



Director of Golf Report 2017

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Affiliated Clubs within the Southern Cape for their continued support towards Amateur Golf in the region. Also, thank you to our loyal players for supporting the Southern Cape Tournaments, and for representing our Teams with pride.

Special thanks must also go to our Union Partners and Sponsors: Pam Golding Properties, The Pro Shop, Department of Sport, Srixon, Cleveland, Sanlam, Golf In Heaven, E-Z-GO, Harvey World Travel, Imperial Auto, Nomads, Oakhurst Hotel, Jaguar/Land Rover, National Golf Festival and the Par 3 Championship.

Congratulations to the respective Order of Merit winners: Hans-Jurie Human won the 2016/17 Overall Order of Merit with a point's total of 2080.50. Overall runner-up, Nicholas Mitchell won the Mid-Amateur Order of Merit with a point's total of 2165.75, and Franklin Manchest won the Country Districts Order of Merit with 1121.50 points.

Our Southern Cape Teams again competed very well throughout the year at the following Team Events: The Mid-Amateur Inter Provincial Team won the B-Division of the SA Mid-Amateur Inter Provincial at Oubaai Golf Club for the first time, and earned promotion into the A-Division for 2018. They won all their matches with the highlight beating Eastern Province 10.5 – 1.5. The Women's Golf Inter Provincial Team qualified for the A-Division of the SA Womens Inter Provincial Tournament played at Mossel Bay Golf Club. They will retain their A-Division status for 2018. The Men's Premier Inter Provincial Team almost retained their 2016 title by finishing 2nd in the 57th SA Premier Inter Provincial Tournament played at Bryanston Country Club in Gauteng. Our results over the past few years prove that we are now a force to be reckoned with (3rd place in 2013, 2014, 2015 and victory in 2016. It also highlights how important the "2017 Team Selection Criteria's" Squad System and the 2017 Super League were, in getting our players Match Play ready. Our players had noticeable better Match Play performances over the past two years, and our new preparation strategy for IPT's will give our players further Team Match Play exposure, and will assist in getting them even more Match Play ready. The success of the Union is often measured on how well we do at Provincial level.

We also had some outstanding achievements during this year.

- (1) Mossel Bay Golf Club won the Jaguar /Land Rover Handicaps League.
- (2) Oubaai Golf Club won the Super League for the 2nd time in 3 years.
- (3) Southern Cape Seniors won the annual Dolphins Trophy.
- (4) Caylum Boon won the EP/Border Championship in April and the EP Open in November.

- (5) Christo became the youngest Sanlam South African Amateur Champion in the 115th year history of this premier international event which saw 60 of the world's best international players compete. In the end, he defeated fellow Southern Cape players Caylum Boon 7/6 in the final. This was also the first time in the history of the SA Amateur that two Southern Cape players competed in the final.
- (6) Christo Lamprecht was also selected for the SA Junior U/19 Team to compete in the All Africa Junior Golf Championship. He was also chosen for the Men's SA Team that competed in the 2017 Africa Golf Championship. In June 2017 Christo competed again for the SA Junior U/19 Team in the Junior World Championship. This prestigious international Tournament took place in Nagoya Japan. He was also selected for the International Team that competed in the inaugural Junior Presidents Cup Team against the American Junior Team.
- (7) Christo Lamprecht, Franklin Manchest & Jovan Rebula represented South Africa on the annual UK Tour, competing in the British Amateur.
- (8) Alex van Wyk, Bradley de Beer, Christo Lamprecht and Martin Vorster represented the SA Junior Team at the Challenge IPT.
- (9) Martin Vorster represented South Africa in the U/16 Italian Team Championship. He also won the individual competition.
- (10) Martin Vorster won the NOMADS SA Boys U/15 Championship in January. He also won the KZN Stroke Play in May.
- (11) Franklin Manchest represented the Presidents Team at the Challenge IPT.
- (12) The Premier IPT side was nominated as a finalist for Team of the Year at the Eden Sport Awards. Martin Vorster was nominated as a finalist for Junior Sportsman of the Year.
- (14) Christo Lamprecht was named the EDEN High School Sportsman of the Year.

We hosted numerous National Events during 2017: (February) SA Stroke Play Championship at Kingswood, (April) SA Senior IPT A-Division at Simola Country Estate, (April) SA Senior IPT B-Division at Pezula Golf Estate, (September) SA Womens IPT at Mossel Bay Golf Club, (October) SA Mid-Amateur IPT at Oubaai Golf Estate. In December we will be hosting the SA Super Senior IPT at Pezula Golf Estate.

The 2017/18 Overall Men's Order of Merit Year will now have 25 Tournaments, namely the Fancourt Open, Southern Cape Match Play, Southern Cape Open, Southern Cape Foursomes, Southern Cape Par 3 Championship, Mossel Bay Open, Kingswood Open, Riversdale Open, George Open, Knysna Open, Oubaai Open, Heidelberg Open, Plettenberg Bay Open, Stilbaai Open, Pinnacle Point Open, SANLAM Cape Province Open, Goose Valley Open, Beaufort West Open, Southern Cape Mid-Amateur Open, Pezula Open, Oudtshoorn Open, Simola Open, Southern Cape Closed, Eden District Open & Central Karoo District Open.

The 2018/19 Order of Merit which starts in July will see the introduction of the "FORD Race to Oubaai", which will become the new name of our Order of Merit Rankings. All Clubs that will be hosting an Order of Merit Tournament will be included in the branding that will be displayed at each Open Amateur event and will be on all documentation,

circulated on a weekly basis. The Ford Race to Oubaai will annually conclude at the SC Closed Championship in June of each year. The top 50 in the OOM will qualify to play in the SC Closed, and this Championship will now be played over two days (18 holes per day). All competitors will be accommodated at Oubaai's 5 Star Hotel, receive clothing for both days, and all meals will be included.

We should mention that we now have 7 Players in the Top 80 on the South African Order of Merit Rankings. They are Christo Lamprecht Jnr (Nr. 5), Martin Vorster (Nr. 9), Caylum Boon (Nr. 14), Franklin Manchest (Nr. 26), Hans-Jurie Human (Nr. 42), Henk Geldenhuys (Nr. 68) and Aidan Boon (Nr. 79).

New goals for 2018 include the introduction of the Southern Cape Supporters Club, and more Union Partners to grow the marketability of the Union and to assist with better deals for our visitors, affiliated members and SCGU Players. New Sponsorships will be negotiated to further strengthen our image, and to help ease the cost of running Tournaments professionally. I am planning more Club visits especially to the smaller Clubs, and the Union would like to assist with the running of the Super 9 competition to further strengthen our working relationship with the 9-Hole Golf Clubs.

The Union completed the re-rating of all 26 Affiliated Golf Courses during 2017, with Rita Herholdt and Tannah Harris spearheading the rating team to provide the necessary credibility during the highly complexed rating process. The new ratings will be introduced late 2018, once all the courses in South Africa have been rated.

The SCGU/SAGDB Golf Development Programme has grown this past year mainly due to the efforts of Johan Erasmus (SCGU Development/Transformation Manager). Special thanks must go to Grant Hepburn (CEO of SAGDB & Golf RSA) for his respect towards our partnership and for his vision to grow the game of golf. Currently 240 children share in the benefits of the program in George and surrounding area, Mossel Bay, Riversdale, Stilbaai, Beaufort West and Heidelberg. We are now looking to introduce new program chapters in Oudtshoorn and Ladismith during 2018.

Johan Erasmus must be commended for successfully managing the Caddie League matches this year and for his efforts with the Caddie Logistics & Control during the recent Mid-Amateur and Womens IPT. To handle 112 Caddies at an event is no mean task, but thanks mainly to the sound structures put in place for the Caddie League, we had the numbers and respect from the Caddies to successfully host two key Inter Provincials.

Special thanks must go to Jenny du Preez, Maurice van Merch & Stephen Murray for all the hard work they put in for Womens, Senior & Junior Golf respectively in the Southern Cape. Your enthusiasm, dedication and hard work are much appreciated. Thank you very much for a lovely working relationship during this year.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the SCGU Committee for their efforts, with a special thanks to Tannah Harris, Stephen Murray and Sandra Lennox for all your assistance this year. Thank you for your assistance in making key decisions, and for the lovely understanding that we have developed over the past 5 years.

Special thanks must also go to Heinrich Lourens, Juan Nel, Neil Fraser and Deon Botes-Schoeman for assisting with scoring and Tournament duties at our events during this year. The Union now facilitate and run 99% of all Tournaments played in the Province.

I would also like to welcome Heinrich Lourens in his new position as Assistant Director of Golf. Heinrich's enthusiasm and passion for life will now further strengthen our Team's ability to handle the new workload, and his efforts will help grow the Union in years to come. He will officially start in his new role on Monday 8th January 2018.

Finally, I would like to thank the Union Secretary, Sheila Fraser and our Golf Coordinator, Lindy Murray for all their hard work, dedication, input and willingness to always assist. Thank you very much for being my left and right hand this year ladies. We have succeeded in creating an extremely pleasant working environment, which will lead to even more success in years to come. Please enjoy your leave, rest well and I look forward to another great year in 2018.

Kind Regards,

Billy Valentyn

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Director of Golf

Southern Cape Golf Union