



the sandf

Department:  
Defence  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## **MEDIA INVITATION**

**DATE:** 22 June 2017

**EMBARGO:** None

In acknowledgement of the 41<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Youth Day, the Department of Defence (DOD) has aligned itself with government imperatives, policies and programmes on Youth matters. The Department of Defence Youth Day Celebrations will be held in Pretoria Military Sport Club, Thaba Tshwane on 23 June 2017.

The Department of Defence's central theme of the 2017 Youth Month "**Entrenching our democracy in salute for Our Heroes and Our recognition of 100 Years anniversary to SS MENDI by Celebrating Youth Cohesion, Endurance, Productivity and Soldiering-March & Drill and different Sport codes**"

The programme for the day will have various activities that include, Opening Parade ceremony, Aerobics, Cycling, Dance, Golf, Jukskei, Marathon, Rugby, Soccer and the Drill Competition by the 2017 Military Skills Development January intake from all Services. This will be a platform on which the department of Defence can measure the amount of work each service has already put on their newly recruited troops. The idea is to have a balance of services and to ensure that training is facilitated at the same pace.

The Chief of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) General Solly Shoke will be the main functionary during the proceedings.

On Friday, 23 June 2017, the floating trophy for the Drill Competition which is currently held by the South African Army will be up for grabs. The Precision Drill Squads from the South African Army, South African Air Force, South African Navy and the South African Medical Health Services will entertain the crowd with drill movements. It remains to be seen who will be crowned the new masters of the drill art.

**Media is invited to send a reporter/cameraperson to capture the Military performances of the day.**

**Ends**

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