

EXECUTIVE REPORT FOR THE YEAR APRIL 2009 TO MARCH 2010

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 2009 to March 2010. It was again an exceedingly full year with several highlights.

NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Sanlam Women's Amateur Golf Championships, Royal Cape Golf Club, 19 to 24 April 2010.

The 2009 Sanlam Women's Amateur Golf Championships, hosted by Women's Golf Western Province marked the fifth year of Sanlam's naming sponsorship of this premier event. To Nandi Scorer, Head Group Marketing and Gary van Loggerenberg, who to us is the face of Sanlam, our sincere thanks for everything they do to ensure that the event is run in a professional manner.

We had an entry of 144 players with 135 finishing, 93 in the Championship 9 and under handicap division and 42 in the 10 to 18 handicap division. There were a number of players from beyond our borders, including the eventual match play winner, Nobuhle Dlamini, from Swaziland. Others included 16 year old Bonita Bredenhann from Namibia, Melissa Nawa from Zambia, Claire Minter from Zimbabwe and Hawa Wanyech from Tanzania.

The B division was won by Kirsten Campbell on 249, 14 strokes ahead of Bianca Theron on 263. Melanie Scholtz won the match play, defeating Bianca 7/5 in the final.

Yvette du Plessis won the stroke play championship on three over 225, with Kim Williams two strokes back on 227 and Bertine Strauss on 228. Nicole Becker and Marne Roos were tied 4th on 229.

Gilly Tebbutt went through to the semi finals after taking Bertine Strauss to the 21st but despite a hole in one at the par three 8th hole, she eventually lost one up to Nobuhle Dlamini. In the other semi-final, Lumien Orton had an amazing 9/7 win over Tiffany Avern-Taplin, only to lose the final to Nobuhle at the 37th.

Zimbabwean Claire Minter won the Flight at the 37th when she beat Sheila Miao, and in the second flight, Talia Nel has an excellent 10/9 win over Bianca Barnard.

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

72 Holes Teams Championship, East London Golf Club, 24 to 27 May 2009.

East London Golf Club was a very good venue and management was more than willing to assist in every department.

The course was in good condition and with very little wind, scores on day two especially were good. Bonita Bredenhann scored the low 68 of the tournament in round three, including three eagles and two birdies and Bertine Strauss and Chloe Garner each carded 69 in round two. The Championship was played in two divisions, with 12 teams in each division. Each team comprised three players, the two best gross scores for each of the four rounds counted. At the conclusion of the event, the top two B Division Teams, KwaZulu Natal B and Border were offered promotion to the A Division, but Border opted to remain in the B Division. North West B were relegated. There was SuperSport television coverage on Day three and at prize-giving. There was no sponsor.

RESULTS:

Swiss Teams Trophy:

Winners: North West (Nicole Becker, Bonita Bredenhann and Bertine Strauss) 583

Runners-up: Gauteng North Daisies (Connie Chen, Henriëtte Frylinck and Kim Williams) 596

Third: Gauteng North Blommies (Eugenie Clack, Madeleine Kleinhaus and Marné Roos) 607

B Division:

Winners: KwaZulu Natal B (Taryn Heyns, Johmari Logtenberg and Monique Ramkisson) 628

Runners-up: Border (Siviwe Duma, Angela Trollip and Millie Zim) 642

Third: Limpopo (Desi Earle, Lynn-Marie Nagel and Karien Venter) 643

Individual:

Winner: Bertine Strauss 291 (74, 69, 72, 76) – 1 to Par

Runner-Up: Bonita Bredenhann 293 (76, 73, 68, 76) +1

Third: Kim Williams 300 (74, 76, 75, 75) +8

Fourth: Marné Roos 301 (74, 78, 74 75) +9

Fifth : Connie Chen 302 (79, 76, 72, 75) +10

Sixth: Iliska Verwey 303 (77, 70, 76, 80) +11

Nomads' SA Girls Championships, Orkney Golf Club, 27 to 30 June 2009.

Once again, Orkney proved to be a great venue for this event, and both management and members of the club contributed to its success.

Of the 147 entries, 143 girls finished, 37 in the 54 hole championship division, 45 on the 10 – 18 handicap division (36 holes stroke play), 35 in the 19 – 26 handicap division and 26 handicapped between 27 and 33 (36 holes stableford) . Ages ranged between nine and 18.

Results: A Div – Jenny Bruce Trophy

Winner Championship: Bertine Strauss 72, 76, 71 – 219

Winner 16 and Under: Lara Weinstein 72, 77 – 149

Runner-up Championship: Connie Chen 72, 77, 74 - 223

Runner-up 16 and Under: Larissa Ras 76 , 74 - 150

3rd: Bonita Bredenhann 73, 75, 79 - 227

4th : Anel Herselman 75, 75, 81 – 231

5th : Rushda Mallick 81, 74, 71 - 234

Lara won the 16 and under championship and not the third place in the championship, this going to Bonita Bredenhann. One prize per person applied, except for teams.

10 – 18 Handicap Div – Esther Cutler Trophy

Winner: Helena Buitendag 81, 79 - 160

Runner-up: Olivia le Roux 85, 81 - 166

T3 Zethu Myeki and Lejan Lewthwaite

5th Jacqui Michler

Bronze Div – Jean Eustice Trophy

Winner Candice Lindeque 37, 41 - 78 pts

Runner-up Cassidy Williams 38, 39 – 77 pts

3rd Ashleigh Dewberry 39, 37 – 76 pts

4th Caitlin du Plessis 32, 43 – 75 pts

Copper Div – Faith Daniel Trophy

Winner Jade Gray 74, 41 – 88 pts

Runner-up Bianca Lohbauer 41, 38 – 79 pts

3rd Dionique du Plessis 34, 42 – 76 pts

141 Girls and their Chaperones were accommodated at The Keys, and being across the road from the club, this accommodation worked very well. 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.

At the prize-giving approximately 200 people (players and parents) gave the Nomads National Chairman Ken Walker a standing ovation. Ken presented the prizes and was accompanied by Les Floyd, National Secretary of Nomads. The fathers of Bertine and Lara presented the girls with their SA Junior Colours.

SuperGolf and SABC TV covered the final day's play.

2009 Pick 'n Pay Inter-Provincial Tournament, Paarl Golf Club, 13 to 18 September 2009.

Paarl Golf Club proved to be a good venue for a SA tournament as teams were accommodated within the estate and the members were able to play on holes 19 to 27 during the tournament. This was the 12th consecutive year that Pick 'n Pay have sponsored the event and this generous company will sponsor the 50th Inter-Provincial again when it is played at Irene Golf Club in 2010. Malcolm Mycroft and Lindsay Webster-Rozon represented Pick n Pay.

The event was successful in spite of inclement weather conditions experienced throughout the tournament.

The A Inter-Provincial was won for the third consecutive year by the Gauteng North Daisies who also won the Jean Tindall stroke play trophy. KwaZulu Natal won Section Two of the A Inter-Provincial. The B Inter-provincial was won by Free State and Northern Cape who have accepted promotion to the A Inter-Prov in 2010. Southern Cape will be relegated. WP Breakers won Section Two of the B Inter-Provincial. The Nolan Karp stroke play trophy

for the B Inter-Prov was won by Eastern Cape. Kim Williams and Yvette du Plessis tied on a course record of 68 in the Individual Qualifying Round.

Pick n Pay sponsored a 20 minute TV programme for SuperSport, parts of which were also featured on the weekly SuperGolf programme.

Sanlam Cancer Challenge Final - San Lameer 24 to 25 October 2008.

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.

Results: A Division – Anneke Lohbauer, Paarl Golf Club - 80 points (Overall Winner)
B Division - Jeanne Rynners, Hillside Golf Club – 73 points
C Division – Zenda Shepard, Umtata Golf Club – 63 points

INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Regional All Africa Challenge Trophy, Nkonyeni Golf Estate, Swaziland, 29 April to 4 May 2009.

Team: Marné Roos, Pam Hayward and Ashleigh Holmes. South Africa won the event by 27 strokes from runners-up Swaziland.

Ashleigh Holmes reported that the tournament was a great success but because of the long distances between green and tee, golf carts were used. It was very well organised and ran very smoothly. They received lots of comments on how bright and stylish they looked as a team in uniforms which were sponsored by TaylorMade.

Jakarta World Junior Championships, Bumi Serpong Damai Course, 2 to 7 June 2009.

Team: Bertine Strauss and Lara Weinstein, accompanied by Swaziland's Nobuhle Dlamini and Namibia's Bonita Bredenhann and managed by Erica Lefson.

Bertine, with rounds of 73, 75, 74 tied in first place but lost in a playoff to Thailand's Jaruporn Palakavong.

Lara tied in fifth position in her division, 81, 75, 80 and South Africa finished in second place for the team event.

Harder German Masters, Golfclub Heddesheim, Gut Neuzenhof, Germany, 5 to 7 August 2009.

Team: Yushira Budhram, Connie Chen and Bertine Strauss. Manager Erica Lefson.

The field was really strong and the highest handicap entered was Yushira. The event was won by Brittany Altemore (USA) on -1 to par. Connie finished tied ninth on +9, (74, 72, 79), Bertine tied 21st on +16 (81, 89, 72) and Yushira was tied 28th on +19 (80, 76, 79).

Girls' British Open Amateur Championship, West Lancashire Golf Club, 10 to 13 August 2009.

Team: Yushira Budhram, Connie Chen and Bertine Strauss. Manager Erica Lefson.

This was a totally different experience for the girls who were playing on a true links course for the first time. The weather was not good with rain and strong wind at times.

In the qualifying round, in a field of 143 players, Connie finished 54th (79, 78) on +13, Bertine was 64th (77, 81) on +14 and Yushira who failed to qualify was 95th (83, 80) on +19. The stroke play winner was Neomi Jiminez +1, who defeated Bertine 2/1 in round one of the match play. Connie won her first round match but was defeated in round two.

Turkish Open Amateur Championship, Gloria Golf Club, Antalya-Belek, Turkey, 1 to 4 October 2009.

Team: Ashleigh Holmes, Pam Hayward and Yvette du Plessis, accompanied by Coenie Bester and Johan Bekker. Manager Erica Lefson. The team stayed at the Gloria Golf Resort, a beautiful hotel and apartments on the water with pools and bars and over 1000 rooms. The event was played at the Gloria golf course which has two courses, the old one being used for this event. The course has water and thousands of pine trees that line most of the

fairways, making it a very tight course which was really long for the ladies and on most par fours they still had at least 150 metres in. It was also very hot.

Results: Winner Holland's Marieka Nivard on 293. Kim finished 5th on 302, Ashleigh scored 323 and Yvette 333.

The Spirit, Whispering Pines, Trinity, Texas, 1 to 8 November 2009

Team: Kim Williams, Yvette du Plessis, Dylan Frattelli and Leon Knoll. Manager Erica Lefson.

The Spirit competition was 72 holes Four Ball Stroke Play and only the number of birdies and eagles made by each player during the 72 hole competition were counted to determine individual women and individual men honors. The Four Ball score for both the women's and men's team were combined after each 18-Hole round to compute the International Team score.

14-Year old Alexis Thompson, topping the Women's leader board on 17 birdies, was instrumental in the USA's seven stroke victory. Thompson became only the second golfer after Lorena Ochea in 2001 and Paula Creamer in 2003 to take home three golds: team, women's team, and individual.

The US team completed the four rounds on 531, -45 to par, seven strokes ahead of Korea on -41, with Denmark in third place on -33.

The South African team finished tied 12th with Australia on -16. Dylan Frattelli performed the best of the South Africans with 14 birdies, while Kim Williams holed 12. The SA Men were in 11th place in the men's team event while the girls finished in 14th position.

Mexican Women's Amateur Championship and International Pairs Tournament, Club de Golf, Vallescondido, Mexico City, 10 to 14 January 2010.

Team: Kim Williams and Iliska Verwey. Despite their luggage only arriving in time for round two and having to leave the course for a narcotics bust, Kim Williams played well in Mexico to be runner-up to Marijosse Miguez.

Iliska Verwey, shot a final round 82 (81,84,91,82) 338 and finished a disappointing 24th.

Final scores :

1 Marijosse Navarro Miguez , 70 74 74 80, 29
2 Kim Williams, 74 73 73 79, 299
3 Ana Alicia Malagon, 76 77 74 73, 300

Annika Invitational, Reunion Resort, Independence Course, Florida, 12 to 15 February 2010.

Team: Connie Chen and Bertine Strauss. Manager Erica Lefson.

Despite freezing temperatures at the Annika Invitational in Orlando, Annika Sorenstam once again encouraged, inspired and motivated the 72 players to give of their best.

Two-time Rolex Junior Player of the Year, Victoria Tanco notched a fourth Invitational title to her name with a win and finished the tournament at 5-under-par 211.

Connie Chen finished tied 13th on 225 (76, 72, 77) and Bertine Strauss was in 18th place on 227 (75, 74, 78).

Compleat Golfer of the Year Awards, The Johannesburg Country Club, Woodmead, 18 February 2010.

WGSA nominated Kim Williams who received The Compleat Golfer South African Woman Golfer of the Year Award.

Kim, competing against her peers in South African Provincial stroke play tournaments, won five of them, namely North West, KwaZulu-Natal, Gauteng Nomads, Southern Cape and Boland championships. She was runner-up in the Free State and Limpopo Championships, as well as the SA Amateur stroke play championship. She also won the KwaZulu Natal and Boland match play Championships and finished the year as the top-ranked woman in the country.

She represented South Africa at The Spirit in Texas, USA in October, and also recently at the Mexican Women's Amateur Championship and Pairs where she was runner-up in the individual event.

She proved to be an excellent captain of the Gauteng North Daisies in the two Inter-Provincials which were won by her team in East London and Paarl, and gave back to golf administration when she chaperoned the young Gauteng North juniors to the Nomads SA Girls' Championship played in Orkney in June.

She proved to be a good ambassador for South Africa.

SAGDB

Cynthia attended a number of SAGDB Board Meetings in Johannesburg. They have struggled in the past year to implement their proposed seven-year operational and coaching strategy because of funding constraints. This resulted in numerous cutbacks including transport, number of coaching sessions offered, meals and beverages etc. It was agreed that the development levy raised via women golfers in South Africa in 2010 would be administered by WGSA via our Girls Love Golf programme and WGSA is committed to working with the SAGDB within the framework of our GLG programme. To this end, Erica and Cynthia met with Ken Viljoen, Managing Executive of the SAGDB, so that an understanding could be reached and our provincial Unions have been encouraged to work with the SAGDB coaches and regional managers in their areas.

After attending a Sport & Recreation SA funding workshop, Cynthia put forward the names of two SAGDB girls for consideration to obtain SRSA scholarships for the High Performance Centre attached to the University of Pretoria. The girls were successful, and have been attending the TuksSport High School since mid January this year. We will be watching their progress with keen interest and are pleased that these two girls are finally able to compete against their peers, as this was impossible before because of the remote area where they live. The residential scholarship is offered for a term of four years, on condition that athletes meet the necessary SRSA requirements when both their sporting and academic performance is assessed at the end of the year.

WGSA will continue to work with SRSA and ensure that we utilize any opportunities that are offered by them for the benefit of our players.

SAGA and Junior Sub-Committee Meetings and the SAJGF and EE&FF

Erica was invited to attend all SAGA executive meetings. She attended three full executive meeting and three executive committee meetings. It is the intention to one day affiliate with the SAGA and have one golfing body as per the requirements of SASCOC. WGSA has a good working relationship with the SAGA and amalgamation will take its course when the time is right – until then we will continue our open policy when it comes to golfing matters. WGSA would like to thank Bruce Younge and the SAGA office for all their support and advice – this along with a good relationship with the SAGA president Enver Hassen.

2009 will be remembered as the year of significant changes for amateur golf – with the cancelling of the NGN contract (to supply the official WGSA Affiliation Cards), SAGA Handicap Server tender process and then setting up the SAGA Handicap Server (which includes the contract buyout of NGN) and all the necessary meetings between parties involved that took place has certainly made this year a milestone one for us all. All contracts, between SAGA, NGN, Albatros (who will trade as Brodsky in SA) and joint venture partner (Super-Brands (Pty) Ltd) are now in place and SAGA with WGSA can look forward to our SAGA Handicap Server offering the latest in technology and a dynamic handicap website. The objective of the SAGA/WGSA owning and consequently playing a more meaningful role in delivery of handicap services to golf clubs has been achieved.

Confirmed at the SAGA meetings is that from the end of this year the SAJGF will fall under the SAGA and at the meetings it is clear that provinces must take responsibility for both its junior and development programmes. Provinces feel that monies raised in their province should for the majority be put back into their province and at this level there will be more accountability. It is important for WGSA provincial presidents to work closely with their men's unions to grow the game at junior level. Provinces are collecting Rand a Round – a share of which belongs to women's golf – hence the necessity of meetings with the men's unions.

The EE&FF has now entered its third phase and has modified its involvement and responsibility to the youngsters it supports. From 2010 members stay at home but are still supported by the EE&FF in various categories. We believe this to be a good move for the girls – it also allows them to have more members annually. Currently we have eight girls in the programme.

GIRLS LOVE GOLF Programme

This programme is a partnership between WGSA and all golf programmes throughout South Africa, from club level

up and including the SAJGF and the SAGDB. With all interested parties working towards the common goal of securing a future for the game, we know that women's golf will be strong in coming years. Girls aged 18 and under are achieving success at the highest level internationally and in South Africa. The champions keep the profile of women's golf in the lime-light and make it easier when it comes to sponsors wanting to securing sponsorship.

At this stage all provinces have organised successful GLG days. The circumstances differ in each union which has its own development programme to suit its own circumstances. Each province needs to provide every opportunity to our young girls to play in a competitive environment so as to progress and learn lessons inherent in the game – respect, perseverance and honesty. GLG provides a healthy environment for all girls to play golf, have social interaction with their peers and build up self-confidence. These skills will not only help with their golf, but also with the challenges they face in life.

At the moment there are 309 players on the GLG National register which can be found on www.girlslovegolf.co.za. Below is a summary of the numbered players in each province.

PROVINCE	END 2008	BEGINNING 2010
Boland	15	36
Border	9	19
Eastern Cape	6	18
Free State & NC	1	13
Gauteng	36	76
Gauteng North	11	21
Kwazulu Natal	10	26
Limpopo	7	17
Mpumalanga	4	18
North West	6	11
Southern Cape	11	16
Western Province	23	38
TOTAL	139	309

WGSA Administration & Finance

There were many changes on the Executive during the year. At the SA Amateur, we bade farewell to Ros de Klerk from Western Province, Ann Bainbridge (Gauteng) and Jenny Brewis (Gauteng North) and welcomed Marina Stoop (Limpopo), Charmaine Fagyas (Boland), Mylene Pieterse (Eastern Cape), Vaughn Harrington (KZN) and Evie Stott (Border). Charmaine is serving her second term as Boland President and a great deal of experience was gained when Past WGSA President Vaughn Harrington returned as KZN President.

At the 72 Hole Championship we welcomed Heather Stewart (WP), Les Rule and Esmé Behrens (Gauteng North). And at IPT, we said farewell to Petro van Vuuren after her second stint as President of North West.

The executive committee has worked tirelessly throughout the year administering the amateur game in the unions.

WGSA's finances remain very healthy as is clear from the audited annual financial statements. Vice President Cynthia Rayner worked tirelessly checking membership in the provinces, ensuring that Women's Golf receives all the affiliation fees due.

We have increased our programme of sponsoring talented players and giving as many as possible, the opportunity to play both internationally and at home. We have supported the numerous Provincial Championships throughout the country by sending top players to participate.

Professional Players

We enthusiastically follow the progress of our players as they grace the professional circuit overseas. Ashleigh Simon, Stacy Bregman, Lee-Ann Pace, Morgana Robbertze, Laurette Matitz and Tandi Cunningham all play regularly on the LET.

Paddy Goodwin
Secretary
24 March 2010.