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KICK FOR JOY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION-2025 EDITION 2

Theme: “One Ball Per Impact”

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Organized by: Rising Stars Sports Center (Football Academy)

Theme: "One Ball Per Impact"

Date: 26th December 2025

Location: Kicukiro District, Kanombe Sector



Introduction – What is Kick for Joy?

Kick for Joy is a grassroots sports development initiative designed to empower young children and youth through sport, using football and other sports as a tool for education, personal development, and positive behavior change.

More than a tournament, Kick for Joy is a Christmas celebration with children bringing together football competitions, festive joy, and community engagement. The initiative creates a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment where children can play, learn, and grow while celebrating the holiday season.

Through structured sports activities, the program provides a platform for young players to showcase and develop their talents, build discipline, and learn essential life values such as teamwork, respect, responsibility, and fair play. It also strengthens social connections and fosters the true spirit of sport within the community.

Kick for Joy emphasizes positive behavior and character formation, especially during the festive season. Children are encouraged to obey their parents, help at home, respect elders, and practice kindness, gratitude, and good citizenship.



Aligned with Bridge of Hope's vision and the Rising Stars Sports Center's mission, Kick for Joy uses football as a powerful tool for transformation, hope, and social inclusion.

The program further celebrates children through gift giving, recognition, and encouragement, ensuring that every child feels valued, supported, and inspired.



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Objectives of the 2025 Edition Two

- **Promote Physical Activity:** Engage children in structured football activities to develop sporting skills, promote healthy lifestyles, and encourage regular physical exercise.
- **Foster Festive Joy and Community Engagement:** Celebrate the Christmas season with children, families, and communities by combining sports activities with festive joy and togetherness.
- **Encourage Positive Holiday Behavior and Values:** Instill values of obedience, respect, discipline, and responsibility, encouraging children to support their parents and demonstrate positive behavior during the holiday season.
- **Identify and Nurture Talent:** Provide a platform for young players to showcase their abilities, recognize outstanding performance, and motivate children through awards, gifts, and encouragement.

Event Overview

Main Event: 26 December 2025

Finals & Celebration: 26th December 2025 at Kabeza Playground

Format: Knockout tournament

Game Style: 7 vs 7

Match Duration: 2 × 20 minutes

Participating Teams

Rising Stars Sports Center (U11 & U13)



Runner Up Sports (U11 & U13)



Shining Football Academy (U11 & U13)



Angels Warrior Football Academy (U11 & U13)



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Tournament Results

(Group stage, knockout, third place, and finals as detailed in your draft remain unchanged)



Awards and Recognition

- 1. General Awards:** Trophies, medals, bibles, T-shirts for coaches, footballs. Team Awards: Rising Stars (4th), Runner Up (3rd), Angels Warrior (2nd), Shining FA (Winners).
- 2. Individual Awards:** Best GK (Runner Up), MVP U11 (Shema – Shining FA), MVP U13 (Christian – Shining FA).
- 3. Coach Recognition:** T-shirts for coaches of Shining FA, Angels Warrior FA, and Runner Up Sports.
- 4. Christmas Gift Giving:** All participating children received small gifts, reinforcing the festive spirit of sharing and joy.



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UNIQUENESS OF KICK FOR JOY 2025

Kick for Joy 2025 was unique as it combined Christmas celebration with football, connecting children, showcasing talents, and rewarding them with gifts and equipment. Each academy received quality balls to support daily training, ensuring lasting impact and preparing young players for professional growth one ball per impact.

CHALLENGES

- **Resource Limitations:** Limited resources and insufficient sports equipment remain a major challenge, affecting our ability to sufficiently recognize and appreciate participating players and teams throughout the tournament.
- **Financial and Logistical constraints:** Financial and logistical challenges highlight the need for increased fundraising and stronger partnerships. Support from donors, sponsors, and change-makers is essential to expand access to grassroots sports and ensure the successful delivery of this impactful tournament.
- **Need for Flexibility and capacity Expansion:** The growing interest and demand for participation require greater flexibility, expanded capacity, and the ability to scale programs to reach more children and communities effectively.



GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

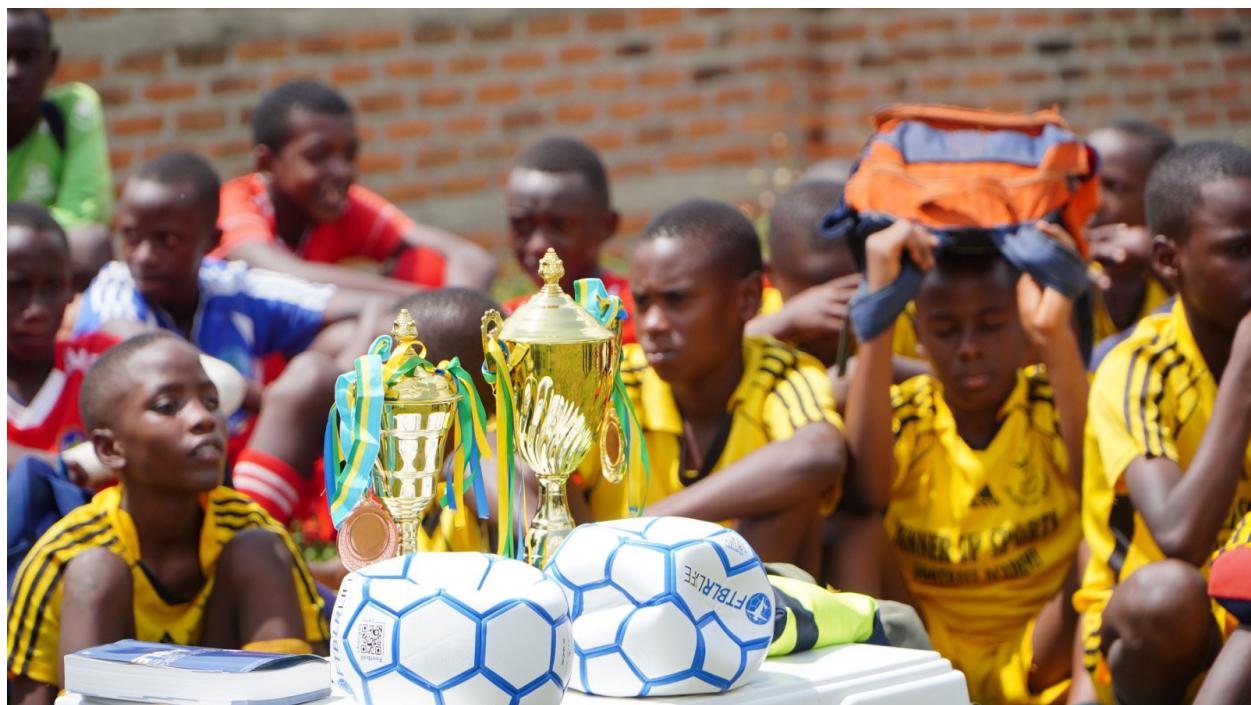
- Provide training sessions for coaches and sports leaders.
- Install water stations on playing fields.
- Promote and nurture talented children.
- Expand partnerships for talent development.
- Organize regular tournaments with increased playtime.

Target Audience and Beneficiaries

Children aged 5–13 years and their families. Over 612 individuals and groups attended, including children, youth, and adults.

PARTNERSHIPS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The success of the event was made possible through strong collaboration among Bridge of Hope, partner organizations and individual change-makers committed to supporting children, the Fédération Rwandaise de Football Association (FERWAFA), Football Life, local authorities, grassroots coaches, and academy presidents.



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CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

Kick for Joy 2025 was not only a football tournament but also a Christmas celebration with children, teaching values of obedience, respect, and responsibility during the holiday season. It provided a platform for young players to connect, showcase their talents, and be appreciated through awards and gifts.

Season 2 reaffirmed the power of sport to unite, inspire, and transform lives. Bridge of Hope, through Rising Stars Sports Center, looks forward to Kick for Joy 2026, continuing the tradition of celebrating Christmas with children and impacting more lives one ball per impact. The next edition aims to reach an even larger number of children aged 5-15, enhancing grassroots development through school competitions.

CONTACTS

For more information, registration, or partnership opportunities:

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