

EXECUTIVE REPORT FOR THE YEAR
APRIL 2015 TO MARCH 2016

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

NOMADS ROSE BOWL 54 HOLE GIRLS CHAMPIONSHIP, PAARL GOLF CLUB, 30 – 31 MARCH 2015

This was the 6th Rose Bowl Championship run by WGSA and 4th sponsored by Nomads; the event was hosted by Paarl Golf Club. The course was in good condition with the weather being blisteringly hot. Our top 74 junior girls, 35 of them in the championship division, enjoyed the challenges the course had to offer with a close finish.

The winner was Chiara Contomathios (GAU) (74, 73, 74 – 221), finishing one stroke ahead of Ivanna Samu (GAU) (222).

The 10 to 18 handicap division was won by Elsune Roode (KZN) on 244 (79, 80, 85) with Kaylah Williams (WP) as runner up on 251. The Stableford Bronze division (19 – 25 handicaps) was won by Andrea van Dyk (BOL) on 80 points. The D division was won by Nikita Bossr (WP) on 66 points.

3 Hole live scoring was provided for the duration of the tournament for all divisions in both stroke play and Stableford format.

SANLAM SA WOMEN'S AMATEUR STROKE PLAY CHAMPIONSHIPS, GLENDOWER GOLF CLUB, 19 - 21 APRIL 2015

The beautiful and challenging Glendower Golf Course was the venue for this 54 hole stroke play event comprising a total of 116 players, including entries from Uganda, Namibia, Zimbabwe & Switzerland. The second morning began with very heavy mist that according to locals has never been seen before in Ekurhuleni, but luckily this did not delay the start of play.

89 "A" division players and 27 "B" division players participated.

Ivanna Samu (GAU) won the tournament on 220, with Cara Gorlei (WP) in 2nd place three shots behind on 223, and Carrie Park (GN) in 3rd place on 226.

13 year old Kaylah Williams (WP) won the B division title on 254.

A stipend of R2500 was paid to any foreign player who finished in the top 55 in the previous year. All entry fees for foreign players with single figure handicaps are refunded.

72-HOLE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP, EAST LONDON GOLF CLUB, 23 - 26 MAY 2015

This event was successfully hosted at East London Golf Club and the course was in great condition. Accommodation was sourced nearby for all the participating teams.

RESULTS

A Division - Swiss Team Trophy

Winners: Gauteng A (Ivanna Samu, Kaleigh Telfer, Woo-Ju Son) 573

Runner up: Gauteng B (Eleonora Galletti, Natasha Carlsson, Shawnelle de Lange) 582

Sanette Marais Bronze Division Team Prize:

Gauteng (Palesa Rafutho & Tebogo Lefifi) 149

SANLAM SA AMATEUR MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP, KLOOF COUNTRY CLUB, 12 – 15 JULY 2015

The Tournament Conditions were changed in 2013 to limit the entries to 64 in order to guarantee players at least 4 rounds of tournament play. 52 Players entered, down from a full field the previous year. The final was an exciting one with Carrie Park winning on the 23rd hole. This Championship is held at this time of the year in order for our players that are at colleges in the USA to be afforded the chance of entering while at home on holiday and this year we were glad to see quite a few of these players. Thanks to Sanlam for supporting WGSA in our endeavour to grow this championship.

RESULTS:

36 Hole Seeding Round

Winner: Cara Gorlei (WP) 142 (72, 70)

2nd: Brittney Fay-Berger (KZN) 144 (68, 76)

3rd: Natasha Carlsson (GAU) 146 (74, 72)

MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP:

Champion: Carrie Park (GN)

Runner up: Ivanna Samu (GAU)

Semi-finalists 3rd: Mae Cornforth (NW)

Semi-finalists 4th: Brittney-Fay Berger (KZN)

PLATE:

Winner: Michelle Swanepoel (NW)

Runner up: Cara Ford (GAU)

Semi-finalists 3rd: Jessica Shurety (KZN)

Semi-finalists 4th: Pippa Payne (KZN)

INTER-PROVINCIAL TOURNAMENT, CENTURION COUNTRY CLUB, 28 SEPTEMBER – 2 OCTOBER 2015

The flag raising ceremony signalled the start of the 55th South African Women's Inter-Provincial Championship and the first time in 17 years that this tournament was held without sponsorship. The teams were led in by a Scottish piper on a warm Pretoria evening. The National Anthem was sung by Louri Rootman from Cornwall Hill College.

WGSA President, Karen Olivant welcomed the dignitaries, players and spectators. A special welcome was extended to SASCOC's Patience Shikwambana. The Men's Captain of Centurion Country Club, Jacques Wickens handed over the course on behalf of Centurion Country Club, and the tournament was declared officially open.

Stroke Play Qualifier Round:

Best Individual Gross: Danielle du Toit 71 (for the second year in succession when in 2014 she scored 72)

Runner up Individual Gross: Caitlyn Macnab 71

Tied 3rd: Ivanna Samu, Chante van Zyl & Larissa du Preez 72

Results of the Foursomes & Singles Stroke Play Qualifying Rounds:

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

Winners: Gauteng A (518)

(Natasha Carlsson, Eleonora Galletti, Kajal Mistry, Ivanna Samu, Woo-Ju Son, Kaleigh Telfer)

Runners Up: Gauteng B (531)

(Jacqui Akers, Lauren Bekker, Chiara Contomathios, Shawnelle de Lange, Symone Henriques, Kaiyuree Moodley)

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

Winners: Free State (Zanele Mazibuko, Matseleng Mokoena, Chante van Zyl, Bianca Wernich) (399)

Runners Up: North West (Frankie Bosman, Lindy Coetze, Jhanelle Strydom, Michelle Swanepoel) (400)

Results of the Inter Provincial Match Play:

Winners A Division Section 1: Gauteng A

(Natasha Carlsson, Eleonora Galletti, Kajal Mistry, Ivanna Samu, Woo-Ju Son, Kaleigh Telfer)

Winners A Division Section 2: Boland

(Lynne Behagg, Crystal Beukes, Maggie Minnie, Leanke Vlok, Cassidy Williams, Vicki Traut)

Winners B Division Section 1: Border

(Siviwe Duma, Yolanda Duma, Demi Flanagan, Zethu Myeki)

Winners B Division Section 2: Southern Cape

(Sonja Bland, Marguerite Pienaar, Anzelle Zeelie, Desiree Geldenhuys)

The winners of the B Inter Provincial are given the option of taking promotion to the A Inter Provincial in 2016.

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

SANLAM CANCER CHALLENGE FINAL – GARY PLAYER COUNTRY CLUB, SUN CITY 19 - 20 OCTOBER 2015

A record R3.5-million was raised this year for the Cancer Association of South Africa (CANSA) by the Sanlam Cancer Challenge (SCC), Southern Africa's largest charity golf series. Over 35 000 golfers took part from 780 clubs throughout South Africa, Namibia and Kenya with the final being down to just over 100 golfers who qualified for the 36-hole National Finals. Once again these players were treated to the very special hospitality of Sanlam and Sun City.

This was the 23rd anniversary of a series that annually raises money for the Cancer Association of South African.

FINAL RESULTS – A-DIVISION

74 Wilna Bredenhann 39 35 (Namibia)

68 Gwen Ortlepp 33 35

FINAL RESULTS – B-DIVISION

63 Cheng Primes 36 27

FINAL RESULTS – C-DIVISION

64 Marett Nieuwoudt 34 30

SA MID-AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP, ST FRANCIS LINKS 2 – 4 NOVEMBER 2015

76 Players entered this year's Mid- Amateur. The entry was up from last year's figure but numbers remain a concern as WGSA would really like to see this Tournament grow in stature amongst the 35 and over age group as this is the group of players that are the backbone of Womens Golf. After two years of Unions from the North hosting this event, it moved to Eastern Province in 2015. This flagship event had to be reduced to 36 holes after torrential rain caused the first round to be cancelled.

RESULTS:

Championship Division

Winner: Vanessa Smith (WP) 159 (79 80) She was successful in defending her 2014 title.

Runner-up: Sandra Winter (SC) 167 (84 83)

B Division

Winner: Erica Millican (SC) 179 (87, 92) (Play-off)

Runner up: Carina Theron (FS) 179 (87 92)

C Division (Stableford)

Winner: Rita Herholdt (SC) 62 (36 26)

Runner up: Louise Pitout (EP) 59 (26 33)

The **Senior Trophy** was won by Carina Theron (FS) on 157.

INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

REGIONAL ALL AFRICA CHALLENGE TROPHY & NAMIBIAN OPEN – OMEYA GOLF CLUB, NAMIBIA 25 – 30 APRIL 2015

The Namibian Open was held from 25 – 26 April and the RAACT from 27 – 30 April 2015. This biennial African golf championship falls under the auspices of the Trustees of the AACT, with a Regional AACT being played in the year between. The event rotates among four geographic zones of Africa. Tunisia won the bid to host the AACT in 2016.

PLAYERS: Demi Flanagan (Border), Cara Gorlei (Western Province) and Shawnelle de Lange (Gauteng) were the three who were selected for the South African team. These players earned Federation colours.

SUPPORT TEAM: Manager – Karen Olivant (WGSA President).

Individual Performances for the Namibian Open (total number of players 47)

Demi Flanagan was the winner on a score of 140 (69 71) Level Par

Cara Gorlei: Runner Up on 143 (73 70) +3

Shawnelle de Lange: 7th on 153 (78 75) +10

South Africa won the RAACT on a score of 439. They were followed by Zimbabwe on 469 with Namibia third on 483. Although South Africa has won this Tournament eleven times it was very encouraging for womens golf in Africa to see that the winning margin is decreasing.

JAKARTA WORLD JUNIOR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP – DAMAI INDAH GOLF CLUB, PIK COURSE, JAKARTA 2 – 5 JUNE 2015

Celebrating its 21st Anniversary, this annual event was once again held at Damai Indah Golf Club, designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr. A total of 120 players both boys and girls from 20 countries participated. The invitation to participate in this tournament is for 2 girls and 2 boys and is age specific. The SAGDB were given the opportunity of selecting two boys.

Chiara Contomathios and Woo-Ju Son represented WGSA and Steven le Roux and Franklin Manchest represented the SAGDB. They were accompanied by WGSA Vice President Sally Greasley.

Individual Performances:

Steven Le Roux: 74 76 77 79 (306) – 8th position

Franklin Manchest: 77 76 77 82 (312) – 10th position

Chiara Contomathios: 79 80 78 (237) - joint 7th

Woo-Ju Son: 79 77 77 (233) – 1st Runner Up

TOYOTA JUNIOR GOLF WORLD CUP – CHUKYO GOLF COURSE, NAGOYA JAPAN 14 - 19 JUNE 2015

WGSA were invited to play in this very prestigious tournament as it was the first year that girls were included. The SAGA have qualified to play in it for a number of years and our thanks go to Gerhard Conradie for ensuring that our 3 girls were given the opportunity of competing at the Chukyo Golf Course in Nagoya although it was all very

last minute. The format is very like the Espirito Santo Trophy in that it is 72 holes stroke play with 2 scores counting each day. The team of Ivanna Samu, Kaleigh Telfer and Natasha Carlsson earned Junior Protea Colours and joined the team of 4 boys from the SAGA. The Golf course is outstanding, very hilly with reasonably narrow fairways. Unfortunately the girls did not fair too well being placed joint 6th out of 8 Countries.

RB GERMAN JUNIOR – HEIDELBERG LOBENFELD, GERMANY 3 - 6 AUGUST 2015

This is an annual event and is part of the Global Junior Golf Tour. All competitors must pay the GJG Tour membership fee of 100 Euros. The invitation was extended to 3 players to be selected by WGSA, but due to financial constraints it was agreed that WGSA would only send two players.

Danielle du Toit and Woo-Ju Son were accompanied by WGSA Vice President Sally Greasley.

Individual Results of South African Players:

Danielle du Toit: 85 85 80 = 250 (+34)

Woo-Ju Son: 74 82 82 = 238 (+22)

Winner: Natalie Wagner (Germany) on 221 (+5).

ANNIKA INVITATIONAL EUROPE: BRO-BALSTA GC, SWEDEN 2015, 4 – 7 AUGUST 2015

This was the fourth Annika Invitational held in Europe. This 54 hole stroke play (with no cut) tournament was played from the 4th to the 7th August 2015 at Bro Balsta Golf Club in Sweden which is Annika's home club. There is no team component. The event falls under the auspices of the Swedish Golf Federation and they, together with the management of Bro Balsta Golf Club, ran this event. Annika remains very "hands on" and is in attendance holding clinics and talks throughout the event. The 2015 Annika Invitational was one of eight qualifying events for the Ping Junior Solheim Cup. Ivanna Samu and Kaleigh Telfer competed, and were accompanied by WGSA President, Karen Olivant.

Total number of girls in the field: 78

Ivanna Samu: Finish Position: T21st Scores: 75 74 72 = 221 (+2)

Kaleigh Telfer: Finish Position: T37th Scores: 74 76 76 = 226 (+8)

The winner was Ana Palaez from Spain on -9 (210 - 69 69 72), runner-up on -6, and the top 9 girls were all under par.

GIRLS BRITISH OPEN AMATEUR, WEST KILBRIDE GOLF CLUB, SCOTLAND 10 – 14 AUGUST 2015

This annual event is an important event for girls in both the UK and Europe to test their skills against their peers. WGSA is very fortunate to get an exemption from the ballot system due to us requiring visa's to enter the UK, There were over 40 USA coaches scouting at this tournament. The qualifying round is 36 holes played on consecutive days for which one draw is made. There are 64 qualifying places. There is a team component over the 36 hole qualifying rounds. The event is OPEN with a handicap restriction of 4.4.

Total number of girls in the field: 144

INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES

Kaleigh Telfer: Finish Position in qualifying rounds: T4th Scores: 73 68 (141) (-5)

Ivanna Samu: Finish Position in qualifying rounds: 36th Scores: 72 75 (147) (+1)

These qualifying results ensured that they were both in the Match Play draw and both Ivanna & Kaleigh lost to the eventual winner (Sandra Nordaas from Norway) on the 20th hole, with Ivanna losing in the quarter finals.

Team Award: This was won by Scotland. South Africa was placed 5th out of 12 Countries.

DUKE OF YORK YOUNG CHAMPIONS TROPHY, KENT, ENGLAND – 9 – 11 SEPTEMBER 2015

This annual event is an important event for both boys and girls as it is truly “international”. It is by invitation only – mainly to the current national champions, and a total of 56 players from 26 countries, including the USA & Canada, competed. Without a doubt, this is where a junior player measures him or herself against their peers. The format is 54 holes Stroke Play with no cut. This is a mixed tournament with boys and girls competing for the same trophy (note the difference in length of the course below for boys and girls).

Total number of boys in the field: 29 Length 6880 yds Par 72

Total number of girls in the field: 27 Length 5850 yds Par 72

Ivanna Samu: Finish Position: T9th Scores: 72 73 72 (217) (+1)

Dylan Naidoo: Finish Position: 14th Scores: 75 75 73 (223) (+7)

The winner was 16 year old Oliver Lindell (Finland) on -9 (207 – 73 68 66). Note that boys finished in the top 6 positions. The best girl tied in 7th position on even par (216 – 67 75 74).

THE SPIRIT INTERNATIONAL, WHISPERING PINES USA, 9 – 15 OCTOBER 2015

WGSA National Coach Val Holland captained the South African Ladies and Men's Team. Kaleigh Telfer and Ivanna Samu represented WGSA. Teagan Gauche and Matthew Spacey represented the SAGA. Unfortunately the South African team were disqualified due to an incorrectly signed score card in the Men's competition.

The Ladies individual was won by Maria Fassi from Mexico on -17, Kaleigh finished tied 6th on -9 and Ivanna tied 9th on -6.

CURRO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, DURBANVILLE GOLF CLUB, 8 - 10 MARCH 2016

The International Tournament Series changed its name to Global Junior Golf Tour in 2014. WGSA offered assistance to six girls.

WGSA took a decision not to send a chaperone this year due to various difficulties that have arisen over the past few years. WGSA nominated two SA teams with Ivanna Samu and Woo-Ju Son winning first place in the girls' team event.

Individual Performances (TOP 3):

Woo-Ju Son (SA 72 69 79 (220)
Brittney-Fay Berger (SA) 77 72 72 (221)
Crystal Beukes (SA) 75 72 80 (227)

GOVERNMENT : SASCOC

Golf has been included in the Olympic Games being held in Rio in 2016. As SASCOC is considered the Olympic body in South Africa the selection will be done according to allocations set down by the IGF.

WGSA PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

WGSA has once again prepared a Player Development Programme for 2016 that encompasses our Elite Squad, B Squad, and a TID (talent identification) programme which includes two Future Young Champions Clinics. A total of approximately R 845,000 has been budgeted to cover this programme.

WGSA ELITE SQUADS

ELITE SQUAD

WGSA reappointed Val Holland as national coach for 2016 and Anna Becker as assistant coach. Members of the Elite Squad may claim a limited amount of financial assistance (excluding full members of EEFF). WGSA introduced a contract to be signed by members for the year January - December 2016 for both the A & B Squads as it was felt that this would set out the expectations that WGSA have with regard to these squads.

At our first Elite Squad camp held at the HPC in Pretoria in January parents were invited to meet with Val and Karen in order to give them insight into the contract as well as the programme for the year.

The 2016 Elite Squad members are:

- Kaleigh Telfer (EFF)
- Ivanna Samu
- Zethu Myeki (EFF)
- Woo-Ju Son
- Danielle du Toit
- Shawnelle de Lange

WGSA B SQUAD

As in the past WGSA will continue to try and improve our elite training programme. Our two coaches, Val and Anna, are working on another exciting programme. We consider our most important mandate is still to help make our top golfers the very best they can be. WGSA will hold 3 camps during the year. The first of which was held in February at HPC in Pretoria. Members of the B Squad may claim a limited amount of financial assistance.

The B Squad members for 2016 are:

- Symone Henriques
- Lenanda van der Watt
- Brittney-Fay Berger
- Kaiyuree Moodley
- Minette Olivier
- Crystal Beukes
- Kajal Mistry

It should be noted that players may be moved up or down from these squads depending on both performance and recommendations from the coaches.

TALENT IDENTIFICATION (TID) PROGRAMME & CAMPS

TID PROVINCIAL LISTS

Provincial Unions have been asked to submit their wish list to WGSA for junior girls that they are nurturing. Financial assistance is only given if a programme has been drawn up by the Provincial Union and if the Union commits to monitor these players on a regular basis.

WGSA DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

PDI players have been identified and are being nurtured and assisted by WGSA and their Provincial Union. Support includes financial and assistance with hosting to provincial championships. Golf club membership is also taken care of if required. Nine of these girls were given the opportunity to participate in the 2016 Nomads Rose Bowl with all their costs being covered including chaperoned accommodation.

NOMADS FUTURE CHAMPIONS CLINICS

This initiative was started in 2014 when two clinics were held. These clinics, that are open to handicaps 10-32, are run by our National Coaches and are normally held directly after a junior championship, the intention is to hold these throughout our Unions in order to get to as many young golfers as possible. Boland, Western Province and Gauteng North have all benefitted by these with the latest one being held in the Eastern Province directly after the Rose Bowl in Port Elizabeth in 2016.

GOLF RSA

It has been an interesting year which saw the beginning of the formulation of Golf RSA. This was put into motion by the SAGA and WGSA. As with any big change to organisations of this stature it has and continues to be not always that smooth a transition, and is to be looked at as quite a long term project. I think Geoff Taylor, the acting President of the SAGA'S analogy which likens it to a par 5, puts it into perspective, but unfortunately we are still standing on the Tee in anticipation due to unforeseen circumstances. Mr. Grant Hepburn was appointed as CEO of the new company.

NATIONAL SQUAD

Mr. Johan Rupert donated 10 million Rand to be used for the formulation of a National Squad. WGSA have a tried and tested squad system in place and were given R150,000 towards the cost of camps together with R 110,000 towards cost of overseas travel which was used to send our top two juniors to the Annika Invitational in Europe and the British Girls Open Championship. WGSA has been given the assurance that we will be given an invitation for a number of our top girls together with our National Coaches to join the boys at their camps throughout the year.

HANDICAPPING

It would appear that generally players in South Africa are much happier with the system, with very few queries being directed to HNA. Communication between HNA and golf clubs is excellent, and the appeal goes out to clubs to open rounds for both social and competition golf. Unions have numerous reporting options to assist them in administering and monitoring membership information. HNA reports back to the SAGA at their meetings and presents statistics on all aspects of handicapping.

PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS & THE WPGA

The following players have turned professional:

1. Lejan Lewthwaite
2. Carrie Park
3. Ruzanne van der Walt
4. Mae Cornforth
5. Amy Henning
6. Marguerite Pienaar

WGSA again offered assistance to 6 amateurs of which 5 took up the offer to play in the SA Open held at San Lameer Golf Estate from 12 – 15 November 2015:

1. Ivanna Samu
2. Lejan Lewthwaite
3. Woo-Ju Son
4. Danielle du Toit
5. Shawnelle de Lange

Communication between WGSA and the WPGA has been excellent over the past year and WGSA wishes to commend the WPGA in all they have done to grow the Sunshine Ladies Tour in 2015/16 with increased prize

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

WGSA ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

WGSA Secretary Sonia Schoeman has been ably manning our office and the office remains at Momentum Golf Village in Somerset West. Past President, Caroline Kettlewell has continued to act as the treasurer of WGSA. Erica Botha continues to do the job of Tournament Administrator with enthusiasm and is always available to offer assistance.

Karen Olivant was voted in as President with Sally Greasley as Vice President after a vote was taken for this position as two nominations had been received.

Changes in Union Presidents:-

Northern Cape: Northern Cape was voted in as a new Union at a special General Meeting held in May due to the Geo Political Boundaries set out by SASCOC and Norma Potgieter is the President.

Free State: Herna Els took over as the President of the Free State Ladies Golf Union in April 2015.

Eastern Province: Melissa Palmer took over from Myrlene Pieterse in March 2016.

Border: Wendy May took over from Issy Cocks in March 2016.

Gauteng: Antoinette Le Roes took over from Gill Van Der Meulen in May 2015.

KZN: Yvonne Otto took over from Lynda Johnson in March 2015.

GIRLS LOVE GOLF PROGRAMME

The annual development levy paid by affiliated lady golf members funds this programme which is meant to encourage and engender enthusiasm in young girls. The funds are used mainly for coaching via coaching points at golf clubs but we continue to allow each Union to adapt the programme to suit their specific needs with an allocation principle in place to ensure good governance. Whilst we believe that a few of our Unions are running this programme successfully, WGSA considers that there is definite room for improvement overall.

ERNIE ELS AND FANCOURT FOUNDATION

Kaleigh Telfer received the Dr Hasso Plattner award for outstanding academic achievement as well as the award for the best golfer for the year which included boys and girls. Bianca Theron was at the awards evening where she gave a short talk on life at college in the USA. Kaleigh Telfer is joined by Zethu Myeki as a member of the Foundation. Although the focus of the EEFF has shifted communication remains open.

GENERAL

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 national sponsors being Sanlam and the Nomads of South Africa. Finally, we thank the management and members of golf clubs that have allowed us the use of their facilities during this past year. It is always a pleasure to deal with these clubs who go out of their way to assist us wherever possible.