

## MEDIA STATEMENT

To: All media Attention: News and Sport Editors/Journalists Date: 14 December 2018

## **Gauteng 2018 SA School Sports Champions**

Team Gauteng have emerged as the National school sport champions, claiming victory at the 2018 SA School Sports Championships Summer Games announced at the Ellis Park Arena on Thursday, 13 December.

The 2018 Championships were held in Gauteng from 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> featuring over 6000 athletes from all 9 provinces. They competed in 10 sporting codes including Basketball, Cricket, Goalball, Gymnastics, Rugby, Softball, Table Tennis, Football, Volleyball and Swimming.

Gauteng improved their position from 2<sup>nd</sup> in 2017 to champions in 2018 with a total score of 246 and earning 144 medals -15 gold, 72 silver and 57 bronze. They achieved this by dethroning last year's winners KZN, who could only muster 2<sup>nd</sup> position, followed by Western Cape in third.

Team Gauteng dominated with the most golds in swimming. They also got gold in cricket, football, gymnastics, softball, rugby, table tennis and volleyball.

"Our young athletes are showing tremendous talent and as Gauteng we can only celebrate. On behalf of the provincial government and the people of Gauteng, we congratulate the Team on their achievement and wish them the best in future. Our young athletes have made the province incredibly proud, repeatedly proving that the Gauteng is truly the home of champions and sporting excellence.

"With school sport being the bedrock of talent identification and development, the success of young athletes means the future of South African sport has limitless potential of achieving greatness. Gauteng is proud to be a shining light for all the stars who will go on to represent South Africa internationally", says Gauteng MEC for Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation, Faith Mazibuko.

## Ends

For media inquiries and interviews, please contact Nomazwe Ntlokwana on 083 507 8068/ 011 355 2578 or <u>nomazwe.ntlokwana@gauteng.gov.za</u>

Issued by the Gauteng Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation