

34th Elite Val Fowler

BASKETBALL



TOURNAMENT

6-9 AUG 2026





OVERVIEW



The 34th Annual Val Fowler Invitational Basketball Tournament, proudly organised by Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School (GHS), takes place from 6–9 August 2026. This premier event will welcome 32 teams from across South Africa and beyond, competing in both A and B divisions to showcase the very best of schoolgirl basketball.

Recognised as the largest all-girls invitational basketball tournament in South Africa, the Val Fowler Tournament has built a reputation for excellence, attracting elite local and international teams. With FIBA-accredited referees ensuring world-class standards, and university scouts from across South Africa in attendance, the tournament has become a critical platform for identifying and nurturing future talent.

The event enjoys extensive media coverage, with matches live-streamed on SuperSport Schools, broadcast on DStv Channel 216 (SuperSport), and replayed across SuperSport platforms. Platinum Sponsors benefit from premium visibility, with their logos displayed on the electronic scoreboard during live TV coverage, ensuring unmatched brand exposure.

We proudly invite the Midlands business community to partner with us in this prestigious event. Sponsorship opportunities include monetary contributions, product support, or prize sponsorships — each offering significant advertising exposure across multiple platforms:

- D6 Communicator (reaching approximately 2,400 parents)
- Instagram (7,000+ followers) and Facebook (27,500+ followers).
- Displays in our dedicated Sponsor Walkway and the official tournament programme.
- Advertising space within the Sylvia Vietzen Community Centre and surrounding structures.
- Opportunities for visibility on the SuperSport Schools App, with the entire tournament live-streamed.
- Branded banners displayed at all tournament venues, including top-class indoor centres.





TOURNAMENT HISTORY



Pietermaritzburg holds a proud place in history as the birthplace of South Africa's organised school basketball programme for girls. What began in the late 1970s as a pioneering school sport quickly gained momentum, with leading local schools driving competitive group leagues that soon inspired similar initiatives nationwide.

By 1981, Pietermaritzburg hosted the first Inter-Provincial Tournament, drawing teams from across the country and showcasing an impressive standard of play for such a young sport. This spirit of excellence laid the foundation for what would become one of the most prestigious events in schoolgirl basketball.

In 1992, Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School launched its Invitational Tournament. Initially featuring KwaZulu-Natal teams, it rapidly grew into a sought-after national competition, attracting top schools from across South Africa and Zimbabwe. To balance elite competition with grassroots development, the tournament evolved into two divisions, an A-section for the strongest contenders and a B-section to nurture emerging talent.

Over its 33-year history, GHS's First Team has claimed the championship title an extraordinary 24 times, with other stalwarts such as Pretoria Girls' High School and Lereko Secondary School (Free State) leaving their mark on the courts. In 2015, the tournament was renamed the Val Fowler Basketball Tournament in honour of the former PMB GHS principal whose vision, leadership, and coaching excellence not only established this annual tradition but also elevated schoolgirl basketball across the nation.

We look forward to hosting the 34th Val Fowler Elite Basketball Tournament in 2026!





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For sponsorship enquiries, please contact marketing@ghspmb.co.za