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The 2023 Selati Cup champions, Langeloop Junior Pirates, and the first runners-up, Swazi Mzinti Messengers, recently received their top-up monies from the ANC provincial chairperson and current MEC for public works, roads and transport, Mandla Ndlovu.

Ndlovu had made a commitment to the Selati Cup organisers that he would add or top up to the current prizes on offer for the participating teams in this soccer tournament.

He made an appearance during the Selati Cup final between Langeloop Junior Pirates and Swazi Mzinti Messengers at KaMhlushwa Stadium in June.

"This is a beautiful display of grassroots football that I believe needs support from both the private sector and government. I want to make a commitment today to add on to the prizes currently being offered by the current sponsors. I will top up on the prizes," promised Ndlovu at the time, shortly after he had had a brief meeting with the tourney's

organisers.

Making good on his words, Ndlovu invited the two finalists, including the Selati Cup women's champions, Njeyeza Ladies FC, to Mbombela Stadium as his guests, to watch TS Galaxy and Kaizer Chiefs do battle. This is where he handed over the promised top-up and other goodies.

Kenneth Phiri, the Selati Cup Local Organising Committee (LOC) secretary, confirmed that the teams received their topups as promised.

"On behalf of the LOC and the teams, let me appreciate the gesture by MEC Ndlovu. He walked the talk, and we are proud to have such leaders who keep by their words. The contribution he has made will certainly go a long way towards the development of grassroots football.

"We hope that we will have a great working relationship with him and all of our partners as we prepare for the 15th edition of this annual tourney," said Phiri.