

● ‘You won’t reach full potential without the right people’

By BONGANI MAGASELA

Former SA boxing champion Bongani “Cyclone” Mwelase agrees with Mpush “The Lion King” Makambi that a boxer won’t reach his or her full potential without a promoter dedicated to their career.

“It doesn’t matter how good you are; you have to have a promoter looking after your interests,” said Makambi, who is convinced he could have gone far in his career if he had been connected with a good promoter.

Makambi won the SA title in the junior-middleweight and middleweight classes and the IBO belt in the middleweight division.

Mwelase – a 2006 Commonwealth Games gold medallist in Melbourne – turned professional on his return from Australia.

He fought nine times without a promoter.

Blacky Seoe signed him up just after Mwelase dethroned ring veteran Lucky “Babawazo” Lewele as the SA welterweight champion in their combustible 12-rounder in November 2007.

Known for shooting straight from the hip, Mwelase, who has retired from professional boxing, said: “If nobody is nurturing you, giving you career-advancing fights and making sure you get rankings, you’ll go nowhere.”

“You must join a certain trainer who has a connection to a particular promoter in order to be looked after.

“Some of these coaches know nothing about boxing, but they have just the right connections.

“They can’t even deal with a cut or bring down swelling; some can’t even read the fight.”

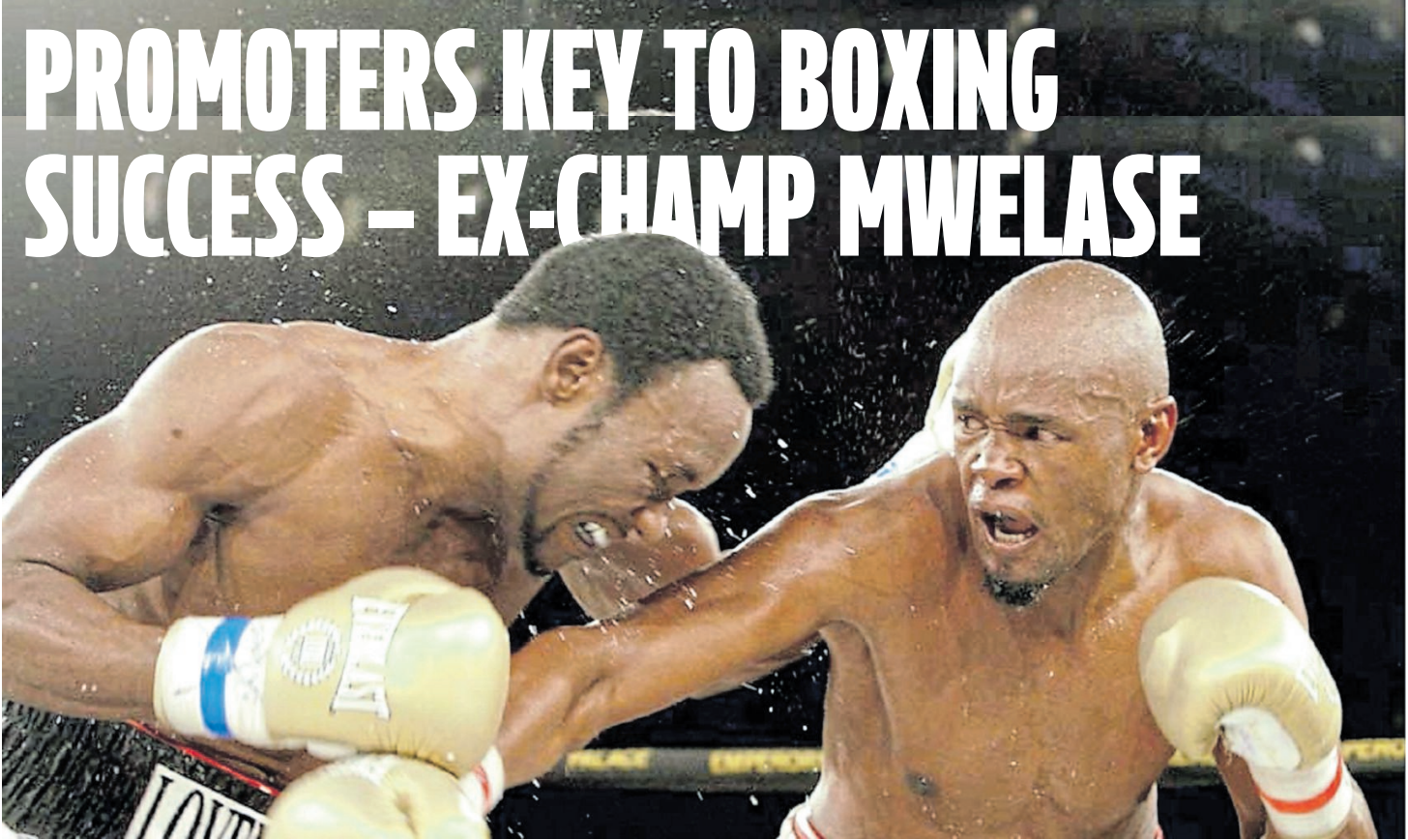
Mwelase warned aspirant boxers going into the professional ranks that trainers, managers and promoters are there for their own self-interests.

“Boxers must fight for their rights and demand what they think and believe they are worth,” he said.

“Stop coaches or trainers talking on your behalf during press conferences because that is where exploitation begins.

“Once you give them that chance, they will leave you out even during negotiations for your purse money.”

Mwelase is part of the team led by Steve Mayisela (the son of the late Arthur Mayisela) in reviving the Dube Boyz Club in Soweto.



Lovemore Ndou, left, with Bongani Mwelase during the IBO welterweight world title fight at Emperors Palace. /Antonio Muchave

THEMBISILE HANI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



BIDS ARE HEREBY INVITED FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECT:

Tender No	Description	Price Per Bid Document	Compulsory Briefing	Technical Enquiries	Availability of Tender Documents	Closing Date
THLM/SCM34/2024- 2025/ PED01 01	Appointment of a panel of service providers to provide assistance in handling evictions and relocations to counter land invasions as and when required for a period of 36 months – Re-advert	R 1 157.76	5 February 2026 @ 10:00	Phathutshedzo Mashamba T: 013 986 9191 E: mashambap@thembisilehanilm.gov.za	02 February 2026 @ 08H00	17 February 2026 @ 12H00

Prospective Service Providers are encouraged to download the tender documents from the E-Tenders Portal according to the dates indicated above at www.etenders.co.za. The only time hard copies will be made available is if there are technical challenges from the E-Tenders portal.

Cash and EFT payments will be accepted and must be made payable to Thembisile Hani Local Municipality only for hard copy tender documents, any tender documents which are downloaded from the E-Tender portal are free of charge, the price per document is not applicable to them. Sealed envelopes marked with the tender number as indicated above, must be placed in the bid box at the Municipality’s Offices, Stand Number 24, Mthombomuhle (Kwaggafontein C), no later than 12h00 on the above-mentioned dates.

Please take note that no bid documents will be given to couriers unless the courier company is in the possession of a letter on an official letterhead, confirming on behalf of the company the full details of the specific bid(s) to be collected and the payment of the full amount payable for bids is required.

The Council reserves the rights to either accept the whole or part of any bid, or not to appoint. Facsimiles or e-mailed documents will not be accepted. No awards will be made to a person who;

- Is in the service of the state,
- If that person is not a natural person, of which any director, manager, principal shareholder or stakeholder
- Who is an advisor or consultant contracted with the municipality or municipal entity.

A Preferential Point system shall apply whereby a contract will be allocated to a bidder in accordance with the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, Act No 5 of 2000 and as defined in the Conditions of Tender in the tender document, read in conjunction with the Supply Chain Management Policy of Thembisile Hani Local Municipality and the Preferential Procurement Regulations of 2022 where 80/ 20 points system will be applied wherein 80 points are for price and 20 for Specific Goals.

SCM Enquiries: Mr. G.M. Rapolai through 013 986 9233, Email: MadimetsaR@thembisilehanilm.gov.za