

The Fédération Rwandaise de Football Association (FERWAFA) marked a historic landmark on Saturday, August 30, 2025, with the election of Shema Fabrice as its new president during the Ordinary General Assembly at the Serena Hotel in Kigali.

In an assembly charged with anticipation, Shema Fabrice stood as the lone contender for the top spot, with many calling it “VAR already made a decision before kickoff.” His election was nothing short of dominant, securing 51 out of 53 votes, signaling an overwhelming mandate. The unopposed rise to the presidency reflects the trust and high hopes the football community has placed in his leadership.

In his acceptance speech, Shema Fabrice, the former president of AS Kigali, highlighted his commitment to transforming Rwandan football. His vision centers on strengthening grassroots development, increasing the competitiveness of domestic leagues, and enhancing the infrastructure for both men’s and women’s football.

“We must unite for the future of football in Rwanda,” Shema stated. “It is time to create sustainable systems that support young talent, elevate women’s football, and bring our national teams to the highest level.”

Alongside Shema’s election, the assembly also appointed the top five members of the Executive Committee, all of whom bring vast experience and expertise to their roles. Gasarabwe Claudine was elected as First Vice President, Administration and Finance, Mugisha Richard became the Second Vice President, Technical Affairs, Nshuti Thierry remained the Finance Commissioner, Nikita Gicanda Vervelde was elected as Women’s Football Commissioner and Niyitanga Désiré won the Competition Commissioner vote.

The election process was smooth, with no opposition to Shema’s candidacy. Voting was conducted through a transparent “YES” or “NO” card system. Shema becomes the 16 FA president ever since the local football body was created. He replaces Munyantwari Alphonse who has led FERWAFA since June 2023.

As Shema and his team take the reins, many in the football circles say that the new FERWAFA administration faces the challenge of transforming the potential of Rwandan football into tangible results. The focus will be on infrastructure improvements, youth development, and fostering the growth of women’s football, as well as ensuring that the national teams perform on the continental stage.