

Namibian ranking down four positions

Namibia dropped four positions to 128 in the world according to the latest FIFA rankings which were recently issued.

Namibia's demotion is quite puzzling since the Brave Warriors have not lost a match yet in 2009. They drew against Angola, Botswana and Lebanon, and last Saturday thrashed the DR Congo 4-0, although that result came after the latest rankings were issued.

Namibian coach Tom Saintfiet expressed his surprise at Namibia's ranking, saying he failed to understand the rankings system.

"I'm surprised with our FIFA ranking because we haven't lost since September. In February we didn't play at all but then we climbed two positions. So it's not so clear to me how the rankings system works," he said.

Saintfiet however said he expected Namibia to improve when the new rankings are issued at the beginning of July.

"I'm sure now that we have beaten the DRC 4-0, who are ranked 88th in the world, our ranking should improve next month," he said.

According to the latest rankings, the DR Congo actually climbed four positions to 84, but that is bound to change when the new rankings come out.

Spain remains the top ranked nation in the world, followed by the Netherlands, Germany, Italy and Brazil. The rest of the top ten ranked countries are England, Argentina, Croatia, Russia and France.

Cameroon is the top ranked African nation with a world ranking of 21. They are followed by Nigeria (30), Ghana (36), the Ivory Coast (38), Gabon (48), Burkina Faso (50), Tunisia (51), Guinea (53) and Mali (54).

South Africa is the top ranked Southern African nation with a world ranking of 72. They are followed by Mozambique (87), Zambia (90), Angola (97), Zimbabwe (101), Malawi (111), Botswana (118) and Namibia.

The biggest movers in Africa were Libya who improved 14 positions to 69, Cape Verde, who improved 11 positions to 94, Burkina Faso, who improved seven positions to 50 and Algeria who improved six positions to 66.

The biggest losers were Ethiopia - down 17 positions to 118, Rwanda - down 12 positions to 96, and Senegal - down nine positions to 75.