

EXECUTIVE REPORT FOR THE YEAR APRIL 2021 TO APRIL 2022

This report covers the activities and achievements of Womens Golf South Africa for the above-mentioned period.

INTRODUCTION

For the remainder of 2021 the National and Provincial Championships continued to be played safely and successfully under the GolfRSA Risk Mitigation Protocols. These protocols went through a number of revisions in relation to amendments to the SA Government Regulations and Directions and the incredible work of the many role players both in GolfRSA, Unions and partner organisations needs to be acknowledged for adapting to changing circumstances in the management of the pandemic and ensuring that Golf was safe to play. The one noticeable impact was that some National, Provincial Fixtures and National Squad camps had to be re-scheduled to later in the year. We wish to thank the host venues who went out of their way to still stage these events.

The two team events, namely 72 Hole Teams Championship and the SA Women's Inter-Provincial Championship, together with the Nomads SA Girls Championship and National Squad camps were able to be staged with risk mitigation protocols of non-shared accommodation. The central goal being to ensure that we could provide competitive playing opportunities at National and Provincial level.

Unfortunately international competition participation remained virtually inaccessible for our South African based players until 2022. This has meant that many of our elite players have sadly missed out on the opportunity to represent their country and earn their Junior Protea or Protea colours.

The Unions were assisted with a contribution from GolfRSA towards their accommodation costs for the 2021 SA Women's Inter-Provincial Championship. This financial contribution was funded from the GolfRSA international tournament budgets that were unspent due to these events being cancelled.

Over the period of this report we have seen significant growth in tournament participation in women's golf, together with participation from a large number of younger players. This is an exciting new chapter in girls and women's going forward and bodes well for the future.

NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

WGSA wishes to acknowledge the host venues of the following championships for hosting these events:

72-Hole Teams Championship, Kingswood Golf Estate, 24 - 26 May 2021

The 2021, 72-Hole Teams Championship was hosted by the beautiful Kingswood Golf Estate in George. Our appreciation to Kingswood Golf Estate Homeowners Association, Club Management and Southern Cape Golf Union for staging a successful championship.

Kaylah Williams, Isabella van Rooyen and Bobbi Brown ended an 18-year winning drought for Western Province in winning the Swiss Trophy. While Border's Demi Flanagan, Kesha Louw and Lisakhanya Payiya clinched the promotion battle in the Challenge Trophy.

The Western Province trio produced three of the lowest scores over the four rounds of the stroke play team tournament.

Van Rooyen set the pace with an opening three-under-par 69, Williams produced a five-under 67 in the third round and Brown fired a blistering seven-under 65 on the final day. The team combined for rounds of 142, 146, 137 and 136 to triumph on a winning total of 561.

Border trio Demi Flanagan, Kesha Louw and Lisakhanya Payiya celebrated an 8-shot victory in the Challenge Trophy and earned promotion to the Swiss Trophy in 2022.

Nomads SA Girls' Championship, Magaliespark Country Club, 11 – 12 September 2021

The long-standing sponsor partnership with Nomads SA is highly valued and we appreciate their incredible volunteerism to achieve this sponsorship which through their Furtherance of Golf programme. We were fortunate to again receive sponsorship from Nomads SA in order to stage the championship.

Due to the Gauteng lockdown the championship had to be postponed to September. Magaliespark went out of their way to accommodate the rescheduled date and we extend our gratitude to their management team for ensuring that the championship could be staged safely, albeit with a field limited to only the Championship and Silver (B) divisions. 83 players were able to compete and having missed out on the 2020 event, the players were especially pleased to return to the playing of the championship and at a new venue. Due to the rescheduled date, course/accommodation availability and to keep the players outdoors and on the golf course in terms of our risk mitigation protocols and as this is a World Amateur Golf Ranked (WAGR) event, we obtained agreement from the WAGR to play the event over two days, playing 27 holes a day.

Western Province junior Bobbi Brown celebrated her first national success with an emphatic eight-stroke triumph in the Championship Division.

Brown got off to a fast start and back-to-back birdies at the closing holes for a three-under-par 69 handed her a four-shot lead. Playing 27 holes on the first day of the 54-hole event, she racked up four birdies and finished the day with an 11-shot advantage on the field.

Ekurhuleni's Kiera Floyd wrapped up the Under-16 title with a second successive runner-up finish on six-over. Free State's Gabbi Venter finished third, a further stroke back. In the Silver Division, glory belonged to the local favourite Megan Marais, at just 13 years old.

It was very encouraging to have 37 girls playing in their very first Nomads SA Girls, further 12 girls moved up from the C Division into either the B or even Championship Division since the previous championship in 2019. Lastly, that there were seven girls as young as 11 years old and twenty girls aged 14 or younger in the field. The growth in the younger age groups was a standout not only in this championship but continued the trend at the SA Amateur Championship played in February 2021.

We extend our appreciation to the Chaperones who so ably supervised their players and ensured that the championship was a success. We also wish to convey our appreciation to Wimpie du Plessis (GolfRSA Compliance Officer) who carried out all the Antigen testing of all the players, chaperones and championship staff in order to before going into a tournament 'bubble'.

FINAL RESULT

CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISION RESULT (top 10)

214	Bobbi Brown	69	71	74
222	Kiera Floyd	75	75	72
223	Gabrielle Venter	73	75	75
228	Megan Streicher	75	76	77
231	Kyra van Kan	75	81	75
232	Marine Legentil	74	80	78
233	Samantha Whateley	75	83	75
235	Anika Smit	82	77	76
239	Isabella van Rooyen	83	79	77; Holly Lau 81 86 72

SILVER DIVISION RESULT (top 10)

257	Megan Marais	89	83	85
264	Kim Albertus	87	88	89
266	Ashley Huysamen	91	90	85

271 Phenyo Sebata 86 93 92
272 Kaylee Webster 91 87 94
273 Kiara Dicks 89 93 91
275 Shani Van Rooyen 84 96 95
277 Janike van der Merwe 92 92 93
278 Jaden Visagie 92 97 89
281 Lizerie Raubenheimer 96 89 96; Charlotte Phipps 93 96 92

SA Women's Inter-Provincial Championship, Rondebosch Golf Club, 5 – 8 October 2021

The 60th SA Women's Inter-Provincial Championship was hosted by Rondebosch Golf Club and ended in jubilation for the host Union Western Province, who celebrated a return to the winner's circle with an unbeaten campaign.

In the Seeding Rounds, the 2017 champions won the Jean Tindall trophy with a nine-stroke victory in the A Division. While 72 Hole Teams Challenge Trophy champions, Border matched their success in winning the Nolan Karp Trophy in the B Division Seeding round.

The host union went on to top the IPT A-1 Section, with Gauteng second and defending champions Ekurhuleni third. Gauteng North rounded out the top draw.

Southern Cape went wire to wire to lift the A-2 Section title and with some exciting young new talent showing their potential. In the B1 Division, Eastern Province edged Border and Free State to claim a superb win and earn promotion to the A Division in 2022. Completing the winners list, WP B took the honours in the B-2 Division.

FINAL RESULT

A DIVISION A-1 LOG

(Pos-Union-Played-Won-Drawn-Lost-Points-Matches won)

1 Western Province A (3, 3, 0, 0, 6, 18)
2 Ekurhuleni (3, 2, 0, 1, 4, 16)
3 Gauteng (3, 1, 0, 2, 2, 15.5)
4 Gauteng North (3, 0, 0, 3, 0, 4.5)

A DIVISION A-2 LOG

(Pos-Union-Played-Won-Drawn-Lost-Points-Matches won)

1 Southern Cape (3, 3, 0, 0, 6, 19)
2 Kwa-Zulu Natal (3, 2, 0, 1, 4, 13.5)
3 Boland (3, 1, 0, 2, 2, 12)
4 Mpumalanga A (3, 0, 0, 3, 0, 9.5)

B DIVISION B-1 LOG

(Pos-Union-Played-Won-Drawn-Lost-Points-Matches won)

1 Eastern Province (3, 2, 0, 1, 4, 12)
2 Border (3, 2, 0, 1, 4, 10.5)
3 Free State (3, 2, 0, 1, 4, 10)
4 North West (3, 0, 0, 3, 0, 3.5)

B DIVISION B-2 LOG

(Pos-Union-Played-Won-Drawn-Lost-Points-Matches won)

1 Western Province B (3, 3, 0, 0, 6, 13.5)
2 Mpumalanga B (3, 2, 0, 1, 4, 11.5)
3 Limpopo (3, 0, 1, 2, 1, 6.5)
4 Northern Cape (3, 0, 1, 2, 1, 4.5)

SA WOMEN'S MID-AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP, HIGHLAND GATE GOLF AND TROUT ESTATE, 16 – 18 NOVEMBER 2021

Our sincere appreciation to Highland Gate Golf & Trout Estate for hosting a most memorable championship and destination experience for the players. Elegant Fuel joined as a sponsor partner for Players Dinner and completed the experience with tee box boards on 1st and 10th and give-aways for the players.

This championship continues to grow and was especially pleasing to have 18 past champions in the field and thirty-three ladies playing in their first SA Mid-Amateur Championship.

Vicki Traut celebrated her 3rd consecutive victory as the Championship winner. The Erinvale golfer powered to a three-shot victory with a final round four-over-par 76 to finish the week on 15 over par.

Vryheid Golf Club's Liezl Smit finished second on 18-over after carding 74 and Vanessa Smith from Paarl Golf Club was third after a final round 82. The celebrations didn't end with Traut.

The other big winners of the week were Rose Powell, with a popular home victory in the B-Section, Louise Olivier who claimed the C-Division honours, and fellow Boland golfer Lynne Behagg, who edged three-time champion Sonja Bland and Karin Watts for her first Senior title.

RESULTS:

Championship Division: Handicaps 6.5 and Under

Winner: Vicki Traut (WP) (80,75,76)

B Division: Handicaps 6.6 – 15.3

Winner: Rose Powell () (93,87,84)

C Division (Stableford): Handicaps 15.4 – 24.3

Winner: Louise Olivier () (43,32,33)

The **Senior Trophy** was won by Lynne Behagg

SOUTH AFRICAN AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIPS (SA WOMEN'S AMATEUR STROKE PLAY AND MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIPS): ROYAL JOHANNESBURG AND KENSINGTON GOLF CLUB: 6 – 11 FEBRUARY 2022

In its third year of staging a combined women's and men's SA Amateur Championships, the Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Golf Club proved yet again their ability to host an event of this stature. The Gauteng region had an especially heavy summer rainfall with some 483mm having fallen over a 4-month period leading into the championship. Credit must go to the Course Superintendent and Course team for presenting the East and West courses to championship standard, notwithstanding a deluge in the week prior to the event that also caused some fairways to be under water.

92 players teed up in the 2022 event, by far one of the largest fields in recent years and demonstrating the success of hosting a combined championship. Seventeen players were 14 years or younger, testament to the growth in junior girls golf. Unfortunately due to international travel restrictions, participation by foreign players presented a challenge and was curtailed. Growing foreign entries remains a goal and hopefully travel circumstances will enable participation in 2023.

Kiera Floyd broke through for the biggest win of her young career when she won the South African Women's Stroke Play Championship by five strokes. The 17-year-old Serengeti golfer has long been considered one of the country's brightest talents, with her booming drives and sharp iron play, but has not always converted her obvious talent into results. After carrying a slender two-stroke lead into the final round, Floyd settled the nerves early on with a birdie, eagle, birdie start on the West Course to open a sizeable gap on the chasing pack.

Floyd then stretched her lead with another birdie at the 11th and not even an hour-long weather delay could put her off her stride. A birdie on the last hole capped off a fine performance and a five-shot victory at seven under par.

In the B Division, the continued growth of young talent coming through the ranks was no better evident in Lea van Der Merwe winning the Abe Bailey 54 Hole Stroke Play trophy.

SA Womens Amateur Stroke Play Championship

Champion: Kiera Floyd 209

Runner Up: Bobbi Brown 214

3rd: Samantha Whateley 216 c/i

4th: Gabrielle Venter 216 c/o

B-Division Result

Champion: Lea van der Merwe 245

Runner Up: Kaylee Webster 252

3rd: Lourenda Steyn 259

In the SA Women's Amateur Match Play championship, Marine Legentil from Country Club Johannesburg quietly stuck to her game plan to lift the prestigious SA Amateur title after defeating best friend Kyra van Kan 5 & 3 in their 36-hole final, on the East Course. The diminutive 18-year-old knocked out GolfRSA No 3 Gabbi Venter 7 & 6 in the quarter-finals, and advanced to the finals when she edged the newly-crowned SA Women's Stroke Play champion Kiera Floyd, ranked 2nd in the country.

Marine Legentil was born in France and moved to South Africa about 9 years ago. She will be heading to the USA later in the year to Columbus State University in Georgia.

For the first time in the history of this prestigious championship, the Flight Division title fight came down to a mom and daughter battle, with former SA Women's Mid-Amateur champion Liezl Smit facing her 17-year-old and youngest daughter Anika in the 18-hole decider. It was an exciting final with Liezl Smit winning the title.

SA Women's Amateur Match Play Championship

Champion: Marine Legentil (Gauteng)

Runner Up: Kyra van Kan (Ekurhuleni)

Flight

Winner: Liezl Smit (KZN)

Runner Up: Anika Smit (KZN)

NOMADS SA GIRLS ROSE BOWL CHAMPIONSHIP presented by SUN INTERNATIONAL, THE LOST CITY, 21 – 22 MARCH 2022

GolfRSA's Nomads SA Girls Rose Bowl Championship took on a grand new look this year when it teed off at the iconic Lost City Golf Course as part of an exciting multi-year additional sponsorship deal with Sun International. Nomads SA continue to be invaluable partners in the delivery of not only this championship but also the Nomads SA Girls Championship for our junior girls.

The prestigious new venue represents a new chapter in the development of women's golf in South Africa and builds on the surge in girl's and women's participation in GolfRSA and Union events.

Additionally, by staging the event at the iconic Lost City together with the World Amateur Golf Ranking points on offer it should help encourage international participation in future years.

The partnership with Sun International offered our junior girls in the Championship, Silver (B) and Bronze (C) divisions the opportunity to compete on a top championship course and experience the world renowned Sun City resort. Seven girls from our Development Programme and five girls from the SAGDB were invited by the Nomads, GolfRSA, SAGDB and Sun International with their entry fees, green fees, travel, meals and accommodation sponsored.

Stephanie Barbaglia broke through to claim her first national victory in a tightly-fought contest. Stephanie played superb golf down the closing stretch to claim the win by one shot from fellow National Squad member Samantha Whateley and a tightly bunched chasing pack of National Squad members, Kyra van Kan, Gabrielle Venter and Anika Smit.

Reigning SA Women's Stroke Play B-Division champion Lea Van der Merwe lifted her second national B-Division trophy, while 12-year-old Zoey Rhoda was victorious in the C-Division in her debut in the junior flagship event.

FINAL RESULTS

CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISION (Top 5)

218 – Stephanie Barbaglia 72 73 73
219 – Samantha Whateley 72 73 74
222 – Kyra van Kan 73 73 76
224 – Gabrielle Venter 78 75 71
226 – Anika Smit 75 77 74

SILVER (B) DIVISION (Top 5)

249 – Lea van der Merwe 80 88 81
250 – Anne-Isabel Scheltema 83 84 83
257 – Ame van der Merwe 92 81 84, Lourenda Steyn 88 81 88
262 – Sveva Yates 88 86 88

BRONZE (C) DIVISION (TOP 4) (points)

68 – Zoey Rhoda 31 37
61 – Danielle Chong 29 32
51 Gemma Huxham 28 23
40 Pia Daya 22 18

SA WOMEN'S MID-AMATEUR INTER-PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP (IPT), PARYS GOLF & COUNTRY ESTATE, 30 APRIL – 4 MAY 2022

In another first in women's golf for the year, the SA Women's Mid-Amateur Championship was added to the women's golf season for those 30+. Since the GolfRSA Women's Mid-Amateur Rankings were launched in 2018, there has been increased playing and ranking point opportunities which has resulted in continued growth in these rankings for the Championship and Silver divisions. Therefore, it was only fitting that the inaugural SA Women's Mid-Amateur IPT be launched.

Parys Golf & Country Estate were fabulous hosts, even to the extent of their staff forming a choir to sing the opening song and national anthem at the Opening Ceremony and Flag Raising. We extend our appreciation to the Homeowners Association, Club and staff for their support and assistance to deliver this history making step in women's Mid-Amateur golf.

In the week leading into the Mid-Amateur IPT the Vaal river flooded its banks and flooded certain fairways. Werner (Course Superintendent) and his team of 11 worked tirelessly to ensure that play could continue on the magnificent Parys Golf Course.

Played in two divisions (6 teams per division, 4 players in a team), the 12 participating Union teams were seeded for the inaugural IPT according to the combined handicap of the team.

Southern Cape swept to victory in Division 1 with wins on the final day against Boland and Western Province. While KZN made a spectacular charge to edge Boland on game points to finish second on the Division 1 log.

In Division 2, Ekurhuleni lifted the trophy after topping the log from the opening day. It was the tightest of results with Ekurhuleni, Free State and Limpopo tied after the final singles matches and their win coming through games won.

The spirit and the camaraderie among all the competitors and the fantastic sportsmanship in which the matches were played marked the launch of the Mid-Amateur IPT which will no doubt grow from strength to strength in years to come.

FINAL RESULTS

DIVISION 1

- 1 Southern Cape – 9 points (22.5 games)
- 2 KZN – 7 points (19.5 points)
- 3 Boland – 7 points (16.5 points)
- 4 Gauteng North – 5 points (14 games)
- 5 Western Province – 1 point (10 games)
- 6 North West – 1 point (7.5 games)

DIVISION 2

- 1 Ekurhuleni – 6 points (18.5 games)
- 2 Free State – 6 points (16.5 games)
- 3 Limpopo – 6 points (16 games)
- 4 Border – 5 points (14 games)
- 5 Eastern Province – 4 points (13 games)
- 6 Mpumalanga – 3 points (12 games)

INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Many of the international events were either postponed, cancelled or if played there were challenges for South African participation due to travel restrictions during 2021. The safety of players, managers and tournament organisers/officials and considerations around international travel restrictions were at the forefront of their decisions. International travel was only achievable from November 2021 and even this was at short notice.

All Africa Junior Golf Challenge, Palm Hills Golf Club, Egypt – March 2021: Postponed

All Africa Challenge Trophy – March 2021: Cancelled

Ciputra Golfpreneur Junior World Golf Championship – PIK, Jakarta – May 2021: Cancelled

R & A Women's Amateur – Kilmarnock (Barassie), Scotland, 7 - 12 June 2021: Cancelled

Toyota World Junior Golf Team Championship – Chukyo Golf Club, Ishino Course, Nagoya, Japan, June 2021: Cancelled

R & A Girls' Amateur Championship – Fulford, York, England, 10 – 14 August 2021: Cancelled.

The Spirit – Whispering Pines, Texas, 4 – 6 November 2021

GolfRSA named a powerful team to compete in the 2021 Spirit International Golf Championship which is played biennially at Whispering Pines in Texas. GolfRSA National Squad members, Christo Lamprecht, Kieron van Wyk, Caitlyn Macnab and Kaylah Williams were tasked with improving on South Africa's combined ninth-place finish in the 2019 event.

Given the challenges in travel and quarantine requirements due to COVID-19, the selectors focused on players that were based in the USA to represent South Africa. With so much uncertainty around travel and the COVID-19 pandemic, the selectors thought it prudent to select players who are attending college in the USA. Fortunately, South Africa has a wealth of talent in the USA and therefore it was a strong team that could perform really well.

The 2021 Spirit International Golf Championship drew 80 of the world's top ranked amateurs from 20 countries.

Unlike the Betterball stroke play (best score to count) format in previous editions, in 2021 three of the four stroke play scores counted in each round in the Overall Country Team Competition, and all scores counted in the Men's and Women's Team Competitions.

Christo Lamprecht and Kieron van Wyk beat 19 countries for the lowest round on the final day boosting Team South Africa to an eighth-place finish in Texas, improving on their 9th place finish in 2019.

Williams and Macnab who both came off a strenuous rookie season in the USA, carded rounds of 147, 156 and 161 to tie for 15th with Finland in the Women's Team Competition. Team SA was captained by WGS President, Sarah Braude.

The United States, led by World No 1 Rose Zhang and No 2 Rachel Heck, posted a runaway three-day total of 28-under-par 620 to win by 21 shots from Canada. Zhang and Heck also won the Women's Competition, while Zhang lifted gold in the Women's Individual Competition and her team-mate Sam Bennett won the Men's Individual Competition.

Our appreciation goes to Founder Corby Robertson and The Spirit Golf Association, for their hospitality, welcoming Team SA and presenting a world class event for the players.

FINAL RESULTS

TEAM COMPETITION

- 1 United States -28
- 2 Canada -7
- 3 Sweden -2
- 4 France -2
- 5 England E
- 6 Switzerland +3
- 7 Argentina +6
- 8 South Africa +9

WOMEN'S TEAM RESULTS

T15 South Africa

MEN'S TEAM RESULTS

5 South Africa

ANNIKA INVITATIONAL USA, EAGLE CREEK GOLF CLUB, ORLANDO FLORIDA, 15 – 18 JANUARY 2022

The Annika Invitational is the favourite event for US University Coaches to scout for potential candidates for scholarships. Annika herself carries out several coaching sessions and attends each day's play following the players on the course thus adding to the pressure of the event. GolfRSA took up the invitation from the American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) who coordinate the international entries on behalf of the Annika Foundation. Unfortunately travel to the USA was again curtailed and the AJGA could only guarantee one invitation while waiting for travel restrictions to lift.

Samantha Whateley was selected to represent SA in the prestigious Hilton Grand Vacations ANNIKA Invitational presented by Rolex Invitational in Orlando, Florida. Samantha played exceptional golf in the opening two rounds, level par 73 and a 1-under 72 and went on to finish T35 in this world class field of 71 players.

ALL AFRICA JUNIOR GOLF CHALLENGE, PALM HILLS GOLF CLUB, EGYPT, 26 MARCH – 2 APRIL 2022

The All Africa Junior Golf Challenge was hosted by the Egyptian Golf Federation at the beautiful Palm Hills Golf Club, in Cairo, Egypt and is the continental qualifier event for both the girls and boys teams for the Toyota Junior World Cup in Japan.

Bobbi Brown fired rounds of 67 and 68 over the first two days to anchor the team and they held a 14-stroke lead at the halfway stage of the tournament. Morocco rallied in round three to reduce the gap to nine strokes, but a solid performance from Samantha Whateley and Kyra van Kan on the final day secured a 10-stroke victory for the team over the Moroccans. 2 out of 3 scores counted over the four rounds.

Brown took the individual honours in the Girls Championship, after closing with rounds of 74 and 73 to finish at six under par, four ahead of Morocco's Sofia Essakali. Samantha Whateley and Kyra van Kan tied for third on two over.

The course demanded good decision making off the tee and ball positioning was crucial for the approach shots into the greens. The greens were fairly large with slopes and plateaus, however the target areas were very small. Kyra really excelled on these greens, holing two slippery downhill putts in the first round for eagles.

The team did exceptionally well to adapt to the desert conditions and both the SA Girls Team and Boys Team won the team championships. Pascal Gunther won the Individual Boys Championship, to bag the further trophy on offer.

FINAL RESULTS

GIRLS TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

1 South Africa (567)

2 Morocco (577)

3 Zimbabwe (619)

4 Egypt (682)

5 Kenya (687)

Zambia, Uganda, Tunisia and Botswana completed the leaderboard

GIRLS INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP

1 Bobbi Brown (282 – 67 68 74 73)

2 Sofia Cherif Essakali (Morocco) (286 – 74 71 71 70)

3 Samantha Whateley (290 c/l – 76 72 72 70), Kyra van Kan (290 c/o – 75 69 74 72)

5 Rim Imni (291 – 79 69 72 71)

GOVERNMENT : SASCOC

SASCOC is the governing body for all sport in South Africa. Colours for the The Spirit and the All Africa Junior Golf Challenge Trophy will be awarded in 2022 for these team events at our upcoming AGM at the 72 Hole Teams Championship at Mbombela Golf Club, Mpumalanga.

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Development Programme has as its foundation the Union based grassroots coaching nodes across the country. Unfortunately as a result of the national lockdown a number of the school based coaching points or more remote points were unable to provide coaching. However, coaching resumed at most coaching points during 2021 and it is very encouraging to see the establishment of four coaching points in Limpopo province.

All female golfers pay a GolfRSA Affiliation Levy of which R37.80 goes towards the Development Programme and together with other initiatives within the development of girls and womens golf there has been positive growth in younger players coming through the ranks. Many Unions have also partnered with the South African Golf Development Board (SAGDB) to deliver the programme in their Unions and together with other stakeholders we look forward to continue growth in our Development Programme.

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

A new approach has been taken to our National Squad structure by forming one Squad in 2022 with members of the National Squad grouped into an A (Elite), B and C group. Trackman coaching was expanded and introduced for

the C Group which together with the Trackman coaching provided in the Elite & B groups is of significant benefit for these players.

Further a review of the coaching programme was undertaken with a roadmap being prepared for the National Squad going forward, covering all aspects of their development (eg. mental performance conditioning, technical assessment, biokinetics and fitness conditioning).

We wish to acknowledge the National Squad coaching team of Val Holland, Anna Becker-Frankel, Costanza Trussoni, Grant Flaum, Shaun Landsburg, Sandra Winter and Bianca Bloemhof for their collective efforts and drive to equip the National Squad with the best tools available for them to perform and achieve on the global stage.

In addition, plans to rollout the establishment of a feeder Squad for the National Squad and identify talent through the establishment of the Qalisa Squad were set in motion. The intention is to have a country-wide footprint where the National Squad coaches together with local coaches will work with identified players to accelerate and equip them with the toolbox to realise their full potential and possibly receive invitations to join the GolfRSA Women's National Squad.

GolfRSA WOMEN'S NATIONAL SQUAD 2022:

The GolfRSA National Squad for 2022, saw ten new inductees demonstrating the growth in younger players who have earned their position in the National Squad.

GolfRSA Women's National Squad 2022

(*2022 inductees)

Alessia Goussard *

Anika Smit

Bobbi Brown

Caitlyn Macnab (Texas Christian University)

Chloe Malgas- Kelpin

Ellandri van Heerden

Gabrielle Venter *

Gia Raad *

Isabella van Rooyen

Jasmine Furstenburg *

Jordan Pillay *

Kaitlyn van de Vyver *

Kaiyuree Moodley (University of North Carolina – Charlotte)

Kajal Mistry (University of Arkansas)

Kaleigh Telfer (Auburn University)

Kaylah Williams (Florida State University)

Kera Healey (University of Tennessee - Chattanooga 2022 intake)

Kesha Louw

Kiera Floyd

Kyra van Kan

Lisa Coetzer *

Lucia Mhlabane

Megan Marais *

Megan Strelcher (University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill 2022 intake)

Phenyo Sebata *

Samantha Whateley

Stephanie Barbaglia

Symone Henriques (Virginia Tech University)

Tebogo Lefifi

Zane Kleynhans *

Zara le Keur

All players selected for the National Squad receive financial assistance to attend Provincial Championships. Squad camps are held during the year and have been held at Serengeti Golf Estate which has not only superb practice facilities but also offers a Par 3 and short game course which are ideal for working on short game performance.

The 2021 National Squad (Elite & B) also had a camp at the National Junior Development Centre at Leopard Creek. The practice facilities and golf course are world class and this was a very special opportunity for the players. Our sincere appreciation to those who assisted in making this camp happen.

GOLFRSA BOARD

GolfRSA Board AGM was held on 9 June 2021 and a Board meeting on 17 November 2022.

ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE & MEDIA

Changes in Union Presidents:

North West: Martinique Sparks took over from Anita Lamprecht in November 2021

Boland: Maria Kirton took over from Lizanne Heydenrych in January 2022

Southern Cape: Rita Herholdt took over from Sheila Fraser as SC Representative in March 2022

WGSA Secretary, Verucia Bell continues to work from home, ably managing the women's golf administration. We extend our sincere appreciation to Verucia for her dedication, commitment and contribution to WGSA and GolfRSA. this change in work environment.

Ingrid Davis performs our bookkeeping tasks and together with Caitlin Boekee and Clinton Logie their assistance and support is greatly appreciated. Laetitia Higgs (Tournament Administrator) carries out all the tournament administration and ATMS functions at all our National Championships and Thelma Dippenaar (Tournament Administrator) attends to the staging and operational requirements at our National Championships. Laetitia and Thelma always go the extra mile and WGSA and GolfRSA extend their appreciation to both Laetitia and Thelma for their dedication and thoroughness in delivering our national championships.

The GolfRSA website, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter continue to be the go-to places for all information on amateur golf in South Africa and we thank Lali Stander and Brendan Barrett for their incredible effort in ensuring the GolfRSA platforms remain very active.

SOUTH AFRICAN GOLF ASSOCIATION (SAGA)

Together with Womens Golf South Africa, the SAGA is a shareholder of GolfRSA.

Martin Saaiman was appointed as President of the SAGA following their Annual General Meeting held at the Protea Hotel in Stellenbosch on Sunday, 18 April 2021. Henk Smith from Western Province was elected as Vice President together with Junior Vice President Deon Nel from Eastern Province as the SAGA office bearers for the next 24 months.

Unexpectedly, Martin Saaiman, sadly passed away last year. Martin was an enormous servant of the game, including 12 years as President of Ekurhuleni and he impacted many lives in his golf journey over some 30 years.

Henk Smith took on the Acting SAGA President position, with Deon Nel as Acting Vice President.

At the SAGA AGM on 23 April, Henk Smith was elected as President, Deon Nel as Vice President and Peet van Schalkwyk as 2nd Vice President. We wish them a successful term and look forward to a continued productive working relationship.

SPONSORSHIP

We extend our appreciation to our tournament sponsor partners Nomads SA (Furtherance of Golf) and Sun International (Nomads SA Girls Rose Bowl Championship and Nomads SA Girls Championship) and Elegant Fuel (SA

Women's Mid-Amateur Championship) for their incredible support of women's amateur golf thus enabling playing opportunities to be provided at the highest standard for the girls and women golfers.

This year we secured a multi-year sponsorship from Sun International for our two Nomads junior championships which sees them being played at the world class Sun City resort. We are also very pleased to have Elegant Fuel renew their sponsorship for our SA Women's Mid-Amateur Championship in 2022.

In addition, our sincere appreciation to the sponsors at host venues who contribute water, snacks and other items to complete the players experience at national championships.

PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS & THE WPGA

The following players turned professional: Larissa du Preez (2021) and Isabella van Rooyen (2022). Following a successful amateur career we wish them every success in the professional ranks.

SUNSHINE LADIES TOUR (SLT)

Our amateurs are very privileged to be able to play in the SLT events and gain insight into the world of the Professional player.

SA Women's Amateur champion Caitlyn Macnab made South African golfing history when she powered to an eight-stroke victory in the Sunshine Ladies Tour's Jabra Ladies Classic at Glendower Golf Club in April 2021.

In a scintillating final round, the 19-year-old GolfRSA No 1 sealed the victory in breath-taking fashion, firing five birdies on the back nine for a closing five-under-par 67.

In doing so, Caitlyn Macnab became the first amateur winner on the South African women's professional golf circuit since Ashleigh Buhai (née Simon) lifted her second South African Women's Open title in 2007. Caitlyn also went on to win the leading amateur trophy at the Investec SA Women's Open at Westlake in May 2021.

Caitlyn Macnab went on to compete in the Jabra Ladies Open in France in June 2021. In a field loaded with the top talents vying for the coveted spot into the 2021 Amundi Evian Championship 2021, Caitlyn Macnab impressed with rounds of 71, 70 and 76 at the Evian Resort Golf Club and sealed the leading amateur honours for a second time in as many months.

After turning professional in 2021, Nadia van der Westhuizen secured her first win on the Sunshine Ladies Tour lifting the SunBet Cape Town Ladies Open at Royal Cape Golf Club in February 2022. Isabella van Rooyen finished T15 and won the leading amateur.

At the SuperSport Ladies Challenge (16 – 18 February 2022) played at the Gary Player Golf Course, Isabella van Rooyen won leading amateur and finished T14.

Marine Legentile carried her momentum from winning the SA Women's Amateur Championship to finish T22 alongside Kyra van Kan and Kiera Floyd and win the leading amateur at the Jabra Ladies Classic (23 – 25 February 2022) played at Glendower Golf Club.

Isabella van Rooyen and Kiera Floyd received the two leading amateur invitations to play in the Investec SA Women's Open. Kiera Floyd played superb golf to finish T26 overall and win the leading amateur. Megan Streicher and Gabrielle Venter also made the cut and went on to finish T34 and T61 respectively in the co-sanctioned Ladies European Tour event.

ERNIE ELS AND FANCOURT FOUNDATION

There are four members of the Ernie Els & Fancourt Foundation for 2022:

- Cara Ford (Gauteng)
- Demi Flanagan (Border)

- Cilewe Biyela (KZN)
- Nomkhosi Mthiyane (KZN)

R & A BURSARY: PGA PATHWAY PROGRAMME

GolfRSA/Womens Golf South Africa, the Professional Golfers Association of South Africa (PGA) and the Womens Professional Golf Association South Africa (WPGA) submitted a proposal to the R&A for the development of Women PGA Professionals to assist with the growth of women's participation across golf clubs and events in South Africa, as well as create opportunities for women to enter into sustainable careers within the golf industry.

As part of its intention to support the Women in Golf Charter, of which GolfRSA is a signatory, the R&A granted a bursary for three suitable candidates to study and complete the PGA of South Africa's Pathway to Membership. Professional Yolanda Duma and amateurs Nomkhosi Mthiyane and Celiwe Biyela (both from KZN) were the three successful applicants and started the programme in 2021.

GENERAL

The Executive wishes to thank all players, sponsors, clubs and Union Executive and Staff for their support in navigating a fluid year to continue to fulfil our mandate.

Thank you to the management and members of golf clubs that have allowed us the use of their facilities during this past year and have always gone out of their way to ensure the successful running of all our tournaments.

While it has required innovative thinking and the introduction of new approaches in how we deliver on our mandate, as we look back it has presented new opportunities to continue to grow girl's and women's participation and their development in the sport. In addition, it has resulted in a significantly greater integrated effort between all parties. The tireless and collaborative effort of our partners and stakeholders and within GolfRSA has been momentous and we salute everyone involved.

22 May 2022