



Florida High School



FOUNDED: 1944

MOTTO: ONS DIEN GETROU
(LOYALLY WE SERVE)

ADDRESS: CORNER OF LOUIS BOTHA
AND HAVINGA STREETS, FLORIDA,
JOHANNESBURG

WWW.FLORRIES.CO.ZA



School History

On 30 September 1944, a cornerstone was laid on the corner of Louis Botha and Havinga Street, marking the start of Florida High School. Two years later it became a dual-medium school with 345 pupils and 15 staff, but it reverted back to an Afrikaans school in 1961. The school crest was designed by Hennie Potgieter, the man responsible for the engravings on the Voortrekker Monument. By 1955, students numbered 635 and staff 28. Florida's third headmaster, Mr PDA Roux, took over in 1968. Much would be developed and built under his long stay that came to an end in 1989. Since October 1997, Mr MS Schutte has been the headmaster.

Florida Rugby

Florida has a proud rugby history and in recent years it has done particularly well; especially since qualifying for the Super16 in 2001. The school reached the final of the big schools division in the Beeld Trophy in consecutive years.

In 2006, they beat Waterkloof in the semi's, but lost to Affies in the final. In 2007 they again made the final, but this time Klofies had the better of them.

Now the Florries often beat the traditional rugby schools in and around Johannesburg, and there has been a noticeable growth in Old Boy attendance, especially at the big games against the likes of Waterkloof. With some excellent junior sides filtering through, the future of the school's rugby seems very bright. A number of Old Boys have represented SA Schools, including Harry Viljoen (1976-77), Leon Bartmann (1978), Wahl Bartmann (1981) and Marthinus Ferreira (2000). Wahl Bartmann went on to a prominent provincial rugby career, carving out a reputation as a tough flanker at Transvaal and later Natal. He played eight Tests altogether. Harry Viljoen was later involved with the Springboks as a coach in 2000. A number of recent Florries boys have also been selected for SA Academy sides. They include Marnus van Heysteen, Duncan Witbooi, Wesley Scott and Ruan Basson. Florida has big derbies against many of the Johannesburg and Pretoria schools, but Monument and Roodepoort are particularly big games.

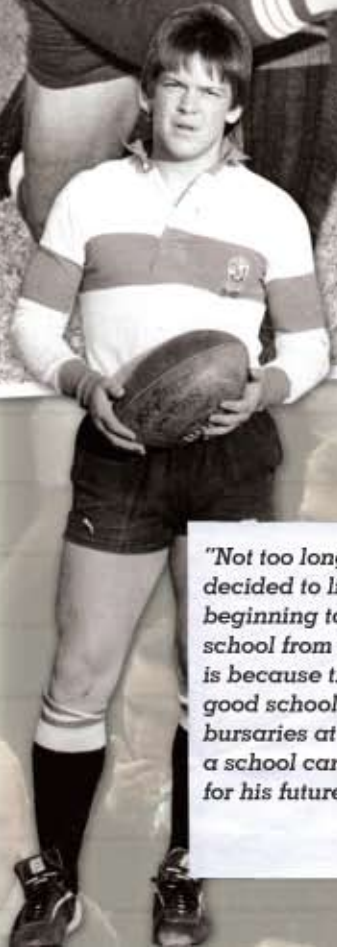
Florida High School looks set to go from strength to strength. It has over 250 rugby players, and fields up to 16 rugby teams on a Saturday. Skip Viljoen, the current First XV coach, believes that Elton Jantjies is one who will go far. He arrived from the rugby nursery of Paarl Gymnasium after his father was transferred. In 2007 he represented the Golden Lions Under-19 side while only in Grade 11 and at the end-of-season awards he scooped up three trophies for the best backline player, the most tries and the most points in a season. With solid coaching on offer and growing rugby success, Florida High School is a school for the future.



Sport
Wes-Beeld

Florries wó die beker h
Taktiese spel Monnas se m

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"Not too long ago, we put our heads down, and decided to lift Florida rugby. The hard work is beginning to pay off, and now boys come to the school from all over, even as far as George. This is because they want to play good rugby at a good school. Many have left Florida with rugby bursaries at top universities. I think its great that a school can offer a boy that kind of opportunity for his future."

— Skip Viljoen (First XV coach)

THE SURVIVAL GAME

Internationals

South Africa:
Wahl Bartmann

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