

TEAM UGANDA MATCHDAY REPORT

Good Neighbor Tournament 2026

14 June 2026 – Pyeongtaek City, Republic of Korea

Directorate of Sport & Entertainment, Ugandans in South Korea Association (USKA)

The Ugandans in South Korea Association (USKA) successfully coordinated Team Uganda's participation in the Good Neighbor Tournament 2026, held on Sunday 14 June 2026 in Pyeongtaek City.

The tournament brought together eight teams from diverse communities under the theme **"Building Friendship Through Football"**, providing another valuable opportunity for community engagement, sportsmanship, and representation of Uganda in South Korea.

Team Uganda Results

Uganda competed in Group B alongside Turan FC, Avengers FC, and Team Cameroon.

Match	Result
Uganda vs Turan FC	0 – 1
Uganda vs Team Cameroon	0 – 2
Uganda vs Avengers FC	0 – 1

While the results did not go in our favour, the tournament provided important lessons and highlighted areas for improvement both on and off the field.



Figure 1: TEAM UGANDA

Match day squad

1. Mahad (goalkeeper)
2. Kennedy Ssendagire
3. Jeff
4. Hakim Ntege
5. Andrew (Andy) Luken
6. Lamine
7. Mahmoud
8. Jafar (Jeff) Lumu
9. Henry Ssenfuka
10. Emma Mukisa
11. Steven Ahereza
12. Hamza Kyamanywa
13. Sadat Zimula
14. Kasujja Michael
15. Mufasa Mutebi
16. Ismail Uptop

17. Bwogi Eria

Observations and Challenges

Several factors affected the overall competition experience:

Tournament Environment

- The playing field was considerably smaller than a standard football pitch, limiting tactical flexibility and requiring teams to play 10-a-side football.
- The competition was conducted on a single pitch, creating scheduling and match management challenges.
- There was a noticeable absence of professional match officials, including qualified referees and assistant referees.

Officiating Concerns

Team Uganda was unfortunately at the receiving end of several questionable officiating decisions throughout the tournament. While these decisions impacted aspects of play, they should not distract us from the internal improvements required within our own setup.

Team Reflections and Lessons Learned

Following the tournament, players and management held constructive discussions and identified several areas that require immediate attention.

Internal Discipline

The foundation of any successful team is discipline.

As Team Uganda, we must continue improving in:

- Time management
- Respect for ourselves and others
- Listening to and valuing different opinions
- Professional communication and language
- Emotional control and positive reactions
- Humility and teamwork

These simple principles directly influence both on-field performance and off-field success.

Defining Success Better

The team agreed that success cannot be measured solely by trophies and match results.

We must become more intentional in setting goals and defining what success means for Team Uganda.

Football should serve as a platform for:

- Community building
- Friendship and brotherhood
- Personal development
- National representation
- Positive engagement within the Ugandan community

Winning matches remains important, but it should be built upon a stronger foundation of character, purpose, and collective growth.

Better Organization and Planning

Management and players alike recognized the need for improved planning and coordination ahead of future tournaments to minimize avoidable conflicts and improve preparation.

Leadership Resolution

One of the key outcomes from the post-tournament discussions was the recognition that Team Uganda requires a more formal leadership structure.

As an interim measure, the team provisionally entrusted:

- **Sadat Zimula**
- **Ismail Uptop**

with responsibility for leading the technical aspects of the team ahead of the next tournament.

However, the team agreed that formal elections should be organized in the near future to establish a legitimate leadership structure with clearly defined and accountable positions.

Looking Ahead

Our next engagement is scheduled for:

Democratic Republic of Congo Independence Tournament

Date: Sunday, 28 June 2026

This tournament presents another opportunity for Team Uganda to grow, improve, and represent our community with discipline, unity, and pride.

We therefore call upon all players, supporters, and members of the Ugandan community to rally behind Team Uganda as we continue building a stronger football culture and a stronger community.

Appreciation

The Directorate of Sport & Entertainment extends appreciation to all players, supporters, organizers, and members of the Ugandan community who continue to support Team Uganda. It is noteworthy to single out the “ladies” who carried the team through welfare and moral support throughout the day.

Special thanks goes to President Joshua Kirabo Ssempungu and his USKA leadership team.

Every tournament is a learning opportunity. We remain committed to building a team that reflects the values, discipline, resilience, and unity of the Ugandan community in South Korea.

Together we learn. Together we improve. Together we represent Uganda with pride.

For God and My Country.

Graham Tumwesigye Tatwangire

Director of Sport & Entertainment

Ugandans in South Korea Association (USKA)