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Sekou-Chelle may hand more home-based players 'starting shirts'



Super Eagles' Manager, Eric Sekou-Chelle, has drafted in four home-based players as replacements for some of the senior players who have withdrawn from the international friendly against Russia.

Russia will host Nigeria in an international friendly on Friday, in Moscow.

Thenff.com, yesterday, named the players who have withdrawn from the team due to injuries and personal issues as Ola Aina, Kelechi Iheanacho, Wilfred Ndidi, Samuel Chukwueze, Sadiq Umar, and Nathan Tella.

The goalkeeping sector is unaffected, as first-choice Stanley Nwabali was not listed for the trip in the first place, due to the upcoming burial rites for his late parents. Italy-based Maduka Okoye and Tanzania-based Amas Obasogie will still fight for the goaltender's starting shirt.

In the rearguard, Captain William Ekong is in Moscow alongside Bright Osayi-Samuel, joining the Unity Cup trio of Bruno Onyemaechi, Semi Ajayi, and Igoh Ogbu.

As a replacement for Nottingham Forest's Aina, Chelle has had to draft in the Unity Cup duo of Sodiq Ismaila and former junior international, Benjamin Fredericks, who impressed on his debut against Jamaica on Saturday.

In the midfield, injury to Ndidi has handed Enugu Rangers' ace, Saviour Isaac the opportunity to shine. Isaac is a key member of the Eagles B, which will participate in the African Nations Championship finals in August.

He will join Frank Onyeka, Raphael Onyedika, Fisayo Dele-Bashiru, Christantus Uche, and Papa Daniel Mustapha to fight for shirts in the middle of the pack.

Thenff.com said that Unity Cup ace Chukwueze and Iheanacho have excused themselves to attend to family matters, while Spain-based Umar has suffered an injury.

"Tella's United Kingdom passport is undergoing a renewal process, so he is unable to travel," thenff.com said, adding: "This situation has left Sekou-Chelle with only Victor Boniface, Simon Moses, and Tolu Arokodare in the attack, and he has had to call up Russia-based former junior international, Olakunle Olusegun, who plays for Krasnodar FC.

The team, which arrived in Moscow, yesterday, began training sessions early today for the match billed to be held at the 78,000-capacity Luzhniki Stadium, which is the largest football stadium in Russia and the ninth-largest in the whole of Europe.

In the Super Eagles squad in Moscow are goalkeepers Maduka Okoye (Udinese FC, Italy) and Amas Obasogie (Singida Blackstars, Tanzania); defenders William Ekong (Al-Kholood FC, Saudi Arabia), Bright Osayi-Samuel (Fenerbahce SK, Turkey), Bruno Onyemaechi (Olympiacos FC, Greece), Oluwasemilogo Ajayi (West Bromwich Albion, England), Igoh Ogbu (SK Slavia Prague, Czech Republic), Sodiq Ismaila (Remo Stars) and Benjamin Fredericks (Brentford FC, England).

Others are midfielders Frank Onyeka (Augsburg FC, Germany), Raphael Onyedika (Club Brugge, Belgium), Fisayo Dele-Bashiru (Lazio FC, Italy), Chrisantus Uche (Getafe CF, Spain), Papa Daniel Mustapha (Niger Tornadoes) and Saviour Isaac (Enugu Rangers), while the forwards are Victor Boniface (Bayer Leverkusen, Germany), Simon Moses (FC Nantes, France), Tolu Arokodare (KRC Genk, Belgium) and Olakunle Olusegun (Krasnodar FC, Russia).

Nigeria returns with bronze medal from African Sambo Championships



Team Nigeria's delegation to the 19th African Sambo Championships held in Conakry, Guinea, returned to the country at the weekend with a bronze medal courtesy of its lone entrant, Ramon Kayode.

The three-day tournament, which ran from May 24 to 26 at the Sports Palace 28 September Stadium, featured athletes from 19 countries, including Algeria, Morocco, Burkina Faso, Benin Republic, Togo, Ghana, Egypt, Cameroon, Djibouti, South Africa, Mali, Niger Republic, DR Congo, Central African Republic, Angola, and host nation Guinea.

Competitions were held across three categories, including Sport SAMBO, Combat SAMBO, and Beach SAMBO with Kayode representing Nigeria in the men's 64kg Sport SAMBO event.

The gold medal went to Morocco's Ferhane Rabii, while Algeria's Abderraouf Guerbaa claimed silver, with Kayode sharing the bronze podium with Cameroon's Meyong Ondoa Franck.

Speaking on arrival in Lagos, an elated Kayode described the experience as transformative, marking his debut on the international stage.

"I cannot hide my excitement. Competing in this tournament has been an eye-opener, it broadened my understanding of Sambo and allowed me to connect with athletes from across the continent. Winning a medal in my first international outing is something I'm truly grateful for. I appreciate the Nigeria Sambo Association for this rare opportunity and hope for more tournaments like this to help us grow," he said.

The Vice President of the Nigerian Sambo Association, Sheriff Hammed, expressed pride in the achievement. "We're thrilled to have participated and even more so to have won a medal. This marks our second appearance at the continental level, and it's encouraging to see our impact growing. We hope to see more Nigerian athletes rise to the top in Africa and eventually compete on the global stage," he stated.

CAF Champions League 2025/26: Remo Stars, Rivers United set to represent Nigeria



Remo Stars and Rivers United are poised to represent Nigeria in the upcoming 2025/2026 CAF Champions League, according to the latest qualifying updates compiled by Agence France-Presse and reported by The Guardian.

Nigeria, ranked among the top 12 African footballing nations by CAF, retains its right to two slots in the premier continental competition. As it stands, Remo Stars and Rivers United are in pole position to fill those berths, having emerged as front-runners in domestic competitions.

The CAF Champions League remains Africa's flagship club tournament, and qualification is fiercely contested across the continent. The Guardian reports that the list of qualifiers is drawn from domestic league performances and structured mini-leagues in certain countries, with countries like Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, South Africa, and Nigeria enjoying the privilege of nominating two clubs.

In Algeria, Mouloudia Alger lead the race ahead of JS Kabylie and Chabab Belouizdad, while in Egypt, defending champions Al Ahly and Pyramids have already secured their places. Morocco is sending Renaissance Berkane and FAR Rabat. South Africa will be represented by Mamelodi Sundowns and Orlando Pirates.

For Nigeria, Remo Stars and Rivers United have maintained consistent performances in the Nigeria Premier Football League (NPFL), with both clubs previously making appearances in continental competitions. Rivers United, the 2022 NPFL champions, are seeking to reassert themselves on the continental stage, while Remo Stars continue to build a reputation as a rising force in Nigerian football.

The Guardian reports that in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Maniema Union hold a three-point lead over JS Kinshasa, while in neighbouring Congo Brazzaville, Etoile and V Club Mokanda are leading the two-group championship format. Meanwhile, in Ghana, Bibiani Gold Stars are ahead of Nations FC on head-to-head results.

Elsewhere, Horoya lead Hafia by six points in Guinea, and Stade Abidjan and ASEC Mimosas have secured the Ivorian tickets. Kenyan side Police FC hold a six-point lead over Gor Mahia, and in Zambia, Power Dynamos are set to return to continental football.

From countries with a single representative, Real Banjul are the leading contenders in Gambia, while East End Lions are seven points clear in Sierra Leone. Cape Verde, São Tomé e Príncipe, and Equatorial Guinea are determining their representatives through mini-league formats.

Nigeria's entries will join a crowded and competitive field, with clubs from 54 African nations expected to participate. The final list of qualifiers will be confirmed by CAF in the coming weeks, with preliminary fixtures for the 2025/2026 campaign set to commence later this year.

AFN Zonal Elections: Soetan, Okon win South-West, South-South tickets



Olalekan Soetan, yesterday, won the Athletics Federation of Nigeria's (AFN) South-West Zonal Election, securing three votes to clinch the position ahead of two other contestants.

In Benin City, Edo State, a former sprinter and athletics coach, Gabriel Okon, picked the South-South zone's ticket ahead of Itiako Ikpokpo, whom he beat 4-2.

Soetan, who hails from Ogun State, but currently serves in Oyo State, triumphed in the AFN zonal election held in Ibadan over fellow Ogun State indigenes, Mr. Babajide John Odedeji, and Chief Gbenga Abijo, who received two votes and one vote respectively.

The election was conducted by delegates representing the six southwestern states, including Lagos, Ogun, Oyo, Osun, Ondo, and Ekiti, under the supervision of Coach Emilia Oyase, the designated electoral official.

Present at the election were key stakeholders including Mrs. Evelyn Fabunmi, the South-West Zonal Coordinator of the National Sports Commission (NSC), Mr. Gbenga Omoyeni, and Mr. Olowe Seun, who represented the NSC South-West zone.

The election that produced Okon as the South-South zone representative in Benin City was attended by delegates from Delta, Rivers State, Bayelsa, Edo, Cross River, and Akwa Ibom states.

Football's lawmakers clear air on 'double-touch' penalty



If Julian Alvarez slips while taking a spot kick for Atletico Madrid at the Club World Cup this month, he will get the second chance he was denied in the Champions League in March, after international football's rule-making body clarified the double-touch rule.

Football's rule-making International Football Association Board (IFAB) announced yesterday that if players unintentionally touch the ball twice while taking a spot kick and still find the net, they should be allowed a retake.

Alvarez slipped as he netted his penalty kick in a shootout to decide a Champions League Madrid derby.

Video review (VAR) detected that he touched the ball twice and the referee ruled the shot a miss under Law 14, which deals with the penalty kick. Real went on to win 4-2.

After the match, European governing body UEFA said that "under the current rule, the VAR had to call the referee signalling that the goal should be disallowed".

UEFA said it would hold talks with world football's governing body FIFA and the rule-making International Football Association Board (IFAB).

On Tuesday, IFAB issued its ruling. It was to come into force on July 1, but FIFA at once announced the change would apply to the Club World Cup, which kicks off in the United States on June 15 with both Madrid clubs among the 32 teams.

"The situation where the penalty taker accidentally kicks the ball with both feet simultaneously or when the ball touches the penalty taker's non-kicking foot or leg immediately after they have taken the kick… is rare," wrote Lukas Brud, IFAB's secretary in a circular.

"As it is not directly covered in Law 14, referees have understandably tended to penalise the kicker for having touched the ball again," he wrote.

However, he added, the law "is primarily intended for situations where the penalty taker deliberately touches the ball a second time before it has touched another player".

"This is very different from the penalty taker accidentally kicking the ball with both feet simultaneously or touching the ball with their non-kicking foot or leg immediately after they have taken the kick, which usually occurs because they have slipped."

Brud pointed out that even an accidental second touch could be unfair to a goalkeeper because it changes the ball's trajectory.

Therefore, he wrote, IFAB had decided that "if the kick is successful, it is retaken".

If a kick during the game is unsuccessful, the result is an indirect free kick, as it would be for a deliberate second touch, unless the referee decides to play an advantage for the defending team. In a shootout it remains a miss.

Middlesbrough sack Carrick



Middlesbrough on Wednesday sacked manager Michael Carrick after the Championship club missed out on a play-off place during the 2024/25 season.

The former Manchester United and England midfielder, who previously had a spell as caretaker boss at Old Trafford, had been in charge at Boro since October 2022.

The 43-year-old guided Middlesbrough to the Championship playoffs in the 2022/23 season but they have missed out on the top six in the past two campaigns.

"Middlesbrough Football Club has today parted company with head coach Michael Carrick," the club said in a statement.

"Michael's assistants Jonathan Woodgate and Graeme Carrick have also departed the club.

"We'd like thank Michael, Jonathan, and Graeme for all their hard work and unwavering commitment. We wish them all the very best for the future."

Middlesbrough won just one of their final six league games to finish 10th in the Championship table, four points off the play-off spots.

How Qasim Owokunle is redefining sports communication



Sports communication strategist and brand expert, Qasim Owokunle, calls on advertisers and public campaigners to fundamentally rethink how they engage audiences, particularly in how major sporting events win hearts and command participation.

In a saturated world of competing messages, Owokunle is reshaping how major sporting events connect with people. In his recent essay, "AND SO?!" — An Advertiser's Guide to Overcoming Apathy, he challenges a long-held belief in global sports marketing that spectacle is enough. His argument is simple: people only show up when they see themselves in the story.

"Brands often lead with chest-thumping declarations like 'we're the biggest,' 'we've done this for 20 years,' 'we're world-class,'" Owokunle says. "But relevance comes before recognition. You have to make it matter to the audience personally, or you lose them before they even consider what you're offering."

Owokunle has used this people-first philosophy to shape the most successful sports campaigns in Africa. As the lead communications strategist for the Delta 2022 – 21st National Sports Festival, Owokunle helped deliver record-breaking turnout and sponsorship revenue.

It became the first profitable edition in the festival's 49-year history. His approach has since shaped strategic narratives for international marathons recognised by World Athletics. President Muhammadu Buhari praised all stakeholders for "the successful organisation of the best National Sports Festival in recent memory," praising its record participation, the economic boost.

Owokunle's framework applies whether you're selling a marathon in Lagos, a track meet in Oregon, or a World Cup viewing experience in Madrid. Whether he's working with government ministries, private sponsors, or global sporting federations, this clarity has become his hallmark.

"When we say an event is the largest of its kind, we must immediately follow up with why that scale matters to the participant," Owokunle noted. "Does it mean greater prestige? Better networking? A more thrilling atmosphere? You must spell it out with creativity."

With global sports entering an era where audiences are more fragmented, skeptical, and selective, Owokunle's ideas resonate with a universal challenge facing event organisers, brand sponsors, and media rights holders alike: how do you make people care in a world where everyone is already busy caring about something else?

"When you're inviting someone to take part in an event, you're negotiating attention and asking for belief," Owokunle explains. "And in that negotiation, you must offer more than hype. You must offer clarity, relevance, and emotional payoff."

By turning the focus outward toward the audience, their motives, and their desires, Qasim Owokunle has gone beyond shaping campaigns to helping sports tell better stories. This model challenges the legacy assumption that scale guarantees impact, and replaces it with a replicable empathy-first framework.

Int'l Friendly: Super Falcons outclass Indomitable Lionesses in Abeokuta



With a brace by captain Rasheedat Ajibade, the Super Falcons yesterday beat visiting Indomitable Lionesses of Cameroon 2-0 in a pre-Women Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON) friendly match at the newly renovated MKO Abiola Sports Arena in Abeokuta, Ogun State.

Ajibade scored the curtain raiser in the 28th minute from the penalty spot and then completed her brace in the 43rd minute after capitalizing on a swift team move, assisted by Rinsola Babajide.

Coach Justine Madugu said the victory is a good psychological boost for his squad as they continue preparations for the 13th Women AFCON taking place in Morocco between July 5th and 26th.

Nigeria will be aiming for a 10th triumph in the forthcoming WAFCON in, having won the trophy nine times since it was launched as a tournament in 1998.

BAL 2025: Rivers Hoopers ready for Pretoria final showdown



Nigeria's representatives in the 2025 Basketball Africa League (BAL), Rivers Hoopers are in Pretoria, South Africa, ahead of the highly anticipated finals scheduled to tip off on Friday, June 6, BSNSports.com.ng reports.

The KingsMen earned their spot in this year's finals after finishing as runners-up in the Kalahari Conference earlier in the season.

They are among eight elite teams set to clash at the SunBet Arena in Pretoria for the coveted title of African champions.

Led by head coach Ogah Odaudu, Rivers Hoopers will compete against a formidable lineup of clubs including Al Ahli (Libya), Al Ittihad (Egypt), US Monastir (Tunisia), Petro de Luanda (Angola), APR (Rwanda), FUS Rabat (Morocco), and Kriol Star (Cape Verde).

The Nigerian side, who clinched bronze in the 2024 BAL season held in Kigali, Rwanda, is entering this year's finals ranked as the fourth-best team on the continent.

Expectations are high as they aim to improve on last season's performance and make a strong title run.

Ukanwoke delivers big for Para-Sports

In a powerful demonstration of corporate responsibility and inclusive leadership, Gossy Ukanwoke, Managing Director of KingMakers and CEO of BetKing, has led a landmark initiative to support para-sports at the 2025 National Sports Festival in Ogun State.

Through BetKing, one of Nigeria's top sports betting platforms, Ukanwoke spearheaded the full sponsorship of all para-sport events at the festival—covering transportation, medical classification, training kits, accommodation, and welfare packages for more than 400 differently abled athletes from across the country.

Speaking at the festival, Ukanwoke explained the motivation behind the move. "Our sponsorship of para-sports reflects a deeper responsibility to support the overlooked," he said. "Every athlete, regardless of physical ability, deserves a platform to compete, grow, and inspire. This is not charity—it's about equity."

The gesture, widely applauded by athletes, coaches, and sports administrators, highlights BetKing's growing commitment to inclusive development in Nigeria's sports ecosystem. But it is not a one-off effort.

Back in 2022, BetKing adopted three national para-athletes—Nwachukwu Goodness, Temitope Hassan, and Promise Emeka—providing them with monthly stipends, housing, equipment, and regular training. Since then, the trio has gone on to win medals and break world records on the international stage.

Beyond competitions, BetKing also organises the Annual BetKing Wheelchair Basketball Championship, adaptive sports clinics, and mentorship programs, helping to groom the next generation of para-athletes. Ukanwoke's approach, observers say, goes beyond sponsorship—it is a model of deliberate investment in human potential.

From Delta State in 2022 to Ogun State in 2025, the inclusion of para-athletes at the National Sports Festival has become a new standard, thanks in large part to Ukanwoke's vision.

In an industry often dominated by profit margins and market share, his leadership is sending a different message: that business can thrive while empowering the marginalised.

As para-athletes continue to shine on the track, field, and court, their stories are a testament to what's possible when someone believes in them. That someone, many now say, is Gossy Ukanwoke.



Nigeria reaffirms its readiness for the 6th Islamic Solidarity Games in Saudi Arabia



The National Sports Commission (NSC) has reaffirmed its commitment and readiness to attend the 6th Islamic Solidarity Games billed for Saudi Arabia from November 7-21, 2025.

As part of preparations for the games, the NSC Director General Hon. Bukola Olopade is currently attending a two-day seminar in Riyadh as the Chef de Mission for Team Nigeria.

The seminar will afford all participating countries the opportunity to get acquainted with the games new guidelines and modules operandi.

The Director General departed the Country on Friday, immediately after supervising the successful execution of the 22nd National Sports festival in Ogun State.

The DG's participation at the games' strategic seminar is expected to ensure Team Nigeria is fully equipped with all the regulations and requirements needed for Nigeria to record a successful outing at the games in November.

The Islamic solidarity Games is another opportunity for Nigeria to expose its athletes and to also discover new talents as Nigeria hopes to play its part in the overall ultimate objectives of unity, diversity and humanity that the Games stand for.

The Islamic Games is returning to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia after 20 years, and this year's games is expected to set new standards and unite athletes from all over 57 member countries of the world.

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Date: Sunday June 29, 2025 Time: 10:00am Prompt.

Place: Christ's Chosen Church of God Int'l,
56 Virginia Street, off 2nd and 3rd
East Circular Roads, Benin City, Edo State.

Banquet by 2:00pm @ UYI GRAND MARQUE,
Aghayubini Street, off Aideyan street,
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Gov Sule committed to Nasarawa hosting National Sports Festival before leaving office – Sports Commissioner



The Commissioner for Youth and Sports Development in Nasarawa State, Hon. Kwannta Yakubu, has disclosed that Governor Abdullahi Sule is committed to making a formal bid for the state to host the National Sports Festival before the end of his administration.

Yakubu made this known during a ministerial briefing held on Tuesday at the Nasarawa State Broadcasting Service (NBS) premises in Lafia. The event, coordinated by the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, provided a platform for ministries to present their achievements under the current administration.

"Governor Sule is open to the idea, and we are already working behind the scenes to make it happen," the commissioner stated. "Hosting the National Sports Festival would not only project Nasarawa State onto the national stage but also bring immense economic and developmental benefits."

He highlighted the administration's achievements in revamping youth and sports infrastructure across the state, noting that youth centres in all three senatorial zones are undergoing renovation, with the Akwanga Youth Centre already completed and operational.

Hon. Yakubu added that the government has upgraded and repositioned the Football Academy in Akwanga, transforming it into both a talent incubator and a revenue-generating facility for the state.

"In another landmark achievement, all players of Nasarawa United Football Club are now fully owned by the state," he revealed. "This means that the state stands to gain financially from any future transfers or sales."

He noted that efforts are underway to strengthen the feeder teams for both Nasarawa United and the Nasarawa Amazons, with the goal of establishing a sustainable sports development system.

In addressing recent challenges, Yakubu said the administration took decisive steps to stabilize Nasarawa United, which had recently faced relegation threats. "We brought in a national-level coach and introduced key structural reforms to reposition the club," he said.

On the coaching front, the commissioner explained that the ministry is gradually retiring ageing coaches and empowering younger professionals. "This will improve efficiency and foster fresh energy in our sporting engagements," he added.

Reflecting on the state's performance at the last National Sports Festival, he reported that Nasarawa participated in 18 events and secured 18 medals—an outcome he described as encouraging.

"We had more girls than boys represent the state, and we are very proud of that. Gender inclusion remains one of our top priorities in sports development," Yakubu said.

Beyond sports, the commissioner highlighted youth-focused efforts in employment and industrialisation. He noted the governor's youth-friendly appointments, such as Hon. Kassim Mohammed Kassim as the youngest Chairman of the Nasarawa State Universal Basic Education Board (NSUBEB), and the appointments of young professionals as heads of the Rural Development Agency and NASIDA.

Yakubu also spoke about the state's push into industrial training and capacity building, particularly the approval of over 100 youths for training at a lithium processing plant in Shagamu, Ogun State.

"This is a strategic step in anticipation of the establishment of a lithium factory in Nasarawa State. The governor is preparing our youth for tomorrow's opportunities," he said.

According to him, the state's Skill Acquisition Centre continues to make significant contributions by churning out graduates monthly with practical, employable skills that help reduce youth unemployment.

Earlier, the Commissioner for Information, Culture and Tourism, Hon. Ibrahim Tanko, said the purpose of the ministerial briefing was to highlight the impact of government policies on the people and to promote transparency.

"Our aim is to keep the public informed about the achievements of the government and to extend this awareness campaign to all zones in the state," he stated.

On cultural revival, Tanko disclosed that the ministry is working to restore key tourism sites and traditional festivals, including the Eggon Hills, Farin Ruwa Waterfalls, and events like the Fish Festival and Pepa Ruwa.

He further said the ministerial briefing will continue with other ministries expected to present their performance reports as part of the Sule administration's commitment to transparency and accountability.

Swiatek equals stunning Serena Williams record at French Open



Iga Swiatek is one match away from making tennis history after she booked her spot in the French Open semi-finals.

The four-time Roland Garros queen beat 13th seed Elina Svitolina 6-1, 7-5 in the quarterfinals and will face world number one Aryna Sabalenka in the next round.

Swiatek's win was also her 26th on the bounce at the French Open, which, according to Opta, equalled the longest winning streak at a women's singles event at a grand slam this century.

The only other player who has enjoyed a streak as long as Swiatek's is American great Serena Williams, who won 26 in a row at the US Open from 2012 to 2015.

Victory over Sabalenka in the semi-finals would mean Swiatek, who has only lost twice at Roland Garros, would have the record all to herself.

It would be an astonishing feat for Swiatek to lay claim to over Williams given the American is widely regarded as one of the greatest players of all time.

Williams is a 23-time grand slam champion and spent a staggering 319 weeks as the world number one in the WTA's rankings.

But Swiatek, who has five grand slam titles at the age of 24, will undoubtedly look to eclipse Williams to take the record for herself.

The Pole already has a handful of her own, including the longest winning streak of the 21st century, which lasted a staggering 37 games in 2022.

Swiatek also became the youngest player to secure their fourth women's singles title at a grand slam when she won the 2024 French Open aged 23 years and eight days.

She is also now two wins away from becoming the outright third-most successful player in women's singles at Roland Garros in the Open era, with only Chris Evert (seven) and Steffi Graf (six) having won more.

However, Swiatek didn't have it all her own way against Svitolina.

After the Ukrainian dropped the first set, Swiatek knew Svitolina would come out swinging in an attempt to level the deficit.

But Swiatek was more than up for the task as she recognised the storm that would soon be coming.

Nigeria secures top Italian coach for 2025 African Fencing Championships

As part of the strategic four-year partnership between the Nigerian Fencing Federation (NFF) and the Italian Fencing Federation (Federazione Italiana Scherma, FIS), a top-tier Italian coach will arrive in Lagos this month.

He is to work with the Nigerian team ahead of the 2025 African Senior Fencing Championships, which will take place from June 25 to 29 in Lagos.

The partnership, signed in December 2024, aims to accelerate the development of fencing in Nigeria through technical support and knowledge exchange.

The deployment of an elite Italian coach is one of the key deliverables of this collaboration.

Riccardo Bardine, a highly respected figure in the international fencing community, will lead a two-week intensive training program for Nigerian coaches and athletes.

Bardine is a certified fencing coach, strength and conditioning expert, and Paralympic sports specialist. He studied Sport Science and completed his fencing education at the prestigious Club Scherma Pisa Antonio Di Ciolo—one of the world's most renowned fencing institutions.



Bardine brings a wealth of experience, having coached at elite clubs such as Circolo Scherma La Spezia and Club Scherma Rapallo.

He has also served on the coaching staff of Italy's U17 National Épée Team and has trained top-level athletes in both foil and épée disciplines.

As a former athlete, Bardine boasts an impressive résumé: a bronze medal at the Italian U23 Foil Championships, a silver medal at the National Team Championships (B Series, promoted to A Series), and two selections for the Junior National Épée Team at World Cups.

He is also a certified Olympic weightlifting coach and specialises in physical preparation for both able-bodied and Paralympic athletes.

Beyond the training camp, Bardine will lead the technical crew of Team Nigeria during the African Championships in Lagos.

President of the Nigerian Fencing Federation, Adeyinka Samuel, expressed his excitement about the development, emphasising the federation's commitment to growing the sport and enhancing the capacity of both athletes and coaches.

"This is one of the many benefits of our international partnership with a top fencing nation. Bringing a coach of Bardine's calibre to Nigeria is not only cost-effective but also impactful, as it allows our coaches and athletes, both local and foreign-based, to learn directly from a world-class expert," Samuel said.

"We remain committed to seeking more support from both the private and public sectors as we work toward our ultimate goal: qualifying for the 2028 Olympic Games in Los Angeles," Samuel said.

Nigeria-Russia Friendly: NFF Dismisses Safety Concerns, Reaffirms Sporting Intent



The Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) has defended its decision to proceed with an international friendly between the Super Eagles and Russia's national team, scheduled for Friday, June 6, 2025, in Moscow, BSNSports.com.ng reports.

The federation has dismissed concerns about security and political implications, affirming that the fixture is rooted strictly in football development and preparation for upcoming World Cup qualifiers.

Safety First: No Credible Threat

It is important to note that the international friendly match between Russia and Nigeria is sanctioned by FIFA. This fact showed that there is no iota of security threat before, during and after the match.

In addition, ahead of the decision, an NFF chieftain in a chat with BSN Sports stated that thorough safety assessments were conducted in collaboration with Russia embassy in Nigeria. "All findings confirmed that Moscow, the match venue, poses no security threat to players, officials, or fans," the federation said.

The top NFF official further referenced Zambia's international friendly against Russia on March 25, 2025—just months ago—as proof that Nigeria is not alone in engaging the Russian national team. The match, which Zambia lost 5-0, took place without incident, contradicting claims that Nigeria is the first or only country to schedule such a fixture post-Ukraine conflict.

A Football Match, Not a Political Endorsement

Addressing speculation that the game could be perceived as a political gesture, the NFF emphasized that the friendly is strictly a technical engagement. "This is not a diplomatic or ideological alignment," the top NFF official said. "It is a football match. Our priority is the sporting growth of the national team as we prepare for the 2026 FIFA World Cup qualifiers."

The federation noted that it works hand in hand with the Russia embassy in Nigeria where the Visa processing took place adding that decisions regarding friendly matches are driven by logistics, sporting merit, and team development needs—not geopolitics. More over, there is an existing bilateral relationship between Nigeria and Russia governments.

Football's Role as a Bridge, Not a Barrier

Nigeria's long-standing tradition of using sport as a unifying force was also highlighted. "Sport, particularly football, has always been a bridge-builder. Nigeria's engagements globally—on and off the pitch—have always promoted peace, unity, and shared humanity," the NFF noted.

Critics, the federation added, must avoid selectively framing narratives that ignore similar engagements by other African and non-European nations, which have continued sporting exchanges with Russia over the past year.

Why Russia? A Competitive, High-Level Test

Russia, a former World Cup host and consistent competitor on the global stage, provides a valuable test for the Super Eagles. "This fixture allows us to evaluate our squad, give new talents international exposure, and fine-tune strategies," said the NFF. "Russia is a competitive opponent and playing them offers practical footballing benefits."

Conclusion: Focus on the Game, Not the Headlines

The NFF urged the public and media to view the upcoming fixture through the lens of sporting development and international collaboration. "Attempts to politicize this match serve no constructive purpose," the federation stated. "The Super Eagles represent a proud footballing nation that makes decisions based on professionalism, preparation, and principle."


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NSF: SWAN Plateau Commends Team Plateau, Governor Mutfwang, And Sports Stakeholders For Improved Performance In Ogun 2024



The Sports Writers Association of Nigeria (SWAN), Plateau State Chapter, has commended Team Plateau for their outstanding and improved performance at the 22nd National Sports Festival, recently held in Ogun State.

Team Plateau clinched a total of 47 medals 8 Gold, 12 Silver, and 26 Bronze finishing 12th overall on the national medal table. This marks a notable improvement from the state's 16th-place finish at the previous edition held in Delta State.

In a statement signed by the Chairman Mr. Alfred Saiki SWAN Plateau State Chapter praised the athletes and coaches for their resilience, discipline, and determination that led to the successful outing.

The association extended a heartfelt commendation to the Executive Governor of Plateau State, His Excellency Barrister Caleb Manasseh Mutfwang, for his unwavering commitment to youth and sports development. It also appreciated the dedication of the Honourable Commissioner for Youth and Sports Development, Hon. Musa Ashoms, and the Director of Sports, Professor Ezra Gunen, for their tireless efforts in overseeing the team's preparation and participation.

SWAN Plateau State Chapter further acknowledged the vital role played by the Chairmen of the various Sports Associations and Board Members for their dedication, planning, and technical support, which contributed immensely to the team's overall performance.

The association noted that many Plateau born athletes represented other states at the festival, yet those who competed under the Plateau banner delivered with pride and passion.

Special mention was also made of the weeks of intensive camping organized by the Plateau State Government prior to the festival a move that significantly improved the athletes' preparedness and boosted team cohesion.

While celebrating the success, SWAN Plateau State Chapter called on all stakeholders athletes, coaches, administrators, and technical officials to continue building on this momentum with sustained commitment and focused preparation ahead of future competitions.

With the next edition of the National Sports Festival scheduled for Enugu, we are confident that Plateau State can aim even higher.

Once again, congratulations to Team Plateau you have made the state proud.

Coach Of Jamaica Reveals Admiration For Super Eagles Ball Movement After Unity Cup Defeat

Head coach of the senior national team of Jamaica Steve McClaren has praised the performance of the Super Eagles after his team's 4-5 loss to the Nigerian team on penalties in the final of the Unity Cup after a 2-2 draw in normal time, OwnGoalNigeria.com reports.

McClaren watched his team recover from going behind twice to losing during shoot out, and while applauding this team he also admitted the quality of the Nigerian team led by Eric Chelle.

"I've got to say, a very good Nigerian team full of quality players who play across Europe and the United Kingdom," McClaren said.

Speaking further he praised his team for sticking up to what he described as quality movement from the Nigerian team which he admired. "You see the way that they move the ball. They don't give the ball away. Admiring them, but for our team to deal with that was a credit".

Nigeria will now hope to build on the success of winning the tournament with another strong showing in another friendly game against Russia on the 6th of June.Sports bars

Mohammed Mowiz Suleiman



NLO's Investigation into Cynosure FC Chairman Raises Doubts: A Calculated Move or Genuine Pursuit of Justice?

The Nationwide League One's (NLO) announcement to investigate allegations of match-fixing against the Chairman of Cynosure FC has sparked intense debate, with many questioning the timing and motivations behind the move. A letter dated June 3rd, but mysteriously released on June 2nd, has raised suspicions about the potential motives behind the investigation.

Suspicious Timing Raises Eyebrows

The premature release of the letter has led many to speculate about the NLO's true intentions. With a matter already pending before the NFF Appeals Committee, the timing of these allegations appears dubious, leaving many to wonder if this is a calculated attempt to influence the outcome or silence the truth.

Allegations Against Cynosure FC Chairman

The allegations against the Chairman of Cynosure FC are serious, centering around an alleged attempt to compromise a league match against E-World FC. According to the letter, the Chairman reportedly contacted the Chairman of Liberty Lions FC, Calabar, to influence the outcome of the game. The NLO has assured that the investigation will be thorough.

New Questions Emerge

However, new questions have emerged that further complicate the matter. The Team Manager of E-World United posted the investigation letter on his WhatsApp platform before the official release date of June 3rd. This development raises additional questions about the integrity of the investigation and potential leaks or biases.

Implications for Nigerian Football

The investigation into the match-fixing allegations highlights the ongoing challenges facing Nigerian football. The sport has been plagued by scandals and controversies in recent years, and the NLO's efforts to address these issues will be closely watched.

Conclusion

The NLO's investigation into the Cynosure FC Chairman will be closely monitored, and its outcome will have significant implications for Nigerian football. As the investigation unfolds, stakeholders will be watching to see if the league's governing body takes decisive action against those found guilty. Ultimately, the integrity of the game depends on the NLO's commitment to fairness, transparency, and accountability.

Nigerian wrestling champion Ugochukwu Christian Obi cries out over threat to life, not safe returning to his community



Nigerian born Pro- Wrestling Africa Heavy Weight title contender, Ugochukwu Christian Obi popularly known as 'Eagle De Great Nail' has cried out to government and the international community to save him and his family from elimination by some hired assassins and criminal. gangs who after killing about ten members of his community have vowed to sniff life out of him and his immediate family.

He alleged that his trouble started sometimes last year when there was a communal crisis in his village, Umunobe, Ogbunka in Orumba South Local Government Area of Anambra State.

The crisis which divided the community into two camps, according to him was caused by leadership struggles and the mismanagement of the community funds which some of them insisted must be transparent but some people saw him as a threat and vowed to eliminate him for standing for the truth.

According to him, those behind his ordeal have engaged the services of some marauding Fulani herdsmen and assassins to eliminate his entire household and that sometimes in February, 2024, a section of his community was attacked by assailants and hoodlums who burnt down about 25 houses, kidnapped some people, killed community and youth leaders with many young girls either raped or abducted and up till now their whereabout are unknown.

He noted that his escape was miraculous as he went to visit a friend in the nearby town of Owerre Ezukala where he was convinced by his host to pass the night with him, only for him to hear about the sad news the following morning.

Obi stated that information available to him after the attack by eye witnesses indicates that the arsonists came looking for him in his family compound, ransacked the whole place and when they could not find him, left a note that they'll come back to finish him anytime he's found within the vicinity of the village or neighbouring communities.

Eagle De Great Nail' who has wrestled all over Nigeria including Benin Republic, Togo, Cameroon and Liberia lamented that since the attack, he has not been able to locate his wife three children and some members of his family whom he learnt are in an Internally Displaced People (IDP) camp.

He further explained that inorder to escape extra judicial killings that is ongoing in his community by the criminal gangs, non state actors and marauding Fulani herdsmen, a friend of his, helped him to travel to Belgium where he hope to continue his wrestling career.

The talented mats man who says that Jimmy Palm, A.K.A De African Dream, Ultimate Warrior and Hulk Hogan are his role models appealed to the Nigerian and Belgian Governments as well as the international community to come to his aide and ensure that his life is not wasted as the killings in his community has continued unabated.

Umontuen advocates for sports infrastructures in Akwa Ibom

BY UWEM EKOH



The Chairman of Maurid Group of Schools, Dr Godwin Umontuen has expressed worry over lack of infrastructures and development in the sports sector in Akwa Ibom State.

He said, the decay has hindered effective sports promotion and development, and called for the establishment of sports academy in the 10 Federal Constituencies in the state.

Umontuen who is a Football Enthusiast and Philanthropist decried lack of activities in other sports, describing it as worrisome.

Maurid Group of Schools comprises, Maurid Polythenic, Maurid College of Nursing Science in Mbiaso in Nsit Ibom Local Government Area, Maurid School of Nursing in Abia State as well as Maurid schools in the primary and secondary levels.

He stated this while exchanging views with newsmen in his country home,ONNA after playing host to Coastal All Stars, ONNA last Saturday.

According to him, the stadia we have in the state are only for football while other sports like athletics, basketball, volleyball, tennis and others have not been developed because of lack of facilities.

He opined that provision of sporting facilities should be given prompt attention by the state government.

He believed that government and private citizens in the state should do more in sports sector so as to help discover young talents, curb negative vices in the society, such as criminality, thuggery, drug abuse among others especially in the higher institutions in the state

The Maurid Group of Schools boss noted the disconnect between the old players and the new generation and believed that experienced sports men and women should also be engaged in other to help develop sports in the state.

He added, " there is actually a disconnect between the old players and the new ones in the state and the young ones have not been able to meet their target because of the disconnect".

Umontuen who is a Patron of Coastal All Stars assured that he will do his best to develop the young players within and outside, promising continuous support to Coastal All Stars to remain strong.

In his comment, the President of Coastal All Stars, Engr Henshaw Isong commended Dr Umontuen for being their pillar and promised that they will continue to advice and guide the young ones to become great footballers in future.

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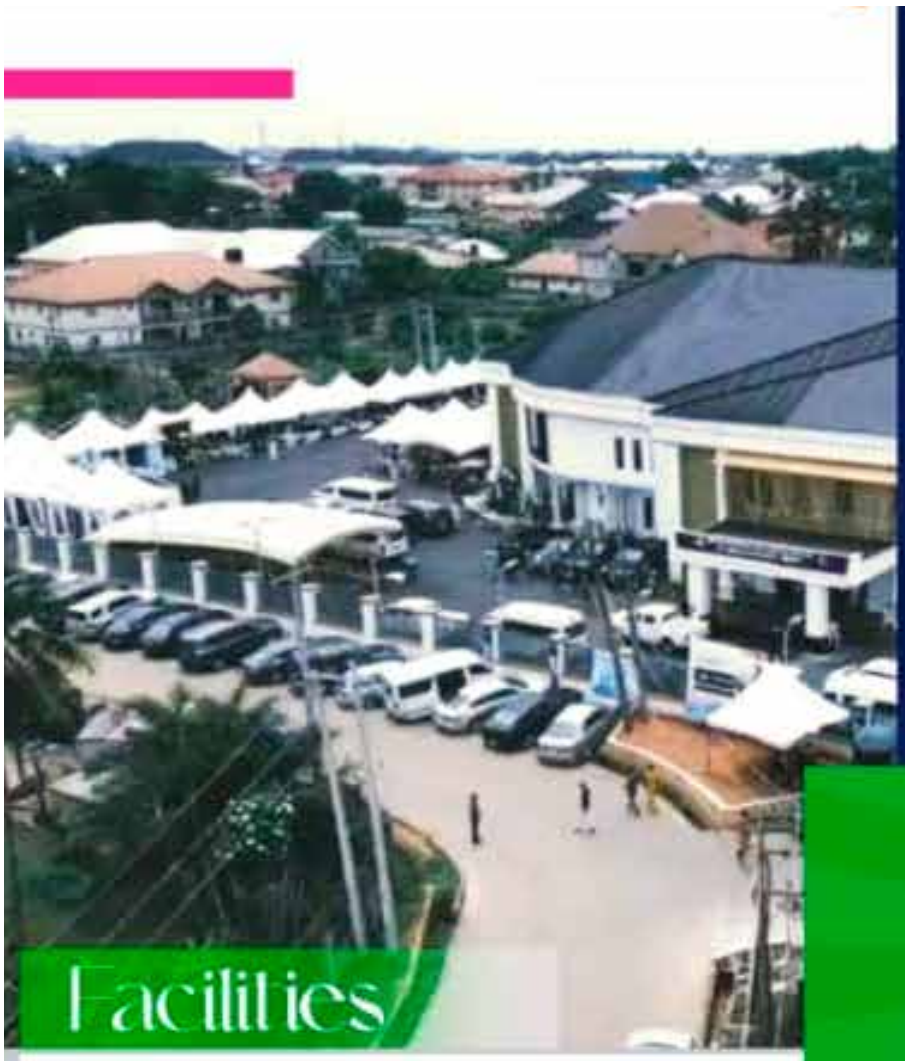
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Shehu Dikko Visits Families of Late Kano Athletes, Reaffirms FG's Support



Chairman of the National Sports Commission (NSC), Malam Shehu Dikko, and his entourage have paid a condolence visit to the Kano State Government and the families of the 22 Kano athletes who tragically lost their lives in a ghastly motor accident on Saturday.

The Independent Mirror reports that Malam Shehu Dikko, on his way back from London, diverted his journey to land in Kano via Lagos to personally visit the bereaved families.

He described the incident as one of the most tragic moments in Nigerian sports history.

Dikko, who led a delegation on behalf of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, extended heartfelt condolences to the government and people of Kano, particularly the families of the deceased.

"This is a devastating incident. The loss is not just for the immediate families or the sports community, but for the entire state of Kano and the nation as a whole," he said.

"We are here to register our condolences over this tragic and heartbreaking event that took the lives of our dear brothers and sisters."

Recalling the moment he heard the news, Dikko said, "When the accident happened, I was en route to London to witness Nigeria's match in the Unity Cup. I was overwhelmed with anger and sorrow upon hearing the news."

He emphasized the federal government's commitment to supporting the affected families. "We are currently working to revise insurance policies for athletes and exploring partnerships with the private sector to support the bereaved families."

He further revealed plans to create lasting memorials in honor of the late athletes and provide continued support to those injured in the accident. "Most importantly, we will investigate the circumstances surrounding this accident to ensure measures are put in place to prevent future occurrences."

Malam Shehu Dikko offered prayers for the departed souls, asking Almighty Allah (SWT) to accept the tragedy as His divine will and to grant the deceased Aljannatul Firdausi, while giving their families the strength to bear the irreparable loss.

The tragic accident occurred in Dakatsalle town, a few kilometers from the Kano metropolis, as the athletes were returning from the recently concluded National Sports Festival (NSF) held in Ogun State.

Speaking on behalf of the state government and the bereaved families, Deputy Governor Comrade Aminu Abdussalam expressed deep gratitude for Malam Shehu Dikko's visit and the federal government's show of solidarity.

As part of his condolence mission, Dikko also visited families of the deceased in Fagge and Gwagwarwa areas of Nasarawa Local Government Area. He also stopped at Murtala Muhammad Hospital to visit those still receiving treatment.

Malam Shehu Dikko was accompanied by NSC Director of Finance, Alamin Mustapha; Director of Facilities, Muhammed Rabiu; Special Assistant on Special Duties and Chief Protocol, Kawu Ahmed Muazu; and other officials.

Gara Gombe Seeks Court Intervention To Halt AFN Elections



The Athletics Federation of Nigeria (AFN) has found itself embroiled in a legal tussle as Ahmed Gombe Shuaibu Gara, the Chairman of Gombe State Athletics Association, has moved to block all electoral processes into the executive board of the federation.

lawsuit, filed against the National Sports Commission, the AFN, as well as outgoing President, Tonobok Okowa and Secretary General, Israel Inwang, challenges the legitimacy of recent congresses and demands compliance with the AFN constitution before any elections can proceed.

At the heart of Gara Gombe's claims is the alleged disregard for Article 10 of the AFN's constitution, which governs how congresses should be conducted.

He argues that the congresses held on April 10, 2025, and December 14, 2024, in Bayelsa and Delta State respectively, were not properly constituted, rendering all decisions made during and after them illegal.

One of the decisions was the setting up of the Electoral Committee to kickstart the electoral process.

The Extraordinary Congresses held on both dates were not convened pursuant to article 10.1.5 of the AFN 2023 Constitution which states that 'all the documents related to the Congress (reports, programmes proposal etc.) shall be sent to the Secretariat of each State member association at least thirty (30) days prior to the Congress.'

Gara Gombe argues that without adherence to legal protocols, any decisions made—including those affecting elections—are null and void.

Further fueling his legal battle is his removal from the AFN's WhatsApp platform, a move he insists obstructs his rights as chairman representing the Gombe State chapter.

Article 5 (5.5) states that the AFN should 'strive to ensure that no gender, race, religion, political or other kind of unfair discrimination exists or is allowed to develop in Athletics in any form, and that all may participate in Athletics regardless of their gender, race, religion or political views or any other relevant factor.'

Despite the Constitution stating how a member of either the board or congress of the Federation should be removed, Okowa, unilaterally ordered that Gara Gombe should be exited from the platform for demanding transparency and accountability in the running of the Federation.

He also criticizes financial mismanagement within the federation, particularly the collection of affiliation fees in a private account, which he describes as lacking transparency.

In his writ of summons, Gara Gombe calls for a complete suspension of all election-related activities until the AFN leadership rectifies these alleged violations.

His demands include reinstating him into AFN's WhatsApp group, releasing financial records from the past five years, and publishing a full list of board members across all affiliated states.

With these pressing allegations, Gara Gombe's legal challenge poses a significant hurdle for AFN's ongoing elections.

It also raises serious questions about governance within Nigerian athletics and could have far-reaching consequences for the AFN's leadership.

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Jeremie Frimpong: Rise of modern wing-back



In the dynamic landscape of modern football, where tactical innovation and athletic prowess converge, certain players emerge who redefine their positions and captivate audiences with their unique blend of skills. Jeremie Frimpong, the Dutch sensation currently dazzling on the right flank for Bayer Leverkusen, is unequivocally one such player. His journey from the academies of Manchester to the pinnacle of European football has been marked by blistering pace, relentless energy, and an attacking verve that has made him one of the most exciting and effective wing-backs in the contemporary game. This profile delves into the various facets of Frimpong's career, exploring his formative years, his pivotal breakthroughs, his distinctive playing style, and his burgeoning influence on both club and international stages.

Born in Amsterdam, Netherlands, in 2000, Frimpong's footballing odyssey began at a young age, far from his native land. His family relocated to England, where his precocious talent quickly caught the eye of scouts from Manchester City, one of the world's leading footballing institutions. Joining City's esteemed academy at the tender age of nine, Frimpong spent a decade honing his craft within an environment renowned for nurturing technical excellence and tactical intelligence. While he never made a senior appearance for the Citizens, his time there was invaluable, providing him with a robust foundation in positional play, ball control, and an understanding of high-intensity football. It was during these formative years that the raw attributes of his explosive speed and dribbling ability began to be refined, setting the stage for his future impact. The rigorous training, exposure to elite coaching, and competitive environment at City instilled in him a professional mindset and a relentless drive for improvement, crucial ingredients for his later success.

Frimpong's professional breakthrough arrived in 2019 when he made a surprising, yet ultimately inspired, move to Scottish giants Celtic. This transfer, initially viewed by some as a step down from the Premier League aspirations of City, proved to be the perfect catalyst for his development. Under the guidance of Neil Lennon, Frimpong was immediately thrust into first-team action, and his impact was instantaneous. His debut season saw him quickly establish himself as a fan favourite, affectionately nicknamed "Frimpong the Flipper" for his quick turns and ability to leave defenders in his wake. In Scotland, he found the consistent game time necessary to translate his potential into tangible performances. His attacking runs down the right wing, coupled with an eagerness to track back defensively, made him an indispensable asset. He contributed significantly to Celtic's domestic dominance, winning the Scottish Premiership, Scottish Cup, and Scottish League Cup, showcasing his ability to perform under pressure and contribute to trophy-winning campaigns. His performances in the Scottish Premiership and in European competitions with Celtic served as a clear indicator that he was ready for a bigger challenge.

The next pivotal chapter in Frimpong's career unfolded in January 2021, when he made the switch to German Bundesliga side Bayer Leverkusen. This move to one of Europe's top five leagues was a testament to his rapid development and burgeoning reputation. The reported fee for his signing was around €11 million, a significant investment that Leverkusen clearly believed would pay dividends. And indeed, it has. At Leverkusen, Frimpong has blossomed into one of the most complete and devastating wing-backs in European football. Under the astute management of Xabi Alonso, he has been deployed in a system that perfectly maximizes his strengths, often featuring as a right wing-back in a 3-4-3 or 3-4-2-1 formation. This role provides him with the freedom to bomb forward, exploit wide areas, and contribute significantly to the attack, while also being disciplined enough to fulfil his defensive responsibilities.

Frimpong's playing style is defined by a thrilling blend of attributes. His acceleration and top-end speed are arguably his most prominent weapons, allowing him to effortlessly surge past opponents and create dangerous situations in the final third. He possesses exceptional dribbling ability, capable of carrying the ball long distances and navigating tight spaces with composure. What truly sets him apart is his directness and intent to create chances. He isn't merely a pace merchant; he has a keen eye for a pass, a willingness to take on defenders one-on-one, and an increasing knack for arriving in goal-scoring positions. In the 2023-24 season, he played an integral role in helping Leverkusen to their first Bundesliga title, a historic achievement that underscored his importance to the team. His consistent output, both in terms of assists and goals, highlights his evolution into a truly potent attacking force from a defensive position. He made 53 appearances in all competitions as they finished second in the 2024-25 season, demonstrating his durability and consistent selection within the squad.

Beyond his attacking prowess, Frimpong has also shown significant improvement in the defensive aspects of his game. While his natural inclination is to surge forward, he has developed a greater understanding of defensive positioning and tracking back, making him a more well-rounded player. His work rate is immense, often seen tirelessly covering ground up and down the right flank for the entirety of a match. This dedication to both phases of play makes him a highly valuable asset in modern football, where full-backs and wing-backs are increasingly expected to contribute at both ends of the pitch.

Frimpong's exceptional club performances have not gone unnoticed on the international stage. Having represented the Netherlands at various youth levels, he earned his senior call-up and was part of the Netherlands squad at Euro 2024, a significant milestone in his career. His presence in the national team adds another layer of excitement, as his unique skill set offers a different dimension to the Dutch attack. He joins a Dutch contingent at Liverpool, including Virgil van Dijk, Cody Gakpo, and Ryan Gravenberch, a testament to his national prominence.

The most recent development in Jeremie Frimpong's meteoric rise is his high-profile transfer to Premier League champions Liverpool. On May 31, 2025, Liverpool confirmed the signing of the right-back from Bayer Leverkusen for £29.5 million. This move comes just hours after the Anfield club confirmed Trent Alexander-Arnold would be joining Real Madrid, effectively positioning Frimpong as Alexander-Arnold's replacement in Arne Slot's squad. This transfer underscores his standing as one of the most coveted right-backs in world football and represents a significant step up to one of the sport's most prestigious clubs. At Liverpool, he will have competition from Northern Ireland defender Conor Bradley, who recently signed a new four-year contract, promising a healthy rivalry for the right-back spot.

In conclusion, Jeremie Frimpong's career trajectory is a compelling narrative of talent, hard work, and astute career choices. From a promising academy prospect at Manchester City to a breakout star at Celtic, and then an indispensable force at Bayer Leverkusen, he has consistently adapted and excelled. His explosive pace, incisive dribbling, and growing attacking output have established him as a truly modern wing-back, capable of influencing games with his thrilling runs and decisive contributions. His recent move to Liverpool marks a new, exciting chapter, where he is poised to continue his electrifying rise at the highest level of club football. As he continues to mature and refine his game, Jeremie Frimpong is undoubtedly a player who will continue to captivate audiences and shape the future of the right-back position for years to come. His journey serves as an inspiration, proving that with dedication and the right environment, a player can ascend from promising youth to a global sensation.e dynamic landscape of modern football, where tactical innovation and athletic prowess converge, certain players emerge who redefine their positions and captivate audiences with their unique blend of skills. Jeremie Frimpong, the Dutch sensation currently dazzling on the right flank for Bayer Leverkusen, is unequivocally one such player. His journey from the academies of Manchester to the pinnacle of European football has been marked by blistering pace, relentless energy, and an attacking verve that has made him one of the most exciting and effective wing-backs in the contemporary game. This profile delves into the various facets of Frimpong's career, exploring his formative years, his pivotal breakthroughs, his distinctive playing style, and his burgeoning influence on both club and international stages.

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