

SPORTS

The Arusha Times

SPORTS

Arusha's Farida Mahalu clocks first in Kondoa race

BY MATILDA KIRENGA

Arusha athlete, Farida Mahalu, snatched first position in the 5km race held at the Juma Ikangaa stadium in Kondoa last weekend.

She clocked minutes 20.05:06 closely followed by Asia Swalehe from Arusha's Tanzania sports academy clocking 20.31:0. The third position in the event went to Failuna Abdi a standard six pupil from Hachwi primary school Kondoa who clocked minutes 21.05:29

Others were Emiliania Juma (21.14.90) from Arusha while the fifth to 10 positions went to Kondoa.

Speaking at the inauguration of the Kondoa sports event, Major Philbert Bayi (Retired) said Kondoa and Dodoma region in general were producers of best athletes in the country who held

national and international records citing examples of Khalifa Abdallah, the late Pascal Mfyoni, Juma Ikangaa, John Yuda, Musa Ninga, and Ikaji Salum. They all hailed from Kondoa in the years 1960s, 1970s, 1980s and 1990s.

The Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) had great expectations in the Kondoa district and Dodoma region in producing athletics stars. Bayi said most athletes seemed to come from the rift valley stretch of the country.

He appealed to the government and other sports stakeholders to support the athletes and attract more talents into that untapped sports field saying athletics like any other sport needed expert training which is still lacking in Tanzania.

Speaking at the inaugural event the Kondoa District Commissioner Amina Masenza, promised sup-

port to the sport stakeholders and to the athletes in particular saying her district would organize sport from grassroots level via inter school events, inter-ward events and inter-divisional events. She urged schools to promote children sport talents from their school days.

The winners in the events were given trophies and cash prizes. Participants in the Kondoa athletic competitions were international stars such as Samson Ramadhani, the Australian Olympic gold medalist and Fabian Joseph, the Bronze medalist in the same Australian Olympics.

The Kondoa competition was sponsored by the Shoe4 Africa company and PUMA both from the USA in collaboration with TIMMAX club of Arusha, the Geneva in Africa Tourist Hotel of Kondoa, Sunset Beach and Songoli General Supply.



Men at a 10-km race in Kondoa on June 18.

All roads lead to Moun Meru Art Camp