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 Rugby

Mwamba put blame on Mak 10s organisers

By Ismail D. Kigongo ([email the author](#))

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Mwamba RFC have blamed their withdrawal from the annual Makerere 10s on the organisers' sudden decision to postpone the tournament from this weekend to November 20-21.

In an e-mail addressed to Makerere University Impis Rugby Club chairman Dan Obote last Wednesday, Mwamba asserted their willingness to take part in the event had it been played on the earlier scheduled dates.

“This (the change of dates) comes as a shock to us. We have been planning for this tour for close to a year,” the e-mail sent by George Mbaye, honorary secretary of Mwamba, read in part. “As regards to the notice, it’s too short for us which means we are out.”

When contacted, Obote acknowledged the Kenyans’ disappointment and anger but refused to take full responsibility for the changes. “The sponsors requested for the rescheduling in order to position themselves well,” the Impis head said.

National duty

It’s now clear that Mwamba are not pulling out due to the Kenya Cup season but rather the inability to field their best side. “On that weekend, 10 of Mwamba’s best players will be away in Namibia and Sri Lanka on national duty with the two (national) 7s teams,” Mbaye, an alumnus of Makerere University and Mwamba forward, added.

If Mwamba were to come, they would make the journey without Humphrey Kayange, Horace Owiti, Lavin Asego, Edgar Abere, Collins Injera and

Dennis Ombachi, all of whom are part of Kenya's 7s team.

In the absence of the former champions and finalists on two other occasions, Mean Machine, Nakuru and Blakblad are expected to challenge local clubs for top honours at Makerere grounds, fondly referred to as the graveyard.

MTN Heathens and utl Kobs are participating.

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