



PRETORIA BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

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17 June 2014

Dear Parents/Guardians

DIRECTOR OF COACHING: RUGBY

It is with great pleasure that we announce that Mr Ryno van der Merwe has been appointed as the Director of Rugby coaching at Pretoria Boys High. Mr van der Merwe will assume official duty on 1 July 2014 at the start of a three-year contract but will be involved from today in getting to know the rugby structure. His main responsibilities will be:

- Doing a full analysis of the current rugby structure with a view to suggesting changes and improvements
- Planning both off-season and pre-season activities for players in terms of skills and conditioning
- Promoting skill-based training throughout the age groups
- Promoting the game of rugby at primary school level through clinics hosted at Boys High
- Ensuring that coaches run structured, organised practices, that are consistent with his vision for a style of play
- Ensuring coaches are suitably qualified and have been given the necessary tools to do what is required of them
- Ensuring parents and players understand what the vision for rugby will be and how we intend improving our results

Mr van der Merwe has a distinguished career both as a player and captain, starting with the Maties 1st XV which he captained in 2000. He went on to play for the WP Vodacom Cup and Currie Cup teams and the Border Bulldogs which he also captained. His highest level of play was with the Free State Cheetahs between 2003 and 2007 where he played over 100 games, including 25 Super Rugby games, many of which as captain. He subsequently played for Brive in the French Top 14 competition and for SWD Eagles in 2009 at the end of his playing career.

His coaching career began at SWD Eagles where he was player/coach and then continued at the Cheetah Academy as Director of Rugby from 2010 to 2011. Since 2012 he has been running his own business, coaching part-time at Garsfontein High School.

Mr van der Merwe came across very well at the various interviews as a man who understands the Boys High ethos and also understands our wish to improve both our standard of play and the results across all our rugby teams. He sees this position as a great challenge and is looking forward to working with our coaches and boys. I wish him all the very best as he takes up this exciting opportunity and ask that we give him our full support as we strive for long-term, sustainable improvement.

Yours sincerely

A D REELER

HEADMASTER