

Kitende bags CAF schools honours, rakes in sh353m prize

COURTESY PHOTO

By Yekoyada Saaka

CAF African Schools Football Championship Boys

Ethiopia 0(1) Uganda 0(3)

Girls

Ethiopia 0(4) Tanzania 0(5)

Third-placed play-off

Boys

Burundi 0 Tanzania 2

Girls

Burundi 0 Uganda 2

St Mary's SS Kitende (SMASK) will once again carry both Uganda and the CECAFA region's flags at next year's CAF African Schools Football Championship after clinching the boys' title at the zonal qualifiers which climaxed yesterday at St Mary's Stadium.

Competing as team Uganda, SMASK defeated Ethiopia 3-1 on penalties in the boys' final after a tense goalless draw in regular time. Their triumph secured a slot at the continental finals, a trophy, gold



Kitende players celebrate after winning in CAF African Schools football championship

medals and a dummy cheque of \$100,000 (sh353m), which CAF will channel towards a Kitende-selected school football development project.

This marks SMASK's second consecutive qualification, having represented Uganda at last year's finals in Accra, Ghana, where they finished fourth after losing the third-place playoff to the hosts.

In the girls' category, Tanzania booked their place at the continental showpiece after edging Ethiopia 5-4 on penalties, also following a goalless stalemate. Uganda's hopes of again sending both boys' and girls' teams to the finals, an achievement managed last year by SMASK and St Noa Girls Secondary School fell short after Kawempe Muslim

Secondary School finished third in the girls' competition. Kawempe beat Burundi 2-0 in the bronze-medal match and received \$50,000 (sh176m) for a school sports development project.

Tanzania claimed third place in the boys' category, defeating Burundi 2-0 to also earn bronze medals and a dummy cheque of \$50,000 (sh176m).