

ROYAL JOHANNESBURG & KENSINGTON GOLF CLUB

ONE FAIRWAY

AVENUE



THE ROYAL REVIEW 2021 / 2022
A MEMBERS PUBLICATION



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The Mission

Our mission is always based on our commitment to provide a “Royal” experience both on and off the golf course that exceeds expectations:

*A private members Club,
where visitors are welcome*

We focus on offering all members and visitors a consistently high level of customer service.

To treat all our customers, suppliers, business associates and each other with dignity and respect.

We will be entirely honest in everything we do and say.

We will be uniform and consistent in dealing with members and customers, in the application of our best practices and procedures and in working with each other.

We will work together as a united team to consistently provide the highest possible levels of good governance, strategy and service excellence to our Club.

We will continuously strive to find innovative and creative ways to reduce costs and increase our efficiency.

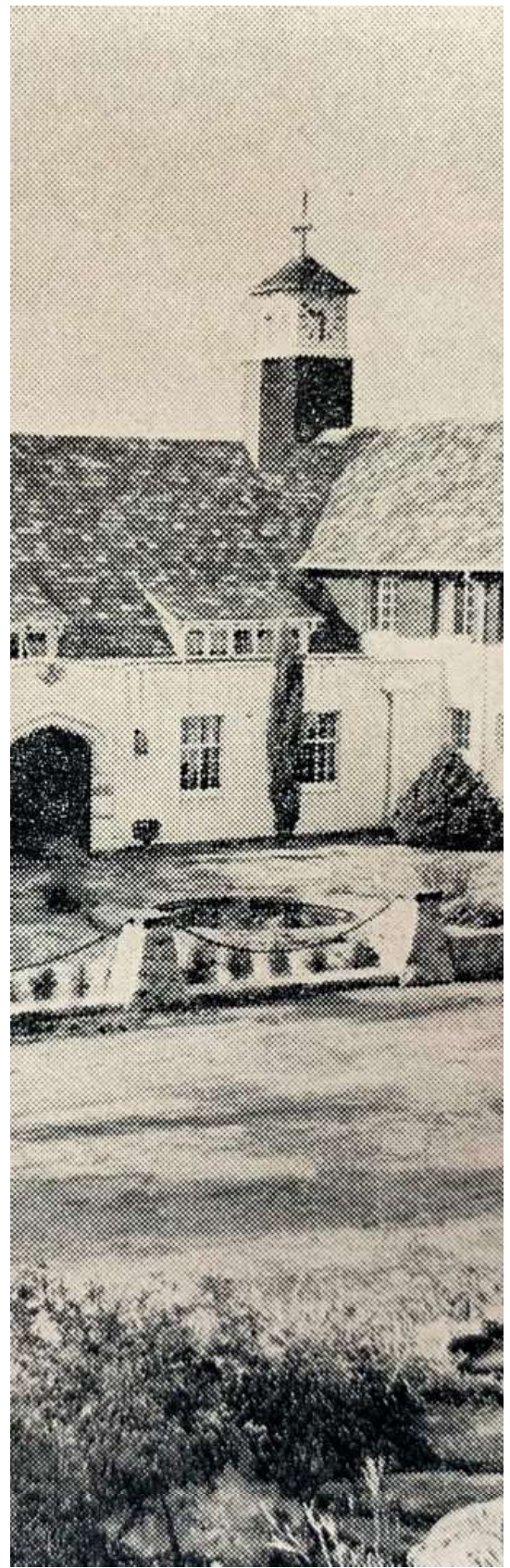
We will apply ourselves to find ways to improve our cost/value relationship.

We maintain a high standard of discipline on the golf courses, in the clubhouse and in the workplace to meet our members and customer needs and expectations.

We will always remain flexible and will adapt to changes in member and customer requirements.

We will communicate effectively and openly with members, visitors, business associates and ourselves.

We will at all times abide by the constitution and operational structure.



“

It is an honour and a privilege to be a member of this prestigious Club. To witness the developments, transformation and growth from a golf club to a world class family offering, is just remarkable. It fills me with much pride that our Club is at the forefront in so many wonderful ways and is continually building for future generations.

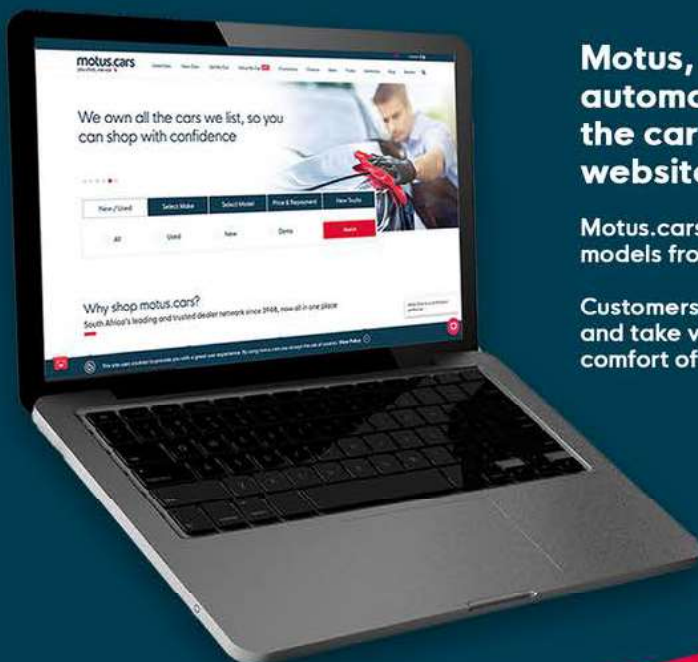
Ina Sanders (20 year member)





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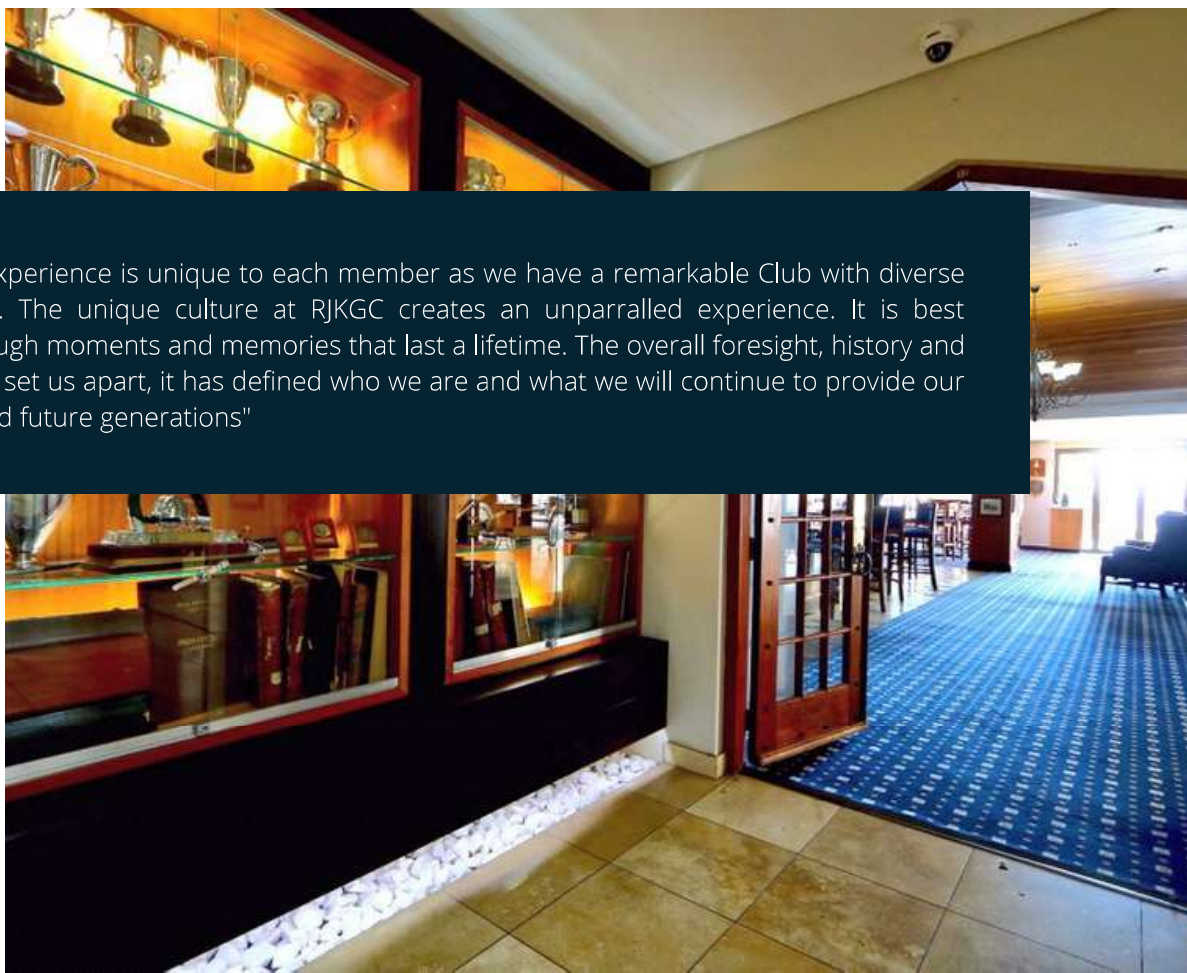


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"The Royal experience is unique to each member as we have a remarkable Club with diverse membership. The unique culture at RJKGC creates an unparalleled experience. It is best defined through moments and memories that last a lifetime. The overall foresight, history and tradition has set us apart, it has defined who we are and what we will continue to provide our members and future generations"

A warm welcome

The members of Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Golf Club, you are the heart and soul of the Club and play a huge role in what makes us so successful.

While we're fortunate to have assembled some impressive bricks and mortar, it's really the people of RJKGC that makes it so special as we're blessed to have some of the finest staff, serving some of the finest members anywhere.

We are proud to present the year in review and our efforts to continue our level of excellence in amenities and facilities. We are consistently developing and executing strategies, which has allowed us to become the Club of choice for prospective members, while maintaining fiscal diligence.

“

We had a 21st Birthday at the Club, for 25 people and the evening could not have been more perfect. The food was sublime, the ambience beautiful and we had service danced on us the whole evening. Everyone at the dinner complimented the food, wine and service repeatedly. Thank you for an unforgettable night.

Guest



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Steering the business into a new and even better future!

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I just wanted to say a big thank you for helping me yesterday with our conference. The room and snacks were great and my team enjoyed our time at your venue.

The restaurant and their food was particularly impressive. Thank you again, and I will definitely reach out to you for our next gathering.

cars.co.za



*Grey Heron
by Trevor Barnett*

Editor's Note

An outsider's view



Having been flattered to be invited to do a second stint as guest editor of the Royal Review I was once again struck by what an impressive enterprise Royal Johannesburg and Kensington Golf Club is.

As a lifelong golfer and honorary member of Johannesburg sister club Parkview it brought home to me the myriad of activities, mostly unseen and sadly often unrecognized, that go into running an excellent club.

Imagine a bowling club with 38 greens (including the putting and chipping green) to care for – all connected by a veritable green and beautifully manicured garden? Most would blanch at the thought but that, although the underpinning foundation of a golf club, is just a part of it.

Add in clubhouse, catering, competitions, events, finance and much more and you truly have a pre-dawn to post-sunset entity that requires dedication, ambition, care and acute management. Working through the various and most transparent reports for the review highlighted another crucial aspect. On the one hand there are the “professionals,” workers employed to provide their skills (and how they do!), and on the other the selfless members who volunteer their expertise and time for the good of the club. These individuals, requiring no thanks or acknowledgment, are the backbone of a club and deserve to be saluted.

In these troubled times for our country an entity such as Royal J&K, and many other golf clubs with similar ideals, stands as a microcosm of society and an example of how the search for excellence can be achieved, where issues of race, gender and age are pushed aside in the interest of the greater good.

I am proud of my association with Royal J&K and wish you well in your collective drive for future success.

Dan Retief

Editor

“

What a great new restaurant with an amazing look and feel. Excellent food and wine selection which is very well priced. I don't know what they do differently, but their pizzas are the best i've had in Joburg. Great view over the Golf courses, matched with superb service!

Dineplan



The Chairman's Report



Focus on collaborative solutions

I hope this report finds you and your family safe and well.

I am very pleased to table the Royal Review for the year ended June 2022.

Firstly, I would like to sincerely thank you, our members, for your ongoing support, particularly through these challenging times. If it isn't the economy, extreme rainfall or Covid-19, it is the ongoing load shedding that disrupts business, your golf and our hospitality.

However, the Board and management have adjusted without compromise, continued to work hard, navigate the way forward and make the critical decisions at each point without passing any of the burdens on to the members. We have remained focused on collaborative solutions to protect and grow the balance sheet, invest further, while prudently overseeing our capital management. The value proposition to members has increased immensely over the past year and your Club is in a sound position after successfully weathering bad weather, the tail end of Covid and the economic realities

With good succession, diversity, balance & strategic value to the future governance of our Club

The enhanced size of the Board, which was approved at last year's AGM alongside office bearer's term of service, has been successfully running and ensures the makeup of our organisation includes requirements to efficiently govern the Club with good succession, diversity, balance and strategic value to the future governance of our Club. I take this opportunity to thank my fellow Board members for their immense efforts thus far. The time spent on support, planning and scrutinising aspects of the Club's health, operations and strategy is considerable and all have been most diligent in their efforts. I am also proud of the work done to continually uphold the Club's standards and decorum to our charter.

Membership has held up despite the drains of unfortunate emigration and immigration. The average age of our membership continues to drop and is now below 50 years. We are definitely attracting a lot of younger golfers with their families as we incrementally move the Club towards our vision of a premier, family-centric lifestyle.

Despite the challenges which we are all aware of, management has successfully produced a breakeven financial year on the cash line whilst still delivering an excellent golf experience. Against the challenging backdrop the results are highly commendable and we cannot thank our CEO, Chris Bentley and his team, enough for another exceptional performance in very trying conditions. The team always goes way and beyond to give us all the golf experience we sometimes take for granted.

The CEO will address the year under review from an operational standpoint in his report which leaves me with dealing with the strategic positioning of the Club.

Our responsibility as the Board is to ensure that our Club's offering going forward is where our members of today and tomorrow want us to be; with the highest standards of good governance and strategic focus.

*"If everyone is moving forward together,
then success takes care of itself."*

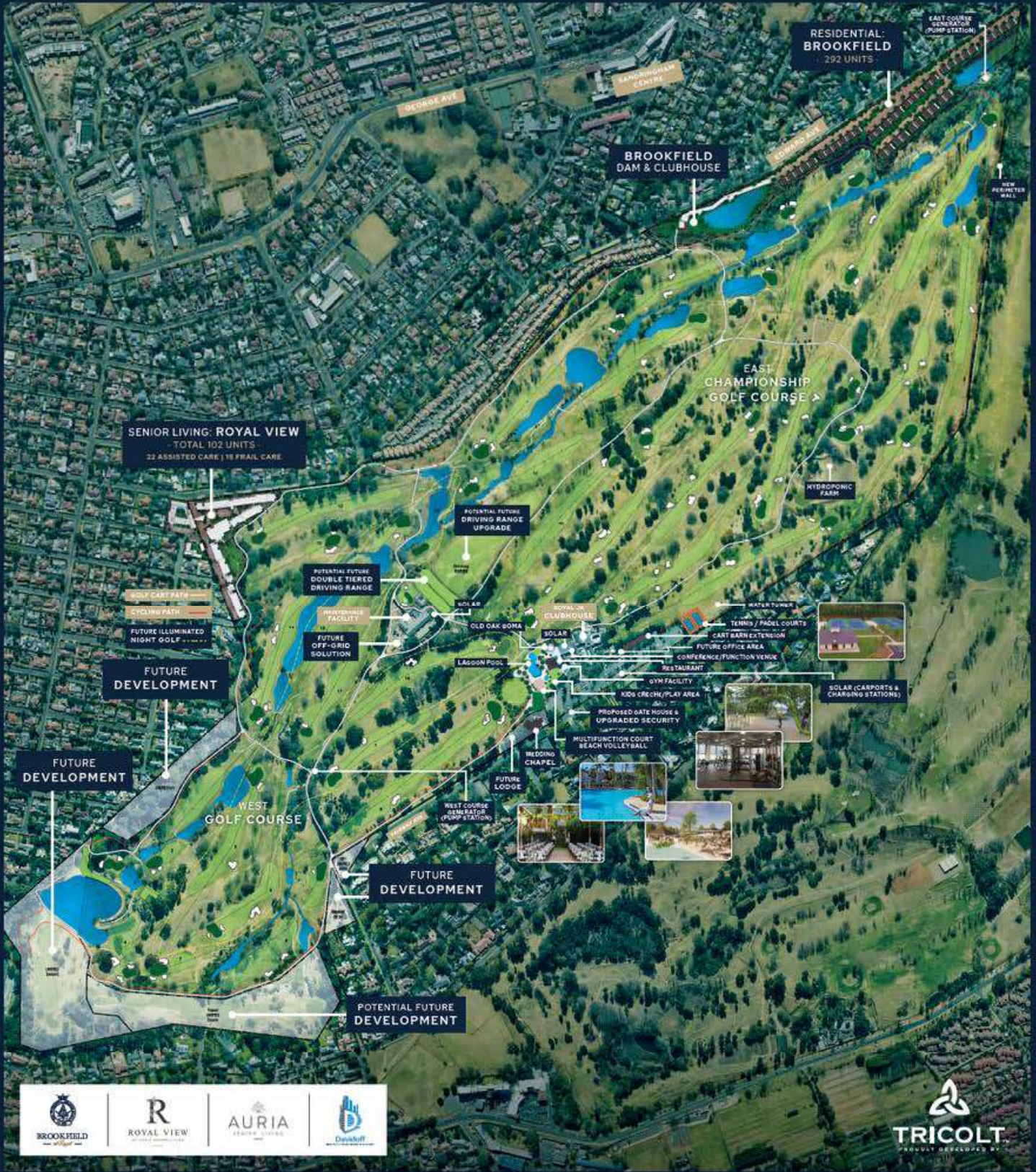
Henry Ford





ROYAL JOHANNESBURG & KENSINGTON GOLF CLUB

Master Plan



We had a five-year business plan approved in 2017 which has, unfortunately, drifted out to seven years (due to Covid), but thankfully we are still progressing very well – essentially moving towards our vision, refurbishing both courses, establishing lifestyle and family-centric facilities. We are reinstating the Capital Fund and developing a sustainable business model as planned, based on efficiencies and annuity income, in perpetuity from residential subscriptions. Our sincere gratitude to our developers, Tim Kloeck and Ricci Davidoff, for staying on course, delivering beyond agreements and working with us through these uncertain times.

We have successfully completed the challenges/objectives we set ourselves and we are well on track to reinvest in the Capital Fund by May 2023. We estimate that we will start receiving our first annuity income by the end of the year, which sets the tone for long term sustainability.

The West course refurbishment is underway and all being well, should reopen to the members at the end of November. Thank goodness we are redoing the bunkers on the West as we have found no drainage systems at all!

We are always looking ahead to what our current members and members of tomorrow will be expecting and to this end we are developing the next phase. We are cognisant of not wanting to sell any further land, but still require further investments to be made. We intend coming to the members at the AGM with an outline of the next phase for explanations and discussion.

What we still need to do to further improve the member offering and generate further critical non - golf income includes:

- A wedding chapel/conference centre on the site of the manager's house
- A 20 room lodge set in the trees alongside the current 9th hole, West course
- 3 padel courts to be built on the old bowling green
- A pool pavilion with kids' pool and resort style pool looking onto the current 9th West green (to be relocated short left of its' current position)
- A multi-purpose village green on the current 9th green
- A new entrance positioned further down the road
- Refurbishment of the waterway
- Tee box renovation in the coming years
- Car park refurbishment and extension
- Complete solar implementation at the clubhouse

Council approval is again required for certain elements and will take a couple years but in the meantime, we plan to build three padel courts and the swimming pools which will be located between the Old Oak restaurant and the proposed lodge.

The mechanism to achieve this without accessing the capital fund is to set up a joint venture with our developer; our share being the land being utilised. Our management team will run the facilities to ensure economies of scale and the standards required will be upheld. The business model of the joint venture is sound and conservative and should deliver acceptable returns to the partners. The commercial terms will be worked through post member approval.

We have progressed a long way from Royal Johannesburg Golf Club, Kensington Golf Club and today's Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Golf Club. We have considered the need to change the Club's name and move towards the future whilst still respecting the past.

After much consideration and consultation, your Board proposes the new name being Royal Johannesburg with the logo becoming our grand clock tower, which is unique and a unified symbol that watches over the entire facility. Upon member approval, this will require the necessary paperwork and approval requirements to be worked through, but we are confident the new name will reflect the future positioning of our wonderful Club.

As previously communicated, I will be standing down as Chairman at the 131st AGM with Chandru Wadhvani being the Board nominee to serve as Chairman from 2022 - 2024. Chandru has been an incredibly valued Board member, he is a passionate member, golfer and an astute businessman who works very well with our CEO and assuredly take the Club into the future as required.

With member approval, the Board has requested that I remain as a Board member for the remainder of the term and I am willing to do so and contribute wherever possible.

In closing, the Board will be nominating Mr David Stratton to receive honorary life membership in recognition of the immense contribution he has made over many years to the Club, the industry and to the game itself. Mr. Stratton meets far more than the minimum criteria required for his invaluable contributions.

I believe the Board is in good hands so all that is left for me to do is to thank my fellow Board members, the management and each and every member for their confidence and belief over the years. It has and continues to be a great honour and privilege to serve this remarkable Club.

Please continue to enjoy your golf, our hospitality and the whole environment.

Gordon Odgers

Chairman



It has and continues to be a great honour & privilege to serve this remarkable Club.





From the Clocktower

“

Investing in the golf courses is about member retention, it is important to do so; it should be done. But that's about perpetuating tradition and maintaining historic business. Investment into lifestyle and new amenities is all about growth and the future generations.
Golf Digest



It is a pleasure and a privilege as the Chief Executive Officer of Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Golf Club, to present my ninth annual report to the members of our great facility.

When entering the grounds of Number One Fairway Avenue, you realise that it is a place of friendship, history and tradition, yet is more modern, relevant and appealing than ever before. A membership that now combines the best parts of lifestyle, living, premier golf, events, family, top-tier restaurant, state of the art wellness – all realized within true hospitality and an atmosphere that invites everyone to feel at home.

It goes without saying that 2021/22 remained a disruptive environment. The Club, and indeed golf itself, are not islands and are heavily affected by the country's failing infrastructure, administration and the economic downturn that confronts all of us. This challenging backdrop translating into escalated costs has altered the business climate for us all, emphasizing the importance of management's response and swift actions to weather the turbulence.

As we emerged from the debilitating effects of Covid, which punctured our ability to host functions and corporate events for the majority of the financial year, we were also plunged into daily load shedding and unimaginable rainfall levels last summer (1320mm of rain vs 810mm the previous summer). This equated to a minimum loss in revenue of R3m, however, despite the macro environment, we are proud to present a break-even result for the financial year end (30 June 2022). This includes the investments made into generators and solar for our pump stations which has eliminated our greatest risk of not being able to irrigate greens on the hot summer days.

Our team's experience, knowledge and ability to adapt remains a key aspect to not only overcoming the challenges, but we continue to incrementally move in a very robust direction. All our staff, thanks to their passion to deliver, protect and continually enhance the Club, remain one of our greatest assets. This was again reflected in the annual member survey results for 2021/22, of which 89% of the members who participated, still support the all-encompassing vision to become a 'country club'. This year's survey produced the highest overall satisfaction level, with a result of 98%. We continue to upscale at an impressive pace and are poised to seize the opportunities ahead, whilst providing the necessary balance between member expectations and the Club's medium-term financial health.

We have accomplished an enormous amount this year and our combined efforts confirm how Royal remains dedicated to success and future generations. We are raising a fully immersive Club – one that is more sustainable, more efficient and innovative and one that has even more focus on you, the member, your family, the future customer, resident and patron. We are exponentially building more value and future proofing our landscape, so you can continue to enjoy far more for your membership and invest confidently into this exciting future.

Your management, without compromise, have constantly kept forecasting and analysing the operational performance of each area within the Club, to ensure we are doing everything in our power to achieve each and every financial goal. In today's world, we continue to invest, advance value and fully deliver the long-term vision approved by the members. However, the fair pursuit of capital is still what animates business; and our long-term profitability will be the measure and promise of 'rebuilding' the Capital Fund and not having to access the 'savings' in the future.

The Club's financial health is intertwined with a number of forces outside of its' control, among them the economy, infrastructure, lifestyle, weather and the high dependence on members personal income. On this turbulent road, our income and expense contingencies have served us well and have protected the Club against the pervading elements. The unforeseen industry challenges of supply and demand are manifest and well known. In the case of Royal, we continue to keep focus and close any gaps between revenue and expenditure, whilst at the same time responsibly scaling the business to accommodate our new and exciting facilities.

The year under review confirms that the financial performance of the Club remains stable and members can be encouraged considering the start-up costs, investments made and challenges overcome. Revenue trends from member playing fees, increased by 3% for the year, while visitor green fees escalated by 13%. Expenses have been well contained across all departments, and particularly in the course maintenance department, which absorbed 7% escalation, year on year.

We have successfully navigated through another year and our focus has remained on cash in and outflows. Our measures are strict cost and working capital controls and our auditors continue to show satisfaction with our practices, governance and standard operating procedures.

We are pleased to confirm that throughout the year your Board and management have fully complied with no irregularities to the Constitution. Our human resources, first aid, health & safety (5 star), liquor trading, good governance and best practices, along with all our other legal requirements and policies, remain compliant and above standard.





In a time-pressed world, we continue to strive to provide one thing that money can't buy, the ultimate luxury, which is time! However, we have also taken great care in considering all member pricing, the impact on personal and disposable income, and all the other factors, whilst still ensuring we raise enough capital to keep standards up and move the Club forward. There is now far more value to your subscription, namely the inclusion of the new fitness & wellness club and the Old Oak restaurant. We managed to reinstate the full member discount in food & beverage back to 10% and with prudent management, we have secured acceptable percentage increases in annual dues. To show appreciation of the members, the Club also allowed members to carry over 'unused' rounds (once off) into the new financial year.

Despite the extreme summer season, the Club still recorded 62 000 rounds for the financial year, played across both East & West golf courses and following the membership renewal and usual movement in numbers, the total membership has remained stable at around 1410 members. My sincere appreciation to our finance team, Charlotte de Jong & Siobhan Bersiks, for their diligent efforts and for delivering another seamless performance with the added pressure of large capital projects. The budget for the new financial year has been successfully implemented for 2022/23 and we look forward to delivering on all our goals. Overall, the Club is cash positive and in a sound financial position - further detail can be found in the Treasurer's report.

Toward the end of last year, we received the news that our Pro, Greg Jacobs, had been diagnosed with leukaemia. Greg has bravely tackled several courses of chemotherapy and by the grace of God, he has received his bone marrow transplant and is now on the long road to recovery. We continue to pray for healing as he fights this illness and hope to welcome Greg back to the Club in November.

Shaun Carter (a member at the time), was planning to make his way back to Frenchman's Creek in the US, when we convinced him to stay and assist us with golf operations. Shaun was appointed as the Assistant Golf Director on a fixed term contract but quickly became a much valued member of the team. Shaun did not only fill the requirements, but added immense value to the golf department and in the absence of Greg, Shaun has helped Liam Brown ensure the exceptional golf experience continues to thrive. Subsequently, we are thrilled that Shaun will be staying at Royal on a permanent basis, with a career development plan agreed.



There were a couple of other changes in management over the financial year and thanks to a strong succession plan this allowed us immediate continuity to important roles. Jenene Bernhardt took over from Jayde Rademeyer, who moved to the driving range. Jenene has been remarkable in this role so far and has certainly embraced the challenges of the position. Jenene's work ethic, knowledge and extensive experience at the Club and within the golf industry, has ensured the staff, members and guests have had a seamless transfer of responsibilities. Marcelle Fourie was promoted from guest relations to events management and has spent considerable time with Jenene planning for the vast amount of incoming conferencing and functions that lie ahead.

The standards and conditions of our golf courses have remained high and have presented well through the period, despite a very wet and trying summer. Our teams have done a superb job to not only deliver great course conditions, but at the same time execute all in-house projects. We believe the efforts of our course maintenance teams have ensured the standards and condition of our golf courses have been outstanding.

We announced that after eight years of working at Royal, Shaun Brits decided to step down as the Course Manager. However, Shaun has stayed on until the contractual completion of the West course refurbishment. We were thrilled to welcome Jerry Steyn as Shaun's replacement. Jerry is a familiar face to Royal having previously worked as Shaun's assistant. He is a very talented greenkeeper and has already continued with the excellent maintenance regimes and plans to take our agronomic programmes, conditioning and best practices to even greater heights.

Over the period, our commitment to agronomic excellence were achieved with sustainability, economics and environmentalism fully embraced. We have utilised and improved upon many techniques which enables us to create some of the most celebrated playing surfaces in the summer months. The conditioning of our golf courses is an ongoing effort, focused on achieving an optimal visual appearance, while maintaining excellent turf health at best value.

The West Course refurbishment started on 1 June 2022 and the makeover is certainly going to enhance the playability and aesthetics of the course. The West greens are being resurfaced with bent grass (USGA spec) and the bunkers reshaped with new drainage, liners and sand. There are minor improvements to the layout to suit modern play – some bunkers closed, others repositioned, and a new fairway bunker on the par-5 second. All the renovated bunkers will be shallower and have slightly rolled down grass faces. State-of-the-art liners will prevent contamination of the sand and overall, will lower maintenance costs. The aim is to present a more enjoyable and fun course and ensure an offering that is for everyone, from the beginner to the professional.



We will be both applauded and criticised for the decision to switch the nines around but it is about measuring the overall strength of the finishing holes, the flow of play and golfing experience. In addition, the Club's range facility is having its practice greens resurfaced, tees relevelled and bunkers improved, while several new cart paths will connect golf, practice and lifestyle destinations. The West Course is set to open at the end of November and we cannot wait to showcase both our courses this coming summer!

Our food offering and standards have been significantly amplified to cater for all. Now with two culinary kitchens, our expectations of quality remains a formula for success and includes delivering extraordinary member and guest experiences, operational excellence and financial performance.

The food & beverage department was successfully brought in-house in June 2020. Whilst this required more of the Club's resources, we are thrilled with the performance and management thereof. Our food & beverage team have delivered far beyond our expectations and continue to enhance the offering every day. We believe the positive trend will continue with events and corporates returning to the Club. Considering the plethora of different food requirements, taste buds, regulations and projects in hospitality, the department has outperformed at every turn.



In November last year we welcomed Ransley Pietersen as our Executive Chef. Ransley, under the leadership of our food & beverage director, Erik Brakhoven, has brought an abundance of talent and passion for food which has seen the successful launch of the Old Oak Restaurant & Family Centre. To date, the new restaurant has received superb feedback from members and guests alike, with visitor contribution at 80% occupancy.

When we were looking for inspiration for this facility, we barely looked at golf clubs, because there weren't any that were doing what we wanted to create. We looked at other businesses, hotels, resorts, lots of different entertainment venues and with our combined vision, the Old Oak was born. It is unique and all about family, fun and a truly memorable dining experience. Overlooking our award winning golf courses, the name 'Old Oak' pays tribute to the grand oak tree that once was. It is a symbol that showcases the Club's abundant offering and a destination that has something for everyone. When visiting 'The Old Oak', members, residents and patrons can enjoy legendary hospitality, meticulous attention to detail, great service, unique food and bespoke wine. The gap in the market was to offer something different, something that has been needed for a long time - where kids are the heroes and parents can sit back and relax. It has been rewarding to see members finish a round of golf and meet the family for lunch afterwards.

The team are preparing for 'bumper' summer season and planning to meet the high demand for Old Oak reservations. In addition, our culinary team has revamped the current Club dining menu, which was launched in early September. At the time of writing this report, we have met with our interior designer regarding the upgrade of clubhouse furniture (bar, patio, deck and halfway house). The furniture in these areas is nearly seven years old and has certainly seen better days. We have budgeted for the replacements and hope to have the new furniture in place in early 2023.

My sincere gratitude to the all our chefs, kitchen staff, waiters and scullers for all the hard work and for your immense dedication, not only to facilitating smooth operations but the desire to ensure complete customer satisfaction front of house.

Royal is filled with rich tradition and history and is always looking to the horizon when it comes to our members, friends and family. We have positioned ourselves as dynamic leaders in the industry and find ourselves at the forefront of Club innovation. We are consistently fine-tuning, developing and enhancing the Club's facilities with detailed focus, planning and execution which is targeted to exceed the needs and expectations of all ages.

The work undertaken to create a 'Royal Master Plan' some two years ago has served us well - a conceptual snapshot which allows members to view current projects, property developments, proposed projects, future projects and further potential opportunities on the property (e.g. night golf, additional dams, lodge accommodation, more peripheral land etc). We believe the Master plan is achievable, easily understood and provides a prospective of what could be achieved within the Club grounds.

Over the past eight years the key steps have been taken and members have approved several fundamental and strategic resolutions, namely around property development and the creation of annuity income in perpetuity. The key focus has been to strengthen our facility offering to attract the entire family. The Board has driven the enhancement of the Club and this has enabled members to decide on the best path forward to secure an all-encompassing facility, with enough capital reserves, a world class for the next generation and at the same time, eliminate the most punitive risks facing the country and in turn, our business.

Our developments have benefited with a move at the top-end of the market where, in the wake of the coronavirus, apartment living has gained in popularity, given the work-from-home scenario and shedding of maintenance-heavy properties. Priorities are shifting and evolving to engage more with neighbourhoods and how they support lifestyle desires.

We look forward to welcoming the first 200 residents at the end of the year. Brookfield at Royal & Royal View have come to life and the promises of a superior lifestyle, security and investment are now a reality. The opportunity to live and/or invest securely in a premium luxury development overlooking our award-winning golf courses, matched with other amenities, is truly unlike any other.

We expect the first capital contributions and the annuity income to start by the end of 2022. Two of the three property developments, Brookfield at Royal & Royal View, are well under way and the Club's property developer, Tricolt, has remained fully committed and is meeting all obligations to the Club. To date, Brookfield at Royal, (right of holes 7 & 12, East), has sold close to 90% of its Phase One apartments and Phase Two is set to launch in early 2023. Royal View (the retirement village, behind hole 12, West by Auria), is set to be sold out this year. The third property, being the current 6th hole of the West Course (Linksfield), has overcome its re-zoning issues and now awaits the clearance of environmental challenges. The developers remain optimistic and still hope for this land to be cleared this year. In addition, they will soon be looking at launching some small home developments on the subsidiary stands (right of hole 8 & 14 West) which also form part of the property deal and annuity income to the Club.

Thereafter, we will have only three other large projects outstanding and we need to somehow get them done in the near future. Namely, tee boxes across both courses, the long overdue clearing and repairs to the waterway and the car park restoration. In addition to the above, our developers are currently rolling out the new cart paths which will connect the clubhouse, driving range and other facilities





Our Club is certainly a grand structure but maintaining this historic building is no easy task. There is never a dull day in general maintenance at Royal and there is always a long list of repairs, refurbishments and projects to complete. I would like to extend a special thanks to our infrastructure manager, Hennie Bredenhann and his team who have a motto that there is never a task too big for them to overcome. Without their incredible efforts behind the scenes to maintain and protect our buildings and infrastructure, we wouldn't be able to deliver our front-of-house service. Their hard work and dedication, sometimes through the night, has been remarkable and I couldn't be more grateful.

We continue to plan and search for feasible solutions regarding long-term, cost-effective energy and we are setting in motion the process for a solar car port to be finalised by the end of the year. This project will be a long-term agreement, on a no-capital basis with required detailed service levels to be met.



As communicated in March this year, we have completed substantial homework and market research around padel tennis (the fastest growing sport in the world). We are in the midst of a potential deal for the Club, which would see three courts being established on the west side of the car park. The model is very similar to golf, with lots of synergy and economies of scale and it would be very profitable from the outset and add an additional offering to members, which compliments the 'Country Club' aspect.

The Club's strategy has remained unchanged and the Board has driven the enhancement of the Club through calculated studies, industry trends and collaborative planning. This has enabled members to decide on the best path forward to secure an all-encompassing facility, with enough capital reserves, a desirable offering for the next generation and at the same time, eliminate the most severe risks facing the country and in turn, our business. Overall, the process for development is to innovate, grow and protect the Club's balance sheet with the focus to evolve the Club, its security, financial health and sustainability, whilst creating amenities beyond golf for the entire family to enjoy and we are well on track.

We are proud of our environmental standards and efforts to enhance the beauty of the landscape that surrounds us. Our motives accommodate best practices, ecologically sound land management, composting, water conservation and the establishment of 'garden, harbour and farm-to-kitchen' projects.

Sustainability remains an integral part of the Club's business philosophy. We continue fostering best practices when it comes to a sustainable, future environment and whilst our Club is certified and regarded as highly responsible for its' practices, we are presciently preparing for future legislation. We are embarking on the journey to better facilitate the impact we have as consumers and conserving resources through calculated studies of what our carbon impact is as a facility and how to one day become carbon neutral. In the short-term, we have made swift progress and the initiative is to secure a 10-year performance plan for the Club.

We continue to invest in sustainability and we have significantly broadened our range of sustainable projects, including kitchen gardens, bee apiary's and an abundance of environment-friendly areas which lead to a better ecosystem.

The Club's leadership has highlighted the need to "be in control of our own destiny", flagging the top objectives and risks, including Council and Eskom (load shedding) inefficiencies, which we expect to significantly worsen in the coming years. The Club remains focused to find complete solutions to the energy challenges. The implementations also open the opportunity to start moving toward electric and hybrid machinery, which will significantly reduce annual fuel costs and keep driving the high road strategy. We are in the process of ordering a replacement fleet, which should be in place by July 2023. Making a difference, leading on environmental matters, improving sustainability and being in control of our own destiny, remain key drivers in our blueprint.

We cannot escape the environment in which we operate and it is envisaged that local conditions will remain. Despite these conditions, we focus on our developments and annuity income, which will bridge our future independence financially. Events have shown us that our operations, initiatives and projects undertaken are even more important today than they were before and our opportunity lies in emphasising that we provide a unique and sustainable facility. Our Club is poised for continued growth and success and we must keep fostering resilience over fear. Despite everything happening around us, our vision and ongoing projects should provide much to look forward to and the very best of recreational time.

Members have been kept well informed throughout the year across the various communication channels and our open door policy has served us well and allowed members to transparently engage with management. The quality of our various social media platforms, content and reach, continues to grow at an average of 30% per annum and through meaningful content and quality, our audience remains engaged locally and across the world. The efforts of Candice Humphrey (membership & marketing), has kept us all connected with valuable insight and authentic stories of events and days well spent at the Club. The enhanced data, statistics and marketing activities have kept us prominent in the social media sphere and our sincere appreciation to Candice for all her efforts

“

This is my favourite place in the world!
When I wake up, I tell my mommy i want
to come here! Ransley also makes the
best milkshakes ever.

Matthew (5 years old)



The story of effort and achievement is but a bald record, and it would be impossible to name everyone who has contributed time or money or loyal cooperation to the prestige and success to our charter. The past year does not only highlight another challenging and successful time, but also pays tribute to the immense sacrifices to protect and support camaraderie, fellowship and the constant endeavour to do all we can individually to uphold and protect the proud name and fame of 'Royal'. The commitment and longevity of our staff tells the story of our brand, as a people-centred place. The clarity, focus of interests and spirit of our people, gives us confidence through adversity. We will continue to face volatile times ahead and work to maintain the necessary agility and flexibility to manage uncertainties, while ensuring continued growth and brand equity.

In closing, I want to personally thank all of our members, for the immense support and trust. We have striven to keep all members happy and to exceed expectations. That success comes down to your patronage and use of all facilities. The partnerships we have built drive the work we do every day. I'm grateful for our inspiring members, and also for our amazing team here at Royal, who do so much to make progress toward our mission of ensuring better lives for the greatest number of people. Together they are why I'm so excited for all the work ahead.

I thank the members of the Board for dedicating their time and knowledge and for assisting management with the overall delivery, vision, strategy, good governance and progress of our Club. We are well positioned to tackle both the short-term uncertainties and are set for long-term growth. Our Ladies Section continues to flourish and I must make a special mention and give recognition to Wendy Huddy. Wendy serves on the Board as the Vice Chairlady, assists our Lady Captain, Jane Goodwin, and works tirelessly (eight days a week!) as the ladies' golf manager. To the staff and management she is known as our guardian angel. Nothing is ever too much for her and her attention to detail, tenacity, dedication, support and extreme care for people is immense and this contributes not only to the thriving Ladies Section, but to the Club as a whole.

I would also like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank our outgoing Chairman, Mr. Gordon Odgers, who has driven the Club's transformation, good governance and success. His constant mentorship, selflessness and determination to keep enhancing the business of golf, development and hospitality has been extraordinary in so many ways. The mission statement is clear and continues to drive us, and our employees, to do great work. We maintain clarity of our values and every employee understands their role in supporting the mission in order to achieve the collective results. At the end of the day, our raison d'être is to deliver an enhanced facility, quality products and service, while keeping focus on the membership and overall vision.

As always, there are things to be done, challenges to address and improvements to be made and it continues to be a great privilege to lead 'Royal' through these defining times, as we steer the business into a new and even better future!

Christopher Bentley

Chief Executive Officer

All in a year

Bottles of wine consumed

1 995



2 200 l



DRAUGHTS SOLD

28 376



BOTTLES OF WATER SOLD

29 427



For the first time in history we sold more water than draughts

Cappuccinos consumed

15 195



BOTTLES OF BEER

46 368



8 064

TOILET ROLLS



FUEL

used for the generator

5528 l



RAINFALL

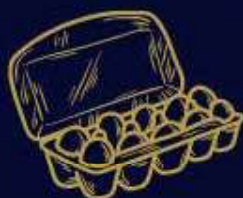
1 335.3 ml



Rainfall from
1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

EGGS 81 000

used



CHICKEN BREASTS

6 TONS
used

AVERAGE SPEED OF THE GREENS



11
East

10
West

COFFEE

consumed
by the CEO



which amount to

48 000 mg of caffeine

INCOMING CALLS



17 544

INCOMING EMAILS



192 100



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*Externally endorsed testing. Results determined comparing the RXV ELITE vs. conventional lead acid battery carts. Results vary according to course terrain and conditions. **Based on the RXV



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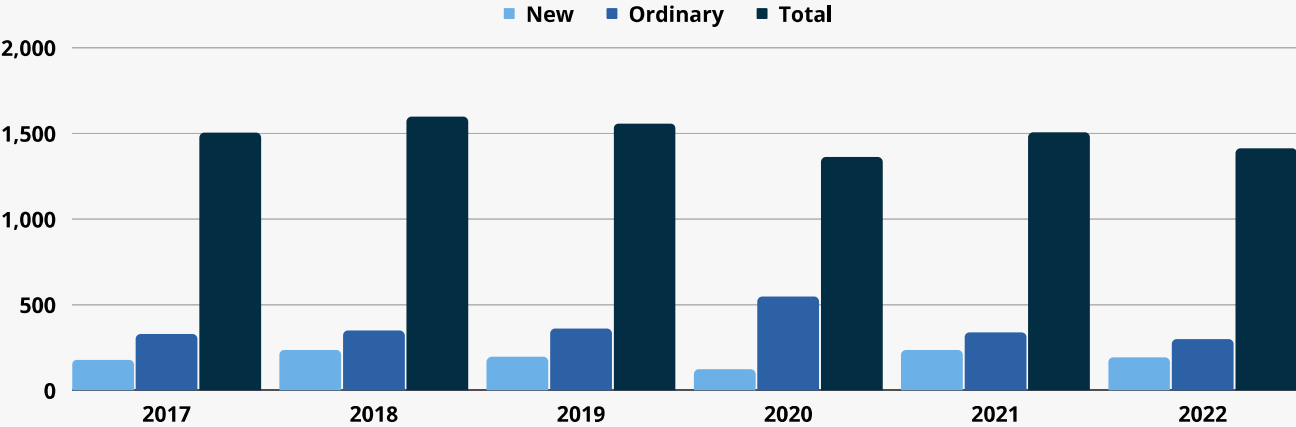
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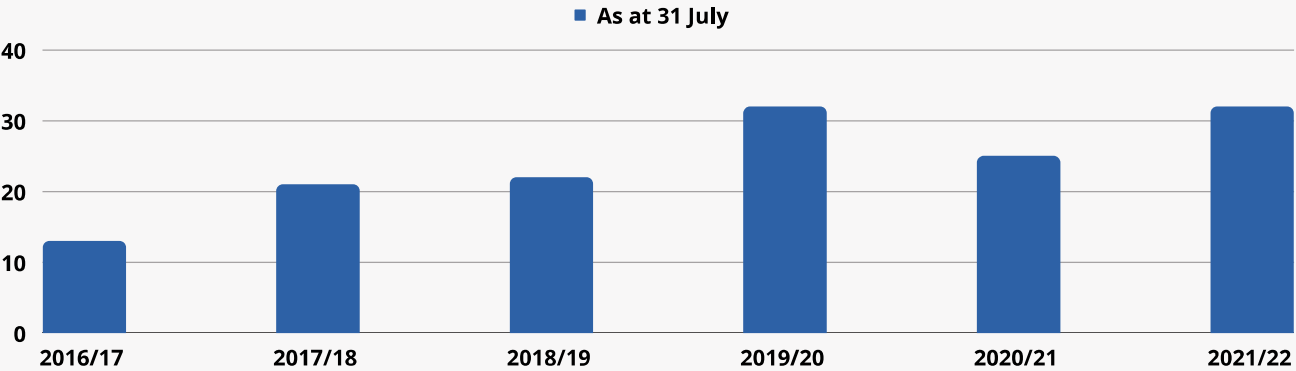
Statistics

1410	192	21%
Total Members	New Members	Subscriptions Income

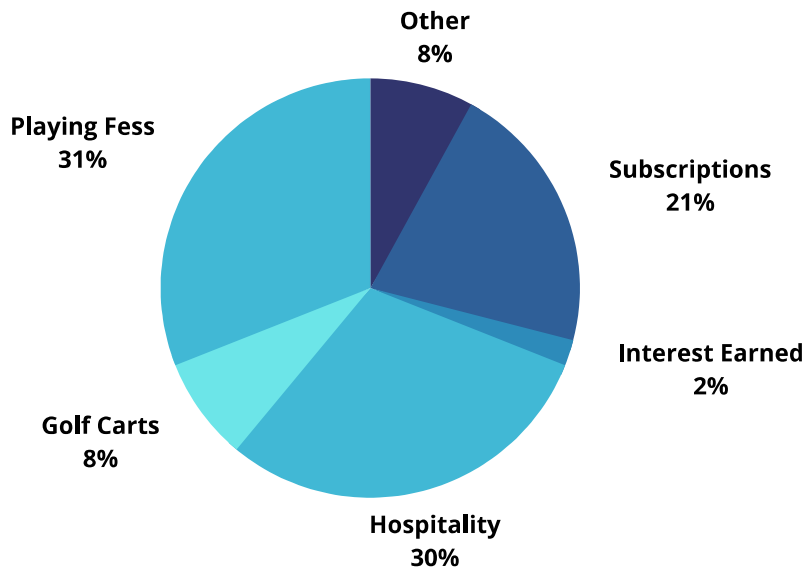
Membership



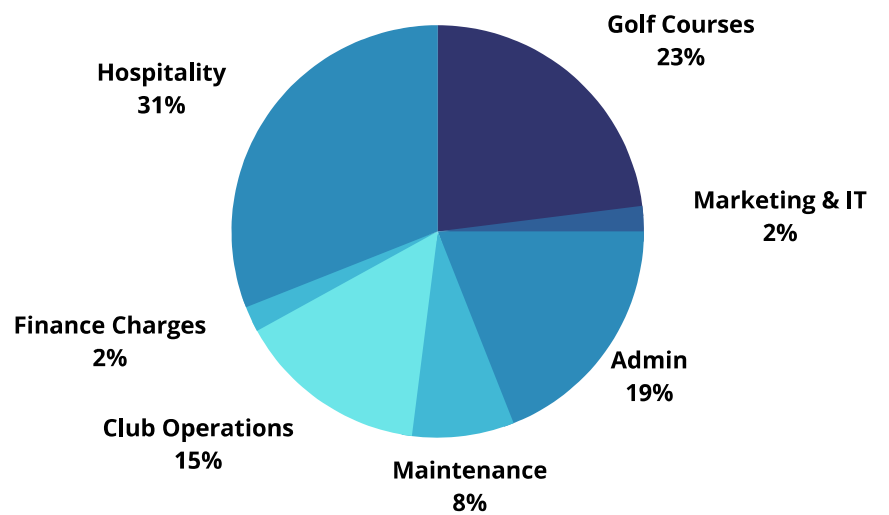
Corporate Members



Club Income R 45.4 Million



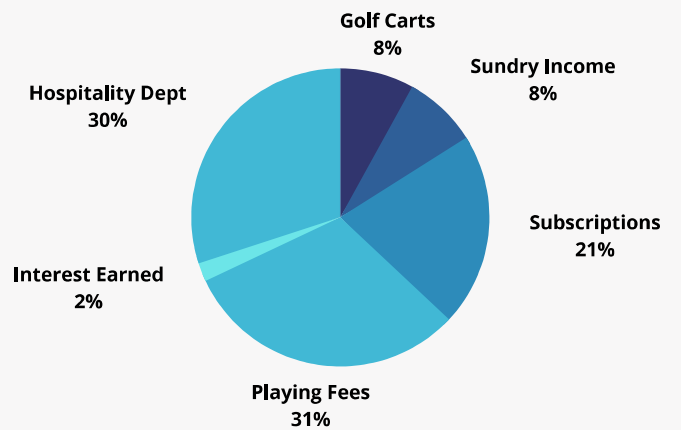
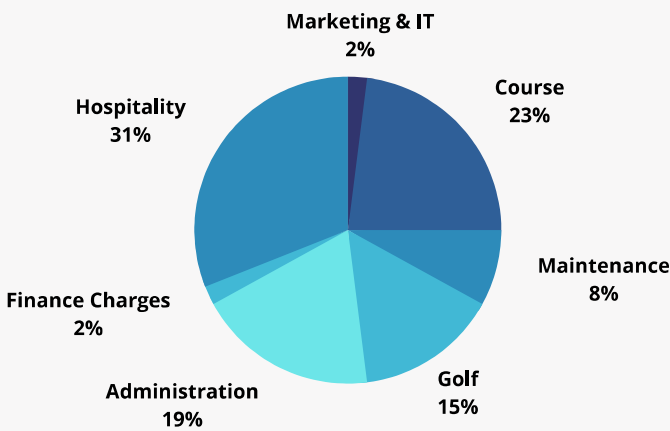
Club Expenses R 45.4 Million



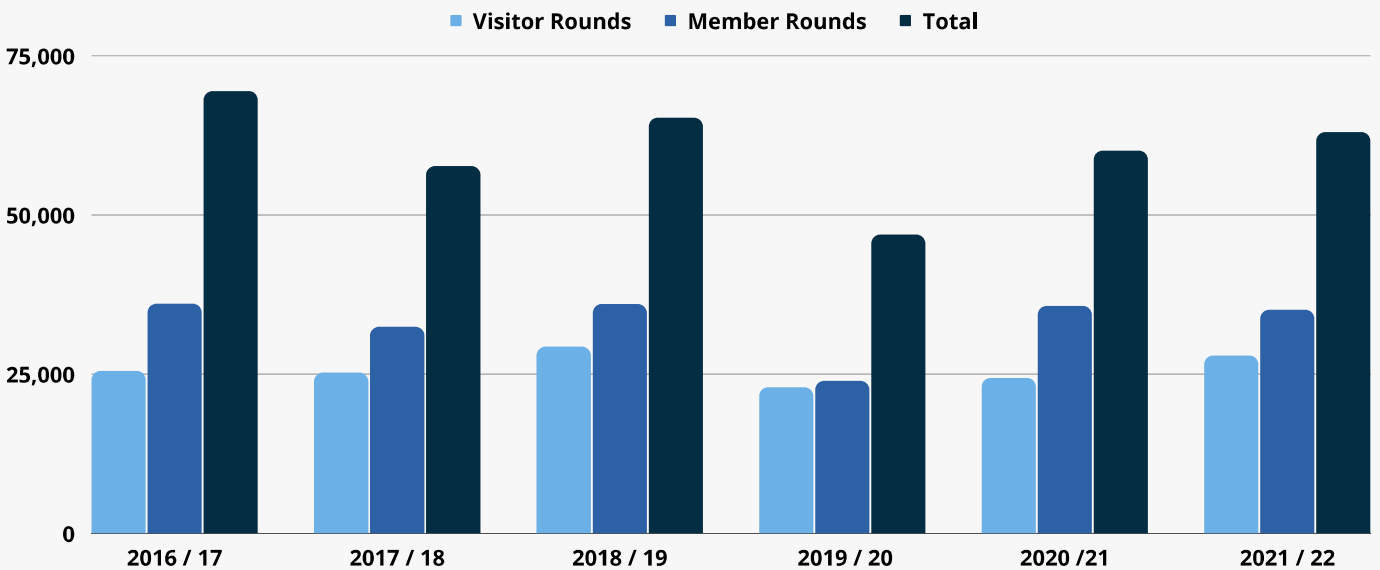
62 943	31%	21%
Total Rounds	Playing Fee Income	Subscriptions

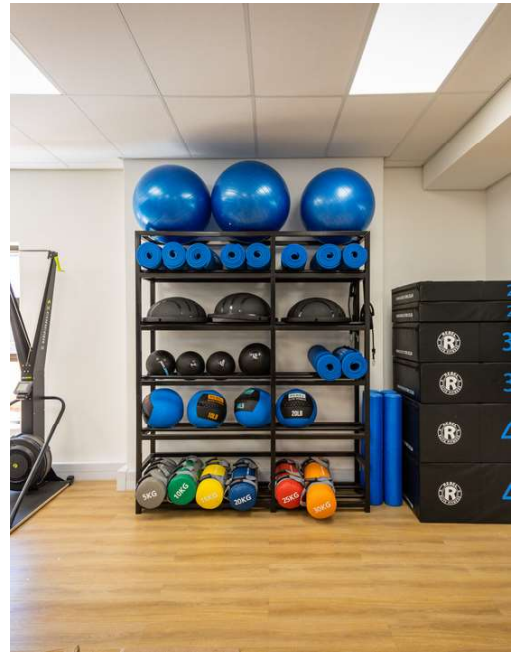
Operational Expenses:
July 2021 - June 2022

Operational Income:
July 2021 - June 2022

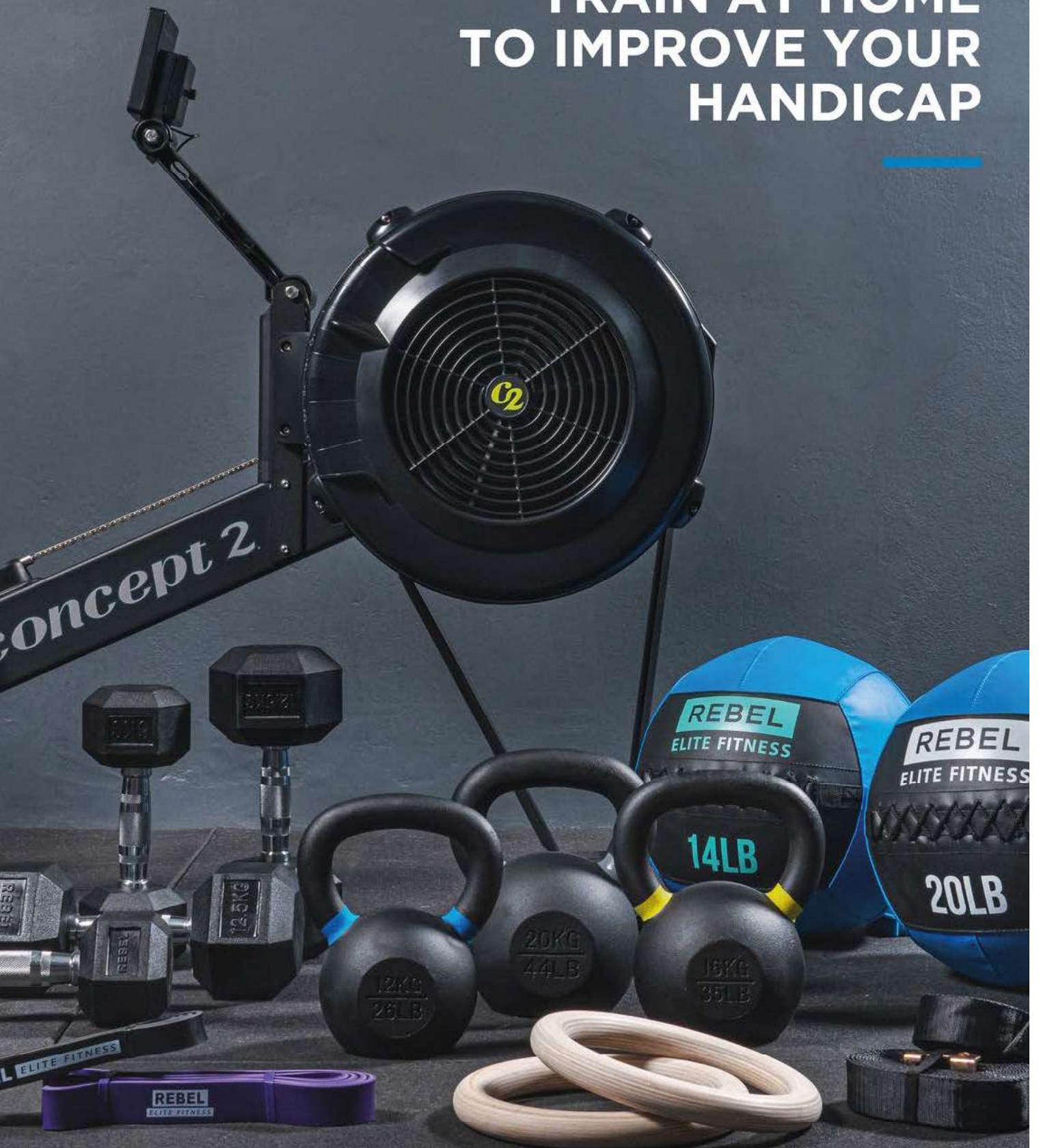


Rounds





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“

Thank you so much for a wonderful day yesterday. The experience was Royal, I now know what is meant by the catch phrase. Wonderful.

As mentioned yesterday, you and your team have created a world class facility and experience. In my books you guys have gone to Number 1. It will be tough for anyone to compete with you.

Thinus Keller



The Treasurer's Report

Thank you for the opportunity of presenting the Treasurer's report for the financial year ended 30 June 2022.

It is pleasing that Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Golf Club has remained resilient through the tough two year period and we are fortunate that our facility continues to have a strong membership base, a loyal visitor market and incredible staff who live and deliver the values of Royal every day.

The 2021/22 financial year saw the restrictions relating to the Covid-19 pandemic beginning to ease, meaning the Club could host a greater number of golfers and more revenue-generating events albeit far less than pre pandemic levels.

Despite the improved outlook insofar as capacity was concerned, Johannesburg was impacted by higher-than-average rainfall during the financial year under review, resulting in substantial lost rounds and related income.

An estimated 6 300 rounds were lost (approximately 10% of budgeted rounds) bringing diminished cart and related hospitality revenue.

The past few financial years have brought several unforeseen events which has forced the club to operate and budget with significant flexibility.

However this has clearly benefitted the club as we were able to finish the financial year with a break even result (before depreciation) for the year ending 20 June 2022, this despite the significant challenges and additional once-off costs which were incurred during the year.

The senior management team of the Club deserves immense credit for delivering a sound financial result for the year. This has to be considered in an environment where the economic climate and political uncertainty delivers treacherous conditions for any business or sporting club to prosper, needless to say one which is significantly expanding its offering and absorbing all challenges without passing any burden onto the member.

The year was an exciting one as it brought with it the opening of the Old Oak Restaurant as we took further steps to a holistic country club offering and, sustainability of the club for future generations.

In addition to the Old Oak opening and additional initiatives contemplated for coming financial periods, the first residents in the Royal developments are expected to take occupation by November 2022.

As occupation in these developments begins to ramp up, the club will begin to generate the much-needed annuity income to support its operations and offering.

Noting the challenges related to rainfall and large capital expenditure (Old Oak start-up costs, including the delayed opening date), the club was also impacted by power challenges as loadshedding began to have an impact on the courses as well as other critical infrastructure; this on top of increased electricity tariffs.

We have had to incur additional expenditure to procure several UPS units, and these challenges clearly indicate the need to secure more sustainable solutions to power as Eskom's challenges are expected to continue in the short- and medium-term.

FY22 once again showed solid financial performance, as the results from golf operations improved from the prior year, generating a profit of R540k (FY21: Loss of R462k). However, contrary to the FY21 result, hospitality incurred a loss for the year of R664k (FY21: Profit of R1.85m), largely impacted by the start-up costs associated with the Old Oak as well as heavy rainfall effecting traffic through the club.

The below summary indicates that while the FY22 budget was informed by the easing of Covid-19-related restrictions, the performance against the budget was severely hit by aforementioned issues:

- Actual rounds and cart hire were behind budget
- Functions, food & beverage sales: R13.4m (20%) – two factors affected this:
 - The high levels of rainfall reducing rounds of golf and therefore the hospitality offering.
 - The delay in the opening of the Old Oak. We budgeted for 5 months of revenue, but only managed to trade for 1 month and 3 weeks.
- Revenue for FY22 from the Old Oak amounted to R1.4m
- Gross Profit of R804k at a GP percentage of 56%
- Net Profit before start-up costs of R90k (total start-up costs which could not be allocated to the balance sheet and were depreciated at R534k)
- Member subscription fees: R10.2m – R572k behind budget
- Visitor green fees: R7.9m – R2.5m behind budget
- Pay-as-you-play green fees: R1.9m – R269k behind budget
- Golf cart hire: R3.8m – R154k behind budget

	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of Rounds				
Members	35 944	23 853	35 662	35 068
Visitors	23 595	20 460	20 803	16 845
Corporates	5 673	3 963	3 570	11 031
Total	65 212	48 276	60 035	62 943
Number of Members	1 565	1 375	1 503	1 410
Subscription Revenue	R 9 438 665	R 9 626 315	R 9 521 780	R 9 724 548
Average Rate Increase	3%	2%	4%	2%

Liquidity remains a key risk, particularly with regards to the expansion initiatives underway. The Old Oak has now settled and appears to be able to sustain itself. The refurbishment of the West Course is well underway, with further work expected on the tee boxes in the coming years.

The major capital expenditure item planned in the coming financial periods is the replacement of the course machinery. The Club is looking to finance this through a more efficient leasing arrangement, rather than through a significant capital outlay which would severely impact liquidity and the capital fund.

Noting the liquidity risk, planned capex (updated furniture, Old Oak assets, new servers etc.) will be managed within available cash flow as operations allow, where critical capex will be managed through sustainable financing solutions. Future financing or availability of cash for this ongoing expenditure remains a key risk and will need to be carefully managed in the short- to medium-term, with the aim for this to be supported by the additional income streams coming online from 2022.

The following liquidity risk key points are noted:

- Cash balance of R3.7m at year-end (FY21: R4.6m and FY20: R950k).
- During April 2022, the full Liberty investment portfolio was liquidated and paid back to the Club and the full outstanding amount of the Standard Bank loan was immediately settled.
- The net surplus from the portfolio after settlement of the loan (R3.8m) was reinvested with Stanlib on a short-term basis whilst the Capital Fund considers investment options.
- The Club will be receiving R12m from the developer in May 2023 - this will go into the Capital Fund.
- The overdraft facility remains in place, noting it is a demand facility and can be called at any time.

Although the liquidity position remains acceptable and largely in line with that at FYE21, a facility such as Royal requires a substantial amount of expenditure to keep operations running smoothly and meet the members expectations. As a result, we remain susceptible to unforeseen large expenses (capital and operating in nature) and if the Club is required to reduce expenditure to manage the liquidity position appropriately, this can lead to an impact in the golfing and hospitality experience.

The opening and settling in of The Old Oak restaurant, combined with the expansion initiatives planned is therefore critical to the long-term sustainability and overall value proposition.

The Club continues with the following initiatives (over and above those mentioned in this review):

- Careful monitoring and management of expenditure.
- Early raising of golfing subscriptions, which continues to be supported by the members and assists with operational cash flow.
- Detailed cash flow forecasts and regular updates to ensure the Club can adapt to material changes.

Teran Peyper

Treasurer



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Abridged Financials

**ROYAL JOHANNESBURG & KENSINGTON GOLF CLUB
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2022

	Notes	2022 R	2021 R
Assets			
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	2	13 637 564	13 948 524
Investments	3	3 824 598	16 600 330
		17 462 162	30 548 854
Current Assets			
Inventories	4	1 255 643	294 165
Trade and other receivables	5	2 161 290	1 247 829
South African Revenue Services - income tax		-	204 265
Cash and cash equivalents	6	3 646 907	4 554 064
		7 063 840	6 300 323
Total Assets		24 526 002	36 849 177
Reserves and Liabilities			
Reserves			
Capital Fund Reserve	7	10 066 083	16 579 642
Accumulated deficit		(1 042 344)	(16 695 558)
		9 023 739	(115 916)
Liabilities			
Non-Current Liabilities			
Loan from related party	8	1 715 105	1 715 105
Long term liabilities	9	-	12 647 249
		1 715 105	14 362 354
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	10	13 732 390	22 335 749
Long term liabilities	9	-	266 990
South African Revenue Service - income tax		54 768	-
		13 787 158	22 602 739
Total Liabilities		15 502 263	36 965 093
Total Equity and Liabilities		24 526 002	36 849 177

ROYAL JOHANNESBURG & KENSINGTON GOLF CLUB
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022
STATEMENT OF SURPLUS OR DEFICIT

		2022	2021
		R	R
		Notes	
Operating Account			
Golf Operations:	Playing Fees	13 942 916	12 805 317
	Subscriptions	9 724 548	9 521 780
	Other Income	7 355 326	6 546 558
	Total Golf Income	31 022 790	28 873 655
	Total Golf Expenditure	(30 483 989)	(29 335 500)
		11	
Net Surplus / (Deficit) from Golf Operations		538 802	(461 845)
Food and Beverage:	Sales	13 172 991	10 396 042
	Cost of Sales	(6 107 054)	(4 828 510)
	Gross Profit	7 065 937	5 567 532
	Other Hospitality Income	316 860	367 956
	Total Hospitality Expenses	(8 046 765)	(4 080 979)
Net (Deficit) / Surplus from Hospitality		(663 968)	1 854 509
Interest received from investments		930 570	1 082 789
Finance charges		(725 567)	(841 333)
		13	
		14	
Net Surplus from Operations		79 837	1 634 119
Leasehold depreciation		(866 772)	(845 365)
Income Tax		0	0
Net Operating (Deficit) / Surplus After Income Tax and Depreciation		(786 935)	788 754
Capital Expenditure		0	(614 420)
Capital Account (Deficit)		0	(614 420)
		17	
Net (Deficit) / Surplus		(786 935)	174 334
Rounds of golf		62 943	60 035



THE OLD OAK
CHENIN BLANC

297 22 82

Capital Fund Report

During the past financial year, the Capital Fund Committee has remained supportive of the Club and continued as per the member approvals. It has been another year of challenges, yet our Club continues to progress forward and deliver on all its initiatives.

The attached graph shows the month by month investment values of the capital fund, together with the Standard Bank overdraft facility used for the approved project funding. The delays in concluding the project have had the obvious effect of delaying the repayments to be made to the fund from the proceeds of the developer payments. The major payment is now expected in the final quarter of the current financial year.

After several discussions with the Chairman and CEO, the CFC has been advised that, other than providing for unexpected emergencies, the Club does not expect to access CFC funds in the near future and that the CFC will be able to recommence an investment policy to maximize this fund as a backstop for the Club.

As a result, it was agreed that maintaining the overdraft was unnecessary and the overdraft was liquidated in May 2022 and the remaining investments were transferred to a short term StanLib capital fund.

The CFC will look to review the funds investment advisors prior to receipt of the developer repayment (R12m in May 2023) and to approve with them their investment and mandate.

Many sincere thanks to the Capital Fund Committee, Graham Twaddle, Tom Burger & John Saker for dedicating their time, knowledge and assisting wherever necessary.

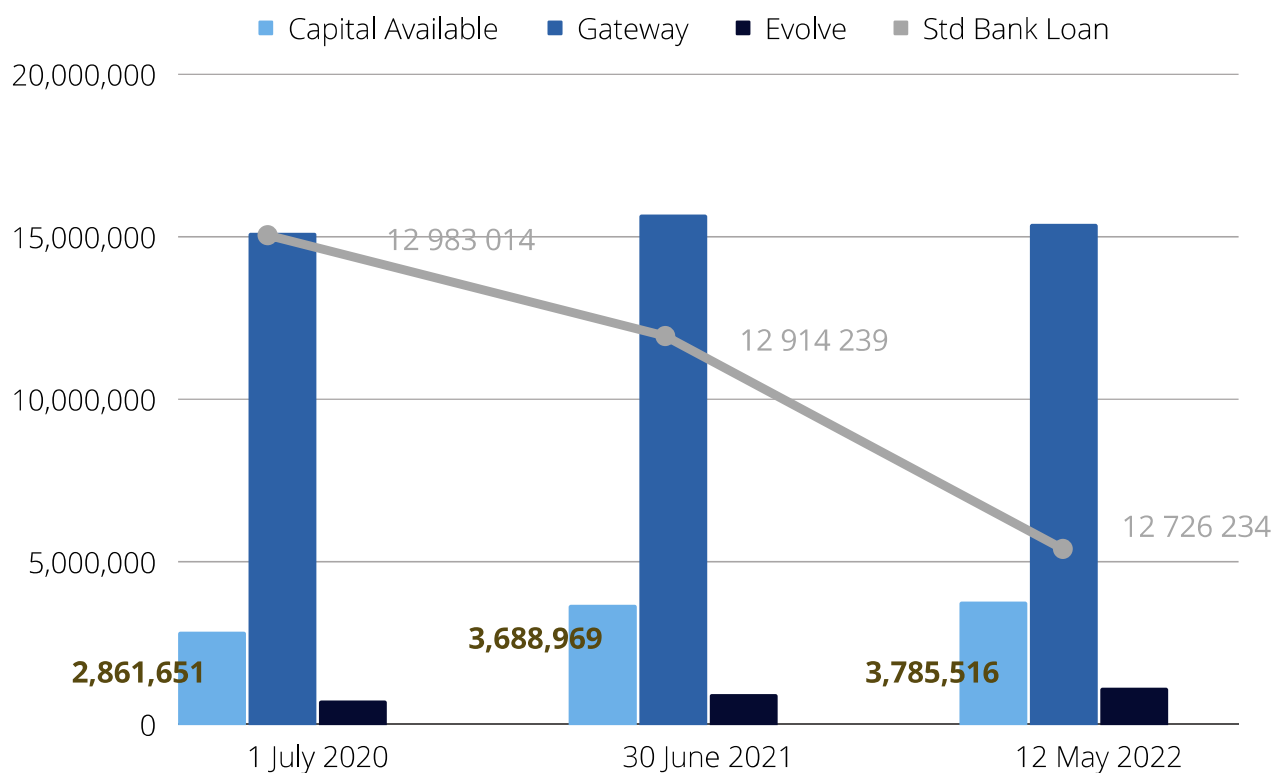
We have continued to be ably assisted by Greg Sansom and all his efforts have been greatly appreciated.

In closing, my thanks to Chris, Charlotte, and all the staff for their hard work and dedication, in delivering an improving Club each year.

John Hare

Capital Fund Chairman

Liberty Capital Fund vs Std Bank Loan



<u>LIBERTY</u>	Valued at 1 July 2020	Valued at 30 June 2021	Valued at 12 May 2022	Movement since 1 July 2020
Gateway	15,092,792	15,652,287	15,363,357	1.79%
Evolve	751,873	950,922	1,148,392	52.74%
TOTAL	15,844,665	16,603,208	16,511,749	4.21%
Standard Bank Loan	12,983,014	12,914,239	12,726,234	-1.98%
Capital Available	2,861,651	3,688,969	3,785,516	32.28%



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From East to West



Page 53

Record year for rainfall!

The past 12 months have been most challenging for most golf courses around the country. Weather patterns have gone from one extreme to the next and each year we hear that this will be a normal season which turns out to be the next extreme. For the calendar year of 2022 (January to August), Royal's rainfall records show a total of 785mm with four more months of rain left for the calendar year ahead - previous years have totals of 903mm (2021) and 1028mm (2020) for a full calendar year.

We have seen the record high floods in KZN and Cape Town's winter rainy season is delivering good downpours So we can but hope for a normal season ahead of us.

I would again like to thank Chris Bentley, Shaun Brits, the Board and all the members for welcoming me back with such warmth. I am extremely honoured to be back at Royal.

From August 2021 to May 2022 Royal recorded a total of 1305mm of rainfall, compared to a previous season of 862mm. This certainly explains 'one extreme to the next'.

Unfortunately, along with the blessing of rain comes a downside - courses must close in the event of extreme rain, golfers cancel rounds due to rain, the Club loses revenue due to carts not allowed on the course, mowing becomes challenging, course drainage can't handle the excessive rainfall and staff attend to course repairs instead of maintenance. But I would much rather take excess rain over droughts! The past wet season will be of huge benefit to get the golf courses back up to standard come spring.

With the West course greens and bunkers renovations, we will soon have two courses that are right up there with anything worldwide. The new look the West will present will not only be much more aesthetic but will reduce maintenance costs. The new locations of the two fairway bunkers on both the new 11th & 12th holes will present a challenge to the better golfer. The revamped greens on West will reduce the risk of Poa infestation on the East as we continue to apply best practices and use modern available products to extend the lifespan of our greens. West is certainly going to be even more enjoyable than it already is - something I am so excited about.

The biggest project for the property that has been completed in the past 12 months is the completion of the dam at the East pump station - giving us the ability to water the East a bit more while having enhanced water storage. The second biggest asset is the installation of generators at the pump stations along with solar back-up for the central irrigation system.

This means loadshedding will have a significantly lesser impact on any irrigation systems. Thanks to our new back-up power we are securing our biggest assets - the greens.

The biggest task now is to secure the purchase of new maintenance machines as our current fleet have served more than their lifespan and are becoming costly to maintain.

We are investigating the option to use hybrid mowers and reduce our carbon footprint as best possible. These hybrid mowers will save up to 20% on fuel costs as well as stopping hydraulic spills on our closely mowed areas. Electric is an option as well, but we need to first upgrade our infrastructure to be less reliant on Eskom power to allow for this option. With these machines comes new technology that enables the maintenance staff to keep the tees and fairways at higher standard with the 'grooming' attachments that are part of the package.

In reviewing the past 12 months, one recalls an unmissable change in weather patterns. Our challenge is to adapt to the weather likely changing each year and adapt our way of performing best practice in accordance with these changes. Royal has seen multiple changes, major ones and the little things that are hardly noticed but which are nevertheless as important, and I can ensure members that our staff and I are determined and dedicated to see to them all and consistently turn out a pair of courses right up there with the best in the world.

Jerry Steyn

Course manager

"Without rain, there is no life"

Jerry Yang



“

Our favourite golf experience in South Africa. Thank you so much for the hospitality and we look forward to coming back soon.

Beauden Barrett (All Black)



The Captain's Report



*Time flies when you are
having fun!*

It seems just the other day I was writing my first Royal Review.

First and foremost, I would like to thank all the members for the continued support that I have received over the past two years. I would like to make special mention of all the backroom staff in the golf department. Most members don't see what goes on behind the scenes when it comes to setting up the courses for each day's golf, especially golf days and our major tournaments. Staff work until after sunset and without fail get back to the Club a couple of hours later, before sunrise, with welcoming smiles for all of us players.

As I look back over last year, I am amazed at how the Club has transformed and we as members are spoilt with two beautiful courses which I think we take for granted. I have been fortunate to have played with several Captains from courses around Johannesburg. All of them rave at what we have and at least 50 % of them tell me that this is their favorite Club besides their home Club.

This also pertains to the numbers of league players who have either played against our scratch, mid-am and better ball league sides. Having played for many years in the better ball away side and now having played the last couple of seasons with the home side, one appreciates what we have on offer. With the developments really taking hold, I believe the Club will be the envy of most Clubs; especially given the transformation into a family/country club facility. With the opening of our gym early this year, I do believe we already have several outside members who have joined the gym. Currently we have 160 gym memberships.

One thing that has changed over the last 10 to 15 years is that Saturday morning golf has become far more popular than Saturday afternoon golf. With that in mind the Interschools Challenge was developed to promote members mixing from both morning and afternoon fields, including Sunday mornings. Flowing out of this we will be hosting the 2023 Interschools Challenge with 4 events.

However, due to the refurbishment of the West course in the second half of 2022, only three events were played. Congratulations to the Royal Family team who were crowned the champions of this competition at the end of 2021. We are hoping to set up some new member events next year.

It is always sad to hear of the passing of members and to the families and friends of those who have lost loved ones, my deepest condolences. Royal is one big family and I am sure all the members feel your grief in those trying times. To the members and staff who are currently under treatment be assured our thoughts are with you all for a speedy recovery.

I would like to thank fellow Board members who continue to make our Club what it is today. Sincere thanks must go to our outgoing Chairman, Gordon Odgers, for the years of service that he has given to the Club but particularly over the past two years. A special mention of thanks must go to Chris Bentley for his passion and guidance in carrying this Club to greater heights. I'm sure most members don't realise the amount of time Chris dedicates to the success of the Club.

Lastly, a warm welcome to Jerry Steyn, our new golf course superintendent. I am sure we are all looking forward to the new season, playing our manicured championship East course and the opening of the revamped West towards the end of November.



Congratulations

Club Championships (18h)

Champion	Marc Kourie	68
B Division	Rashaad Bhamjee	72
C Division	Ray Bombo	76
D Division	Kenny Munsamy	38 pts

Ladies

Silver	Eleonora Galletti	70
Bronze	Shannon Frigyik	34 pts

Junior

A Division	Jamie Senekal	73 c/in
B Division	Jonathan Henry	76
C Division	Connor Olfson	40 pts

Winter Championships

Champion	Kian Rose	146
B Division	Tim Kloek	164
c Division	Darren Cohen	64 pts

Ladies	Marian Ledingham	156 nett
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League

Betterball League East - A Div	4th
Betterball League West - D Div	1st
Scratch League 1st Team - A Div	2nd
Scratch League 2nd Team - A Div	8th
Mid Am League A Team - A Div	2nd
Mid Am League B Team - D Div	2nd
Junior League A Team - B Div	4th
Senior Betterball League A Team	5th
Senior Betterball League b Team	10th

Knockouts

Singles Knockout	Rashaad Bhamjee
Betterball knockout	Roberto Texeria Miguel Gomes
Greensomes knockout	Nigel Sand Chris Arnison
Mixed Knockout	Della Stapleton Michael Wardle

Club Competitions

Presidents Cup 2021	Zain Asmal
Master Par 3 2022	Jarrid Rahme
Golden Putter vs Royal Durb	Royal Durban
RJk vs Pretoria CC	RJK 4 - 1

In closing, I did a summary of all the winners of weekly competitions run by the Club to see how many members have won more than one competition during our last financial year, 1st July 2021 to 30th June 2022. I am pleased to report that Kit Williamson has won these bragging rights with 14 wins and in second place was Graham Sacks on 8 wins. Well done Kit, you will be known as the Tiger Woods of Royal!

Nick Watt Pringle

Club Captain

All the glory

Eleonora Galletti & Marc Kourie (2022 Club Champions)



Top of the table



2021 Champions

D Division Betterball
League (West)



2022 Champions

Ladies Weekday League
(1st) A Division

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CHEFS MAKE USE OF
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Thank you,
Rumbi Ndlovu
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helped us establish and
maintain our first ever
'Garden to Kitchen'.

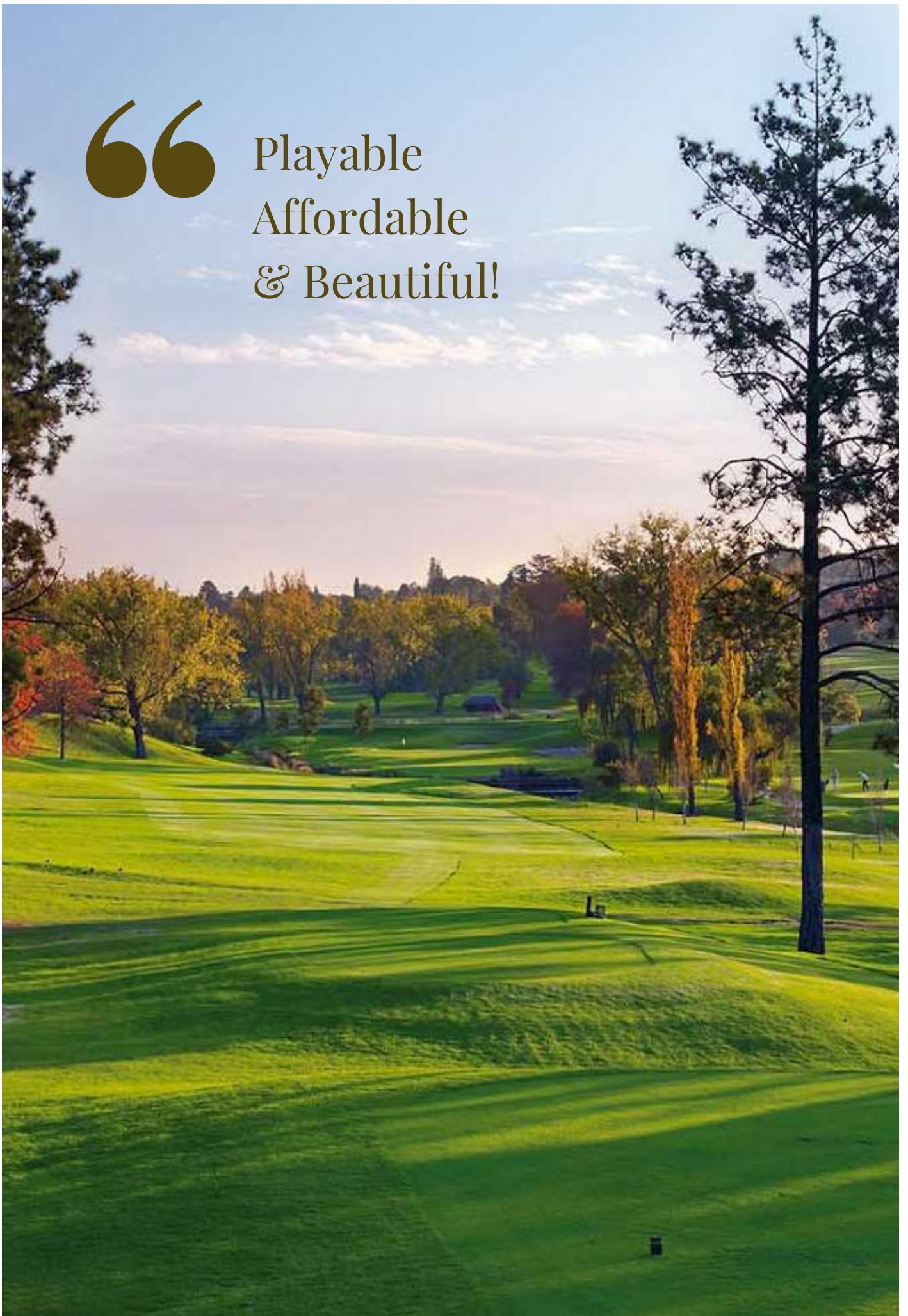


*"When someone is
empowered they have the
ability to create magic".*

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#sustainability
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Ladies Golf



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"We salute you & admire your determination"

Sunday 7th August 2022 will surely go down as one of the finest days ever in the history books of our great Club. It will be remembered by us all as the day our golden girl, Ashleigh Buhai, became the 2022 AIG Women's Open Champion at Muirfield. What an incredible four days of golf this was to watch, culminating in the golfing world witnessing Ash secure her maiden Major victory after a hard-fought, four-hole sudden death play-off against Korea's In Gee Chun. It was only a question of time before Ash won her first LPGA event and what a place and a time to do it.

It goes without saying how incredibly proud Royal is of her phenomenal achievement but what struck me was the humility with which Ash won her first Major and how genuinely grateful she is to every single person who helped her reach this career high. What a credit she is to her wonderfully supportive family, to our Club, to our country and last, but by no means least, to the game of golf. From that talented little girl who started her golf at Kensington Golf Club all those years ago to the 2022 AIG Women's Open Champion – we salute and admire your determination and belief Ash and look forward to many more great victories.

We are fortunate to have several talented lady golfers at Royal and who knows, perhaps one of them might one day emulate Ash's achievements. Kelsey Nicholas plays professional golf on the Ladies Sunshine Tour and in the Standard Bank Pro Am series. When Kelsey is not competing, she often joins the Tuesday ladies for their weekly game, which is always so well received.

Our lady amateur golfers also do the Club proud! Shannon Berry continues to play exceptional golf despite all her other commitments in her matric year. Shannon is ranked number 6 in the CGGU girls ranking and number 9 in the CGGU ladies rankings. Amongst many other notable achievements, Shannon was selected as the captain of the CGGU C team and travelled to Mbombela to compete in the 72-hole ladies' championship in May where her team did incredibly well in the B division. Shannon has recently been selected to represent Central Gauteng in the four-member squad for the 2022 IPT to be held at Silver Lakes Golf Club in October – just reward for all her hard work.

Shannon is so disciplined and hard-working and has really only been playing serious golf for the past two years. She has done so well - I'm sure the best of her golf is yet to come.

Other names to look out for in the coming years are Abigail Rigby and Sarah Gatuza. Both these young ladies have enormous talent and I'm sure will follow in Shannon's footsteps very soon.

Sadly, bad weather put paid to a 36-hole Club Championship being completed this year and results were based on the first 18 holes played on Saturday 26 February. Eleonora Galletti shot a two under par 70 to be crowned the 2022 Ladies Club Champion for an eighth time and Shannon Frigiyik was crowned the Bronze Champion on an individual Stableford score of 37 points. Congratulations too to Marc Kourie, who posted a four under par score of 68, to win the 2022 Club Championship for the first time.

As winners of their divisions in Club Championships, Eleonora and Shannon represented our Club at the CGGU Champion of Champions qualifier at Modderfontein Golf Club on Sunday 31 July. Shannon, playing medal in the B Division, finished in a creditable 8th position which is a great achievement as she had never played in a provincial tournament such as this before. Eleonora continues to shine and despite very seldom being able to play golf these days due to work commitments, she finished on top of the leaderboard in the ladies A division with Samantha Whateley from CCJ, but sadly lost out on the count-out to finish in second position!

A very successful 130th AGM was held in the Clubhouse on Wednesday 22 September 2021. A new Board was nominated and with that, a new lady captain was elected. Congratulations to Jane Goodwin who was elected unopposed and with whom I have had the greatest of pleasure to work alongside this past year.

*"Sometimes being with your friends & golfing
is all the therapy you need"*

As most of you know, Jane has a wealth of knowledge in the golf industry having been involved in the Nedbank Golf Challenge for 35 years and we work very well together. Fortunately for our Club, Jane has made herself available for service as the Lady Captain for another year so we both look forward to another productive and successful year looking after the affairs of the ladies section.

The successful amalgamation of the LGGU with CGGU has taken place and with the amalgamation has come a few positive changes. Quarterly lady captain meetings are still held with the past LGGU executive and this is when ladies golf can be discussed and any concerns raised. One of the biggest concerns last year was the ladies league structure. In 2021, there had been much discontent amongst several of the Gauteng Clubs and it was apparent that the format needed to be changed.

After much discussion and debate, the LGGU executive agreed to change the format to fall in line with the way in which the men's handicap league is played; with promotion/relegation taking place at the end of the season. Three ladies league teams were entered for the 2022 LGGU league – two weekday teams and one Sunday team, all playing a handicap, better ball format. The weekday teams were seeded based on the team players' handicaps on entry – our weekday 1 team competing in the A division and our weekday 2 team the D division. The Sunday league divisions are decided by means of a draw and this year, our team were placed in the D division.

Both weekday teams will play their last league match on Thursday 1 September. The fate of the weekday 2 team will be decided once all the matches in their division have been played but I am thrilled to report that our weekday 1 team are three points ahead of their nearest rival with a game in hand so to secure victory, only half a point will be needed on 1 September. This is such a marvellous achievement and every player who has represented this team, is to be congratulated. Our Sunday team play their last match on the 18th September and at the time of going to print, lie second in the D division. Sincere thanks and congratulations to our three superb league captains who have each managed their team with much dedication, commitment and enthusiasm. Ina Sanders (weekday 1), Lynn Gardner (weekday 2) and Sandra van den Bergh (Sunday) have all looked after league teams for several years now and we are greatly indebted to these ladies for their loyalty and allegiance to ladies league. Grateful thanks too to each and every lady who represented our Club with great pride this season – what a great bunch of ladies you are. Thanks should also be extended to both our golf department and our food and beverage department for making our home league matches a five star experience – every team which plays at Royal, is just so impressed by the hospitality that is afforded them.

The number of lady golfing members at Royal has remained static and the few ladies who we have lost for various reasons, have had their spots filled by new members. The most popular category of membership for ladies is the 5-day AM membership at 38% followed by ordinary membership at 19%.

Our Thursday players (TG's) arrive for their golf on Thursday mornings no matter what the weather throws out. Joan Neville and Aileen Wilmot run this 'School' with much dedication and warmth and the number of ladies playing on a Thursday average between 8 and 12. A more social and fun group of golfers you will not find and all our new golfers are encouraged to join this group when they first join the Club. Thank you to Joan and Aileen for looking after these ladies in such a caring manner.

Our BG's (Business Girls) play their golf on a Saturday morning and are an integral part of Club life in every aspect. Their 'year' is run as a calendar year and Niki Christie stepped down as in[DR1] December with Mandy Pardew taking over. Thank you to Niki for her dedication to the running of the BG's School – it proved to be a very challenging year for her with Covid still lurking and then so many Saturday games being affected by bad weather. Nevertheless, Niki did a fine job and Mandy has simply taken over where Niki left off. How fortunate the Club is to have such committed ladies and I thank you both for all the time and effort that you continue to afford this group of players. The BG's compete in all the Club's Saturday morning competitions and often feature in the prizes with great scores. Sadly, the end of year BG's Christmas lunch was cancelled in December due to the extremely wet conditions on both courses but this was rescheduled to the end of March when the ladies played in a St Patrick's Day better ball stableford competition which was followed by a delicious lunch.

Our Tuesday 'School' enjoy playing their golf every Tuesday morning, apart from public holidays, and numbers continue to average between 24 and 36 on most member days. Individual competitions have not proved to be very popular amongst the Tuesday ladies, so these are few and far between and the alliance and better ball competitions that are organised are usually well supported. At the beginning of the year, a decision was made to host Tuesday ladies open days periodically and not every month, which we have done for many years. This decision has proved to be a good one and most of the open days that we have held over the past year have been fully subscribed.





Both the BG's and the Tuesday ladies play for various trophies throughout the year and the list of winners for the period 31 July 2021 to 1 August 2022 is:

2021 Mixed Knockout
Della Stapleton and Mike Wardle

2021 BG's Better ball Knockout
Erica Robertson and Charmain Partridge

2021 BG's Singles Knockout
Niki Christie

2021 Tuesday Better ball Knockout
Niki Christie and Cilla Hewitt

2021 Tuesday Singles Knockout
Niki Christie

Spring Trophy – 3-Ball Alliance (Open)
Lelane Straw
Val McKenzie
Steph Pond

Jubilee Cup – Individual Stableford – Silver Division
Val McKenzie

Coronation Trophy – Individual Stableford – Bronze Division
Jenny Beron

Most birdies recorded (1 July 2021 to 31 June 2022)
Silver – Niki Christie
Bronze – Marian Ledingham

2022 Ladies Club Champion
Eleonora Galletti

2022 Ladies Bronze Champion
Shannon Frigyik

Jean Eustice Trophy (Betterball Stableford)
Sherida Stevens
Brenda Kelly

Crystal Bowl (BG's – Betterball Stableford)
Jenny Maine
Liza van Wyk

We have held a couple of open mixed competitions on a Sunday over the past year but sadly, these competitions are not as well supported as we would like them to be. After chatting to various people from other Clubs in Gauteng, I realise that this problem is not unique to Royal. We believe that the introduction of playing cards at just about every Club, the expense of playing 'away' and the problem of drinking and driving after a game, have all played a role in the decline of players in mixed competitions. Royal will continue to host the occasional mixed open competition until such time as we feel it is no longer viable to do so. Having said that, thank you to those of you who, without fail, support these days.

Royal was host to the 2022 SA Amateur Championships for a third consecutive year and the second without a sponsor. Once again, the Royal team, alongside Golf RSA, pulled off a memorable tournament for the country's top boys and girls amateur players despite so many challenges. A huge amount of rain had fallen over the courses in the week prior to the Championship but nevertheless, so many compliments were received from both players and administrators about the 'Royal Experience'. Eleonora Galletti and Shannon Berry both competed in the Championships and qualified for the match play event by finishing in the top 32 after the 54 holes stroke play competition.

Roni Benecke, Sheree Lloyd's mum, and her helpers seem to spend every waking moment knitting and crocheting blankets, beanies and jerseys for babies. Our annual Christmas lunch was cancelled last year and so the handover of all these beautiful goodies did not take place as it usually does. However, four large boxes of hand knitted and crocheted items were handed over to 'Charity Begins With Me' just before the very cold snap that Gauteng experienced in July.

This charity does an enormous amount of good work in the townships and it was a great comfort to know that we would, in a small way, be making a difference. Thank you again to Roni and her 'team', to Sheree for supplying the wool and to those members who have also donated wool for this cause, over the past year – your kindness is so appreciated.

The Old Oak Restaurant and Family Centre opened its' doors on 6th May 2022 and what an incredible success story this has been. Chef Ransley Pietersen and his team produce the most sublime food from Wednesday to Sunday and patrons are strongly encouraged to book well in advance to avoid disappointment. With the encouragement and support of our CEO, Chris Bentley, the ladies section have started a tradition that we hope will continue for many years to come – a Past Lady Captains lunch. The first was held on Wednesday 17 August at the Old Oak where 19 past lady captains from Kensington Golf Club, Royal Johannesburg Golf Club and Royal Johannesburg and Kensington Golf Club met and enjoyed a delicious lunch and an afternoon of catching up and friendship. May this tradition continue and gain momentum in the years to come.

Our Club is the special place that I strongly believe it is, because of the staff who ensure that the members are always well looked after. Sincere congratulations to our CEO who last year in September was named the 2021 PGA Of South Africa Professional of the Year. There is no higher honour that a golf professional can receive than to be so honoured by his peers.. Chris was recently named the regional winner of the 2022 PGA Management Award for the fourth time and we applaud him on receiving this recognition again. Chris leads by example and every employee of our Club is expected to deliver beyond expectation and they do.

I know I can speak on behalf of the lady members at Royal when I sincerely thank each and every staff member for the dedication and unfailing attention to detail shown. This enables members and visitors who walk through the door, to enjoy the 'Royal Experience'. I think I can best describe the Royal team as a 'well-oiled machine'.

The Club's 131st AGM will be held in the Clubhouse on Wednesday 21st September and our current Chairman, Gordon Odgers, will be stepping down from this position. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Gordon for always supporting and taking a keen interest in the everyday activities of the Royal ladies. Gordon and Chris Bentley are a formidable team and together, along with the full support of the Board, they have taken Royal to heights that many might have thought were unattainable. I would also like to wish our incoming Chairman much success as he takes over this most prestigious position.

Thanks to Chris, Jenene and every single member of the Royal staff who help to make my role as the ladies golf manager so enjoyable and to my fellow Board members for their guidance and friendship. It really is a great Club to be part of – I close with this great quote from Fred Couples:

“Even if you aren't having an extra good day, always count your blessings. Be thankful you are able to be out on a beautiful course. Most people in the world don't have that opportunity”.

Wendy Huddy

Ladies Golf Manager

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BROOKFIELD
— *at Royal* —

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Enjoy contemporary living in a beautiful parkland setting. Brookfield at Royal, the first luxury apartment development situated within the precincts of Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Golf Club overlooking the fabled East Course.

- 290 Luxury Apartments
- Private Clubhouse
- Gross Sales Value - R660 Million





From the Academy

This report will focus on the development and growth of the game at Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Golf Club, particularly junior golf. Both Gavan Levenson and Martin Briede are members of the PGA of South Africa, both having achieved Master Status. The Slogan of the PGA is "Touching Lives Through the Game of Golf" and that is what we endeavour to do.

Jayde Rademeyer has joined the team at the range. He has brought much value to the facility and academy in terms of operational experience but also with the management of development programmes.

Gavan and Martin spend the majority of their time providing individual lessons. They provide regular tuition to juniors of all age groups and abilities, many who are playing well in the SA Kids, US Kids and Gauteng Golf Union tournaments. An honourable mention goes out to junior member Khadeejah Choonara who has won numerous SA and US Kids events in the last couple of months.

We have introduced a few group programmes this coming year. Gavan has a programme for junior girls on Sunday afternoons. The girls play a few holes on the golf course with Gavan. Martin runs a kids SNAG programme on Saturday mornings. SNAG stands for "Starting New At Golf".

Royal still has an association and coaching programme with St Johns College and St Andrews School for Girls. Various coaching programmes are in place with the aforementioned schools both onsite at Royal and at St Johns College.

This year we have added St Benedict's College to the list of schools the academy works with and their golf team comes down twice a week for training. We have also facilitated practice and coaching for King David School.

The academy, along with Royal and the PGA of SA, has also hosted the South African Special Olympics National Games. We ran a training programme building up to the National event. The winners were selected to represent South Africa in the World Games which will take place in Germany next year.

Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Golf Club is the perfect Club for juniors to develop their game. The Club offers very competitive membership rates depending on age and unlimited free golf all included in their membership.

Martin Briede

Head Teaching Professional



“

Amazing experience and the kids play area is brilliant. Best of both worlds for adults and children.

Johannesburg needed a restaurant like this.

Dineplan





All hail Ash! South Africa's newest Major champion

Royal
“Princess”
wins British
Women's
Open

by Dan Retief

Ashleigh Buhai (née Simon) flew South Africa and Royal Johannesburg & Kensington's flag high in the winds of Scotland when she became only the second South African woman to win a Major golf championship by claiming the AIG British Women's Open at Muirfield in August.

In a final round of excruciating tension Ashleigh survived a shock triple bogey 7 on the 15th hole to eventually beat Korea's In Gee Chun in a four-hole sudden-death play-off.

Ash, as she is known to all, had taken a five-shot lead into the final round after shooting opening rounds of 70, 65 and an astonishing seven-under-par 64 in conditions that tripped up most of the field in round 3.

Staying calm and maintaining a beautiful tempo in the final round Ash seemed well in control four holes from home with a lead of three shots over Chun.

But her tee-shot on the par-four 15th scuttled into a wicked spot in one of Muirfield's pot bunkers. Her path forward was blocked and when she mishit her play-safe shot her ball ended up hidden in gnarly grass. Ash then slashed it out for three, hit a brave shot for four up to the green but a pitch and two putts later she had to write down a horrid 7 on her card.

The setback must have been like a blow to the solar plexus but digging deep Ash managed to compose herself. The mishap had brought her playing partner, Japan's Hinako Shibuno, to whom she had lost when making a strong run at the Women's Open at Woburn in 2019, back into the frame but in challenging, windy conditions Ash bravely parred in to force a tie with Chun on 10 under after signing for a 75.

The pair had to return to the 18th four times in the play-off and each time Ash hit a superb drive into the wind; eventually sealing the deal with a superb shot from the right-hand bunker.

With this victory Ash became the first South African woman to win a Major title after Sally Little in 1988 and secured South Africa's first Major since Ernie Els won The Open at Royal Lytham & St Annes in 2012.

And there were just so many quirky links to the past and the famous Scottish links as Ash claimed her country's 28th Major. Foremost is perhaps that her victory occurred at Muirfield; home of the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers, formed in 1744 and until very recently seen as a bastion of male chauvinism. Not too long ago women were not permitted in the venerable clubhouse to consort, even to have a cup of tea, with the "musty, purple-nosed, tweeded old farts" (not my phrase!) who frequented the historic spaces.

Now Muirfield has crowned a Women's Open champion and the champion lady golfer of the year is our own Ashleigh. * One has to add a nod to Alison Sheard who won the Women's Open in 1979 before it was designated a Major.

It was as nerve-wracking as can be after Ash ran up that triple-bogey 7 at the 15th after her tee-shot was gobbled up by one of Muirfield's wicked bunkers. But what great resolve and mental fortitude she showed to par home from there and then to persevere over Chun of Korea in a play-off over a challenging 18th hole made more difficult into a brisk wind and with the light fading.

And how appropriate that Ash's passage to her crowning moment would have such links to when South Africa's other Muirfield winners, Gary Player and Ernie Els, triumphed over a course considered by many to be the best on the Open rota as it has only three holes that run in the same direction; meaning that golfers are constantly faced with shifting winds impacting the flight of the ball.

Ash pulled off her win with a superb bunker shot from the right-hand bunker at the 18th – actually an expanse of sand with an island of grass in the middle – soon after her caddie, and right-hand girl, Tanya Paterson picked the right words at the right time: "Show them why you're number one in bunkers this year."

And she did. From the right-hand side of the trap, having to carry the grass island and another stretch of sand Ash deposited her ball right by the hole to seal the deal with a par 4 - Chun having had bunker trouble off the tee.

It was a virtuoso stroke that will go down in the annals – the perfect example of following in the foot prints of one of her heroes Gary Player; universally considered to be the best out of sand of all time.

Both Player and Ernie Els, whose regulated tempo is reflected in Ashleigh's swing, were also put through the wringer before winning at Muirfield.

In 1959, when Gary won his first Major, he ran up a 6 at the last hole which he thought had cost him the championship. There is a famous picture of Gary being comforted by Vivienne, but the wiles of Muirfield caught up with his chasers and he was triumphant.

Ernie, like Ash, had to go the long route; having to beat Stuart Appleby, Steve Elkington and ultimately Thomas Levet in a sudden-death play-off.

To end up tied for the lead after 72 holes Els played an astonishing bunker shot – one the commentators felt could not be pulled off - at the short 13th to save par.

The pair of Australians were eliminated in the four-hole play-off over holes 1, 16, 17 & 18 and Els and Levet then returned to the 18th and events took a turn that bore unmissable similarities to Ashleigh's victory march on Sunday.

Levet drove into a fairway bunker to hand the advantage to Els who, like Ashleigh, put his approach into a greenside trap – the one on the opposite side of the green to where Ash found herself. Ernie then also produced an exquisite splash-shot and holed the putt to win the Claret Jug for the first time.

I have known Ash since she was a girl and will never forget how her dad, Mike, started to text me while he was watching the final round of the 2004 SA Women's Open over the East Course at Royal Johannesburg. "Ash is one under," "Ash is four under," "Ash is six under," ... my phone beeped. Mike must have had a premonition because Ashleigh carded a stunning 63 to win the SA Open at the age of 14! That earned her an Honorary Life Membership from the proud members of Royal Johannesburg and Kensington.

It's often been a tough road for Ash, struggling to live up to her huge potential as an amateur, but after narrowly failing in the Women's Open three years previously, Ash's determination and belief paid off and she is now a Major champion.

Her win brings to 28 the number of Majors won by South(ern) Africans. (I always add Nick Price). Southern African players have captured:

28 Major championships:

- 11 British Opens
- 5 US Opens
- 5 US Masters
- 4 US PGAs
- 1 US Women's PGA
- 1 Du Maurier Classic
- 1 Women's Open

- 9 – Gary Player (3 British Opens, 3 US Masters, 2 US PGA)
- 4 – Bobby Locke (4 British Opens)
- 4 – Ernie Els (2 US Opens, 2 British Opens)
- 3 – Nick Price (2 US PGAs, 1 British Open)
- 2 – Sally Little (1 US Women's PGA, 1 Du Maurier Classic)
- 2 – Retief Goosen (2 US Opens)
- 1 – Trevor Immelman (1 US Masters)
- 1 – Louis Oosthuizen (1 British Open)
- 1 – Charl Schwartzel (1 US Masters)
- 1 – Ashleigh Buhai (1 Women's Open)

Here's the chronological order:

1. 1949 British Open, Royal St George's (Locke)
2. 1950 British Open, Royal Troon (Locke)
3. 1952 British Open, Royal Lytham & St Annes (Locke)
4. 1957 British Open, St Andrews (Locke)
5. 1959 British Open, Muirfield (Player)
6. 1961 US Masters, Augusta (Player)
7. 1962 US PGA, Aronimink GC Pennsylvania (Player)
8. 1965 US Open, Bellerive CC, St Louis (Player)
9. 1968 British Open, Carnoustie (Player)
10. 1972 US PGA, Oakland Hills, Michigan (Player)
11. 1974 US Masters, Augusta (Player)
12. 1974 British Open, Royal Lytham & St Annes (Player)
13. 1978 US Masters, Augusta (Player)
14. 1980 LPGA, Jack Nicklaus GC, Ohio (Little)
15. 1988 Classique Du Maurier, Vancouver GC (Little)
16. 1992 US PGA, Bellerive CC, St Louis (Price)
17. 1994 US Open, Oakmont CC, Pennsylvania (Els)
18. 1994 British Open, Turnberry (Price)
19. 1994 US PGA, Southern Hills CC, Tulsa (Price)
20. 1997 US Open, Congressional CC, Washington DC (Els)
21. 2001 US Open, Southern Hills CC, Tulsa (Goosen)
22. 2002 British Open, Muirfield (Els)
23. 2004 US Open, Shinnecock Hills (Goosen)
24. 2008 US Masters, Augusta (Immelman)
25. 2010 British Open, St Andrews (Oosthuizen)
26. 2011 US Masters, Augusta (Schwartzel)
27. 2012 British Open, Royal Lytham & St Annes (Els)
28. 2022 British Women's Open, Muirfield (Buhai)





African Darter
by Trevor Barnett



I cherish my Royal memories

by Dale Hayes

It's an honour to be an Honorary Member of Royal Johannesburg & Kensington.

As I started to write this, Ashleigh Buhai had a three-shot lead in the final round of the AIG British Women's Open. Although she allowed the lead to slip, she still emerged as the first South African to win this event since it became a Major.

Ashleigh is just one of the many wonderful players who have had a connection to Royal Johannesburg & Kensington.

In the 50s, Arthur Walker, Denis Hutchinson and Reg Taylor were members of the two Clubs and Comrie du Toit, who represented South Africa as amateur, turned professional to work at his home club. (Sadly, Comrie passed away earlier this year).

The West Course was originally designed by Laurie Waters, and the East Course, which was built about a quarter of a century later, was designed by Bob Grimsdell, who was the professional at the Club and destined to put his signature to many of South Africa's best layouts.

Harold Henning was an assistant professional to Rod Dunn and Harold's younger brother Allan was the pro at Kensington before transferring to Royal after the merger.

Excellent golfers however, make up a tiny percentage of the members of a golf club. Someone once said; "golf is the best game to be bad at" and that is so true.

Both Royal, as it was called, and Kensington, were blessed with loyal members whose expectation of being a Club member was "a good golf course, a good pub and like-minded people". Both clubs offered all of that in abundance.

I have so many memories of playing at both Royal Johannesburg and Kensington.

At Kensington in a Sunshine Tour tournament, I got drawn to play with my great friend Denis Hutchinson. As I was walking off the first tee, I saw Bobby Cole, which reminded me that I had bought a sand wedge for him, and that meant I had 15 clubs in my bag. Most playing partners would show some sympathy for the fact that you had just received a one-or two- shot penalty on the first tee, well, not Hutch. He gave me a bollocking which lasted three or four holes for being so stupid and not counting my clubs on the tee.

Royal Johannesburg held a unique junior tournament in the 60s. It was match play in two divisions – Under-16 and Under-19 and if a girl played, she got eight shots and played off the same tees. I got to the semi-final of the Under-16 event two years in a row. In the first year I came up against Bill Berry, who was three years older. He was already one of the best junior golfers in South Africa. The next year I came up against Sally Little, who is a few months older than me (I never miss an opportunity to point that out!). Somehow, I managed to beat them both.

In both finals I played against Robbie Chapman, who would later become the professional at Mowbray Golf Club in Cape Town. Well, the first year the match ended on the old par 3, 12th hole on the West Course, a beating of 8 & 6, and the next year I did far better, it was only a 5 & 4 drubbing. Every time I visited Mowbray Golf Club I'd have to go to the back of the golf shop to see the newspaper cutting that Robbie had up on the wall.

In the 1977 SA Open at Royal Johannesburg, I was playing the third round in the group ahead of Gary Player. I birdied the last hole for a 64, which I found out was the new course record. After handing in my scorecard, I was led off to the media centre and before I got my first question, someone came running into the room with the news that Gary had just shot 63, which was the lowest score in SA Open history. I think my course record lasted all of 5 or 6 minutes – surely that must be a record in itself?

Just before the beginning of Covid, we started a Denis Hutchinson Tribute Tour. In 2019 it was the 60th Anniversary of Denis Hutchinson's SA Open win at Royal in 1959; the same year that Gary started his march to nine Majors by winning the Open at Muirfield. Hutch beat Gary Player and became, and still is, the last amateur to win a National Championship that can lay good claim to being the second oldest in golf.

Even though he won 25 professional tournaments, at every one of the Tribute Dinners that we hosted, Hutch maintained that it was South Africa's win in the Commonwealth Golf Tournament, staged at Royal Johannesburg in November 1959, that gave him the most pleasure.

There were fantastic players in the five teams that competed. Great Britain's team included Sir Michael Bonallack, a multiple winner of the British Amateur, and Guy Wolstenholme, who became a successful professional. Bruce Devlin was in the Australian team, and the great left-hander, Bob Charles, who won the 1963 Open Championship, played for New Zealand. Sir Bob later married a Johannesburg lady by the name of Verity.

Amazingly, the formidable Springbok team contained four players from the Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Clubs – Denis Hutchinson, Reg Taylor, Arthur Walker and Bob Williams along with Jimmy Boyd and Jannie le Roux.

Royal Johannesburg & Kensington has a long history and a great reputation to uphold and every time I visit I see something new and something different, and each change is an improvement.

Over the last few years the golf courses have each had a makeover. In addition to being very different, both in terms of design and difficulty (which is ideal), both also have world class playing surfaces. The larger golf shop and patio are inviting places to visit and now you have a new restaurant, which is fantastic, and the view over the two golf courses is very special.

Under the leadership of Chris Bentley I have no doubt that Royal Johannesburg & Kensington's prestige will go from strength to strength.

I am proud to say that I am an Honorary Member.

Dale Hayes





“

Awesome atmosphere with the most delicious food! Well priced and great hospitality. Thank you so much, we loved every minute of it.

Dineplan

WHAT'S IN A NAME?



Well, a Right Royal experience!

Royal? The Oxford Concise Dictionary describes the word as being suited to, worthy of, in service or under patronage of a king or queen but it's when you get to the synonyms that you find the real impact - kingly, queenly, majestic, stately, splendid, first-rate on a grand scale.

Does that not fit nicely with the underscoring mantra of Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Golf Club – to deliver a truly royal experience? Words that fit with first-class, top-rate, high-quality, five-star or, to borrow the title of one Gary Player's books "To Be The Best."

That is what the prefix has come to mean in the years since South Africa became a republic and in the context of a golf club Royal J&K does it best.

To most the simple abbreviation, "Royal", has become lingua franca. The word has a nice ring to it, it denotes something special, something elevated and works well to describe a closely-knit club or community – in other words in most parts of the world, other than Great Britain, it no longer carries the cachet that its original bestowal was meant to portray.

There are many Royals in the world of golf clubs – various sources give the number to between 64 and 69 – and South Africa has four – Royal Cape, Royal Port Alfred, Royal Johannesburg and Kensington and Royal Durban. There are two others on the African continent, Royal Harare and Royal Nairobi.

The epithet “Royal” used to be either bestowed by a British monarch, or a member of the monarchy, and had to be confirmed by reigning king and queen. Many “Royal” clubs feature on the British Open rota and some societies, most notably The Royal & Ancient of St Andrews, boast the seal of approval although they do not actually have ownership of a course.

Some “Royals” do not have a link to British royalty, for instance Royal Swazi Golf Club and Spa, and either simply adopted the appellation or were so named for their own kings or queens.

South Africa’s link to the designation is embedded in the history of golf in the country. The first club in South Africa was founded in 1885 – the Cape Golf Club on Waterloo Green in Wynberg. These pioneering golfers, mostly military men, moved to the Rondebosch Common but when this patch of land proved to be too crowded and used for too many purposes a new property was found further south in Ottery and a “proper” 18-hole course laid out.

The Club became the Royal Cape Golf Club in 1910 in commemoration of the visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught to Cape Town. Prince Arthur, the Duke of Connaught, was the third son of Queen Victoria, and was the first member of the Royal Family to become Governor General of Canada and Governor General of the Union of South Africa from 1920 to 1924.

In 1910, Arthur travelled aboard the Union Castle Line ship Balmoral Castle to South Africa, to open the first parliament of the newly formed union. His patronage of the “Royal” Cape Golf Club was sanctioned by then King George V.

During a visit to Port Alfred in 1921 by Her Royal Highness Princess Alice of Connaught (the wife of the Governor General to be, the Earl of Athlone, Alexander Cambridge, and Queen Victoria’s grand-daughter), a ceremony was held on the veranda of the club where she bestowed names on the holes of the course. Twelve of these remain including that of the 17th “Connaught”.

She was so impressed by her visit that she returned to the Club on 6 April 1923 with her husband and arising from this visit the “Royal” status was bestowed on the club by King George on 6 February 1924.



The publicity surrounding the Princess's visit resulted in the SAGU holding the 1922 S.A. Open & Amateur at Port Alfred. The Open was won by Mr F Jangle & the Amateur by Mr W.C. Stent, as it was recorded in those days. The 1927 Ladies' Amateur Championships & the 1932 Men's Amateur championships were also held at Port Alfred.

Royal patronage was bestowed on Royal Salisbury Golf Club in 1929. The name changed to Royal Harare Golf Club in 1980 when Rhodesia achieved independence and became Zimbabwe.

Royal Johannesburg and Kensington, which was founded in 1891, received its Royal Charter in 1931 after it hosted the Prince of Wales (Edward VIII) in 1930. The Prince played what was then the only course (the West) and six months later, he became the Club's patron. In July 1931, King George V added the "Royal" prefix to the Club's name.

The amalgamation with the Kensington Golf Club in 1998 contained a subtle regal link. Kensington Palace is a royal residence set in Kensington Gardens in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea in London. It has been a residence of the British Royal family since the 17th century, and is currently the official London residence of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge (Prince William and Princess Kate), some other senior royals and was famously the home of Princess Diana.

Royal Durban Golf Club was first established in 1892 as the Durban Golf Club, a links design within the track of the Greyville Racecourse. The Prince of Wales was also responsible for it becoming "ennobled" in April, 1932. The quartet of South African "Royals" all came about during the reign of King George V (1910 to 1936).

Providing a link between the Johannesburg and Durban "Princes" is that Royal J&K's Gavan Levenson won his South African Open championship at Royal Durban in 1985. An interesting aside to the Prince of Wales' golfing adventures in South Africa is that the 12th hole at Durban Country Club is named after him as he took 16 shots to complete the short hole whose green perches on the crest of a dune, with sharp drop-offs on either side. (Edward VIII had the shortest reign of all British monarchs; from January 1936 to December of the same year when he abdicated to marry American divorcee Wallis Simpson).

The theme of this article came to mind thanks to a remark by CEO Chris Bentley that he and his staff were determined to make Royal Johannesburg and Kensington, "a royal experience from the moment you enter the gates."

It would be fair to say Royal J&K has become the jewel in South Africa's golf the crown!



Green Woodhoopoe
by Trevor Barnett



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Greg Jacobs
Director of Golf & Head Professional



John Bailey
Head Chef



Ruhan Duvenhage
Assistant F&B Manager



Marcelle Fourie
Events Manager



Siobhan Bersiks
Club Accountant



Sasta Kuppan
Duty Manager



Shaun Carter
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Regional Manager of the year 2022



Martin Briede
Master Professional



Liam Brown
AA Professional



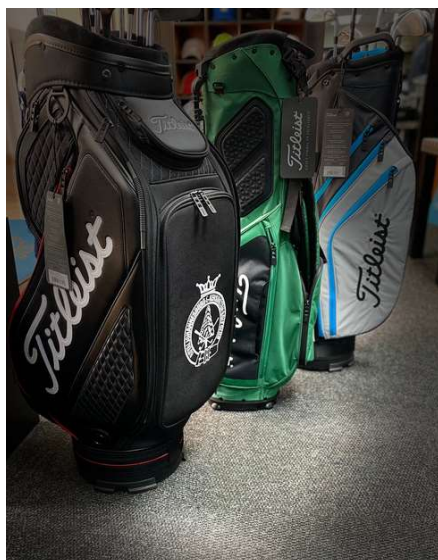
Greg Jacobs
A Professional



Gavan Levenson
Master Professional



Shaun Carter
Apprentice



Mark Fairley
Apprentice

Team Leaders & Staff



Unsung Heroes



Memories







Employee Awards

Congratulations
Employee of the year 2021
Sonia Mabaso



Employee of the year – by department & category

Course Department
 Food & Beverage
 Club Operations
 Housekeeping
 Outsourced
 Maintenance

Clucky Mathole
 Keith Ndlovu
 Marcelle Fourie
 Tebogo Lucas Makua
 MArtha
 Walter Muchadziya

Most Improved Employee
 Junior Manager
 Senior Manager
 Leadership Award
 Employee of the year

Endy Mguni
 Kwanele Matutu
 Liam Brown
 Erik Brakhoven
 Sonia Mabaso

Customer Service Awards

Rumbi Ndlovu
 Kwanele Matutu
 Beatrice Ncube
 Clayton Dube
 Matsepe Alex Mojaki

Certificate of Appreciation

Simpiwe Simango
 Siobhan Bersiks
 Thandazani Ncube
 Novasha Pillay
 Jenene Bernhardt
 Ruhan Duvenage
 Charlotte Kruger
 Ransley Pietesen
 John Bailey
 Candice Humphrey

Long Service Awards

Candice Humphrey 10
 Carrington Kubayi 14
 Maseale Sam Malatji 25
 Evans Tleane 25
 Bekhumuzi Mazibuko 35

Custodian Members

Honorary Life

Ashleigh Buhai
Denis Hutchinson
David Stratton
John Saker
Desmond Arnold
Haydn Thomson
Ross Grainger
Bill Urmson
Gavan Levenson
Barry Karg
Martin Mealin
Olaf Holtung
Olliver Ransome
David Mitchell
Lindsay Morrison
Ian Hancock
Julie McWilliam

Honorary

A T Makhado
Alexandra Barbosa
Craig Millar
Dale Hayes
David Nagle
Derek Speight
Gary Player
Gavin Sklar-Chik
Gerhard Du Plooy
Gillian Lee
Gregory Tait
Johnny Brown
Lawrence Smith
Lindiwe Maseko
M R Botha
Mark Spyker
Martin Pohlmann
Mavela Dlamini
Mpho Parks Tau
Neil Meyer
Nkosiyakhe Masondo
Oliver Carey
Patricia Ciro
Peter Lee
Ricci Davidoff
Robin Beek
Sam Shilowa
Sibongile Mokaba
Tim Kloeck
Z Zwelithini

Life

Gavin Soll
John Pascoe
Craig Cloete
Andrew Smith
Glen Witte
Nicholas Oppenheimer
Russell Bruton
Barry Bruton
Joey Coetzee
Craig Rivett
Terry Eyles
Mark Surtees
John Lewis
Peter Arthur
Martin Skeen
John Ludwig
Edward Southey

Richard Clowes
John Turner
Graeme King
Gordon Odgers
Andrew Kenneth. Miller
Stathy Diamandis
Graham Twaddle
Ray White
John Ridgard
John Faber
Verdun Peter Pardini
Dawn Worsdale
Elizabeth Faber
Wally Bellairs
Basil Pearson
Michael Ryan
Grant Thomas

Rob Girdwood
Ivan Austin
John Fell
Terry Davidson
Gill Huddy
Peter Thomas
Michael Dix
Peter Faber
Gordon Huddy
Douglas Du Bourg
Michael John Renwick
Bobby Johnston
David Mackenzie
Henri Kuiper
David Geeringh
Robert Hoar
Bruce Sutherland

Terry Sutherland
Jim Begbie
Spencer Farren
Mike Peterkin
Joy Blair
Desmond Sacco
Peter Volck
Graham Volck
John McWilliam
Chris Huddy
Rennie Airth
Edward Steyn
Brian Wilson
Margaret Summerley
Pearl Cochrane

Past Presidents & Chairmen

Royal Johannesburg Golf Club

1985 Olaf Holtung
1986 Martin Mealin
1987 Randolph Nourse
1988 David Mitchell
1989 William Urmson
1990 Barry Karg
1991 R Morris
1992 A Mackenzie
1993 Haydn Thomson
1994 Ian Hancock
1995 Desmond Arnold
1996 Lindsay Morrison
1997 Colin Sass
1998 Ross Grainger
1999 Ross Grainger

Kensington Golf Club

1985 Ian Head
1986 Graham Aldridge
1987 Graham Aldridge
1988 Gordon Odgers
1989 Gordon Odgers
1990 Roly Humphrey
1991 Roly Humphrey
1992 Brian Cook
1993 Brian Cook
1994 Gordon Drummond
1995 Graham Aldridge
1996 Graham Aldridge
1997 Graham Aldridge
1998 Ian Head
1999 Ian Head

Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Golf Club

2000 Ian Head
2001 Oliver Ransome
2002 Oliver Ransome
2003 Russell Bruton
2004 John Saker
2005 David Stratton
2006 David Stratton
2007 Vince Ryan
2008 Vince Ryan
2009 Graham Twaddle
2010 Graham Twaddle
2011 Richard Pollock

2012 Richard Pollock
2013 Richard Pollock
2014 Gordon Odgers
2015 Gordon Odgers
2016 Gordon Odgers
2017 John Hare
2018 Alan Field
2019 Alan Field
2020 Alan Field
2021 Gordon Odgers
2022 Gordon Odgers



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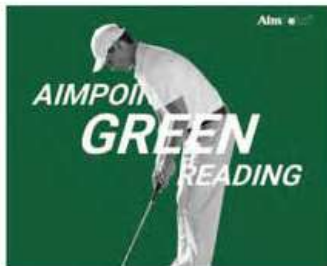
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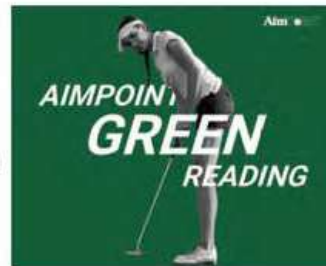
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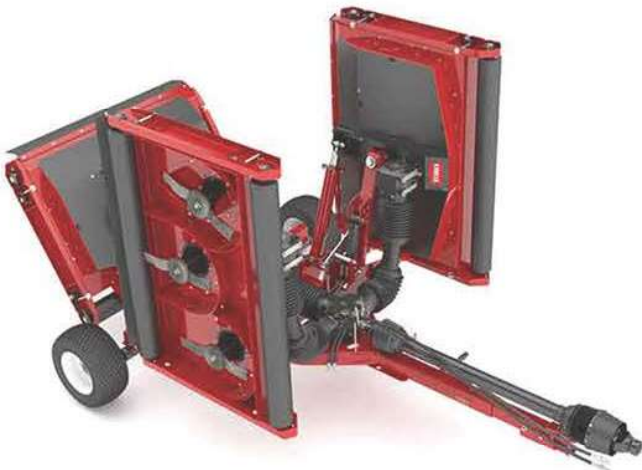
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It's nearly time!
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This publication is dedicated to the Members of Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Golf Club and to those who we have lost over the past year.

We hope you have thoroughly enjoyed the stories, reports and memories.

Our sincere appreciation to everyone who has contributed to the success of this years edition.

“

We thank you for all the game of golf has taught us,
The self-discipline when a good shot ends up in an unplayable lie,
The honesty when we have to referee our own game,
The resignation when the weather is bad,
We thank you for the Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Golf Club,

For the strong friendships made over long years and for the years of dedicated service given in the best interests of the Club

For the feeling of acceptance we get here,
For the readiness of the best players,
To play with the worst,
And, as always we thank you;
for the skill enough to hit a ball,
For the strength enough to play a course,
for grace enough to keep our friends.

Rev. Granville Morgan (1965)

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