

WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

CECAFA QUALIFIERS 2024

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia







Message from CECAFA President



WALLACE KARIA

After successfully organising the CECAFA Dar Port Kagame Cup in Tanzania last month, focus now shifts to the beautiful city of Addis Ababa in Ethiopia for yet another fiesta as the CAF Women's Champions League – CECAFA qualifies take centre stage.

Eight teams will compete in the qualifies from August 17-29th 2024 to decide who takes the single slot to represent the region at the final continental tournament. Since the qualifiers started Vihiga Queens (Kenya), Simba Queens (Tanzania) and JKT Queens (Tanzania) have lifted the trophy and gone ahead to represent the Zone.

We thank CAF under the leadership of Dr. Patrice Motsepe for introducing the Women's Champions League because this tournament has also helped our teams in the Zone to test their players ahead of global competitions, and some players to be scouted to join teams outside the continent.

Because it is not always a simple task to host these tournaments, I would want to take this opportunity to thank the hosts Ethiopia Football Federation (EFF) and the government of Ethiopia for once again coming out to stage this tournament for two weeks in Addis Ababa.

I am excited to see that as CECAFA we continue to make strides in the development of Women's Football where we have already seen some of our teams qualify for the FIFA U17 Women's World Cup and the CAF Women's Africa Cup of Nations among others.

Once again, I welcome all the nine teams to Addis Ababa. Enjoy the tournament and let the best team win.

I thank you!

Message from Ethiopia Football Federation President



ISAYAS JIRA BOSHO

The Ethiopia Football Federation takes this opportunity to welcome all teams and officials to the CAF Women's Champions League qualifiers for the CECAFA Zone. As a Federation we are excited that we shall host the zonal CAF Women's tournament, and we hope to witness great Football.

We all have to strongly join hands as CECAFA to continue promoting Women's Football because it has massive potential as underscored by FIFA.

I wish you all a great tournament and stay in Addis Ababa!

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CECAFA Women's Champions League History

The CAF Women's Champions League tournament was started under Dr. Patrice Motsepe's leadership as CAF President. Since the Zonal qualifiers started in 2021, the CECAFA Zone has organized three editions.



2021 CECAFA Women's Champions League qualifier in Nairobi, Kenya

The inaugural CAF Women's Champions League CECAFA qualifiers which attracted eight teams took place in Nairobi, Kenya. In the semi-final stage Kenyan side Vihiga Queens defeated Simba Queens 2-1, while Commercial Bank of Ethiopia saw off She Corporates (Uganda) 5-4 on penalties after a 1-1 draw in normal time in the second semifinal. Vihiga Queens went on to defeat Commercial Bank of Ethiopia (CBE) 2-1 in the final. CBE's Loza Geinore Abera emerged top scorer with 13 goals.

2022 CECAFA Women's Champions

League qualifier in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

In 2022 Tanzania hosted the competition with eight teams taking part. Tanzania giants Simba Queens who were undefeated in the group stage stopped AS Kigali WFC (Rwanda) 5-1 in the first semi-final tie, while Uganda's She Corporate saw off Commercial Bank of Ethiopia 2-1. In a well-balanced final Simba Queens edged She Corporate 1-0 with Kenya international Vivian Corazone Aquino Odhiambo scoring the lone goal from the spot. Again CBE's Loza Geinore Abera netted 11 goals to win the top scorer's Award.

2023 CECAFA Women's Champions League qualifier in Njeru, Uganda

Although Kampala Queens WFC had been tipped to perform well in the CAF Women's Champions League CECAFA qualifier, they failed to make it out of the group stage. Commercial Bank of Ethiopia booked a place in the final after ejecting Vihiga Queens (Kenya) 2-1 at the semi-final stage, while JKT Queens (Tanzania) eliminated Buja Queens (Burundi) 3-1.

In the final which ended goalless after 90 minutes, JKT Queens edged Commercial Bank of Ethiopia 5-4 during penalty shootouts. Kampala Queens' Fazila Ikwaput bagged the top scorer's Award with eight goals. The tournament also produced some stars like Topister Situma for Buja Queens and Simba Queens' Winifrida Gerald.



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		04	PVP BUYENZI VS KAWEMPE MUSLIM	12H00	ABEBE BIKILA STADIUM	19/08		MATCH N#	TEAMS	TIME	VENUE
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		11	KAWEMPE MUSLIM VS FAD DJIBOUTI	15H00	ABEBE BIKILA STADIUM	23/08	MA	MATCH N#	TEAMS	TIME	VENUE
		12	SIMBA QUEENS VS PVP BUYENZI	15H00	ABEBE BIKILA STADIUM	23/00		16	WINNER M#13 VS LOOSER M#14	15H00	ADDIS ABABA STADIUM
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GROUPS



THE TEAMS





Commercial Bank of Ethiopia WFC



Coach: Heye Gizaw Birhanu (Ethiopia)

Commercial Bank of Ethiopia WFC have been a dominant team in Ethiopia's Women Football landscape. However, the Zonal title has alluded them in the last three CECAFA qualifiers.

In 2021 they lost 2-1 to Kenya's Vihiga Queens in the final, and last year suffered yet another defeat in the final. Tanzania's JKT Queens beat them 5-4 in penalty shootouts after the match had ended goalless at the FUFA Technical Centre in Njeru, Uganda



Going into their fourth straight CAF Women's Champions League qualifier and playing on home soil is expected to be yet another motivator for coach Birhanu's team. They will however have to do without their former captain and goal poacher Loza Geinore Abera who is now plying her trade in USA.

<u>Birhanu's comment:</u> "We know that this is a very important tournament for us because we are playing at home and will need all the home support as we try to win our first title. Because we have reached two finals and lost, we need to try and do things differently and treat every match like a final," added the experienced coach.



Squad

Leyla Sherif Beshir (Ethiopia)
Kidist Zeleke Daniel (Ethiopia)
Dirshaye Menza Malabo (Ethiopia)
Hirut Tesfaye Gunga (Ethiopia)
Tarikwa Debiso Yakura (Ethiopia)
Nigist Bekele Hailu (Ethiopia)
Tinbit Samuel Bassa (Ethiopia)
Senaf Wakuma Zenaf Demise (Ethiopia)
Birtukan G/Kirstos Ware (Ethiopia)
Aregash Kalsa Tadesse (Ethiopia)
Sara Nebso Hasen (Ethiopia)
Sisay Gebrewahad Hailu (Ethiopia)
Bizuayehu Tadesse Ayneku (Ethiopia)
Hasabe Muso Gila (Ethiopia)
Mesay Temesgen Tanga (Ethiopia)
Nigist Meaza Mersha (Ethiopia)
Nardos Getenet Mekonnen (Ethiopia)
Emebet Adisu Asfaw (Ethiopia)
Senait Bogale Boyizo (Ethiopia)
Tarkua Bargena Balcha (Ethiopia)
Sofanit Tefera Seifu (Ethiopia)
Betelhem Asresahegn Getahun (Ethiopia)
Meseret Wokkineh Bunteso (Ethiopia)





Kenya Police Bullets WFC



Coach: Beldine Odemba (Kenya)

After a very competitive season in the Kenya Women's Premier League, Kenya Police Bullets WFC proved that they were better prepared to take it to the wire and win. Coach Odemba's side lifted their first title with 49 points, while former champions Vihiga Queens and Ulinzi Starlets collected 44 points apiece.

Although Kenya Police Bullets WFC lack the experience at the international stage, they are a side not to be taken lightly. They boost of the 2023/2024 Kenya Women's League Most Valuable Player (MVP) Lydia 'Ozil' Akoth, and top forwards Rebecca Okwaro and Purity Alukwe who scored 15 and 14 goals respectively in the season.

Kenya Police Bullets have also strengthened their squad with some additional players like Elizabeth Ochaka, the current U17 captain who led the national team to their first-ever FIFA U-17 World Cup qualification.

Coach Odemba who is also the Harambee Starlets tactician few months ago also attained a CAF A license

<u>Odemba's Comment:</u> "I am confident that we shall do well, but I feel no pressure. We are ready to face our opponents, and we aim to represent Kenya well in the CAF Women's Champions League qualifiers," added the Kenya Police Bullets coach.



Squad

Mishi Mrabu Mbaru (Kenya) Quinter Atieno Owiti (Kenya) Leah Cherotich Andiema (Kenya) Diana Wacera Mwihaki (Kenya) Elizabeth Ochaka (Kenya) Christine Nafula (Kenya) Emily Kemunto Morang'a (Kenya) Mary Nthambi Kilonzi (Kenya) Rebecca Akinyi Okwaro (Kenya) Juliet Auma Andibo (Kenya) Mercyline Masika Mwalimu (Kenya) Lydia Akoth (Kenya) Stella Anyango Oduor (Kenya) Norah Ann (Kenyan (Kenya) Bertha Omita (Kenya) Sharon Kasandi Juma (Kenya) Purity Alukwe Anyetu (Kenya) Lucy Kwekwe Jira (Kenya) Yasmin Mwahe Khalid (Kenya) Lydia Akoth Waganda (Kenya) Diana Tembesi Isutsa (Kenya) Jane Hato (Kenya) Nelly Sawe (Kenya)

Annedy Kundu Kwamasi (Kenya





Yei Joint Stars WFC







Coach: Bilal Felix Komoyange (South Sudan)

Yei Joint Stars WFC have been dominant since Women's Football was established in South Sudan in 2019. The team emerged champions in South Sudan after claiming their third consecutive South Sudan Women's League title in April, defeating Tiger United of Aweil 3-0.

Yei Joint Stars will make their fourth appearance in the qualifiers and will be hoping to prove a point this time round. Few days ago Yei Joint Stars FC signed experienced coach Bilal Felix Komoyange who also handled the U20 team at the AFCON U20 and recently the Sudan team at the Africans Games in Ghana.

Yei Joint Stars have also strengthened their squad by signing the pacy Uganda Crested Cranes International winger Lilian Mutuuzo who FUFA Women Super League side Kampala Queens.

Komoyange's comment: "We are going to take every match very seriously because all teams in the qualifiers are champions in their respective countries. We shall try to first qualify through the group for the knock out stage," added the coach.

Squad

Nawal Isaac Henry Majok (South Sudan) Bandas Amadrio Filda Amosu (South Sudan) Arive Mercy Consulate (South Sudan) Harriet Dusman Augustino (South Sudan) Poni Esther Wani (South Sudan) Mary Anger Bol (South Sudan) Aniet Wek Maduok Mayol (South Sudan) Mutuuzo Lilian (Uganda) Namugeye Rahma Cosmas Duku (South Sudan) Sumaya Malili Taban Noah (South Sudan) Vita Nakirijja Annet Adebo (South Sudan) Sarah Night James Yesona (South Sudan) Matama Damali (Uganda) Ajwang Vicky Veronica (South Sudan) Mary Dawa Marko (South Sudan) Mariam Luis Lasuba (Uganda) Modong Jeska Simaya (South Sudan) Spencer Nakacwa (Uganda) Angelina Maliga William (South Sudan) Mayunga Naira Alfred (South Sudan) Angelina Maliga (South Sudan)





Rayon Sports WFC





Coach: Claude Rwaka (Rwanda)

The Rwanda Women's Premier League champions will be out to try and prove a point in the Zonal qualifiers.

They also have foreign players from Kenya, Burundi, Tanzania and Mary Gibi Chavinda from Malawi.

Rayon Sports WFC are placed in Group A alongside Commercial Bank of Ethiopia, Kenya Police Bullets, Yei Joint Stars (South Sudan) and Warrior Queens (Zanzibar)

<u>Rwaka's comments:</u> "We need to go and try to first perform well and qualify from the group for the semifinals. There is no weak team in this tournament," added Rwaka.



Squad

Angeline Ndakimana (Rwanda) Charity Midewa Kenya) Nyirarukundo Uwitonze (Rwanda) Rachael Muema Otolo (Kenya) Scholastique Gikundiro (Rwanda) Mary Arone Siyame (Tanzania) Aquila Gasper Francis Kalekona (Tanzania) Dorothee Mukeshimana (Rwanda) Mary Gibi Chavinda (Malawi) Jeannine Mukandayisenga (Rwanda) Jeannette Ukwinkunda (Rwanda) Angelique Keza (Burundi) Marthe Nyiramwiza (Rwanda) Rehema Ramadhani Mohamed (Tanzania) Emerance Niyonshuti (Rwanda) Angelique Umuhoza (Rwanda) Andersene Uwase (Rwanda) Monica Karambu (Kenya) Alodie Kayitesi (Rwanda) Jeannette Mukesshimana (Rwanda) Joselyne Mukantaganira (Rwanda) Immaculee Uwimbabazi (Rwanda) Djamilla Abimana (Rwanda) Alice Kalimba (Rwanda) Francine Uwimana (Rwanda) Libellee Nibagwire (Rwanda)

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Simba Queens



Coach: Juma Mgunda (Tanzania)

The Tanzania Women's Premier League champions Simba Queens will be another team to watch during the CAF Women's Champions League – CECAFA qualifiers. Simba Queens handled by coach Juma Mgunda lifted the Zonal title in 2022 and will be eager to emerge winners again.

The team has been busy in the transfer market adding on Nigeria's Precious Onyinyechi Christopher and Wincate Kaari Kinyua (Kenya) who crossed from rivals Yanga Princess. Simba Queens, who also reached the semi-final stage at the CAF Women's Champions League 2022 held in Morocco boost of other top players like Vivian Aquino Corazone Odhiambo, Jentrik Shikangwa Milimu (Kenya), and Burundian International and skipper Asha Djafari.

<u>Mgunda's comment</u>: "I have told all the players that we must take every game seriously because the mission is to qualify for the African tournament. "We have prepared well and the new players have fitted in well," says Mgunda.



Squad

Janeth Shija Simba (Tanzania) Dotto Evarist Tossy (Tanzania) Elizabeth Mutukiza Wambui (Kenya) Fatuma Issa Suleimani (Tanzania) Josephine John (Tanzania) Mwanahamis Omari Shurua (Tanzania) Precious Onyinyechi Christopher (Nigeria) Shelda Boniface Mafuru (Tanzania) Aisha Juma Mnunka (Tanzania) Amina Ally Bilal (Tanzania) Wincate Kaari Kinyua (Kenya) Ritticia Nabbosa (Uganda) Asha Rashid (Tanzania) Emeliana Isaya Ndimu (Tanzania) Jackline Albert Kulusanga (Tanzania) Vivian Aquino Corazone Odhiambo (Kenya) Caroline Rufa (Kenya) Mary Saiki Atinuke (Nigeria) Ruth Mukalukho Ingosi (Kenya) Gelwa Yonah Lugomba (Tanzania) Daniela Kanyanya Ngoyi (Tanzania) Esther Elastus Mayala (Tanzania) Asha Djafari (Burundi) Jentrix Shikangwa Milimu (Kenya) Vioeth Nicholaus Mwamakamba (Tanzania)





Kawempe Muslim Ladies







Coach: Ayub Khalifah Kiyingi (Uganda)

The Uganda Women's Premier League reigning champions Kawempe Muslim Ladies will be making their debut in the Zonal qualifiers.

Handled by an experienced coach Ayub Khalifah Kiyingi, the Ugandan side have promised to seriously compete for the title and qualification for the African tournament.

<u>Kiyingi's comment:</u> "We know some of the teams like Simba Queens and PVP Buyenzi who are in our group have played in this tournament before and have the experience. But we are determined to make a good impression in the tournament with the ultimate goal of qualification," added the coach.

Squad

Juliet Adeke (Uganda) Jolly Kobusingye (Uganda) Agnes Nabukenya (Uganda) Ritah Mushimire (Uganda) Rhoda Nanziri (Uganda) Esther Nangendo (Uganda) Shakira Nyinagahirwa (Uganda) Samalie Nakacwa (Uganda) Hadijah Nandago (Uganda) Allen Nassaazi (Uganda) Shadia Nabirye (Uganda) Claire Hilder Kebirungi (Uganda) Mary Kabachurezi (Uganda) Halimah Kampi (Uganda) Josephine Nambuya (Uganda) Rebecca Nakato (Uganda) Saidah Namwanje (Uganda) Phionah Nabulime (Uganda) Dorcus Kisakye (Uganda) Sumaya Nabuto (Uganda) Krusum Namutebi (Uganda) Hadijah Babirye (Uganda) Sharifah Nakimera (Uganda)





PVP Buyenzi WFC

Coach: Amouri Manirakiza (Burundi)

The Burundi team PVP Buyenzi WFC played in 2021 qualifiers in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania but failed to qualify out of the group.

Manirakiza comment: "We are prepared and ready to compete seriously in the qualifiers."



Squad

Irene Mapambo (Burundi) Annonciatte Nshimirimana (Burundi) Happy Irakoze (Burundi) Mariam Yusuph Juma (Tanzania) Shufaa Issa Chimae (Tanzania) Nasra Nahimana (Burundi) Reddy Congera (Burundi) Nicole Rehema Igilima (DR Congo Rukiya Bizimana (Burundi) Aniella Uwiimana (Burundi) Zena Sheban Nahimana (Burund) Obeda Hamis Said (Tanzania) Zilfa Suzanne (Burundi) Adidja Nzeyimana (Burundi) Channy Nsabiyumva (Burundi) Joelle Bukuru (Burundi) Orga Noella Ndizeye (Burundi) Yasinta Edgaridy Marimba (Burundi) Beatrice Amissi (Burundi) Solange Manirakiza (Burundi) Neema Nshimirimana (Burundi)



FAD Djibouti

Coach: Mohamed Abdourahman Mahamoud (Djibouti)

The Djibouti Women League champions FAD Djibouti will be making their third appearance in the Zonal qualifiers of the CAF Women's Champions League.

Having failed to make it past the group stage in 2021 and 2022 qualifiers, the FAD Djibouti will b more than determined to show improvement.

Abdourahman Mahamoud's comment: "This is a very tough tournament that brings together champions. We shall take every match as it comes," added the coach.

Squad

Soubane Ahmed Omar (Djibouti) Neima Abdillahi Said (Djibouti) Ayan Houssein Abdallah (Djibouti) Soumeya Yacin Moussa (Djibouti) Ilham Djama Douhour (Djibouti) Yousra Mohamed Awad (Djibouti) Fardoussa Ali Doubad (Djibouti) Mahado Aden Ismael (Djibouti) Malika Goumaneh Robleh (Djibouti) Mouna Abdillahi Nour (Djibouti) Nadia Mahamoud Nour (Djibouti) Lerman Abdou Sikieh (Djibouti) Ismahan Abdillahi Nour (Djibouti) Neima Abdi Ali (Djibouti) Idil Idil Gouled Robleh (Djibouti) Rahma Mostapha Aden (Djibouti) Hibo Abdi Abdillahi (Djibouti) Ferouze Mohamed Issa (Djibouti) Ferouze Mohamed Houmed (Djibouti)





2021 CHAMPIONS

Vihiga Queens (Kenya)











2022 CHAMPIONS Simba Queens (Tanzania)











Star players in past CECAFA Women's Champions League Qualifiers





KT Queens' Winifrida Gerald in action (2023)



Simba Queens Clement Opah Tukumbuke (2022)



CBE' Loza Abera and Aregash Kalsa Tadesse (2023)



Kampala Queens' Fazilat Ikwaput (2023)



