

**EXECUTIVE REPORT FOR THE YEAR  
APRIL 2012 TO MARCH 2013**

This report covers the activities and achievements of Womens Golf South Africa for the above-mentioned period which was again, an exceedingly full year with several highlights.

## NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

### ROSE BOWL 54-HOLE GIRLS CHAMPIONSHIP, PEARL VALLEY GOLF ESTATE 2<sup>ND</sup> – 3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 2012

This was the third Rose Bowl Championship run by WGSA, and Pearl Valley Golf Estate proved to be a wonderful and challenging venue. The course presented many challenges to our 87 top junior girl golfers, 39 of them in the Championship Division.

The winner was Kelly Erasmus on 216, finishing two strokes ahead of fellow Ernie Els Fancourt Foundation member, Izel Pieters.

The 10 to 18 handicap division was won by Belami McCarter (253) playing in her first national tournament with Brittany-Fay Berger one shot behind on 254.

The youngest competitor was 10-year old Cara Ford who won the Stableford Bronze Division (19 – 25 handicaps) on 73 points; Cheré Myburgh finished in second place with 68 points. The Copper Division (Handicaps 26 to 32) was won by Mandy Greentree on 75 points and Sarah Osborn was runner-up on 71.

The stroke play age divisions winners were: 16 and under: Ji Sun Kang (221); 14 and under: Kaleigh Telfer (233), and 12 and under: Woo-Ju Son (236). 29 Players made use of the WGSA chaperoned accommodation, 14 of whom received the benefit of WGSA sponsorship.

### SANLAM WOMEN'S AMATEUR STROKE PLAY CHAMPIONSHIPS, UMHLALI COUNTRY CLUB, 14 – 17 APRIL 2012

This was the first stand-alone Stroke Play Championship following the decision to split the two events last year and proved to be a great success. The move was supported by our sponsor, Sanlam.

105 "A" Division players and 23 "B" Division players participated of which 49 were junior girls (18-and under). Eleven players from Africa participated and were paid a stipend of R1500 to cover the expenses if they finished in the top 55 places in the previous year. The entry fee was waived for single figure visitors from Africa.

## RESULTS

A DIVISION								
POS	Name	Club	Union	HC	Rd 1	Rd 2	R 3	Total
1	<b>NOBUHLE DLAMINI</b>	Centurion Country Club	GN	+1	70	69	73	212
2	<b>IZEL PIETERS</b>	Sabie River Bungalows	MP	0	75	74	73	222
T3	<b>LUMIEN ORTON</b>	Schoeman Park Golf Club	FN	3	77	71	76	224
T3	<b>LARA WEINSTEIN</b>	Royal Jhb And Kensington Gc	GT	+1	75	77	72	224
5	<b>MEGAN BISSETT</b>	Tzaneen Golf Club	LP	1	76	71	78	225
B DIVISION								
Pos	Name	Club	Union	HC	Rd.1	Rd.2	Rd.3	Total
1	<b>CHIARA CONTOMATHIOS</b>	Modderfontein Golf Club	GT	10	89	83	80	252
2	<b>WILNA BREDEHANN</b>	ROSSMUND GOLF CLUB	NGF	10	86	85	82	253
3	<b>JHANELLE STRYDOM</b>	Rustenburg Golf Club	NW	13	87	87	85	259
4	<b>KIM DE KLERK</b>	Pollak Park Golf Club	EK	11	87	89	85	261
5	<b>NATALIE SINGER</b>	Umkomaas Golf Club	KZNLG	12	88	88	87	263

Gary van Loggerenberg sponsored the Saturday Club competition and 4 of our top players joined him and his VIP guests for the afternoon. In addition, Sanlam sponsored SuperSport television coverage for the final day's play.

## **72 HOLES TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP, POLOKWANE GOLF CLUB, 20 - 23 MAY 2012**

Limpopo President Desi Earle, who is employed by the Club, worked exceptionally hard with her very small Committee and made life for the WGSA tournament team relatively easy. Additional rules were put in place following a problem that the club was experiencing with their greens mainly due to mole infestation.

Kim Williams set a new course record of 68 in the 1<sup>st</sup> round. An amazing three holes-in-one were recorded during the tournament. Yushira Budhram (round 1) and Marguerite Pienaar (round 2), both aced the 16th hole, and Zanele Mazibuko achieved her first hole-in-one at the 8th hole in the final round. Of the 72 players, 31 were juniors.

The top B Division Team Western Province B is promoted to the A Division, and the bottom team in the A Division, Kwa-Zulu Natal B is relegated to the B Division in 2013.

Blackberry phones were used for the live scoring, which enabled viewers to watch hole by hole scores as opposed to 3 hole scoring.

Su Quirk and her cameraman kindly covered the event for WGSA with no additional costs for editing etc.

## **RESULTS**

### **Swiss Teams Trophy**

Winners: Gauteng North A (Nobuhle Dlamini, Magda Krüger and Kim Williams) 581. (This was the same score as in 2011 – 581)

Runners-up: Ekurhuleni A (Bonita Bredenhann, Simoné Burger and Nicole Garcia) 597

Third: Gauteng North B (Eugenie Clack, Emma du Bruyn and Carrie Park) 611

### **B Division: Challenge Trophy.**

Winners: Western Province A (Se Young Chun, Ji Sun Kang and Rushda Mallick) 613

Runners-up: Eastern Cape (Kim Daniels, Nicole Fourie and Imkeleen Meyer ) 633

Third: Gauteng North C (Marné Clack, Nicole Hannah and Sylvia Masango ) 640

### **Individual: The Governors' Trophy**

Winner: Kim Williams 290 (68, 75, 77, 70)

Runner-Up: Bonita Bredenhann 294 (75, 76, 72, 71)

Third: Nobuhle Dlamini 297 (73, 72, 74, 78)

## **NOMADS' SA GIRLS CHAMPIONSHIPS, ORKNEY GOLF CLUB, 23 - 26 APRIL 2012**

The 2012 Nomads Girls retained roughly the same format as 2011 with the exception that the Flag Raising was reinstated. As usual, all the girls were accommodated at The Key across the road from the club – a total of 132 players and their chaperones.

**No. of players:** A Division: (Handicaps 9 and under) 54 holes stroke play – 60 players

B Division: (Handicaps 10 – 18) 54 holes stroke play – 29

C Division (Handicaps 19 – 24) 36 holes stableford – 23

D Division (Handicaps 25 – 30) 36 holes stableford – 20

Total: 132 players (including 3 players from Namibia)

**Results:** *One prize per person applied. This did not include team prizes.*

### **A division: Handicaps 9 & Under - Jenny Bruce trophy**

Winner Championship: Michaela Fletcher 220 (69, 74, 77)

Runner up: Carrie Park 224 (75, 74, 75)

Winner 16 and under: Se Young Chun 224 (74, 76, 74)

Runner-Up: Cara Gorlei 232 (79, 75, 78)

### **B Division: 10 – 18 Handicap Div – Ester Cutler Trophy**

Winner: Brittney-Fay Berger 250 (86,82,82)

Runner up: Cassidy Williams 258 (84, 89, 85)

### **C division: 19 – 24 handicap – Jean Eustice Trophy**

Winner: Cara Ford 78 points (40, 38)

Runner up: Danielle Johnson 70 points (29, 41)

Sivenathi Mnikina 70 points (32, 38)

### **D division: 25 - 30 Handicap – Faith Daniel Trophy**

Winner: Roxanne Schmidt 71 points (38, 33)

Runner up: Sarah Osborn 70 points (35, 35)

### **Teams:**

**Jackie Mercer Gross Trophy:** Gauteng North 1 (Carrie Park and Magda Krüger)

**Nett Team prize:** KZN 1 (Michaela Fletcher and Nicole Martyn)

**Sanette Marais Bronze Division Team Prize:** Gauteng 1 (Cara Ford & Kaiyuree Moodley)

It was again a very successful tournament enjoyed by all, generously sponsored by the Nomads, who cover all accommodation as well as playing costs which means that no girl is excluded because of financial constraints.

### **SANLAM SA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP, BENONI COUNTRY CLUB, 8 – 11 JULY 2012**

The inaugural stand-alone match play championship went off well, although we were disappointed at the entry of only 54 players which unfortunately resulted in too many byes. It is considered that the small entry may have been due to the maximum advertised field size of 80 for the 36 hole qualifier, with players not wanting to spend money in case they did not make the cut of 64 for match play. This will be reviewed for 2013 together with the handicap limit being raised, although only one division will remain.

3 Hole live scoring was available for the first time for a WPGA match play event, with local volunteers assisting the WPGA tournament team. Hole by hole scoring for the semi-finals and finals were appreciated by all at home. Once again, our sponsor Sanlam ensured SuperSport television coverage as well as good media coverage via Michael Vlismas.

The local Union, Ekurhuleni, very kindly assisted a number of juniors with host accommodation which was very much appreciated.

### **RESULTS**

#### **36 Hole Qualifying Round**

Winner: Magda Kruger 142 (73, 69)

Tied 2nd: Bonita Bredenhann 143 (72, 71); Bertine Strauss 143 (72, 71)

4th: Michaela Fletcher 147 (71, 76)

#### **MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP**

Champion: Bonita Bredenhann 3/2

Runner-Up: Michaela Fletcher

Third: Bianca Theron 2/1

Fourth: Magda Krüger

#### **PLATE**

Winner: Lora Assad 5/4

Runner-up: Nicole Fourie

Third: Liezl Bezuidenhout 4/3

Fourth: Marguerite Pienaar

### **PICK N PAY INTER-PROVINCIAL TOURNAMENT, COUNTRY CLUB JOHANNESBURG, 26 – 31 SEPTEMBER 2012**

The venue proved to be a huge success with local members being very interested in the event. The Woodmead course was in immaculate winter condition. The flag-raising ceremony was, as usual, a highlight and the Pick n Pay choir was in attendance to deliver the anthem and entertain visitors and players. Players and guests participating in the sponsor's Am Am day were treated to snacks after the flag-raising where the General Manager Marketing, Malcolm Mycroft addressed the players and handed out the day's prizes. Pick n Pay also sponsored the final prize-giving dinner for player and VIP guests. This is the 15<sup>th</sup> year that our very generous sponsors, Pick n Pay have involved themselves in this championship, now in its 52<sup>nd</sup> year.

### **RESULTS:**

#### **Strokeplay Qualifier Round:**

Best Individual Gross: Bonita Bredenhann 68

Runner up: Kim Williams 69

Tied 3<sup>rd</sup>: Tiffany Avern-Taplin, Nobuhle Dlamini 71

#### **Foursomes & Singles Stroke Play Qualifying Rounds:**

##### **B Inter-Provincial: Nolan Karp Trophy (4 players per team)**

Winners: Gauteng North B: (Helene Buitendag, Marnè Clack, Nicole Hannah, Ruzanne VD Walt ) 392

Runners Up: Mpumalanga: (Richelle Brooks, Bonita Henrico, Monja Richards, Alana van Greuning) 395

##### **A Inter-Provincial: Jean Tindall Memorial Trophy (6 players per team)**

Winners: Gauteng North A: (Eugeni Clack, Nobuhle Dlamini, Emma du Bruyn, Magda Kruger, Carrie Park, Kim Williams) 517

Runners Up: Ekurhuleni: (Chevonne Botha, Sarah Bouch, Bonita Bredenhann, Nicole Garcia, Candice Lindeque, Amanda Ogden) 534

### **Inter-Provincial Match Play**

**Winners A Division Section 1:** Gauteng North A: (Eugeni Clack, Nobuhle Dlamini, Emma du Bruyn, Magda Kruger, Carrie Park, Kim Williams) 6.0 points

**Winners A Division Section 2:** Boland: (Lynne Behagg, Olivia le Roux, Bianca Lohbauer, Maggie Minnie, Bianca Theron, Leanke Vlok) 6.0 points

**Winners B Division Section 1:** Gauteng North B: (Helene Buitendag, Marnè Clack, Nicole Hannah, Ruzanne VD Walt) 6.0 points

**Winners B Division Section 2:** Western Province B: (Sammy Barber, Yvette du Plessis, Rushda Mallick, Lauren Sobotker) 6.0 points

The Gilly Tebbutt Trophy for the top ranked player at the end of September each year was presented to Kim Williams. Maggie du Toit recorded her first hole-in-one on the 13<sup>th</sup> hole

### **SANLAM CANCER CHALLENGE FINAL - GARY PLAYER COUNTRY CLUB, SUN CITY 22 – 23 OCTOBER 2012**

A total of 32,163 players throughout South Africa and Namibia participated in the 2012 Sanlam Cancer Challenge and for the first time the R3 million mark was broken in terms of money raised for the Cancer Association of South Africa. The final was once again played at Sun City, using both the Gary Player and the Lost City courses. Good fortune was certainly smiling on Michaela Fletcher who was declared the overall winner of the Women's Division after an hour's wait. Bad weather suspended play reducing the Men's competition to 18 holes and it was uncertain what would happen with the Women's competition. Luckily for Michaela, all the women had completed 36 holes and her final round score was good enough for her to lift the trophy.

A Division: Michaela Fletcher (Maritzburg Golf Club) 67 points

B Division: Ria Joubert (Pollak Park) 67 points

C Division: Geraldine Bicknell (Walmer Golf Club) 64 points

### **SA MID-AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP, KINGSWOOD GOLF ESTATE, GEORGE, 5 – 7 NOVEMBER 2012**

A record entry of 136 women, aged 35 and over, from all over the country competed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Kingswood SA Women's Mid-Amateur Championship held at the prestigious Kingswood Golf Estate in George. Played over 54 holes and with players from twelve of the thirteen Provincial Unions competing, it was destined to be an exciting tournament. The B Division increased to 78 players this year, being by far the biggest division.

Hole by hole scoring was provided for the duration of the tournament and for all Divisions. This was the first time that Live Scoring had been provided for both Stroke Play (A and B Division) and Stableford (C Division).

#### **RESULTS:**

##### **Championship Division**

Winner: Sandra Winter 219

Runner-up: Kate Brett-Castle 227

Third: Sonja Bland 232

##### **B-Division**

Winner: Esme Orr 241

Runner-up: Lynn Slogrove 251

Third: Lenza de Jager 256

##### **C-Division (Stableford)**

Winner: Loraine Smit 104 points

Runner-up: Steph Donaldson 102 points (c/o)

Third: Tersia Swanepoel 102 points

## **INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENTS**

### **ALL AFRICA CHALLENGE TROPHY – PHAKALANE GOLF ESTATE, BOTSWANA 2 – 7 JUNE 2012**

Team: Kim Williams, Lejan Lewthwaite, Alana van Greuning

Manager: Cynthia Rayner

Protea Senior Colours were awarded.

South Africa (428) won the All Africa Challenge Trophy by a convincing 24 shots from Zambia (452). Zimbabwe finished 3<sup>rd</sup> on 464.

**Individual Results of the South African Players:**

Winner: Kim Williams 211 (73, 66, 72)

Runner-up: Alana van Greuning 220 (73, 73, 74)

4<sup>th</sup>: Lejan Lewthwaite 226 (77, 70, 79)

After the completion of the AACT, the team was joined by Bertine Strauss, on her US Summer break from the University of Texas, and they competed in the Botswana Open which was held at Gabarone Golf Club. Three of the South Africans finished in the top positions: Winner: Bertine Strauss 150 (77, 73); Kim Williams 152 (79, 73) and Lejan Lewthwaite 152 (78, 74) tied in 2<sup>nd</sup> position.

**JAKARTA WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP – DAMAI INDAH GOLF, PIK COURSE, INDONESIA 5 – 8 JUNE 2012**

The invitation is extended to a team made up of one player in each of the following age groups: 15– 7 years and 14–15 years. WGSA Junior Federation Colours were awarded to the players because of the age restrictions in the team event.

WGSA girls: Bianca Theron and Eleonora Galletti who tied 4<sup>th</sup> in the TEAM event.

Boys: Karabo Mokoena and David Meyers (from Central Gauteng Golf Union)

Manager: Karen Olivant

**Individual Results of the South African Players:**

Bianca Theron 76, 76, 78 (230) – A Class

Eleonora Galletti 75, 75, 79 (229) – B Class

**R & A JUNIOR OPEN – FAIRHAVEN GOLF CLUB, ENGLAND 16 – 18 JULY 2012**

Cara Gorlei was selected as the WGSA under 16 player to compete in this biennial 54 hole Championship which was won by Asuka Kashiwabara from Japan with a winning margin of 14 strokes (66, 69, 71 – 206; 16 under par). She was the first girl ever to win the Junior Open. Rain marred the event causing a suspension of play on day 2, and this eventually resulted in the cut being reduced to 33 players instead of the original leading 80 and ties after 36 holes. A very disappointed Cara missed the reduced cut by one shot (83, 76 - 159), whilst Thriston Lawrence who was selected by the SAGA, posted scores of 77, 83 – 160 and tied 38<sup>th</sup> after 36 holes. Colin Burger, President of the SAGA, accompanied the players.

**HARDER GERMAN JUNIOR MASTERS – GOLFCLUB GUT NEUZENHOF, HEDDESHEIM 6 – 9 AUGUST 2012**

This is a 54 Hole Stroke Play event with no cut and is part of the World Junior Golf Series with both boys and girls competing in their own divisions. Players selected were Lara Weinstein, Bianca Theron and Kelly Erasmus who were accompanied by Cynthia Rayner. As there is no team component, WGSA Junior Federation Colours were awarded.

The winner was Caroline Nistrup from Denmark on -11 (69, 66, 70 – 205) and in the total field of 37 girls, the top 6 players were all under par, which is an indication of the strength of the competition.

**Individual Results of the South African Players:**

Lara Weinstein T25<sup>th</sup>: 71 76 79 (226)

Bianca Theron 27<sup>th</sup>: 81 77 70 (228)

Kelly Erasmus T28<sup>th</sup>: 81 74 75 (230)

**DUKE OF YORK YOUNG CHAMPIONS TROPHY – ROYAL TROON, SCOTLAND, 10 – 13 SEPTEMBER 2012**

This event is by invitation only to the winners of the National Federation's premier junior championship. Players: Michaela Fletcher (2012 Nomads SA Girls Champion); Tristen Strydom (Under 19 Boys Champion) & Haydn Porteous (special invite as SA Men's Amateur Stroke Play Champion).

Manager/Chaperone – Cynthia Rayner (WGSA President)

Format: 54 Holes Stroke Play with no cut; 30 boys and 23 girls from 33 countries competed.

The winner was Ragnar Gardarsson from Iceland : 76, 77, 72 (225) after a 3-way play-off with Max Orrin of England 71, 77, 77 (225); and Katja Pogacar of Slovenia 72, 74, 79 (225).

**Individual Results of the South African Players:**

Haydn Porteous 30<sup>th</sup>: 85, 76, 81 (242)

Tristen Strydom T36<sup>th</sup>: 84, 78, 86 (248)

Michaela Fletcher 47<sup>th</sup>: 85, 90, 79 (254)

## **WORLD AMATEUR TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP – GLORIA GOLF COURSE, ANTALYA TURKEY 27 – 30 SEPTEMBER 2012**

The South African team consisted of Kim Williams, Bertine Strauss & Alana van Greuning with support team Sandra Winter (non-playing Captain), Val Holland (WGSA National Coach) and Cynthia Rayner (Manager). Senior Protea Colours were awarded.

53 women's teams competed for the Espirito Santo Trophy at the World Amateur Teams Championship. This biennial 72 Hole championship falls under the auspices of the International Golf Federation and has always been considered the Olympics of golf. The event rotates among three geographic zones of the world: Asia-Pacific, Americas and Europe-Africa, and Japan will play host in 2014.

### **RESULTS:**

The Republic of Korea, with a total of 13-under-par 563, won the Espirito Santo Team Trophy by three strokes, becoming the first team in 22 years to capture consecutive titles. Korea withstood a 7-under-par charge from Germany, which finished second, taking the silver medal at 566 (-10). Finland, which also shot seven under for the day, shared the bronze medal with Australia at 567 (-9). New Zealand, with Lydia Ko's amazing individual scores, managed to tie in 5<sup>th</sup> position with Spain on -8.

South Africa finished in 35<sup>th</sup> position on +28, one shot ahead of hosts Turkey. This was a very disappointing result for a team that had worked exceptionally hard to prepare for this event. The South Africans, as well as a lot of the international players, felt that they were misreading the greens which resulted in a lack of confidence which is vital for good putting. Bottom line was that it was one of those unfortunate occurrences when putts don't drop for all 3 team members.

### **Team Performances (total number of teams 53)**

**South Africa: 35<sup>th</sup> on +28**

**South African men's team finished in 23<sup>rd</sup> position (out of 72 teams)**

### **Individual Performances (total number of players 157)**

Lydia Ko from New Zealand posted the best individual score of 274 (70, 69, 67, 68) -14

Bertine Strauss: Tied 70<sup>th</sup> on 300 (77, 75, 72, 76) +12

Kim Williams: Tied 82<sup>nd</sup> on 304 (80, 76, 73, 75) +16

Alana van Greuning: Tied 127<sup>th</sup> on 318 (82, 78, 77, 81) +30

## **ALBATROSS JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP, JAPEE GREENS GOLF RESORT, NEW DELHI, INDIA 20 – 23 NOVEMBER 2012**

This annual 54 Hole Stroke Play event with no cut, hosted by the Albatross Junior Tour, India is open to junior boys and girls of all countries. Because of the very small entry of girls, they permit the girls team to consist of any combination, with the result that WGSA considers the team event compromised and therefore Junior Federation Colours are awarded and not Junior Protea Colours. Note that the different age categories (A to E) play off different tees (irrespective of handicap), so final results must not be compared between the categories.

Players: WGSA – Cara Gorlei (16 yrs) & Magda Kruger (17 yrs); WPGU – Robert Bougas (A category – 16 yrs) & Luca Filippi (B category – 13 yrs). SUPPORT TEAM: Manager – CYNTHIA RAYNER (WGSA President)

Team Result: 2<sup>nd</sup> (out of 5 girls' teams)

Girls' Winner: Benyapa Niphatsophon (Thailand) 222 (75, 76, 71)

### **Individual Results of the South African Players:**

Cara Gorlei: 227 (73, 77, 77 - 11 over par) – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Magda Kruger: 231 (75, 81, 75 – 15 over par) – 3<sup>rd</sup>

Robert Bougas: 228 (77, 77, 74 – 12 over par) – 5<sup>th</sup>

Luca Filippi: 221 (74, 72, 75 – 5 over par) – 2<sup>nd</sup>

## **ANNIKA INVITATIONAL, ORLANDO, FLORIDA USA, 18 – 21 JANUARY 2013**

An invitation was extended directly to Magda Kruger by the American Junior Golf Association and WGSA was, therefore, unable to assist Magda financially as she had not been selected by us through our formal selection process. This is a 54 Hole Stroke Play event for girls aged 12 to 18, with a field size of 72.

### **Individual Results of the South African Player:**

Magda Kruger: 237 (80, 81, 76) – Tied 66<sup>th</sup>

## **KENAKO WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS, KINGSWOOD GOLF ESTATE, GEORGE, 3 – 7 MARCH 2013**

WGSA had agreed to financially assist the top six girls on the Junior Player Rankings as well as two development players, and the decision was made to send Ria Bestbier as their chaperone. The official teams were made up of the girls who were sponsored by WGSA (note that there is no team component at other WJGS events):

1. Bianca Theron & Cara Gorlei (Won the Team event)
2. Michaela Fletcher & Magda Kruger
3. Kelly Erasmus & Mae Cornforth
4. Sylvia Masango & Zayb Kippie

**Individual Results of the South African Players (sponsored in italics):**

Winner: Lara Weinstein 216 (67, 73, 76)

Runner-up: *Cara Gorlei* 217 (73, 72, 72)

3<sup>rd</sup> Tied: *Bianca Theron* 222 (76, 75, 71) Ji Sun Kang 222 (75, 73, 74)

5<sup>th</sup> Tied: Kaleigh Telfer 223 (79, 69, 75)

7<sup>th</sup>: *Kelly Erasmus* 225 (81, 72, 72)

13<sup>th</sup> Tied: *Zayb Kippie* 236 (83, 74, 79)

20<sup>th</sup>: *Sylvia Masango* 241 (83, 79, 79)

26<sup>th</sup> Tied: Mae Cornforth 245 (83, 81, 81)

28<sup>th</sup> Tied: *Magda Kruger* 248 (76, 85, 87)

W/D *Michaela Fletcher* NR (76, 75, NR)

**COMPLEAT GOLFER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Compleat Golfer hosted their annual golfing awards gala dinner at County Club Johannesburg on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> March and SA's number one amateur woman golfer, Nobuhle Dlamini received WGSA's outstanding woman golfer of the year award. WGSA explained that they were cognisant of the fact that players from beyond our borders who competed regularly at our events were having difficulty with regard to their golfing profiles because they were not included on the WGSA Player Rankings. The reason for their exclusion was because they were not eligible to represent South Africa internationally as per SASCOC requirements. In January 2011, it was agreed to include them in order for them to be ranked. In less than two years, Nobuhle Dlamini climbed to the top of these rankings and in October 2012 became WGSA's top ranked player, toppling Kim Williams who had been our number one player since November 2010. In addition to clinching the prestigious Sanlam SA Women's Amateur Stroke Play Champion title at Umhlali Golf Club in 2012, she has added numerous provincial titles to her list of achievements.

**SPORT & RECREATION SA – SCHOLARSHIPS AT THE HIGH PERFORMANCE CENTRE, PRETORIA**

Ntsoaki Mokoena is no longer in the programme. Zanele Mazibuko has performed well academically and has passed Grade 11 with results that are above the Grade Average (11<sup>th</sup> position). She earned her provincial colours when she was selected to represent her home Union, Free State & Northern Cape at the 72 Hole Teams Championship where her score counted in 3 of the 4 rounds for the team. She was selected to represent Free State & Northern Cape at the South African Inter-Provincial held at Country Club Johannesburg. Although her focus is on her matric studies this year, WGSA ensures that she participates in as many national and provincial events as possible.

**ERNIE ELS & FANCOURT FOUNDATION**

No new girls were admitted as members to the EEFF in 2013. There are 6 girls currently in the programme. Bianca Theron, Kelly Erasmus and Kim Daniels are full members, Kirsten Campbell is an associate member, and Sylvia Masango and Izel Pieters have received Graduate Support Membership which is a new category. At the Annual Awards Dinner in December 2012, Bianca Theron received the Dr Hasso Plattner Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement 2012. Izel Pieters is the EEFF Girls' Champion after a 36 hole final (73, 75 – 148).

**WGSA ELITE SQUADS**

Val Holland agreed to continue as WGSA's national coach. As we are constantly striving to improve our training programme, it was decided to bring in an assistant coach. Anna Becker was appointed to this position. The following 9 local and 2 overseas players were selected to be part of the WGSA Elite Squad: Kim Williams, Lara Weinstein, Bianca Theron, Magda Kruger, Michaela Fletcher, Talia Nel, Cara Gorlei, Nicole Garcia, Izel Pieters, Bertine Strauss and Lejan Lewthwaite.

The following girls (who may not be in their matric year) were selected to be part of the Junior Elite Squad and receive specified financial assistance in order to have more and varied competition practice: Bianca Lohbauer, Shawnelle de Lange, Nicole Hannah and Kaleigh Telfer.

Certain development players have been identified and are being assisted financially by WGSA to participate in both national and provincial events.

## SAGA

The President or Vice-President of WGSA attends three of the SAGA's sub-committee meetings, namely the Junior Sub-Committee, the Social Responsibility and Transformation Sub-Committee, and the Course Rating and Handicapping Sub-Committee. These are held twice a year – in February and again in September. The most significant decision that was adopted at the SAGA meetings this year was the implementation of the National Sports & Recreation Plan (NSRP) whereby National Sports Federations are obliged to align and comply with the NSRP in terms of geo-political boundaries. The deadline for compliance is November 2013.

The invitation via the SAGA to attend the 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference "WORKING FOR GOLF" to be held at St Andrews at the beginning of May will be attended by Cynthia Rayner.

## HANDICAPPING

Communication between HNA and members via their Clubs remains excellent and HNA does extensive research on behalf of the SAGA. The feedback with regard to handicaps, statistics etc serves to quell the die-hard handicap complainers. The recent change to the maximum score per hole for handicaps above 18 has been well-received by the average player. A new handicap card is being designed to replace the old card and is expected to be rolled out in May 2013.

From a Union perspective, the HNA data continues to be a very useful tool for cross-checking of affiliation fees received as well as handicap checks when necessary.

## SAGA JUNIOR GOLF

Peter Little left the employ of the SAGA at the end of March, and Eden Thompson has taken over his responsibilities. The SAGA has an extremely busy Junior Calendar which includes both national and international participation. Unfortunately golf is not considered a priority sporting code by government. This results in poor communication with schools and student golf. The SAGDB works together with a number of provincial unions for the furtherance of junior development golf.

## PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS & THE WPGA

The following players have turned professional and are members of the WPGA: Alana van Greuning, Bonita Bredenhann. Players who are doing their apprenticeship via a PGA Professional are also required to forfeit their amateur status and Nicole Loesch is apprenticed to Val Holland.

WGSA welcomed the re-emergence of the SA Open which was last played in 2009 and assisted the WPGA and tournament organizers with marshalling and rules duties. The event was held from 15 – 17 July at Selborne Park Golf Estate in KZN. 13 Amateur entries were accepted, 9 of which made the cut of 162.

1.	Bertine Strauss	78 72 78	228
2.	Alana van Greuning	77 78 76	231
3.	Nobuhle Dlamini	78 76 77	231
4.	Izel Pieters	80 77 79	236
5.	Bianca Theron	77 80 79	236
6.	Kim Williams	77 79 84	240
7.	Bonita Bredenhann	74 83 83	240
8.	Lara Weinstein	80 82 83	245
9.	Michaela Fletcher	78 84 87	249
10.	Magda Kruger	81 82	dmc
11.	Nicole Garcia	78 85	dmc
12.	Monja Richards	86 81	dmc
13.	Olivia le Roux	84 89	dmc

WGSA and the WPGA are striving to improve our relationship, and to this end, the President has met with them and hopes to open up effective lines of communication.

## WGSA ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

As usual, there have been some changes on the Executive during the past year. Cathy Mortimer (North West) left after a brief stay on the Executive and was replaced by Thelma Dippenaar. Gill van der Meulen (Gauteng) was welcomed at the 72 Hole Meetings and she replaced Les Rule. WGSA wishes to acknowledge all the Union Presidents for the time and effort they put into administering the amateur game in their Unions. Our new Union,



Ekurhuleni Women's Golf, has settled in well and their players have delivered good performances in our team events.

Christine Dempers left the employ of WGSA, and Paddy Goodwin stepped into the breach until the decision was made to outsource the position of Secretary to WPGU. This has proved to be unsustainable and a decision was taken in January 2013 to seek office space for a full-time Secretary. WGSA will lease an office at the Pro Range Golf Village in Somerset West as from 1<sup>st</sup> May. Our Tournament Administrator, Tracey Wilson, was forced to resign for health reasons, and we have been fortunate to have replaced her with Sarah Braude whose knowledge of the Albatross Tournament Management System is extensive. We are also very grateful to Sarah for her assistance with the new WGSA website which is due to be launched in April.

On the financial side, Sandy Smuts advised us of her intention to give up the Treasurer's position, and Past President, Caroline Kettlewell was asked to fill this important position. WGSA's finances remain very healthy and we constantly strive to ensure that good governance is maintained within our organisation.

We continue to assist talented players and to this end have drawn up the WGSA Player Development Programme with budgets approved by the Executive. This programme encompasses players from Elite to Development status. In addition, we will continue to provide opportunities to our top players to compete both internationally and at home.

### **GIRLS LOVE GOLF PROGRAMME**

This is WGSA's development programme and our focus remains "growing the game amongst girls". We are entirely dependent on our Union Presidents to ensure the success of this programme and will be considering new ideas this year to invigorate and refresh the programme. To this end we have met with the PGA and are looking at ways that we could work together to our mutual benefit.

WGSA wishes to place on record our thanks to Ria Bestbier who has been involved with the Girls Love Golf Programme for the past 5 years. Her passion for junior golf is undisputed and WGSA has been a grateful recipient of this passion. Ria will continue to assist WGSA in a chaperoning capacity at junior events.

### **GENERAL**

2014 will see the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the South African Ladies Golf Union, now Womens Golf South Africa. This will be celebrated at a gala function just prior to the SA Stroke Play in April 2014. The Executive wishes to thank all players and parents for their support over the past year. We would also like to record our appreciation of the support we get from our very generous sponsors. Finally, we thank the management and members of golf clubs that have allowed us the use of their facilities during this past year.

### **April 2013**