

EXECUTIVE REPORT FOR THE YEAR APRIL 2011 TO MARCH 2012

It gives me great pleasure to report on the activities and achievements of Women's Golf South Africa for the year covering the period April 2011 to March 2012. It was again an exceedingly full year with several highlights.

NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

SA GIRLS' ROSE BOWL, Clovelly Country Club, 4 – 5 April 2011.

The winner of the 54 holes stroke play championship was Kim Daniels (Eastern Cape) 228; Runner-up Zayb Kippie (WP) 229.

The Silver Division winner was Jade Gray (WP) 258; Runner-up Shawnelle de Lange (NW) 263. Bronze Stableford winner over 36 holes: Mpho Bangiso (WP) 61 points; Runner-up Lara Wootton (WP) 60 points.

Copper Winner Nayia Charalambous (KZN) 62 points; Runner-up Zilke Bal (Boland) 61 points.

Thirty one of the 88 entrants born in 1993 or later took up the offer of chaperoned accommodation at Waters Edge in Fish Hoek with the balance staying with parents or friends.

SANLAM WOMEN'S SA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP, Rustenburg Golf Club, 10 to 26 April 2011.

The 2011 Sanlam Women's Amateur Golf Championship, hosted by North West Women's Golf, marked the seventh year of Sanlam's naming sponsorship of this premier event. To Gary van Loggerenberg who to us is the face of Sanlam, we appreciate everything he does to ensure that the event is run in a professional manner.

SuperSport TV, sponsored by Sanlam, covered the event on both the stroke play and match play final days.

This was the last time that both the stroke play and match play were played in the same week. Effective 2012, the stroke play championship will be played in April and the match play championship in July – with one at the coast and one inland alternating each year. The team events were done away with this year and from 2012, Prime Time events will also be discontinued. In addition, the match play championship will only have one division.

Thanks to Nic Lanham and the Albatross Tournament Management System for enabling live scoring on the club's TV screens and on the WGSA website.

WGSA covered expenses of the following players from beyond our borders: Nobuhle Dlamini (Swaziland), Claire Minter and Loice Chingona (Zimbabwe), Bhavi Shah (Kenya), Angel Eaton (Tanzania) and Jasper Kamakama and Flavia Namakula (Uganda).

Stroke Play - Championship Division

1. Kim Williams 212 (70, 74, 68); 2. Bertine Strauss 216 (70, 73, 73); 3. Monique Smit 218 (70, 74, 74) 4. Nobuhle Dlamini 219 (73, 68, 78); 4. Iliska Verwey 219 (67, 74, 78).

B Division: 1. Woo-Ju Son 258 (85, 85, 88); 2. Wilna Bredenhann 264 (88, 89, 87); 3. Shawnelle de Lange 269 (91, 85, 93)

Match Pay – Championship Division : Iliska Verwey defeated Nobuhle Dlamini 3/2

Semi-Finalists: Kim Williams and Bertine Strauss

Plate: Tiffany Avern Taplin defeated Suné du Plooy 4/5

B Division: Wilna Bredenhann defeated Thelma Dippenaar 1 up

Flight 1 (33 – 48) : Sammy Barber defeated Magda Krüger 3/1

Flight 2 (49 – 64) : Maggi du Toit defeated Nicole Fourie 4/3

72 HOLE TEAMS CHAMIONSHIP, Langebaan Country Club, 23 to 25 May 2011.

Langebaan Country Club in the Boland was a very good venue with the benefit of all players being accommodated on the course.

The course was in good condition and extended to 5579 metres, giving it a WGSA rating of 74. However the event was played in gale force North Westerly winds on day one and scores reflected the weather conditions. Rounds two and three were also played in persistent rain. Tee-off was at 08h00 every day with a four-tee start on Tuesday and Wednesday, which enabled all teams to travel home on Wednesday afternoon.

SuperSport television covered day three and the prize-giving and there was also good media coverage in the golf magazines. There was no sponsor but Adidas TaylorMade branding was on the tee markers to acknowledge that company's sponsorship of international teams' clothing and equipment. Our thanks to the ATMS representative, Mike Mgodeli for enabling live-scoring which was displayed on a TV screen in the half-way house and also on the WGSA website.

Swiss Teams Trophy:

Winners: Gauteng North Daisies (Nobuhle Dlamini, Henriëtte Frylinck and Kim Williams) 581 - 154, 138, 146, 143

Runners-up: North West A (Nicole Becker, Bonita Bredenhann and Bertine Strauss) 607 -157, 147, 152, 151

Third: Southern Cape A (Nicole Loesch, Iliska Verwey and Sandra Winter) 612 – 158, 144, 151, 159 on a count-out from Mpumalanga.

B Division: Challenge Trophy.

Winners: North West A (Elru Botha, Mae Cornforth and Suné du Plooy) 640 – 164, 157, 157, 162

Runners-up: Southern Cape B (Maggie du Toit, Stephanie Perkins and Anezel Zylstra) 642 – 165, 158, 159, 160

Third: Gauteng C (Simoné Burger, Larissa Ras and Chevonne Botha) 645 – 171, 157, 159, 158

Individual: The Governors' Trophy (won by Monique Smit & Lara Weinstein in Jakarta in 2008)

Winner: Henriëtte Frylinck 288 (77, 68, 71, 72) Level par

Runner-Up: Bertine Strauss 293 (76, 73, 71, 73) +5

Third: Kim Williams 296 (77, 70, 76, 73) +8

Fourth: Alana van Greuning 303 (80, 74, 75, 74) +15

Fifth : Iliska Verwey 304 (79, 73, 75, 77) +16 on count out

Sixth: Monique Smit 304 (78, 72, 77, 77)

NOMADS' SA GIRLS' CHAMPIONSHIP, Orkney Golf Club, 25 to 29 June 2011

Nomads once again sponsored the tournament covering the cost of accommodation, meals and playing fees for all the players and a major contribution towards transport.

It was decided to reduce the number of players in 2011 and 131 players and chaperones attended and were accommodated as in the past at The Key, opposite the golf club. Each province had been given an allocation based on previous year attendance. The handicap limit was also reduced from 33 to 30. All bedding and towels were provided and breakfast and dinner was also at The Key. WGSAs arranged busses at no cost to Unions for girls and chaperones flying to OR Tambo Airport.

For the first time, there was no flag raising function but it was agreed to resurrect it from 2012. Once again Mike Mgodeli enabled live scoring in the clubhouse and on the WGSAs website. Sincere thanks to Nita van Niekerk and the Orkney Ladies Golf Club committee and Cathy Mortimer from North West Women's Golf.

A division: Jenny Bruce Trophy

Winner Championship: Bianca Theron 221 (74, 74, 73); Runner-up Kelly Erasmus 227 (75, 77, 75)

Winner 16 and under – Carrie Park 227 (75, 77, 75); Runner-Up – Ji Sun Kang 231 (76, 75, 80)

10 – 18 Handicap Division: Ester Cutler Trophy

Winner: Catherine Lau 244 (83, 79, 82) Runner up: Sarah Bouch 250 (87, 85, 78)

Bronze division: 19 – 24 handicap; Jean Eustice Trophy

Winner: Jhanelle Strydom 76 points (41, 35) Runner up: Jenny Botha 75 points (41, 34)

Copper division: 25 - 30 Handicap: Faith Daniel Trophy

Winner: Roxanne Schmidt 71 points (36, 35) Runner up: Chanelle Botha 70 points (34, 36)

Teams:

Stroke Play: Western Province 1, Ji Sun Kang and Sammy Barber 312;

Best Nett: Eastern Cape 3: Jamie-Lee Daniels and Shené du Toit 292

Stableford: North West 1, Jenny Botha and Jhanelle Strydom 151 points.

One prize per person applied, except for teams. The winner, Bianca Theron, qualified for an invitation to attend the Duke of York Young Champions Trophy.

2011 PICK N PAY SA WOMEN'S INTER-PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP, George Golf Club, 18 to 23 September 2011.

George Club proved to be a good venue for the tournament. This was the 14th consecutive year that Pick n Pay has sponsored this tournament and Port Elizabeth's Ian Hughes and Russell Booth represented Pick n Pay. PnP also sponsored a 20 minute TV programme for SuperSport, parts of which were also featured on the weekly SuperGolf programme.

The course, which was in excellent condition, was extended to 5506 metres with a WGSAs course rating of 73.

Strokeplay: The Jean Tindall Trophy was won by Gauteng North A and the Nolan Karp Trophy by Southern Cape.

Individual Results (18 Holes stroke play) : 1. Iliska Verwey(73) c/o, 2. Maggie Minnie(73), 3. Henriëtte Frylinck(74), 4. Tanica van As (75) c/o 5. Amy Henning (75)

Match Play:

A Inter-Provincial

Section 1: –Gauteng North A – Biance Barnard, Nobuhle Dlamini, Emma-Jo du Bruyn, Henriëtte Frylinck, Carrie Park and Kim Williams. (Fifth year in succession)

Section 2: Kwa Zulu Natal – Tiffany Avern-Taplin, Kate Brett-Castle, Michaela Fletcher, Taryn Heyns, Sharyn Owen and Tanica van As **c/o** from North West – Nicole Becker, Elru Botha, Bonita Bredenhann, Mae Cornforth, Shawnelle de Lange and Suné du Plooy.

B Inter-Provincial

Section 1: Southern Cape – Nicole Loesch, Monique Smit, Iliska Verwey and Sandra Winter.

Section 2: Gauteng North B – Marné Clack, Anel Herselman, Sylvia Masango and Marie Reyneke.

There were two holes-in-one scored at the 6th hole by Michaela Fletcher in the AM AM competition and Henriëtte Frylinck in the qualifying stroke play round.

The Gilly Tebbutt Trophy for the top ranked player at the end of September each year was presented to Kim Williams.

SANLAM CANCER CHALLENGE TROPHY, Gary Player Country Club, 24 to 25 October 2011.

Sanlam is the chief sponsor of amateur golf in South Africa through the annual Sanlam Cancer Challenge, the largest amateur golf tournament in Africa and one of the longest-standing sport sponsorships in the country.

The Sanlam Cancer Challenge is held on golf courses countrywide and raises money for the fight against cancer, attracting more than 40 000 golfers annually. More than R1 million is raised every year in aid of the Cancer Association of South Africa – money spent on cancer prevention and patient care services. The final was played at Sun City, using both courses.

A Division – Shawnelle de Lange, Goldfields West (Overall winner)

B Division - P Smith, Cato Ridge Golf Club

C Division – Kerry Prescher, Durban Country Club

KINGSWOOD SA MID-AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIPS, Kingswood Golf Estate, George, 7 – 9 November 2011.

The second South African Mid Amateur Championship for golfers aged 35 years or older (handicap restriction 24) was held at Kingswood Golf Estate in George. Kingswood Golf Director Val Holland arranged sponsorship for prizes and there was no cost for the course. The divisions were changed from the previous year and the A (9 and under handicaps) and B (10 to 18 handicaps) played stroke play while the C division (19 to 24) competed in a stableford competition. Kingswood has agreed to host the event again in 2012.

112 Players entered and when the weather deteriorated on the final day, five players withdrew. A six-tee start on the final day allowed prize-giving to be at 2 pm so that players were able to return home that day. Val arranged entertainment each evening and once again it was a most enjoyable event.

A Division Gross: 1. Sandra Winter 234, 2. Gilly Tebbutt 236, 3. Sonja Bland 242

Nett: 1. Lynne Slogrove, 2. Esmé Orr

B Division Gross: 1. Lenza de Jager 255, 2. Erica Lefson 261, 3. Louisa Bornman 261

Nett: 1. Litha Matthysen, 2. Claudia Johnson

C Division Stableford: 1, Christine Els, 2. Jo-Anne Bloemetjie, 3. Priscilla Petersen

One major and one subsidiary prize per person applied.

INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

BRITISH OPEN AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP AND ASTOR TROPHY, Royal Portrush, Northern Ireland and Fairhaven Golf Club, England, 7 to 19 June 2012.

Team: Sandra Winter (non-playing Captain), Tiffany Avern-Taplin, Henriëtte Frylinck, Bertine Strauss, Iliska Verwey and Kim Williams. Manager Cynthia Rayner, Coach Val Holland.

Astor Trophy Results				
Pts	Won	Halved	Lost	
19½	18	3	7	Gt Britain & Ireland
16	14	4	10	New Zealand
13	12	2	14	South Africa
12	10	4	14	Australia
9½	9	1	18	Canada

South Africa finished in third position in the Astor Trophy and 12 out of 16 in the British Open Amateur teams event.

British Open Amateur Qualifying round scores:

Iliska Verwey level par 148 (75, 73); Kim Williams +6 154 (80, 74); Bertine Strauss +7 155 (78, 77); Henriëtte Frylinck +18 166 (89, 77); Tiffany Avern-Talpin +25 173 (91, 82)

Bertine Strauss, Iliska Verwey and Kim Williams qualified for the match play with Bertine knocked out in round one and Iliska and Kim knocked out in the quarter-finals.

Tiffany received senior Protea colours – the other players had already received colours.

JAKARTA WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS, Damai Indah Golf Pik Course, 7 to 10 June 2011.

Team: Bianca Theron and Lara Weinstein. Manager Erica Lefson.

The South African girls were runners-up in the team event, with Lara finishing third in the Girls Class A Individual Championship, five strokes back from the joint winners. Lara Weinstein 222 (77, 75, 75); Bianca Theron 236 (81, 78, 77).

Bianca was awarded Federation Colours and Lara had already received Junior Protea Colours.

REGIONAL ALL AFRICA AND ZIMBABWE OPEN LADIES CHAMPIONSHIP, Royal Harare Golf Club, 28 June to 4 July 2011.

Team: Nicole Becker, Nicole Garcia and Alana van Greuning. South Africa won on 456 (154, 155, 147) and Zimbabwe were runners-up on 458 (153, 155, 150).

Individual scores: Alana van Greuning 230 (78, 76, 76); Nicole Garcia 232 (78, 83, 71); Nicole Becker 234 (76, 79, 79).

Zimbabwe Open results not available.

No Protea colours were awarded as this was a regional event.

HARDER GERMAN JUNIOR MASTERS, Golfclub Heddesheim, Gut Neuzenhof, Germany, 2 to 4 August 2011.

Team: Michaela Fletcher, Izel Pieters and Lara Weinstein, Manager Cynthia Rayner.

The event was won by Sweden's Lynn Carlsson after a two-hole play-off against Austria's Marina Steutz. They had tied on five under par 211. Izel Pieters finished 10th on 219 (75, 71, 73), Michaela Fletcher was 15th on 222 (74, 72, 76) and Lara Weinstein was tied 30th on 230 (77, 79, 74).

GIRLS' BRITISH OPEN AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP, Gullane Golf Club, 8 to 12 August 2011.

Team: Michaela Fletcher, Izel Pieters and Lara Weinstein, Manager Cynthia Rayner.

The stroke play qualifying event was won by Noemi Jimenez on -5. The South Africans did not qualify for the Match Play event.

Stroke Play Scores: Michaela Fletcher 157 (79, 78) Position 102; Lara Weinstein 158 (77, 81) Position 110; Izel Pieters 162 (84, 78) Position 162.

Michaela was awarded junior Protea colours. Lara and Izel had previously received junior colours.

DUKE OF YORK TROPHY, Liverpool Golf Club, Hoylake, 13 to 15 September 2011.

SA Girls' Championship winner, Bianca Theron, was accompanied by Cynthia Rayner and two boys, Haydn Porteus (All Africa Boys' Champion) and Stefan Cronje (SA Boys' Champion). Bianca finished 51st on 255 (89, 85, 81). 31 Countries and 56 players participated.

THE SPIRIT INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS, Whispering Pines, Houston, Texas, USA, 2 to 5 November 2011.

Team: Iliska Verwey, Kim Williams, Haydn Porteus and Ruan de Smidt. Manager Colin Burger.

Iliska and Kim had previously received senior Protea colours.

South Africa finished tied fifth with Japan and Germany on -14.

FINAL TEAMS LEADERBOARD (Men and Women)

545 United States 133 144 135 133

555 Mexico 139 145 137 134; Argentina 139 142 135 139

556 Korea 138 140 139 139

562 South Africa 140 142 140 140; Japan 137 146 141 138; Germany 140 143 137 142

564 Denmark 136 144 135 149

FINAL WOMENS TEAM COMPETITION

273 Korea 68 70 67 68

274 Argentina 69 68 67 70

275 United States 69 71 66 69

281 Colombia 71 70 68 72

283 England 70 72 70 71; Mexico 70 74 70 69

284 Denmark 69 72 69 74; Germany 70 73 70 71

285 Sweden 72 72 71 70

286 France 74 73 68 71

288 South Africa 72 74 69 73; Belgium 70 74 72 72

289 Italy 66 76 73 74; Japan 72 75 72 70

3rd HEX CITY ALBATROSS INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP, Classic Golf Resorts, New Delhi, India, 22 to 25 November 2011.

Team: Michaela Fletcher, Kim Daniels, and two boys Hayden Garcia and Johann Germishuys were accompanied by Cynthia Rayner.

Michaela Fletcher finished in third place on 230 (78, 78, 74) with Kim Daniels on 241 (83, 79, 79)

Kim was awarded Federation colours and Michaela had previously been awarded junior Protea colours.

WJGS GATE AMERICAN JUNIOR MASTERS, Ponte Vedra Brach, Florida, USA, 19 to 22 December 2011.

WGSA contributed towards the costs of Lara Weinstein and Izel Pieters, and three other girls, Lora Assad, Cara Gorlei and Stephanie Perkins also participated, but at their own expense. Erica Lefson offered to chaperone them while she was in the USA at that time.

The event was won by Marina Steutz on two over par 218 (74, 73, 71). Lora Assad finished 7th on +15 231 (77, 77, 77); Cara Gorlei was tied 13th on +19 235 (78, 79, 78) with Lara Weinstein 235 (78, 73, 83) and Izel Pieters finished 16th on +21 237 (77, 81, 79).

48th ANNUAL JUNIOR ORANGE BOWL INTERNATIONAL GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP, Biltmore Golf Club, Coral Gables, Florida, USA, 26 to 30 December 2011.

As SA's top junior girl, Lara Weinstein was selected to play. Only one entry was accepted. The event was won by Korean Hyo Joo Kim on three under par 281 (68, 70, 69, 74). Lara finished tied 24th on +32, 316 (76, 85, 78, 77).

ANNIKA INVITATIONAL, Reunion Resort, Independence Course, Florida, 13 to 16 January 2012.

Team: Lara Weinstein and Izel Pieters were accompanied by their fathers. The event was won by Alison Lee of California. She was the only player to card three rounds under par, 71, 71, 71 (213), finishing four strokes ahead of Reunion's Shannon Aubert.

Izel Pieters finished T45 on 232 (80, 77, 75) and Lara Weinstein T66 on 241 (81, 78, 82.)

KENAKO SA JUNIOR MASTERS, Kingswood Golf Estate, 6 – 8 March 2012.

Lara Weinstein won this 54 hole stroke play championship on four over par 220 (78, 74, 68), followed by Olivia le Roux on 228 (76, 75, 77) and Kelly Erasmus on 229 (77, 79, 73). The SA team of Lara Weinstein and Bianca Theron won the team event and the South Korean team of Carrie Park and Ji Sun Kang were runners up. 23 South Africans and four South Koreans resident in South Africa took part in a field of 34 girls.

COMPLEAT GOLFER OF THE YEAR AWARDS, Randpark Golf Club, 20 February 2012.

Women's Golf South Africa nominated Kim Williams as the outstanding amateur woman golfer in 2011 and she was presented with her award by Dot van Ryneveld.

She successfully defended the SA Amateur Stroke Play Championship and won the following provincial stroke play championships - Eastern Cape, Border, Gauteng, Gauteng North and

Boland. She was runner-up in the Western Province, KwaZulu Natal, Free State and Northern Cape, Nomads Gauteng, Southern Cape and Mpumalanga stroke play championships. She also won the Gauteng North and Boland match play championships.

Kim captained the Gauteng North team, current holders of both the Pick n Pay Interprovincial Championship (team member of the winning team for the last five years) and the WGSA 72 hole Teams Championships won by her team in 2008, 2010 and 2011.

She participated in the 2011 Ladies British Open Amateur Championship and was one of only two South Africans who qualified for the Match Play where she dismissed Valerie Sternebeck from Germany in the first round 4/3, Myrte Eikenaar of the Netherlands in the second round 7/5, Stephanie Meadow, local favourite at Royal Portrush 4/3, and bowed out in the quarter finals to top English player, Amy Boulden.

Kim was a member of the team of five who represented South Africa at the Astor Trophy held at Fairhaven Golf Club in England which is contested every four years between teams from Great Britain and Ireland, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa. Kim was the only South African player to win all of her singles matches.

In addition, she represented South Africa at The Spirit played at Whispering Pines in Texas in November 2011 for the second time.

Kim won the Compleat Golfer Award in 2010 and she fully deserves the award again in 2012 as she finished as WGSA's top ranked player for every month in 2011.

SRSA SPONSORED JUNIOR TRAINING CAMPS

Two camps for juniors were funded by the Department of Sport and Recreation and organised by Karen Olivant.

The first training camp for 20 girls was held in Cape Town. It included the Gus and Raymond Ackerman Championship on 15th and 16th October and two days at the Sports Science Centre in Cape Town. The camp included bio-kinetic assessments for 15 girls who had previously been tested and five girls who had never been tested, psychology and nutrition group sessions, and coaching for putting and chipping skills. National Coach Val Holland supplied each girl with a course analysis sheet with explanations.

The next camp for 20 girls was in Pretoria from 21st-23rd January coinciding with the Gauteng North Junior Championships on Sunday 22nd January. Five girls who had been tested by the HPC in 2011 were re-tested and six girls who had not been tested by either SSISA (Sports Science Institute) or the HPC before were tested. A group psychology workshop for all 20 girls was held. National Coach Val Holland and fitness expert Sandra Winter worked with the girls at the HPC and Thatchfield on the Monday and provided an exercise programme that can be downloaded from the WGSA website.

The next camp, subject to funding from SRSA, will be in October in Cape Town. Most of the girls that are on our Talent Identification and Development list have now been tested and given golf specific exercises.

SRSA RESIDENTIAL GOLF SCHOLARSHIPS

WGSA obtained Residential Scholarships from Sport & Recreation SA for two SAGDB girls in 2010 – Zanele Mazibuko and Ntsoaki Mokoena, both from Free State, and these were extended to 2012. WGSA sees to basic needs such as bus bookings home for school holidays, weekly

pocket money etc, and this year will play a more assertive role with regard to these girls participating in WGSA events.

ELITE SQUAD

The following players have been selected to join an elite squad from which WGSA's WATC 2012 team of three will be chosen: Nicole Garcia, Lejan Lewthwaite, Nicole Loesch, Bertine Strauss, Alana van Greuning and Kim Williams. The World Team Championships (Espírito Santo Trophy) will be played at Antlaya, Turkey from 27 to 20 September.

SAGDB

The SAGDB continues with golf development and, following their last AGM, their policy is that they will only work with (men's) Unions that have signed a MOU and are prepared to participate in a Rand for Rand programme. This has resulted in a measure of downscaling in some Unions. Whilst there might be some girls in certain SAGDB programmes, no funding is specifically allocated to girls; neither do they actively look for girls. In areas where girls are included, the WGSA provincial union liaises with the local SAGDB representative so that these girls are not left out of the WGSA fold.

SAGA

WGSA continues to have a good working relationship with the SAGA and are invited to attend three of their sub-committee meetings, namely the Junior Sub-Committee, the Social Responsibility and Transformation Sub-Committee, and the Course Rating and Handicapping Sub-Committee. WGSA asked past President, Erica Lefson, to attend these meetings whilst IPT was on in September 2011. Cynthia Rayner attended the SAGA meetings in February 2012. Whilst the formation of a SA Golf Board, as per the requirements of SASCOC, appears to have been put on hold, a discussion was held with the SAGA President in February with a view to getting such a process started.

HANDICAPPING & COURSE RATING

HNA has made much progress with the handicap system thus far and from a statistical view, the system is certainly far more accurate in terms of numbers of affiliated members with far less duplications. This has proved a very useful tool for Unions with regard to collection of affiliation fees. Communication with clubs has been clear and prompt. An sms score capturing function is in planning for certain smart phone systems. HNA are currently working on have membership of all clubs fully declared when an HNA card is swiped. Changes made in the Handicap Manual with regard to scoring for handicap purposes that appeared to be optional have now been changed to our satisfaction, with the word "may" being replaced by the word "must". No other changes are envisaged to the handicap system in the near future.

The request for ladies forward tees ("senior tees") has been rejected, and if clubs wished to rate a second set of tees, they would be at liberty to do so, but WGSA would prefer a lengthened second set of tees. The SAGA acknowledges that the set-up of men's forward tees at club level is not being done as per the handicap manual, and Unions are being asked to assist in this regard.

SAGA JUNIOR GOLF

Johan Scholtz has unfortunately now left the employ of the SAGA after taking over Junior Golf, formerly the Junior Golf Foundation. Mr Peter Little will replace him. Johan was responsible

for getting a Primary Schools Championship (Ernie Els), a High Schools Championship (Retief Goosen), and a Junior Club Championship (Louis Oosthuizen) established and sponsored (sponsors in brackets), and it is to be noted that these events are open to both boys and girls and are 54 hole team events, with 4 players of any gender mix in a team.

Junior Golf Chairman, Mr Nicky Nel, represents all the Junior Union Representatives and reports to the SAGA. The figures show that Junior Golf has grown since the SAGA took over this responsibility and many more youngsters have been exposed to what is on offer.

Schools golf continues to be somewhat fragmented and concern has been expressed that golf has been excluded from the list of 16 codes for school sports issued by Government. SAGA will treat this as a priority as soon as the criteria used to determine the 16 codes are received.

ERNIE ELS AND FANCOURT FOUNDATION

The Ernie Els & Fancourt Foundation continues to identify and support talented young golfers. Members continue to stay at home but are supported by the EE&FF in various categories. **The** EEFF is currently in discussion with certain boarding schools particularly for members who attend township schools where the standard of teaching is not at an acceptable level. The introduction of "graduate support" membership for final year learners in the EEFF programme is welcomed. Of the 34 members in 2012, 7 are girls. Izel Pieters, Kim Daniels, Kelly Erasmus, Bianca Theron and Kirsten Campbell are full members, and Zayb Kippie and Sylvia Masango are associate members. Our Ernie Els WGSA girls did us proud at the annual awards presentation in October when Kim was awarded the Honours Award, Izel the Distinction Award, and Kirsten the Dr Plattner Outstanding Academic Achievement Award. Izel's award brought with it an all expenses paid invitation to the USA to watch Ernie prepare and play in the Honda Classic.

PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS

The following players turned pro at the end of 2011, Monique Smit, Henriëtte Frylinck, Nicole Becker and Iliska Verwey. Monique has a partial exemption to the LET. Monja Richards returned to the amateur ranks in January 2012.

WGSA ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

There were many changes on the Executive during the year. At the SA Amateur, we welcomed Molly Whitaker (KZN), Louise van Niekerk (Border), Sally Greasley (Eastern Cape and Wally Steenkamp (Limpopo) and bid farewell to Heather Stewart. At the 72 Hole Championship we welcomed Michelle Holt (Free State & NC), Jane Brown (Western Province). At IPT, we said goodbye to Charmaine Fagyas (Boland), Rina van Zijl (North West), Marthie Dampier (Mpumalanga) and Wally Steenkamp (Limpopo) and these Presidents are replaced by Lol Jones, Cathy Mortimer, Sarie Fourie and Desi Earle. The executive committee has worked tirelessly throughout the year administering the amateur game in the unions.

On 1 January, the WGSA Executive introduced a new Union, Ekurhuleni Women's Golf, which was previously part of Ladies Golf Gauteng. We welcomed Daphne Maynier as their inaugural President.

On the retirement of the secretary Paddy Goodwin at the end of April 2012, an additional position of Tournament Administrator was established, and Tracey Wilson joined the Executive in November at the SA Mid-Amateur. Tracey has been trained on the new Albatross scoring

system which provides live scoring at tournaments and also uploads all players' adjusted gross scores at all WGSAs championships. In January, Christine Dempers took up the position of secretary.

WGSAs finances remain very healthy as is clear from the audited annual financial statements. With the assistance of the new handicapping system data base, Unions are now able to track all clubs with female members. Sandy Smuts was re-appointed Treasurer in April.

We have increased our programme of sponsoring talented players and giving as many as possible the opportunities to play both internationally and at home. We have also supported the numerous Provincial Championships throughout the country by assisting top players financially with regard to some of the expenses that they incur.

GIRLS LOVE GOLF PROGRAMME

The GLG coordinator, Ria Bestbier, had successful visits to Southern Cape and Border, and met with Union Presidents during the year. A number of new coaching points were started and 2011 saw new methods of evaluating players put into operation at certain Unions e.g. NW using Children Kinetics Department of the local University to identify girls with good to above average sport skills. It was encouraging to see clubs buying into the GLG programme and realizing that this would be a good way to secure future members for their club. Ladies sections are vital in assisting with the transition from a GLG coaching point to club membership, and Unions will be asked to get their lady members more involved this year. There are currently 412 players on the GLG Register and Ria is working on providing additional information on the Register which Unions will find useful.

Ria Bestbier also acted as main chaperone to girls attending both the SA Girls and the Rose Bowl tournaments where accommodation is provided.

Paddy Goodwin
Secretary
15 March 2011