

Red Bull Street Style National qualifier announced

The Red Bull Street Style National qualifier has crowned South Africa's best freestyle footballer.



Image by Mpumelelo Macu/Red Bull Content Pool: South Africa's best freestyle footballer has been announced

The final minutes were between Siphosiphiso 'Six' Busakwe and Kyle Rinquest but ultimately, Busakwe from Boipatong, Vanderbijlpark walked away as the champion.

"I've been competing for years and I'm so proud of myself today. Last year I experienced a knee injury and I knew I had to do my best to win today. I'm looking forward to competing in the next round before the finals, I'll give my best and make South Africa proud, " said Busakwe.

The tournament was hosted by Chris Njokwana - a previous National Red Bull Street Style winner. Participants went through a qualifying round to make the top 16.



Freestyle Football World Championship returns for 2022

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The charismatic defending champion, Jabu 'Mjepa' Mdaka, advanced to the semi-finals to face his friend, Busakwe in a heated round. It was then just Busakwe who showed his prowess to make it to the final.

This year's judges were SABC Sport's Phumudzo Manenzhe and respected freestyle footballers Ozwin Edwards and Kamal 'Kamaliyo' Ranchod – a former world number two. Former Bafana Bafana player Siphiwe Tshabalala surprised the crowd and joined the panel as a guest judge for the final round.

When asked what the judges were looking for, Ranchod explained, "We watched out for originality, creativity, and style. Everyone has done well and big ups to everyone who participated this year. Congratulations to Six who showed that he has what it takes to represent us!"



Image by Mpumelelo Macu/Red Bull Content Pool: The winner will represent South Africa at the Africa Regionals

Busakwe will now represent South Africa in the Africa Regional Finals – one of five. The most skilled talent from the North and South America, Africa, Asia-Pacific and Europe Regional Finals will head into the Red Bull Street Style World Final in Croatia on 8 October 2022.

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