



CEO Report 2025



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INTRODUCTION

Over the past decade, GolfRSA has grown into a unified organisation that serves and supports amateur golf across South Africa. The progress we have made, the opportunities we have created and the successes we have celebrated are the result of a collective effort driven by a shared vision for the game.

Our sincere gratitude goes to our Board of Directors, the South African Golf Association, Women's Golf South Africa, the South African Golf Development Board, the South Africa Disabled Golf Association, our provincial unions, golf clubs, partners and dedicated staff. Your commitment, passion and belief in our purpose have helped shape GolfRSA into the organisation it is today.

As we reflect on the journey of the past 10 years, we do so with immense pride in what has been achieved together and with great optimism for the future. The foundations laid over the last decade will continue to guide us as we strive to grow the game, create opportunities and ensure that golf remains accessible and welcoming to all South Africans.

RESULTS AND PERFORMANCES

INTERNATIONAL

The defining moment of 2025 was undoubtedly South Africa's historic triumph at the **World Amateur Team Championships** in Singapore – a breakthrough achievement more than half a century in the making.

Christiaan Maas, Daniel Bennett and **Charl Barnard** produced a performance for the ages to secure South Africa's first-ever Eisenhower Trophy victory. Their winning total of 29-under-par 547 delivered an emphatic eight-stroke victory and established South Africa as the leading amateur golfing nation in the world.

Maas spearheaded the charge with one of the finest individual performances in championship history. Rounds of 66, 66, 65 and 69 earned him the individual title by 10 strokes on 22-under-par 266, finishing just one shot shy of the tournament's 72-hole scoring record.

The significance of this achievement cannot be overstated. Since the inception of the World Amateur Team Championship in 1958, South Africa had come close on several occasions, finishing runner-up in 1980 and third in 1970 and 1972. The victory in Singapore finally secured a place in the history books and fulfilled a long-held ambition for South African amateur golf.

This landmark success was a testament not only to the talent and dedication of Christiaan, Daniel and Charl, but also to the strength of the GolfRSA high-performance pathway and the collective efforts of the coaches, managers, provincial unions, clubs and support structures that continue to nurture world-class talent. Special recognition must also be given to team manager **Peet van Schalkwyk** and captain **Gavin Groves**, whose leadership played an integral role in guiding the team to this historic achievement.

The 2025 GolfRSA Summer Swing once again cemented its reputation as one of the premier amateur golf series in the world, attracting elite competitors from more than 20 countries across four flagship championships and providing a world-class platform for South Africa's emerging talent to compete against the best international amateurs.

Beyond the results, the GolfRSA Summer Swing continues to play a vital role in strengthening South Africa's position on the global amateur golf calendar. The series delivered a fitting blend of international competition and South African success and remains a cornerstone of GolfRSA's commitment to developing world-class talent and elevating the profile of amateur golf in South Africa.

Charl Barnard claimed the South African Amateur Championship to secure one of the most coveted titles in amateur golf and earn a start in the 2026 Investec South African Open with his 5&3 victory over Great Britain's Cameron Mukherjee at Humewood Golf Club.

France's **Noa Auch-Roy** produced a dominant display to win the South African Stroke Play Championship by nine shots at Mossel Bay Golf Club, becoming the first French champion of the event in more than a decade.

The GolfRSA International Amateur Championship at Royal Johannesburg showcased the depth of local talent, with **Astin Arthur** prevailing in a dramatic play-off against Charl Barnard and leading his team to a convincing victory in the men's team competition. In the women's championship, **Bobbi Brown** claimed a breakthrough international title, underlining the strength of South Africa's emerging female talent and adding another home-grown success story to the week.

Another notable success came at Leopard Creek, where 17-year-old **Bryan Newman** captured the R&A Africa Amateur Championship. The talented South African held off a strong international field to claim the prestigious title and secure invitations to The Open Championship, The Amateur Championship and several leading professional events.

The women's championships once again highlighted the strength of South Africa's rising stars.

Gia Raad successfully defended her South African Women's Amateur title at PE Golf Club The Hill and added the R&A Africa Amateur Women's Invitational crown at Leopard Creek to her growing list of achievements, reinforcing her standing as one of the country's leading amateur golfers.

Kesha Louw continued her outstanding progression with victory in the South African Women's Stroke Play Championship at PE Golf Club The Hill, further demonstrating the depth of talent emerging through the GolfRSA pathway.

Another standout performer was **Lisa Coetzer**, who, at just 14 years old, finished runner-up in both the South African Women's Amateur Championship and the South African Women's Stroke Play Championship, while also claiming third place in the R&A Africa Amateur Women's Invitational. Her consistent performances against some of the continent's leading amateurs signalled the emergence of another exciting young talent on the national stage. Coetzer earned the **WGSA Junior Player of the Year** accolade for her 2024-2025 achievements.

The other golfers recognized by Women's Golf South Africa in 2024–2025 included:

Open Player of the Year: Bobbi Brown

Most Improved Open Player of the Year: Maegan Webster

Most Improved Junior Players of the Year: Casey Twidale

South African golfers once again reinforced the country's standing as a leading force in African amateur golf with a series of outstanding team performances on the continent.

At the **All Africa Region 5 Tournament** in Botswana, **Astin Arthur**, **Charl Barnard**, **Ivan Verster** and **Dian Kruger** delivered a commanding performance to secure victory by 26 strokes. Arthur added further distinction to the campaign by claiming the individual title with a six-shot triumph, completing a memorable week for South Africa at Stanbic Bank Gaborone Golf Club.

The country's dominance continued at the **All Africa Junior Team Championship** in Tunisia, where **Dewan de Bruin**, **Johndre Ludick**, **Marno Lange** and **Roelof Craig** captured South Africa's record-extending 18th title. The team overcame a strong challenge from Morocco to secure victory, while De Bruin underlined his growing stature with a superb individual triumph. South Africa's girls also delivered an impressive campaign, with **Kesha Louw**, **Lisa Coetzer** and **Casey Twidale** securing second place and reinforcing the strength and depth of the GolfRSA junior pathway.

South Africa's leading juniors further enhanced their international experience at the **Toyota Junior Golf World Cup** in Japan. Representing the country against many of the world's strongest golfing nations, **Dewan de**

Bruin, Johndre Ludick and **Roelof Craig** gained valuable exposure on the global stage and produced a commendable top-10 finish.

South Africa's international success extended to South America, where **Johndre Ludick** and **Charl Barnard** combined to secure a fourth-place finish in the prestigious **Juan Carlos Tailhade Cup** in Argentina. Ludick produced an outstanding individual performance to finish tied sixth, while the pair's strong final-round charge ensured South Africa recorded an 11th consecutive top-five finish in one of the world's leading amateur team championships. The pair also competed in the Argentine Stroke Play Championship, with Barnard tying for 20th and Ludick finishing joint 22nd.

Several current GolfRSA National Squad players and graduates excelled both nationally and on the global stage in 2025, and a number of emerging talents stepped up during the season to put themselves firmly on the radar. Here are a few standout performances deserve special mention:

Dylan Naidoo's victory at the Investec South African Open was a landmark moment for South African golf. By prevailing in a dramatic play-off at Durban Country Club, Naidoo became the first South African player of colour to lift the prestigious title in the championship's long and storied history. The breakthrough victory also secured him a DP World Tour card and represented a powerful example of the opportunities being created through the continued growth and transformation of the game in South Africa.

A week after a joint second-place finish in the 2025 Nedbank Golf Challenge, **Jayden Schaper** broke through on the DP World Tour, claiming back-to-back victories at the Alfred Dunhill Championship and the AfrAsia Bank Mauritius Open. The 24-year-old's maiden DP World Tour title came on home soil at Royal Johannesburg, before he followed it up a week later with another dramatic play-off victory in Mauritius.

Aldrich Potgieter – already the youngest Korn Ferry Tour winner at just 19 years and 133 days in 2024 – also enjoyed a breakthrough season on the PGA Tour, capturing his maiden title at the Rocket Classic. At just 20 years old, he became the youngest South African to win on the PGA Tour and was later recognised as the PGA Tour Rookie of the Year after an outstanding debut season.

The success extended across the Sunshine Tour and Sunshine Ladies Tour, where former GolfRSA National Squad members and graduates featured prominently in the winner's circle.

Wilco Nienaber claimed the NTT DATA Pro-Am, **Casey Jarvis** captured both the Vodacom Origins of Golf Final and the Hyundai Open, **Jonathan Broomhead** won the SunBet Challenge, **Malcolm Mitchell** lifted the Gary & Vivian Player Challenge, **Samuel Simpson** triumphed in the Mopani Zambia Open and **Deon Germishuys** secured victory in the FNB Zambia Championship.

On the Sunshine Ladies Tour, **Kiera Floyd** celebrated success in the Platinum Ladies Open, while **Kaiyuree Moodley** captured the Blu Label Unlimited Ladies Championship. Together, these victories highlighted the enduring quality of the GolfRSA pathway and its contribution to South African golf at the highest levels.

Christo Lamprecht continued his impressive transition to the professional ranks. The former Amateur Championship winner secured his first Korn Ferry Tour title at the Pinnacle Bank Championship and earned promotion to the PGA Tour for the 2026 season, further strengthening South Africa's presence on golf's biggest stage.

SAGDB graduate and former squad member **Kieron van Wyk** made history by becoming the first amateur to win an APGA Tour event when he captured the Farmers Insurance Invitational at Torrey Pines and later finished fourth on his PGA Tour debut at the Puerto Rico Open.

Former GolfRSA National Squad member **Caitlyn Macnab** concluded one of the most successful collegiate careers by a South African golfer in the United States. The former SEC Individual Champion and multiple All-American completed her amateur journey at Ole Miss before embarking on her professional career, further extending GolfRSA's proud tradition of producing players capable of competing at the highest levels of international amateur golf.

Christiaan Maas continued his rise among the world's elite amateurs. In addition to leading South Africa to its historic Eisenhower Trophy victory and claiming the individual title, the University of Texas standout earned All-America honours, was named a finalist for the prestigious Jack Nicklaus Award, Gary Player Award and Ben Hogan Award, and established himself among the highest-ranked amateurs in the world.

Daniel Bennett enjoyed a breakthrough year in collegiate golf in the United States. The University of Texas golfer was named the Division I Phil Mickelson Outstanding Freshman of the Year, earned First-Team All-America honours and SEC Freshman of the Year recognition, while also representing the International Team in the Arnold Palmer Cup.

Megan Streicher continued to raise South Africa's profile in international amateur golf with a series of strong performances in the United States. The University of North Carolina standout finished runner-up in the prestigious Sea Island Women's Amateur, recorded top-10 finishes in both the Western Amateur and North & South Women's Amateur and earned an invitation to compete in the Augusta National Women's Amateur. Streicher's consistent form was rewarded with selection to represent South Africa at the Espirito Santo Trophy in Singapore, where she joined **Kyra van Kan** and **Bobbi Brown** in guiding the South African team to a creditable tied-11th finish against the world's leading amateur golfing nations.

Former GolfRSA National Squad member **Samantha Whateley** enjoyed a breakthrough season in the United States, capturing both the North Carolina Women's Amateur Championship and the prestigious Carolinas Women's Amateur Championship. The back-to-back victories underlined her growing stature in American collegiate golf and added to the strong international performances delivered by GolfRSA graduates in 2025.

South Africa's juniors also enjoyed success in Zimbabwe, where **Andries van der Vyver** and **Lourenda Steyn** claimed the boys' and girls' titles respectively at the 2025 **Zimbabwe Junior Open**, continuing the country's strong tradition in one of Africa's leading junior championships.

South African women also made their mark internationally, with **Isabella Ferreira** claiming victory in the **Egyptian Ladies Open** and **Charlotte Millard** finishing runner-up.

The performances above reflect the continued strength of GolfRSA's development and high-performance structures, which provide talented young golfers with opportunities to compete, succeed and gain experience at every level of international competition. We also extend our appreciation to the team managers, coaches and unions for their leadership and commitment in guiding our players throughout these campaigns.

NATIONAL

The GolfRSA junior national circuit once again showcased the depth of emerging talent in South Africa. **Roelof Craig** and **Bryan Newman** captured the **Nomads SA Boys Under-19 Stroke Play and Match Play** titles respectively, while **Kesha Louw** and **Lisa Coetzer** claimed the **Nomads SA Girls Championship** and **Nomads SA Girls Rose Bowl** crowns.

Nedbank Junior Challenge champion **Schalk van Ettinger** added his name to the list of rising stars, while **Cilliers Craig** captured the **Nomads SA Boys Under-17 Championship** title. **Andries van der Vyver** and **Lourenda Steyn** completed a remarkable season by winning the prestigious **Nomads North & South Championship**, underlining the potential of the next generation of South African golfers.

The strength of South African amateur golf across all age groups was further reflected in the country's national championships with **Crystal Janse van Rensburg** capturing the **Women's Mid-Amateur Championship** title and her dad, **Pieter Cooper**, adding the **South African Senior Amateur Championship** crown to his impressive golfing résumé. Their victories highlighted the competitive opportunities available within GolfRSA for golfers at every stage of their amateur careers.

GOLFRSA PROJECT EVENTS

The eighth annual **GolfRSA Champion of Champions**, presented by **The Courier Guy**, once again celebrated the country's club champions and reinforced the vital role clubs play in the growth of amateur golf.

We were absolutely delighted to have The Courier Guy South Africa on board as the title sponsor for a fourth successive year and excited to welcome Srixon Cleveland into the fold for a second year running.

The National Final at Vaal de Grace Golf Estate attracted champions from across South Africa, with 16-year-olds **Leonard Swart** and **Lourenda Steyn** emerging victorious in the flagship A-Division competitions. Congratulations also to Caddie Division winner Fanyana Mogobana (Caddie), Kerry Wood and CJ de Villiers, who won the B-Division and C-Division champions Cindy de Lange and Christiaan van Niekerk. The continued success of the series highlights GolfRSA's commitment to creating meaningful competitive opportunities for golfers of all ages and abilities, from club level through to the national stage.

The third **GolfRSA Race to The R&A 9 Hole Challenge**, geared to promote increased participation in nine-hole rounds and provide clubs with additional revenue opportunities, once again drew national participation across the country. **Barend Botha** and **Daryn Shepherd** earned the opportunity to represent South Africa at the **2025 R&A 9 Hole Challenge Final** at Royal Portrush in Northern Ireland, where they produced an outstanding performance to finish third overall against teams from around the world.

Their success highlighted both the competitive potential of the initiative and the unique international opportunities it continues to create for golfers at club level. More than 711,000 nine-hole rounds were played across the globe in the hope of qualifying for the R&A 9 Hole Challenge Final, an event that's growing fast and helping spread the joy of short-format golf worldwide. In South Africa alone, nine-hole rounds increased by 4% in 2025, with more women taking part than ever before.

The **GolfSixes League South Africa** continued to play an important role in introducing new participants to the game through a shorter, more accessible and engaging format of golf. Designed to remove many of the traditional barriers to entry, the programme creates positive first experiences for junior golfers and non-golfers alike, helping to build confidence, enjoyment and long-term participation in the sport.

Delivered through both introductory activations and the SAGDB GolfSixes League structure, the programme reached 751 participants in 2025, representing a remarkable 90% increase on the previous year. This growth was driven by 21 GolfSixes events and activations staged across the country, demonstrating the increasing appeal of the format and its effectiveness as a participation tool.

Among the year's highlights were GolfSixes activations held in conjunction with two of South Africa's premier amateur and professional championships – the Africa Amateur Championship at Leopard Creek and the Investec South African Open at Durban Country Club. These events provided young participants with a unique opportunity to engage with the game in a fun and inclusive environment while experiencing world-class golf firsthand.

As GolfRSA continues to explore opportunities to expand the programme nationally, GolfSixes remains an important vehicle for introducing new audiences to the game and supporting the organisation's broader participation and development objectives.

MEMBERSHIP

According to Handicaps Network Africa, South African golfers recorded 3,985,311 rounds during 2025, while overall membership continued its positive upward trajectory. The number of registered male golfers increased by 4.31% to 128,425, while female membership grew by an encouraging 4.86% to 17,210 golfers by year-end.

Although total rounds played declined by 5.3% compared to the 4,209,011 rounds recorded in 2024, the increase in registered golfers reflects the continued growth and resilience of the game. Adverse weather conditions, particularly in KwaZulu-Natal during the early part of the year and later in Central Gauteng, contributed significantly to the reduction in rounds played.

Most encouragingly, participation continued to expand across both the men's and women's game, with membership growth outpacing the decline in rounds. These figures reinforce the long-term strength of golf in South Africa and demonstrate the ongoing success of efforts to attract and retain new golfers at all levels of the game.

FINANCIALS

GolfRSA recorded a provisional surplus of R5,106,441 for the financial year ending 31 December 2025, reflecting another year of sound financial management and sustainable growth.

Revenue growth was driven by several key factors. Affiliation fee income increased by 19%, supported by the successful rollout of the new affiliation fee collection model across a number of unions. In addition, income received from Handicaps Network Africa increased by 30%, while favourable market conditions contributed positively to the performance of GolfRSA's investment portfolios.

The organisation also maintained a disciplined approach to expenditure throughout the year. Careful budget management, accountability across all operational areas and prudent cost controls ensured that resources were utilised effectively. A number of strategic projects were successfully delivered with funding support from the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC), the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) and The R&A, enabling GolfRSA to expand its impact without placing additional pressure on operational budgets.

The combination of growing revenues, responsible expenditure management and strong investment performance has positioned GolfRSA on a solid financial footing and provides a stable platform from which to pursue its strategic objectives in the years ahead.

NOMADS EVENTS

For decades, Nomads has been one of the most influential supporters of junior golf in South Africa, providing young players with opportunities to compete, develop and realise their potential. Many of the country's leading amateurs and professionals have benefited from the pathways created through Nomads-supported events, which continue to serve as a vital proving ground for the next generation of talent.

The **Nomads Golf Club of South Africa** continued to demonstrate its unwavering commitment to the future of the game through its **Furtherance of Golf** programme, sponsoring 12 national junior championships on the GolfRSA calendar in 2025.

2025 CHAMPIONS

Roelof Craig	Nomads SA Boys U-19 Amateur Match Play Championship
Bryan Newman	Nomads SA Boys U-19 Amateur Stroke Play Championship
Lisa Coetzer	Nomads SA Girls Rose Bowl Championship
Kesha Louw	Nomads SA Girls Championship
Shaun Viljoen	Nomads SA U-15 Championship
Cilliers Craig	Nomads SA Boys U-17 Championship
Jordan Groenewald	Nomads Gowrie Farm U15 Challenge
Pieter Coetzee	Nomads North & South Junior Championship
Marno Lange	Nomads National Order of Merit Inland 1
Marno Lange	Nomads National Order of Merit Inland 2
Andries van der Vyver	Nomads National Order of Merit Coastal 1
Johndre Ludick	Nomads National Order of Merit Coastal 2
Western Province	Nomads SA U-13 Championship (Alwyn Rossouw WP individual winner)

GolfRSA is deeply grateful for the enduring partnership and investment of the Nomads Golf Club of South Africa. Their commitment extends far beyond sponsorship; it is an investment in dreams, opportunity and the long-term future of South African golf.

SUNSHINE TOUR JUNIOR SERIES

GolfRSA was once again privileged to partner with the Sunshine Tour in advancing junior golf through four nationally ranked events in 2025. The series continues to provide a vital platform for South Africa's most promising young golfers to gain experience, test themselves against elite competition and begin their journey towards the amateur and professional ranks.

The 2025 champions were **Andries van der Vyver** (Dimension Data Under-19 Open) and **Jordan Groenewald** (Dimension Data Under-15 Open) at Kingswood Estate and George Golf Club, **Aiden Combrinck** (Joburg Junior Under-15 Open at Houghton Golf Club) and **Andries van der Vyver** (Cape Town Junior Open at Clovelly Country Club).

The importance of this series extends far beyond the trophies awarded each year. Many of today's Sunshine Tour winners and leading professionals celebrated their first national victories in these events, underlining the role the partnership continues to play in identifying, developing and inspiring the next generation of South African golfing talent

GOLFRSA NATIONAL SQUAD

The 10th year of the GolfRSA National Squad was once again a successful for GolfRSA. The men's and women's squad members delivered strong performances on the global stage and dominated in the Open Amateur and Junior events and the provincial tournaments at home, winning at least 90% of the tournaments on the men's and women's Open and Junior circuits.

In addition to highlights mentioned earlier, here are a few more outstanding performances from our squad members.

GolfRSA UK Squad Tour 2025

The annual UK Squad Tour once again provided GolfRSA's leading amateurs with invaluable exposure against some of the strongest fields in world amateur golf. Competing in five of Europe's premier championships, the South African squad gained critical experience on links courses and in elite international competition.

Among the standout performances, **Dian Kruger** recorded a top-10 finish in the **Scottish Men's Open Championship**, closing with back-to-back rounds of 68 to finish tied seventh at North Berwick. **Christiaan Maas** continued his excellent international form with a tied-sixth finish in the prestigious **St Andrews Links Trophy**, one of the most respected events in amateur golf.

Daniel Bennett produced South Africa's best performance in **The Amateur Championship**, advancing to the last 32 with victories over Sweden's Wilhelm Ryding and Australia's Kayun Mudadana before bowing out to France's Matthis Lefevre. Bennett also led the South African challenge in the **European Amateur Championship**, finishing tied 26th against one of the strongest fields assembled outside the major amateur championships.

The tour also provided valuable international experience for a new generation of GolfRSA National Squad members, including **Astin Arthur**, **Charl Barnard**, **Dian Kruger**, **Johndre Ludick**, **Bryan Newman** and **Christopher Bagnall**, all of whom gained important exposure to the demands of elite amateur competition in Europe.

South Africa's **Logan Leisher** marked his first international appearance with a memorable victory, edging out Mauritian professional Pierre Pellegrin by a single stroke to win the **MCB Indian Ocean Open** at Anahita. **Charl Barnard** finished fourth overall.

Lisa Coetzer, **Casey Twidale**, **Kaylee** and **Maegan Webster** and **Lourenda Steyn** represented South Africa in the **R&A Girls Amateur Championship**, while **Bryan Newman** competed in the **R&A Boys Amateur Championship**.

GolfRSA's international junior programme also included participation in the **Reply Italian International Under-16 Championship** in Italy and the **Mandiri Ciputra Golfpreneur Junior World Championship** in Indonesia. **Schalk van Ettinger**, **Shaun Viljoen**, **Yieke Ajulu** and **Jordan Groenewald** represented South Africa in Italy, while **Tynan Vermeulen**, **Jayden Hoskins**, **Lourenda Steyn** and **Megan Marais** competed against leading junior golfers from around the world in Indonesia. Lourenda Steyn produced the best South African result with a tied-sixth finish in the girls' division, while Tynan Vermeulen finished tied 14th in the boys' competition.

GolfRSA extends its sincere appreciation to the Sunshine Tour | Sunshine Ladies Tour for its continued partnership and commitment to the development of South Africa's leading amateur golfers.

Through opportunities to compete on the Big Easy Tour and in selected Sunshine Tour and Sunshine Ladies Tour events, our top amateurs are able to test themselves against professional fields, gain invaluable competitive experience and better prepare for the transition to the professional ranks. This partnership remains an important component of the GolfRSA high-performance pathway and continues to play a significant role in the success of our players.

In 2024, GolfRSA hosted several men's and women's squad camps at Serengeti Estates and Devonvale Golf and Wine Estate. An assisted squad camp was also held during the Nomads North and South Junior Championship.

The GolfRSA National Squad continues to meet its goals, and we extend sincere gratitude to Mr. Johann Rupert for his patronage. Without his unwavering support, many of these accomplishments would not have been possible.

INTER-PROVINCIAL & OTHER TEAM TOURNAMENTS

Team golf once again showcased the depth of talent within South Africa's provincial structures, with championships fiercely contested across all age groups and divisions.

Western Province emerged as the standout union of 2025, capturing titles in the South African Inter-Provincial Tournament, Under-19 Inter-Provincial, Challenge Inter-Provincial Tournament and Nomads SA Under-13 Championship, while **Gauteng North** also enjoyed a memorable season, securing both the Men's and Women's Mid-Amateur Inter-Provincial titles as well as the prestigious Swiss Trophy at the Women's 72-Hole Team Championship.

The breadth of winners across the country once again reflected the strength of South Africa's provincial system and the healthy competitive environment that continues to drive the game forward.

CHAMPIONS

SA Inter-Provincial	Western Province (A)
	KwaZulu-Natal (B)
SA Women's Inter-Provincial	Central Gauteng (A)
	Ekurhuleni (B)
SA Mid-Amateur Inter-Provincial	Gauteng North (A)
	KwaZulu-Natal (B)
SA Women's Mid-Amateur Inter-Provincial	Gauteng North (A)
	Boland (B)
SA U-19 Inter-Provincial	Western Province (A)
	KwaZulu-Natal (B)
SA Country Inter-Provincial Tournament	Southern Cape (A)
	Eastern Province (B)
Challenge Inter-Provincial Tournament	Western Province
SA Senior & Super Senior A Inter-Provincial	Western Province (S) & Central Gauteng (SS)
SA Senior & Super Senior B Inter-Provincial	Southern Cape (S) & North West (SS)
Women's 72-Hole Team Championship	Gauteng North (Swiss Trophy)
	North West (Challenge Trophy)
Nomads SA U-13 Championship	Western Province
SA High Schools Championship	Paul Roos Gymnasium

NOTE

Despite extensive efforts to proceed with the tournament, persistent heavy rainfall and unplayable course conditions at Rondebosch Golf Club resulted in the unfortunate cancellation of the 2025 Ernie Els Primary Schools Championship.

MID-AMATEUR AND SENIOR

The national mid-amateur and senior championships delivered a memorable family success story in 2025. While 58-year-old **Pieter Cooper** celebrated his maiden national victory in the South African Senior Amateur Championship, his daughter **Crystal Janse van Rensburg**, enjoyed a breakthrough of her own by capturing the South African Women's Mid-Amateur Championship.

Cooper won by two shots with rounds of 70, 76 & 71 at Kyalami Country Club, while Janse van Rensburg triumphed by a single stroke after rounds of 73, 81 and 73 at The Els Club Copperleaf. The women's championship also crowned Sandra Winter as the Senior Division winner, Paula Beddow as the B-Division champion and Zimbabwe's Nothando Namuinesu as the C-Division winner, highlighting the depth of competition across all age groups and divisions.

Unfortunately, the South African Mid-Amateur Championship was cancelled due to insufficient entries, underscoring the need for continued efforts to strengthen participation and engagement within this segment of the amateur game.

TRANSFORMATION

GolfRSA continued to make significant strides in its transformation and player development objectives during 2025, with an increasing number of players progressing successfully from development structures into provincial, national and international competition. Encouragingly, many of these golfers are no longer simply gaining exposure at elite level but are consistently challenging for titles, earning representative honours and establishing themselves among the country's leading amateurs.

A notable milestone was the selection of nearly 30 transformation players on merit to represent their unions in the South African Men's and Women's Inter-Provincials, the South African U-19 Inter-Provincial and the WGSA 72-Hole Women's Team Championship. This achievement reflects the quality of development programmes being delivered across the country and the growing depth of talent emerging through the GolfRSA pathway.

The launch of the GolfRSA Tournament Support Programme made possible through funding from The R&A, the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture and the National Lotteries Commission, further strengthened the pathway for aspiring elite players. Designed to ease the transition from junior to open amateur golf, the programme has already begun to produce encouraging results.

Johndre Ludick enjoyed a breakthrough season, claiming the KwaZulu-Natal Stroke Play and Amateur Championship double and representing South Africa internationally in Japan and Argentina.

Vuyisani Makama continued his steady rise with runner-up finishes in the Eastern Province and Border Stroke Play Championships and a share of fourth place in the GNGU Silver Salver Stroke Play Championship. Both Ludick and Makama finished the year ranked among the top 10 amateurs in South Africa.

On the women's side, **Phenyo Sebata** continued her impressive progression with a third-place finish in the Zimbabwe Junior Open, tied-fourth finishes in the North West Women's Open and Nomads SA Girls Championship, and a tie for sixth in the KwaZulu-Natal Amateur Championship. Her performances earned her selection to the South African Women's Presidents Team, where she made her debut in the GolfRSA International Amateur Championship.

The progress of Ludick, Makama and former double Zimbabwe Junior Open champion **Devon Valentine** was further recognised through their acceptance into the prestigious Ernie Els Foundation programme.

Valentine continued to impress throughout the season with runner-up finishes in the KwaZulu-Natal Amateur Championship and Central Gauteng Stroke Play Championship, as well as top-four finishes in the KwaZulu-Natal and Border Stroke Play Championships.

Elsewhere, **Mitch Phigeland** reached the semi-finals of the South African Amateur Championship, while **Josh Daniels** earned a golf scholarship to Augusta University in the United States. **Zinan Maimane** and **Tynan**

Vermeulen also continued to make strides, representing South Africa internationally and delivering standout performances for their respective unions in national team competition.

Phigeland was a member part of the victorious Western Province team that won the Challenge IPT at Metropolitan, while **Timothy Daniels** and **Tynan Vermeulen** contributed to Boland's successful promotion at Silver Lakes Golf and Wildlife Estate. **Taahir Malick** and Craig Jacobs was on the winning Western Province team in the 2025 Challenge Inter-Provincial at Cullinan Golf Club.

Jaydon Galant and **Tristan Boise** helped Western Province to victory in the SA U-19 Inter-Provincial at Polokwane Golf Club, while Revashan Naidoo and Tylo Naidoo shared in KwaZulu-Natal's success in the B-Section battle for promotion.

Alexis Toriani from Central Gauteng, Mpumalanga's **Lucia Mhlabane**, **Zayaan Hendricks** from Western Province, **Tuduetso Onyadile** from Free State and Gauteng North's **Orateng Mphake** all competed in the Women's 72 Hole Team Championship at Koro Creek Bushveld Estate.

Through the South African Golf Development Board's annual Scotland Tour, **Vuyisani Makama** and **Eric Ncube** were afforded the opportunity to experience some of the world's most iconic golfing venues and compete in challenging links conditions. The initiative, made possible through the continued support of the Alfred Dunhill Links Foundation and Scottish Golf, remains an important component of the SAGDB's player development pathway.

Jayden Hoskins and **Tynan Vermeulen** represented the SAGDB in the 2025 Mandiri Ciputra Golfpreneur Junior World Championship in Indonesia.

The SAGDB hosts their Elite and upcoming talent squad camp at National Junior Development Centre in Malelane, the same facility used by GolfRSA for its national squad camps. The NJDC lends itself perfectly to our squad camps with all its facilities including the driving range, putting and chipping greens, bunkers and the fantastic par-three course. The different tee boxes, allow our members to practice their long irons and wedges, while the undulating greens on the par-3 course truly tests their putting prowess.

A special thank you to Kambaku Golf Club for accommodating our squads for a round of golf during the national camps. Players enjoy competing at this challenging layout - it takes them outside their comfort zone and presents challenges they don't experience in their home unions.

The continued success of these players is a testament to the effectiveness of GolfRSA's transformation initiatives and reinforces the organisation's commitment to creating opportunities, developing talent and building a more representative future for South African golf.

SOUTH AFRICAN DISABLED GOLF ASSOCIATION

The South African Disabled Golf Association (SADGA) continued to make a profound impact in 2025, creating opportunities for golfers with disabilities from grassroots participation through to elite international competition.

A major highlight was the continued success of **Daniel Slabbert**, who cemented his place among the world's leading golfers with disability. Having earned a position inside the world's top 10, Slabbert claimed victory in both the G4D Betfred British Masters and the season-ending G4D Tour Finale in Spain, marking one of the most successful international campaigns ever achieved by a South African disabled golfer.

The All Abilities Golf Tour remained the country's premier competitive platform for golfers with disabilities, successfully hosting nine tournaments, including the G4D South African Open at Wanderers Golf Club.

Michael Lourens and **Sechaba Motsielwa** were selected to represent South Africa at the Deaflympics in Japan following their performances at the South African Deaf Open and Deaf Trials.

At grassroots level, the First Swing Programme continued to flourish, introducing golf and life skills to approximately 800 learners across 30 schools. Additional development initiatives included the Western

Province Interschools programme, the Deaf Interschools tournament and new facility enhancements at Carpe Diem School in George.

SADGA's partnership with GolfRSA continued to create opportunities for players to compete internationally. **Charlene Pienaar** won the Blind Division at the G4D event at Woburn, while **David Watts** recorded a top-15 finish at the European Individual Championship for Golfers with Disability. GolfRSA also supported key international education and classification initiatives, ensuring South Africa remains aligned with global best practice in disabled golf.

Through the dedication of its staff, volunteers, coaches, sponsors and partners, SADGA continues to transform lives, broaden access to the game and strengthen South Africa's position as a global leader in disabled golf development.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

A national development camp at Zwartkop Country Club brought together elite players, emerging talent and coaches under the guidance of leading international and South African experts.

The South African Deaf Open was revived for the first time in more than 15 years, marking a significant milestone in the growth of deaf golf in South Africa.

SADGA fielded a team in the Gauteng North Golf Union League, further integrating golfers with disabilities into mainstream competitive golf.

Twelve SADGA players competed against the United Kingdom's On Course Foundation team at De Zalze Golf Club, strengthening international relationships and showcasing South Africa's disabled golf programme.

The First Swing Programme expanded its reach to approximately 800 children across 30 schools, continuing to introduce young people with disabilities to golf and its life-changing opportunities.

King David Mowbray Golf Club further strengthened its support of SADGA through the construction of a dedicated office facility to support player development, education and career guidance initiatives.

R&A RELATIONSHIP

Our relationship with The R&A continues to strengthen, and we now play a far more active role in R&A endorsed activities.

Following constructive discussions with representatives of The R&A during The Open Championship in 2024, the GolfRSA Tournament Support Programme was launched in 2025 with the support of The R&A. Designed to bridge the gap between elite amateur golf and the professional ranks for players emerging from the South African Golf Development Board pathway, the programme has already begun to demonstrate its value by providing greater access to high-level competition and meaningful development opportunities.

GolfRSA marked another important milestone with the launch of the Women in Golf Charter in South Africa, a global initiative led by The R&A aimed at creating a more inclusive and welcoming environment for women and girls in the game. The Women in Golf Charter encourages golf organisations, clubs and industry partners to commit to meaningful actions that increase female participation, promote gender balance and support leadership opportunities for women within the sport.

Through this initiative, GolfRSA continues to work with stakeholders across the industry to grow the women's game and ensure that golf in South Africa is accessible and inclusive for all. Our sincere thanks to Anne Vermaak for her leadership and commitment to the Women in Leadership initiative, and to Janyne Marais for her dedicated work in advancing the GolfRSA Women in Golf Charter and helping grow the women's game in South Africa.

GolfRSA was proud to have three staff members – Thelma Dippenaar, Tish Roestoff and Athi Mda – graduate from the inaugural R&A Women in Golf Leadership Foundation Programme in 2025, designed to create opportunities for professional growth through mentorship, networking and leadership education and

development, while encouraging greater female representation in management and leadership roles within the golf industry.

After a successful launch with 25 graduates in its first year, the next two R&A Women in Golf Leadership cohorts is scheduled for next year, with Ingrid Davis from the finance department and tournament administrator Mittu Biju joining class of 2026.

Lara Weinstein, who completed the year-long R&A Women in Golf Leadership Development Programme graduating as part of Cohort 7 in 2023/2024, served as a volunteer coach on both the R&A central programme and the WIGLFP SA programme in 2025 and will serve on both again in 2026. Operations Manager Anne Vermaak continues to play a leading role in strengthening and advancing this successful partnership between The R&A, GolfRSA and the Club Management Association of South Africa.

Lara Weinstein and Michael Johnston also continue to collaborate closely with Frederik Lindgren from CPG for the GolfSixes projects. Lara represents GolfRSA on the World Handicap System Handicap Operations Committee since 2024.

Neil Homann continues to represent South Africa on the Rules of Golf Committee.

In addition to this, The R&A has generously given funding to GolfRSA for various projects to grow the game in South Africa. Examples of these projects are GolfSixes League South Africa, the GolfRSA Race to The R&A 9 Hole Challenge, Women in Golf programmes, and a program to bring social golfers under the umbrella of GolfRSA, Safeguarding & Leadership training and media coverage to amplify these projects in the public space.

The annual 12-month Golf is Good for You campaign, run in partnership with The R&A, promotes the health benefits of golf with ongoing communication through the website, social media, as well as physical posters at tournaments that highlight the benefits of the game.

We look forward to further develop these projects and we applaud The R&A for their support and guidance.

DSAC RELATIONSHIP

Since 2021, GolfRSA has benefited significantly from funding received from the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC), with the ongoing and expanded support playing a vital role in growing the game both locally and internationally.

The funding has enabled GolfRSA to invest in education and training initiatives, the administration of TARS and Rules programmes, and support for the Club Management Association of South Africa (CMASA). It has also strengthened game-development initiatives such as GolfSixes, the Women in Golf programme, the Qalisa Squad, which supported 63 girls across four camps, and financial assistance for all 14 unions participating in the Inter-Provincial Tournaments. In addition, DSAC funding has enhanced elite transformation efforts through tournament, camp, coaching and international competition support for South African Golf Development Board (SAGDB) players, while also providing funding opportunities for women pursuing tertiary education.

GolfRSA and CMASA have partnered on the GolfRSA Education & Training Programme since July 2021. This past year the programme has been supported by funding from the National Lotteries Commission (NLC), the Departments of Sport, Arts & Culture (DSAC) and The R&A.

Through this collaboration, clubs are provided with access to recruitment support, industry surveys, legal and governance resources, the CMASA Partner Programme and a range of networking opportunities. In turn, GolfRSA provides clubs access to Recruitment, Industry Surveys, Legal Resources, the CMASA Partner Programme, and various other Networking Events.

The partnership between CMASA and GolfRSA has significantly contributed to the growth and development of the club and golf industry in South Africa. Since its inception, CMASA has facilitated 26 GolfRSA-sponsored education webinars and educated 2032 club employees in those webinars, while GolfRSA has made available 53 Specialisation Area Bursaries for the Manager in Development (MID) Programme. In 2025, GolfRSA and

CMASA facilitated five GolfRSA-sponsored webinars, educating 387 employees, and awarded 15 Specialisation Area Bursaries.

SAFEGUARDING

In 2025, the International Golf Federation launched an online Safeguarding Education Programme in partnership with UNICEF. The programme features Level 1, 2 and 3 safeguarding modules that enable participants to complete training at their own pace and from any location. The flexibility of the online platform has made it easier for GolfRSA to reach a wider audience and continue promoting best practice in safeguarding throughout the game.

GolfRSA will now focus on supporting clubs and unions with more golf-specific webinars in different areas of safeguarding in 2026. GolfRSA also continues to support with receiving reports throughout the industry. It is essential that all Unions and clubs ensure they are actively involved in the promotion, education and response in safeguarding.

2025 COURSE RATINGS AND HANDICAP REVIEW

World Handicap System Requirements for Course Re-Rating Cycles

- Initial Implementation: Completed 3 September 2018
- Cycle 1 (3 to 5 years from Implementation): Completed November 2025
- Cycle 2 (5 to 10 years): Estimated Completion December 2035

All courses implemented Course Ratings & Slope Ratings in September 2018. As of the end of 2025, a total of 407 active courses have been successfully re-rated.

Phase 1 of the re-rating process has now been completed. A structured plan of action has been developed for Cycle 2, which will ensure that all golf courses are re-rated within 5 to 10 years of their most recent rating, in accordance with World Handicap System requirements.

Requests from Clubs Seeking Re-Rating Outside of their Eligibility Period

The following factors are considered when evaluating requests from clubs seeking re-rating outside of their prescribed cycle:

- Administration & Preparation Prior to the Re-Rating
- Averaged Expenses based on Historical Data
- Time Required for the Physical Re-Rating
 - 9-Hole versus 18-Hole Courses
 - 2-Person versus 4-Person Team
- Capturing on both Golf Course Rating Assistant (GCRA) and World Handicap System Course Rating System (Men & Women)

Amounts agreed on by the Handicap & Course Rating Sub-Committee:

- 9-Hole Courses = R3000.00 (Excluding VAT)
- 18-Hole Courses = R6000.00 (Excluding VAT)

World Handicap System (WHS) - Rules of Handicapping (RoH)

The 2024 edition of the World Handicap System Rules of Handicapping, implemented on 1 January 2024, remains in effect. This includes Section VI (Local Guidance for Golf Club Committees), which outlines South Africa's application of discretionary provisions within the system.

Official Communication: Daily Course Setup Notification

An official communication issued by GolfRSA on 26 March 2025 reminded all affiliated clubs of the importance of setting up their courses in accordance with Appendix G of the World Handicap System Rules of Handicapping.

Our appreciation goes to Lara Weinstein, Mike Johnston and all the volunteer course-raters for their tireless dedication and commitment to these ongoing projects

MEDIA

With traditional media increasingly focused on the major professional sports and much of its golf coverage centred on the PGA Tour and LIV Golf, social media has become GolfRSA's most effective communication and engagement platform.

Through a consistent and strategic digital content approach, GolfRSA has continued to grow its audience, showcase amateur golf achievements and create meaningful connections with players, fans, sponsors and stakeholders. The GolfRSA Instagram account surpassed its target of 12,000 followers and ended the year with more than 15,000 followers, while Facebook grew beyond the 20,000-follower mark. We also launched a TikTok account, which gained encouraging traction and surpassed 1,000 followers by the end of 2025.

Several members of staff attended an extended workshop hosted by The R&A and presented by Stuart Rowson, founder and CEO of Lucky Socks Media. A former senior BBC executive with experience across BBC Sport, Children's and News, Rowson specialises in digital strategy, social media, content production and audience growth for sports organisations and governing bodies. His company has worked with organisations including The R&A, UEFA, British Cycling and the Commonwealth Games. The programme included individual sessions with GolfRSA as well as collaborative workshops with the golf federations of the United Kingdom, providing valuable insights and practical strategies to further strengthen our digital presence.

While GolfRSA continues to enjoy valuable online coverage from platforms such as SuperSport, The South African and SA Sports Press, the organisation's own digital channels have become the primary vehicle for promoting amateur golf, celebrating achievements and expanding the reach of the game across South Africa. To further strengthen this area, the media department was expanded with the appointment of Multi-Media Officer Brett Morgan. His skills bring increased capacity and specialised expertise in content creation, design and video production, positioning GolfRSA to further enhance the quality, consistency and reach of its digital content in the years ahead.

The Golf Mag continues to establish itself as one of GolfRSA's most valuable communication assets.

The fully digital publication provides a uniquely South African perspective on the game, covering amateur and professional golf, travel, equipment, instruction and player development. During the reporting period, The Golf Mag continued to grow its audience and influence, recording more than 120,000 unique visitors and 680,000 page views since January 2025. Individual editions regularly attract in excess of 13,000 unique visitors, providing GolfRSA and its partners with a highly targeted platform to engage golfers nationwide. The magazine has become an important vehicle for showcasing South African talent, promoting GolfRSA programmes and delivering additional value to sponsors and stakeholders.

Meanwhile Compleat Golfer reduced its print-run to quarterly in 2025, but GolfRSA retained four pages in the magazine. SA Golf Trader, The Every Day Golfer and WeWomenGolf continue to give us extensive coverage.

CONCLUSION

None of what GolfRSA has achieved would be possible without the collective commitment of the people and organisations who share our vision for the game.

We are fortunate to work alongside a passionate network of golfers, clubs, unions, coaches, academies and industry partners who play an integral role in the development of amateur golf in South Africa. The spirit of collaboration that exists throughout our golfing community continues to be one of our greatest strengths, enabling us not only to produce players capable of competing and winning on the international stage, but also to foster a game that is well governed, inclusive and positioned for sustainable growth.

We are sincerely grateful for the continued support of The R&A, the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture and the Nomads Golf Club of South Africa. We also extend our appreciation to our valued sponsors and partners – Titleist South Africa, The Courier Guy South Africa, the National Lotteries Commission, Nomads, Adidas, Jonsson Workwear, Avis and Southern Sun – whose investment in our programmes and people allows us to continue creating opportunities at every level of the game.

A special word of thanks must go to the volunteers who serve on the National Executives of the South African Golf Association and Womens Golf South Africa. Their dedication, experience and countless hours of service are fundamental to the success of our organisation and the continued advancement of amateur golf.

We also acknowledge and thank our Board of Directors for the guidance, expertise and leadership they provide. Their collective knowledge remains a tremendous asset as we navigate both the opportunities and challenges facing the game. In particular, we express our sincere gratitude to our Chairman, Mr Johann Rupert, whose unwavering support, generosity and influence continue to benefit South African golf and the global game alike.

As we look ahead, GolfRSA remains committed to building on the foundations laid by those who have come before us. Guided by our values of equality, diversity and inclusivity, and strengthened by the support of our stakeholders, we are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for amateur golf in South Africa.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grant Hepburn', written in a cursive style.

Grant Hepburn: CEO GolfRSA