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Day One Results from the Skateboarding World Championships at the Kimberley Diamond Cup in Kimberley, South Africa

Alexis Sablone Wins Women's Street and Reunion Island Sweeps African Continental Championship

(Kimberley, South Africa – October 8, 2015) – [The Skateboarding World Championships](#) at the Kimberley Diamond Cup kicked off today with the Women's Street World Championships. Alexis Sablone (USA) topped Vanessa Torres (USA) and third place winner Leticia Bufoni (Brazil). Thursday's competitions also included the first ever African Continental Championships, drawing skaters from 14 African countries to compete.

First up was the African Continental Championships, where the small African island of Reunion dominated the competition, sweeping the top five spots in the contest. Damian Philippe led the competition, picking up first place and the African Continental Champion title along with earning a spot in Friday's Street World Championship qualifiers. Laurent Genze followed closely behind, filling the second place spot, while Finet Thierry earned third place. The list of competing countries: Botswana, Egypt, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, Reunion, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

"Today's competition got off to a great start with the first-ever African Continental Skateboarding Championships, which brought out skaters from 14 African countries. Many of these skaters had never left their country before and this has been a truly life changing experience for them," said Tim McFerran, CEO of World Skateboarding Grand Prix. "We are passionate about supporting skateboarders around the world and doing everything we can to help them succeed. We look forward to the doing this next year and to having even more African countries represented. This is only the beginning."



The Women's Street Championships were the highlight of Day One and featured standout performances by Vanessa Torres and Leticia Bufoni, but it was Alexis Sablone, who ripped the entire course and claimed the Women's Street World Championship title.

"I am super excited to have won," said Alexis Sablone. "I loved it out here last year and this year was even more amazing. It was great skating with the girls since we came over on the same plane and spent about 15 hours together. I am just so happy to have landed the tricks I did. The time out on the course just goes faster than you can imagine. I am using my prize money to pay off my school fees as I am graduating this year and hopefully there will be some left to spoil myself."

"Last year, we brought women into the Skateboarding World Championships and it's something that has been such an incredible inspiration to girls around the world," said McFerran. "Having this championship here in South Africa where they just celebrated Women's Month is especially meaningful. One of the skaters was 9-year-old Davatta Boipelo, who compete alongside these top female skaters. Boipelo is from right here in Kimberley and learned to skate here at the Kumba Skate Plaza when she was six years old. I hope to one day see Boipelo or another South African girl compete alongside these incredible skaters like Alexis and Vanessa in the Olympics. I know it will happen. Skateboarding is just exploding here in South Africa and we're looking forward to expanding internationally, so we can bring world-class skate events and year-round programs to new destinations and communities who can benefit from skateboarding."

The women's championships added extra significance, with the recent news that skateboarding is among the top contenders to be considered for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. This year the [World Skateboarding Federation](#), which sanctioned the Skateboarding World Championships, provided financial assistance to over 50 skaters to help them pay for travel expenses to South Africa. WSF is committed to supporting skateboarders around the world and is leading the charge to organize skateboarding in advance of its potential inclusion in the next Olympic games.

African Continental World Championships Top Three

1. Damian Philippe (R 5,000)
2. Laurent Genze (R 2,500)
3. Finet Thierry (R 2,500)

Women's Street World Championships Top Three

1. Alexis Sablone (\$15,000)



2. Vanessa Torres (\$8,000)
3. Leticia Bufoni (\$5,000)

[Click here](#) for the full results from Day One of the Skateboarding World Championships at the Kimberley Diamond Cup.

The official events of the 2015 Skateboarding World Championships at [Kimberley Diamond Cup](#) are the African Continental Championships, Women's Street Championships, Vert World Championships, Street World Championships, Rider Cup Team Skateboarding Championships as well as four national championship events for South African skaters, including Girl's Street Championships, Vert Championships, Street Championships and the Top Grom Championships.

2015 Skateboarding World Championships Events Schedule

Friday, October 9

African Continental Championships – Rider Cup team finals (4:30 p.m. SAST*)
Street Skateboarding World Championships – open qualifier (1 p.m. SAST*)
Vert World Championships (7-8:30 p.m. SAST*/10-11:30 a.m. PDT/1-2:30 p.m. EDT) [LIVE WEBCAST](#)

Saturday, October 10

African Continental Championships Street and Top Grom (12-2 p.m. SAST*)
Street World Championships – finals (7-9 p.m. SAST*/10 a.m.-12 p.m. PDT/1-3 p.m. EDT) [LIVE WEBCAST](#)

**SAST is [South Africa Standard Time](#). It is 9 hours ahead of Pacific Daylight Time and 6 hours ahead of Eastern Daylight Time.*

For the full 2015 Kimberley Diamond Cup Schedule of Events and official roster, visit www.KimberleyDiamondCup.com. Follow KDC on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

The official hashtags of the 2015 Skateboarding World Championships are #worldskatechamps and #KDCskate.

About Kimberley Diamond Cup

The World Skateboarding Championships at the Kimberley Diamond Cup is a partnership between South Africa's Northern Cape Provincial Government, World Skateboarding Grand Prix and Kumba Iron Ore. Located 300 miles southwest of Johannesburg in the Northern Cape Province, Kimberley was the location of South Africa's first diamond mine, thus its nickname, "The Diamond City." For the latest news



and information go to www.kimberleydiamondcup.com or follow KDC on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

About World Skateboarding Grand Prix (WSGP)

World Skateboarding Grand Prix is an international skateboarding event management company. WSGP hosts world-class skateboarding events with a commitment to help stimulate local economies through tourism while supporting youth development, especially those in underserved or impoverished communities. For the latest news and information on the 2015 Skateboarding World Championships at the Kimberley Diamond Cup and other upcoming World Skateboarding Grand Prix events, visit www.WorldSkateboarding.com.

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