



## MPUMALANGA GOLF UNION

### MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD AT BELFAST GOLF CLUB

ON SATURDAY 17th MARCH, 2018 AT 08h00

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Present :

Graeme Morrison	President	in the chair
Coenie du Preez	Vice President	
Rob Pryde	Highveld Golf	President
Johann van Rensburg	Highveld Golf	Vice President
Francis Themane	Senior Golf	President
Frikkie Fensham	Junior Golf	President
Patrizia Lombard	Womens Golf	Secretary
Stephan Potgieter	Lowveld Golf	Vice President
Robbie Haward	Highveld Golf	Delegate
Adriaan Rabe	Lowveld Golf	Delegate
Johann Bezuidenhout	Lowveld Golf	Delegate
Ryk Lacock	Players Representative	

Colin Mulligan Secretary in attendance

The Chairman warmly welcomed all to this March meeting with a special welcome to Ryk Lacock the newly elected Players Representative.

**APOLOGIES :** Edwin Compton

**1. PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- 1.1 The minutes of the Executive meeting, held at Middelburg Country Club on 20 January, 2018 which had been circulated, was confirmed by the Executive and signed as a true record by the Chairman. Proposed by Rob Pryde and seconded by Johann van Rensburg

**2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES :**

Nil

**3. TOURNAMENTS AND MATCHES CONCLUDED :**

- 3.1 The AdioMart Mpumalanga Closed Championship was highly successful in being hosted at White River Country Club on 18 February. The course was in an excellent condition with the greens, a past problem of note, very good indeed. Arrangements by the club were out of the top drawer. The heat and humidity got to most of the 87 participants but the old adage that the cream always comes out to the top was certainly true as the 9th ranked player in South Africa, Andre van Heerden, blew the field away with scores of 63/70 to win by 6 shots from unheralded Mitch Kock on 139 and Mbombels's Ryk Lacock third on 142. This was golf at its best. Ivan Mare and Brandon Geere shared 4th spot on 143 with Ru-Juan Lessingh and Ian Jacobs in joint 6th place. Eddie Daniel was too good in the senior division winning on a score of 146 from Brian Naidoo on 149 with Steve Smit 3rd on 150 with local, Ben Viljoen, in 4th spot on 152. AdioMart has tentatively agreed to sponsor again in 2019 at a venue still to be decided on.

#### 4. FORTHCOMING FIXTURES :

- 4.1 Club Championships were played this past weekend with a number of surprises in the 3 divisions winners – the next step is the Champ of Champs on 6 May with the winners set to play in the National Final at Glendower in October. Organiser Paul Adams has been invited to attend and has accepted.
- 4.2 The Highveld Mid Amateur is scheduled for 8 April at Middelburg and the Champ of Champs on the 6 May with Highveld playing at Ermelo.

#### 5. SAGA MATTERS : Graeme Morrison reported –

- 5.1 The Chairman reported back on the various decisions taken at the recent SAGA Executive meetings in Durban at the S.A. Amateur.
- 5.2 Graeme Morrison has been appointed Chairman of the Communications Committee and also moves up on to the Management Committee of SAGA – MANCO.
- 5.3 The 2019 IPT will be hosted in Mpumalanga and Mbombela Golf Club has been selected as the venue. Driving Range facilities need to be sorted out at Mbombela.
- 5.4 Sadly we report that the GOLFRSA President Geoff Taylor is not in the best of health currently and we wish him a speedy recovery. Vice President Naadir Agherdien has just been elected Vice President of African Golf and our good wishes are with him.
- 5.5 The final course rating statistics will be rolled out in April. Courses might have to be re-rated every 3½ years to keep up with the changes clubs make. The change in a players handicap playing at other courses will automatically be calculated by the system.
- 5.6 Virtual Clubs are a major threat to the survival of golf clubs and SAGA needs to take a stance here.
- 5.7 Sidney Zulu of Middelburg will be reinstated in November of this year as an amateur.

#### 6. CORRESPONDENCE :

All correspondence, in and out, was tabled. They were made available to the Members of the Executive to peruse at their leisure after the meeting

#### 7. SPONSORSHIP :

A sponsor is required for the Foursomes Championships scheduled for Witbank in June.

#### 8. FINANCE :

- 8.1 The Budget Statement is running according to schedule – the Statement as at 28 February 2018 was discussed and approved – the deficit is currently at R682000 but as yet no affiliation fees have been paid over by either of the Associations. D Day is set for 20 April. The two Associations are requested to motivate their clubs to pay over prior to 20 April.
- 8.2 Affiliation fees for 2018 are set at – 1. GolfRSA R171.00 including VAT – 2. MGU R202.00 excluding VAT as the Union is currently deregistered – the MGU figure included affiliation fees of Junior, Senior and Disabled golfers.

- 8.3 Total expenses of the motor vehicle run at approx. R5600.00 per month. A payment from Highveld Golf is due shortly.

## 9. REPORTS :

### 9.1 HIGHVELD : Rob Pryde

The 2018 Sanlam/Cancer Challenge at club level has kicked off on 9 March and ends on the 31 July – the Kriel Open with a field of 51 taking part was restricted to 27 holes due to adverse weather conditions and was won by Alex Pieterse on 99 from Ivan Mare on 102 with JP du Toit 3rd on 103 – the Standerton Open was won by young Darren Neyt on 148 in a field of 41 players, runner-up was Alex Pieterse on 149 – The Middelburg Open restricted to 18 holes via adverse weather was won by young Nicklas van Wyk of Pretoria on 69 followed by Eddie Daniel, Devon Strydom and Donovan de Vries in second spot on 70, a field of 99 took part – The Ermelo Open was won by Andre van Heerden in a playoff from Eddie Daniel on 139 with Gary Daniel 3rd on 141, 60 players took the field. Club Champs went off smoothly on 10/11 March with all Highveld Clubs playing. At the Closed Championship two Scoring and Ranking systems were set up to run parallel with one another and it was clear to the Highveld contingent that Rinus van Niekerk's System is the preferred one and would like suggest to the MGU to do likewise as the Van Niekerk System has been the preferred one since 2002. The MGU has only 2 tournaments a year to score at while the Junior division has approx. 20 tournaments. If they and Lowveld want to utilize the Albatros System let them do so but they must foot the bill. There are no teams to select after the Country Districts until the IPT team is selected by the end of June so why the rush. Highveld Executive have all agreed to continue to support Rinus's System. The Highveld Clubs who have Open Days all have programmes that they use to score with.

The handicap league is running well and is into the 4th round – entering of scores within the 72 hour deadline still causes problems but is improving – Highveld clubs must in future abide by doing the draw for their Open Day based solely on handicap. The issue between Delmas and Walker Park has been resolved as also the issue between Greenside and Tweefontein.

### 9.2 LOWVELD : Coenie du Preez

Things were going well in the Lowveld – financially the Association were sound – Lydenburg Open was won by Lourens Volschenk on 139 from Ryk Lacock on 141, a field of 55 took part – The White River Open was won by Mlamuli Sithebe on a score of 138 from Carel Jacobsz on 139, 68 players took the field – The Closed Championship played at White River in early February was a highly successful tournament thanks mainly to Adriaan Rabe and his team – the Albatros scoring system was successfully used at White River Open, Lydenburg Open, Mbombela and Bankenveld club champs – Pilgrims Rest Open is scheduled for 25 April – Ruan Greyvenstein has been reinstated as an amateur – Lowveld would like to suggest that Stephan Potgieter be appointed as a manager of one of the MGU teams as he has vast experience as a provincial player.

### 9.3 DEVELOPMENT : Edwin Compton

The Development Manager was moving to Malelane shortly – Henco Erasmus has taken on the development coaching duties at Middelburg – Theo Odendaal will no longer be able to do the coaching at Secunda and Eddie Daniel will be asked to take on this area travelling there once or twice a week which will not negatively impact on the budget. SAGDB players are improving steadily in junior golf tournaments in Mpumalanga and their stroke averages are being closely watched so as to fast track them into the provincial teams on merit. There are 4 SAGDB players in the quads teams to play in Ekurhuleni on 25 March. The PGA of S.A have invited Edwin Compton to do a presentation on Golf Development later this year at the National Coaching Conference. A meeting

has been scheduled with Highland Gate on the 20th to tie up all the loose ends for the Open scheduled there in early September this year.

**9.4 MPUMALANGA JUNIOR and SCHOOLS GOLF: Frikkie Fensham**

Condolences to Petricia Buurman whose mother passed away recently – Greenside Junior Open was scheduled for 21 March – the next big event was the quads on 25 April – the U19 team was due to be selected shortly after the Quads series. Things overall were going well within Junior Golf. The recent Witbank Junior Open was well run – there was a problem in that some of the junior players were playing for senior teams and this weakened the junior team. The MGU President had a talk to the Junior Committee after the recent in fighting and matters have been sorted out.

**9.5 SENIOR AMATEUR GOLF : Francis Themane**

The candidates for the Senior IPT team were announced, discussed and finally settled on, the team being – Steve Smit (capt), Brian Naidoo, Cobus Clarence, Sarel van Heerden, Herman Adendorff, Daniel Nyathela, Theo Bleeker, and Anton de Bruto. Manager Francis Themane. The Chairman wished the team well. Uniforms would be ordered immediately.

**9.6 WOMENS GOLF : Patrizia Lombard**

All was well with Womens Golf and in a landmark decision it was approved that the Ladies could play in the mens Open Days provided there was place and if sufficient ladies played a separate competition could be set up. Womens Golf can contact Francis Themane for their uniform requirements. Johann van Rensburg would complete the Womens Fixture list in due course.

**9.7 DISCIPLINARY REPORT :**

Nothing to report

**10. GENERAL :**

- 10.1 Lowveld have requested that clause 4 of the Selection Criteria be amended and after a discussion the matter was resolved and the document was approved.
- 10.2 The Exemption of Liability document was given to Coenie du Preez to have upgraded if necessary by a Lydenburg attorney who is a member of the local golf club.
- 10.3 Highveld requested the Executive to host all meetings in the future at Carolina as it is more central – the request was approved.
- 10.4 Finality on which Ranking System to adopt has still to be decided on and the matter is now urgent – Lowveld and Junior Golf prefer the Albatros System while Highveld would support the Rinus van Niekerk System.
- 10.5 The venue for the 2019 IPT was discussed and Mbombela Golf Club was given the go ahead to host this prestigious tournament – a concern here was the lack of practice facilities.
- 10.6 Groblersdal have requested that their members be allowed to play in all the Mpumalanga leagues as the Limpopo venues are too far. Limpopo have given the club the necessary permission to approach the MGU.
- 10.7 The following team managers for 2018 MGU teams were announced – Seniors Francis Themane; Country Districts Coenie du Preez; IPT Rob Pryde; Mid Amateur Stephan Potgieter; Sanlam Cancer

Johann Bezuidenhout.

- 10.8 The Executive approved that all future tournament draws in MGU would be based on handicaps and not race. Favouritism in any MGU draw is not on.
- 10.9 Both Ivan Mare and Andre van Heerden – MGU IPT players – failed to qualify at the recent Tour School.

**NEXT MEETING – SATURDAY 19th MAY, 2018 AT BELFAST GOLF CLUB AT 08h00**

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**Graeme Morrison**  
**Chairman**

Please post these minutes on the club notice board for the members to read once the Club Committee has discussed them.---- Visit a very active MGU website at : [www.mgu.co.za](http://www.mgu.co.za)