

GREEN BUFFALOES 2022 COSAFA WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

WHO ARE THEY?

Green Buffaloes Women's Football Club return for the second year running to the HOLLYWOODBETS COSAFA Women's Champions League having reached the semifinals last year and shown all their quality.

They lost to eventual champions Mamelodi Sundowns, but only by a slender 1-0 scoreline and



were perhaps the one side in the competition to give The Brazilians a run for their money.

Buffaloes have set their sights on qualifying for the TotalEnergies CAF Women's Champions League to be played in Morocco later this year and have cause for optimism, with a number of players from the Zambia squad that won bronze at the recent Women's Africa Cup of Nations.

"We have pretty much the same squad as last year, there are maybe two or three changes. So there is good continuity there for us and that is important because these girls now know the level that is required," coach Charles Haluboono says.

"We had a good season at home and were champions again. I would say the performance was quite good, we also suffered a lot as most of the teams we play against have improved and our strike force did not perform as expected. It was certainly not easy."

Buffaloes have been drawn in Group B along with Eswatini side Young Buffaloes and Olympic de Moroni from Comoros. Haluboono admits both will be something of an unknown quantity.

"It is a fair group, we are meeting these teams for the first time, not knowing the level they are at. So that will be a challenge because it makes it hard to plan for them. We just have to make sure we are ready as a team to execute our plans."

Only the top team in each pool advances to the final, while the second-placed sides will contest the third-fourth play-off.

Haluboono is under no illusions that their likely challengers for the title will be the powerful Sundowns side, but says his side are dreaming of booking a ticket to Morocco.

"Though we have a big obstacle in front of us in Mamelodi Sundowns, we have to be positive if we play against them. We met them in the semifinals last year and we saw how good those girls are," he says.

"We will have to put all our energies in to beating them, have maximum concentration and work hard. They are a very good team, well organised, but we have to believe we can win."

He is also hoping to capitalise on the feel-good factor running through Zambian women's football and the tremendous improvement in the country in recent years.

"There is big growth in Zambian football, but this has been happening for some time. We did not get to where we are overnight, it has been a process of steady growth over years.

"The big thing now is that most parents that were preventing their girls from playing the game are now supportive, so that helps a great deal in terms of growing the talent pool."



COSAFA WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD AT A GLANCE

TOURNAMENT FINISHES

2021 – Semifinals

COSAFA WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RESULT RECORD

	Р	W	D	L	F	Α
Total	3	1	0	2	1	3
vs Black Rhino Queens	1	0	0	1	0	2
vs Mamelodi Sundowns	1	0	0	1	0	1
vs TURA Magic	1	1	0	0	1	0

COSAFA WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS LEAGUE MATCHES AND STATISTICS

DATE	VENUE	OPPONENT	ROUND	RES	GOALSCORERS
27-8-21	Durban	Black Rhinos Queens	Group Stage	0-2	-
31-8-21	Durban	TURA Magic	Group Stage	1-0	A. Mulenga
2-9-21	Durban	Green Buffaloes	Semifinal	0-1	-

GOALSCORERS

1 goal - Anita Mulenga

HAT-TRICKS

None

RECORDS AND SEQUENCES

Biggest win: 1-0 vs TURA Magic (2021)

Heaviest defeat: 0-2 vs Black Rhinos Queens (2021)

Highest scoring match: 0-2 vs Black Rhinos Queens (2021) **Longest winning run:** 1 game (from 31-08-21 to 02-09-21)

Longest losing run: 1 game (from 27-08-21 to 31-08-21; 02-09-21 – present)

Longest unbeaten run: 1 game (from 31-08-21 to 02-09-21)

Longest run without a win: 1 game (from 27-08-21 to 31-08-21; 02-09-21 – present)

Total clean sheets: 1 match (33.3%)
Total failed to score: 2 matches (66.7%)
Most goals scored in a competition: 1 (2021)
Most goals conceded in a competition: 3 (2021)

Group stage wins: 1 out of 3 (33.3%) **Knockout stage wins:** 0 out of 1 (0%)

