities through football and ensuring that the beautiful game continues to be a beacon of hope, unity and excellence for future generations.

Issued jointly by:

Bayview Football Club

Bayhill United Football Club

Bayhill Premier Cup

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