



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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TO ALL SPORT MEDIA

KZN SPORT MEC URGES COMMUNITIES TO SUPPORT COMRADES RUNNERS ALONG ROUTE

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture, Dr Ntuthuko Mahlaba, calls on communities along the Comrades Marathon route to come out in numbers to support the runners as they tackle the 87.7km run from Pietermaritzburg to Durban on Sunday, 11 June 2023.

“The Ultimate Human Race, as the Comrades Marathon is popularly known, is a family friendly affair both for those who are running as well as KwaZulu-Natal communities and visitors to the province.

We call upon our people to do what they usually do best throughout the decades of the Comrades history. The spirit of friendship and unity that we always see along the route is an important building block of efforts to create a socially cohesive society, national pride and unity. Let us cheer them home on Sunday as they tackle the tough ultra-marathon.

The support they get along the route and among themselves is all that gives them strength to endure the painful muscles towards the finish line,” said MEC Mahlaba. MEC Mahlaba also confirmed that the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture will once again provide shelter, food and transport for needy athletes who will run the Comrades Marathon.

The Department will also provide a R50 000 incentive each for first KZN male and female athletes to cross the finish line.



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Some of the top runners from KwaZulu-Natal include Bongmusa Mthembu, Nkosikhona Mhlakwana, Mahlomola Sekhonyana, Thobani Chagwe, Bonginkosi Zwane and Melusi Dlomo. Female runners include Fikile Mbuthuma, Makhosi Mhlongo, Lisa Collett and Jenet Mbhele. “We look forward to a good performance by KZN runners and we are hopeful that one of them will be first to cross the finish line at Kingsmead Stadium in both males and females categories. We wish everyone participating in the race the best of luck.”

Ends

ISSUED BY THE KWAZULU-NATAL DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE.

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