



**Shine.** School Pay CEO Charity Atukwase Mutagambwa and UTТА boss Cyrus Mark Muwanga show off the dummy cheque. PHOTO/JOHN BATANUDDE

# 300 players to vie for honours at Kateregga Memorial

BY ABDUL-NASSER SSEMUGABI

## BRIEFLY

Teams registered: **47**

Primary schools: **18**

Secondary schools: **17**

Universities: **12**

Players: **300**

Competition tables: **8**

Match days: **3**

Over 300 players have registered for the Kateregga Memorial Schools' Table Tennis Championship at Lugogo Arena, starting today until Sunday. The tournament venerates Francis Kateregga, a rising star who won a historic bronze at the 1995 All-Africa Games in Zimbabwe, two years before his tragic end in a car crash in 1997.

However, the event returns after more than a decade of absence, and if all goes to plan, it could become the first tournament on the national calendar.

Joseph Rukundo, general secretary Uganda Table Tennis Association (UTТА), told *Daily Monitor* that 47 teams have registered in the three main competition categories. 18 are primary schools, 17 secondary schools, and 12 universities like Kampala International University, Uganda Christian University, Isbat University, Kyambogo, Makerere, among others.

"We have about 300 players across all categories who will compete in singles and team events," Rukundo told us.

For smooth operation during the three match days, action will be simultaneous on eight tables, with Legacy Productions catching every chop and swing on crystal clear screens in what promises to be an "international level production." UTТА president Cyrus Muwanga said this tournament, like the Uganda Open last December, is one of the channels through which UTТА will spread the sport across the country and identify raw talent for future elite engagements here and abroad.

That is why Fincom Technologies, via its flagship platform SchoolPay are proud to continue its partnership with UTТА. "We are privileged to be partnering with UTТА because, beyond digitizing the payments," said Fincom CEO Charity Atukwatsa Mutagamba.

## LEGACY

The tournament commemorates Francis Kateregga, a rising star who won a historic bronze at the 1995 All-Africa Games in Zimbabwe, two years before his untimely and tragic end in a car crash in 1997.

Kateregga was summoned to the national junior team while still in Senior Two at City High School Kololo. He attracted many schoolmates into table tennis.

The Uganda Table Tennis Association (UTТА) formed a tournament in his name to further his ambition. However, the event has not been played in over a decade and UTТА promises a return that will surpass expectations and leave a legacy.