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One-black rugby match is on again

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Correspondent

PRETORIA: The under-14 rugby match between two Pretoria schools, postponed because permission had not been obtained for the inclusion of a black player in one side, is expected to be played this week or next week.

The principal of the Hoër Tegniese Skool Pretoria Tuine, Mr A.I. de Ridder, said he had only been notified on Friday about the inclusion of a black player in the Pretoria Boys' High team which his team was to play on Saturday.

According to guidelines sent to schools last year by the Transvaal Education Department, a school has to advise its opponents in advance if it intended including a black player in the side.

The headmaster would then have to ensure that each player had consent from his parents to allow him to play a team with a black player.

Should a parent refuse consent, then the player was replaced by one who could obtain consent.

Mr de Ridder said there had not been enough time to get this consent, and because of this the match had been postponed.

The headmaster of Pretoria Boys' High, Mr Malcolm Armstrong, said the reason why he had phoned Mr de Ridder so late was because of an oversight on his part.