

AS Kigali Women's Football Club (WFC) emerged victorious in the 2024 Peace Cup, defeating rivals Rayon Sports WFC 1-0 in a thrilling encounter at the Kigali Pelé Stadium on February 1st.

The match, held on National Heroes Day, saw a dramatic turn of events before kick-off as a dispute regarding paperwork for AS Kigali players Niyomungeri Peace Olga and Nguema Odette threatened to delay the game. After swift resolution, the highly anticipated clash finally got underway.

Despite a strong attacking start from AS Kigali, Rayon Sports' defense, marshalled by Uwase Andersene, held firm. The first half remained goalless, with both teams struggling to break through.

The second half saw increased intensity, and AS Kigali's persistence paid off in the 63rd minute. A deflected ball found Ukvinkunda Jeannette, who capitalized with a powerful header to score the decisive goal.

Rayon Sports struggled to respond, showcasing signs of fatigue as the match progressed. They had a close call in the 80th minute when Mukeshimana Dorotheé's effort narrowly missed the target.

However, AS Kigali held on to secure their victory, lifting the coveted Intwari Cup trophy alongside a prize of 4 million Rwandan francs (approximately \$4,100 USD). Rayon Sports received 2 million francs for their runner-up finish.

The success marks a significant achievement for AS Kigali, solidifying their dominance in Rwandan women's football. The celebration continues as their male counterparts, APR FC, face Police FC in the men's Intwari Cup final later today at the same venue.