



THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS STATEMENT ON THE PASSING OF FORMER BAFANA BAFANA COACH CLIVE BARKER

Saturday, 10 June 2023

The Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) sends its heartfelt condolences to the Barker family on the passing of legendary former Bafana Bafana coach, Clive Barker, today at 78. We send further condolences to the soccer community at large, as well as the nation of South Africa.

This loss is not just felt within the sports community, but by all those whose lives were touched by Clive's indomitable spirit, unwavering passion, and remarkable contributions to the beautiful game.

Barker claimed a place in the heart of all South Africans as the coach who brought this nation together through leading Bafana Bafana to a history making win at the 1996 Africa Cup of Nations. His commitment to premium soccer playing allowed him to give morale to a newly birthed country in desperate need for a sense of triumph.

Known for coaching several local teams such as Manning Rangers, Bidvest Wits, AmaZulu, Maritzburg United, and Mpumalanga Black Aces, Barker was also the only South African coach to successfully guide Bafana Bafana to their first World Cup appearance in France in 1998.

His strategic brilliance, unmatched dedication, and ability to inspire his players to perform at their best were unparalleled.

While the general public may have known him as a coach, he was also a husband, father and grandfather to his loved ones, whom we are keeping in our prayers at this time. We share in your grief and offer our support as you navigate through this profound loss.

May you find solace in the memories of his remarkable achievements, the joy he brought to so many, and the enduring legacy he leaves behind.

To the South African football community, let us honour his memory by continuing to celebrate the game he loved so deeply and by embodying the values of resilience, dedication, and sportsmanship that he personified throughout his career.

Rest in eternal peace, Clive Barker. Thank you for the memories, the inspiration, and the legacy you leave behind.

ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS

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