

LIGYALINGI NAMED NEW CRICKET CEO

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By Norman Katende and Charles Mutebi



JUSTIN Ligyalingi is the new Chief Executive Officer of the Uganda Cricket Association (UCA).

He emerged top of a final shortlist of five candidates, who were interviewed for the post on Saturday. The position has been vacant since its maiden occupant Mpeka Muhumuza was fired in October last year, just three-months into his two-year contract.

Ligyalingi, who is set to tender his resignation from his position as National Council of Sports (NCS) assistant general secretary (technical), will take office after the election of a new UCA administration is elected on February 27.

Muhumuza's dismissal was not without controversy, which makes the choice of Ligyalingi very significant. For if Muhumuza's tenure ended in acrimony, Ligyalingi's appointment could be viewed as a move to restore unity in the association.

Ligyalingi will be a popular choice given his suitability for the post and the good reputation he enjoys throughout the cricket fraternity.

Credited for playing a crucial role in building the Busoga College Mwiri cricket dynasty, Ligyalingi has been the national cricket team manager for seven of the last nine years. He remains well-liked by the players.

He holds a Masters Degree in sports science from Makerere University and has cricket coaching and administration training from India.

Cricket aside, Ligyalingi has been part or led the Uganda delegation to high-profile international games including the All Africa Games in Abuja 2003, Commonwealth Games in Melbourne 2006 and the Beijing Olympic Games in 2008.

The appointment of a CEO is one of the pre-requisites to receiving funding from world cricket governing body the ICC. It is also a key component in professionalising the game, another priority of the ICC.

Ligyalingi will be officially introduced at a press conference tomorrow.-

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