



NATAL
Established 1963

www.natalnomads.co.za

Email: captain@natalnomads.co.za

APRIL 2026

NATAL NOMADS – MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



22/05/2026

Captain's Report – May 2026

Dear Natal Nomads

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing Captain, Garth Hanger for all his guidance, enthusiasm and commitment to our club during his year as Captain and wish him a great year ahead as our Immediate Past Captain, knowing he will continue to add value.

My first game as Captain was played at Athlone Golf Club, established in 1933 and is situated on Windsor Park Golf Course, which as we know is a public course. However, the team at Athlone did remarkable work preparing the course for our visit (truth be told it was for their upcoming weekend Club Champs). Thank-you to all Natal Members for a fantastic day and wishing me well in my new role. I know with your continued support we will continue to grow our club from strength to strength.

I had an amazing fourball comprising of the Club Captain, Tony Bouffe, Butch Armitage, and Steve Toddington. What a day they made it for me. Butch although been a lifelong member of Athlone (43 years) and his playing partner Steve, could not beat the sheer brilliance of Tony as my playing partner, with me only adding a point here and there 😊, we also managed to be the Playing fourball winners on the day.



Our Prize giving was successfully run by Mthoko Mtshali, our new VC, kicking off his start to a great year ahead, I am sure. Well done Mthok's.

I had the privilege of handing Garth Hanger his well-deserved 10-year tie, as well as a 5-year tie to Pieter Neethling. Well done gents.

Key to our Focus this year as a Committee and a Club, is for the Growth of New Membership. We currently have 5 prospective Nomads *walking* through the process of obtaining membership in our Club. We must continue to focus on this growth and look to invite even more guests so that they too can see the Comradery of our Great Club and look to join!

Below some of the key numbers for the day.

Player Statistics for the Day			
Nomads		69	
Visiting Nomads		1	
Prospectives		2	
Guests		7	
TOTAL		79	
Nomad Scoring Statistics			
Cut	No Change	Gained	Aver Score
32	28	9	31,9

Divisional Statistics for the Day				
Divisions	Nomads	Guests	Aggregate	Average
A	20	4	759	31,6
B	29	2	1003	32,4
C	20	4	767	32.0

Well played to the Champions on the day:

- A Div - **Butch Armitage** (6) 36 Pts
- B Div - **AJ Smith** (15) 39 Pts
- C Div - **Brand Van Niekerk** (20) 38 pts

I awarded my first bottles of Johnnie Walker Blonde to Garth Hanger and Tony Bouffe. Garth spent an entire year handing out Johnnie's, recognising people, for what they had contributed to our club, so I saw it fitting for all he has done for our club, to award my first bottle to him. Tony thanks again for your kind words about Natal Nomads, we are sure you will enjoy the sweet nectar in the bottle that Johnnie holds.

Our thanks to you our members who assisted on the day at Athlone Golf Club.
Registration and Joker - Mike Jordan, Antony Kerdachi, Mthoko Mtshali and Garth Enslin



Scorer - Mike Jordan and Ian Brewer and
Prize table - Steve McClelland
Photos – Craig Davidson
Starters – Garth Hanger and Rob Earl

Natal Nomads, of concern to us as a Club is our members poor attendance of prizegiving, remembering that we all signed up for prizegiving when we were inducted. We thought it was a particularly poor showing with only 1 divisional winner being present to collect his award.

Not only is this a moment to thank our generous National & Local sponsors, (we know Natal probably has the largest and most flush prize table out of all the SA clubs), but it's also in recognition of our day's winners. It is not fair on these sponsors for members to treat prizegiving as an optional extra, attending only when it suits them or they are in the mood!

Guys, Let's all remember we get out of Nomads what we put in. Let's put in the effort, and PITCH for prizegiving.

Our next game is at Mount Edgecomb Country Club "The Woods" on the 25th of June, so please Nomads make a concerted effort to put your name down for this game, invite a friend, look to make them Nomads and fill the course on the day, making it even more pleasurable.

Remember, Johnnie Walker, says it best, just "**Keep Walking**"

Yours in Nomads



NOMADS[®]

Darrell de Jager -DJ

Natal Captain

darrell@pioneergroup.co.za

www.natalnomads.co.za

Captain, Nomads Golf Club Natal 2026/2027

Natal Nomads – Vision

To inspire a community of golfers bound by friendship, integrity, and passion for the game, while leaving a meaningful impact on the lives of those in need.

We envision a Nomads family where sport, camaraderie, and charity come together to create lasting memories, empower communities, and uphold a legacy of generosity and excellence.





THANK YOU FOR THE DAY

Duty	Person
Registration	Garth Enslin / Mike Jordan
Collections	Mthoko Mtshali / Antony Kerdachi
Starters	Garth Hanger / Rob Earl
Scorer	Ian Brewer / Greg Graham
Prize Table	Steve McClelland
Photographer	Craig Davidson

MAJOR WINNERS

1. Visiting Nomads Today

Winner: Rob Harrison
Handicap: 16 | Score: 30 pts

2. Best Prospective & Visitor

Winner: Tony Bouffe
Handicap: 19 | Score: 41 pts

3. Drawn 4 Ball Winners

Mark Kirkland | Bongani Mdletshe | Dave Martin | Siphamandla Mdletshe
Handicap: 55 | Score: 140 pts

4. Drawn 4 Ball Runners Up

Ian Hayes-Hill | Tony Graham | Mandla Ndudane | Bongani Mdletshe
Handicap: 57 | Score: 138 pts



5. Playing 4 Ball Winners

Darrell de Jager | Tony Bouffe | Butch Armitage | Steve Toddington
Handicap: 48 | Score: 140 pts

6. Playing Pair Runners Up

Butch Armitage & Steve Toddington
Handicap: 14 | Score: 70 pts

DIVISION RESULTS

Division	Winner	Score
A Division	Butch Armitage	36 pts
B Division	AJ Smith	39 pts
C Division	Brand van Niekerk	38 pts

Division Runners Up

Division	Runner Up	Score
A Division	Gavin Bissict	35 pts
B Division	Fabien Durocher-Yvon	38 pts
C Division	Arnie Neveling	36 pts

SPECIAL PRIZES

Prize	Winner
“Boytjie” Best Performance	AJ Smith – 39 pts
Nearest Pin No. 4	Steve Toddington
Nearest Pin No. 8	Richard Eslick
Nearest Pin No. 11	Wesley Bohata
Nearest Pin No. 14	Johann Bothma
Nearest Pin for 2 – No. 18	Corbin Weeks
Hole in One	No Winner

TWO CLUBS

Mark Kirkland (2) | Mark Oliver (2) | Craig Davidson | Tony Bouffe
Wesley Bohata | Richard Eslick | Sean Phillips | Siphamandla Mdletshe

Most Golf Sponsored by Antony Kerdachi

Winner: Werner Pieterse
Handicap: 6 | Score: 23 pts



JOHNNY WALKER CHALLENGE – TOP 6

Position	Player	Score
1	Butch Armitage	166
2	John Elliott	165
3	Bongani Mdletshe	164
4	Maurice Cellin	163
5	Arnie Neveling	163
6	Brendan Toohey	161

FINES & DRAWS

Prize	Winner
Fines Master	John Elliott
Johnny Blonde Whisky Draw	Gavin Bissict
Cash Draw – R350	Mark Records
Lotto Draw No. 33	Andrew Ehrich
Over 60's Attendance Prize	Garth Enslin
Under 60's Attendance Prize	Rob Earl
SAB Beer Draw	Dalan Hall / Brendan Toohey / Eric Mzileni
Conca Café Voucher	Deon Myburgh
Host Club Golf Vouchers	Not Offered
Captain's Choice	Tony Bouffe
Taylor Made Super 10 Draw	Richard Eslick

JACKPOTS

Jackpot	Winner
Joker Jackpot – R17 635	Sam Bohata
Vice Captains Joker – R5 300	Keith Gillespie / Jay Mngoma

NEXT GAME

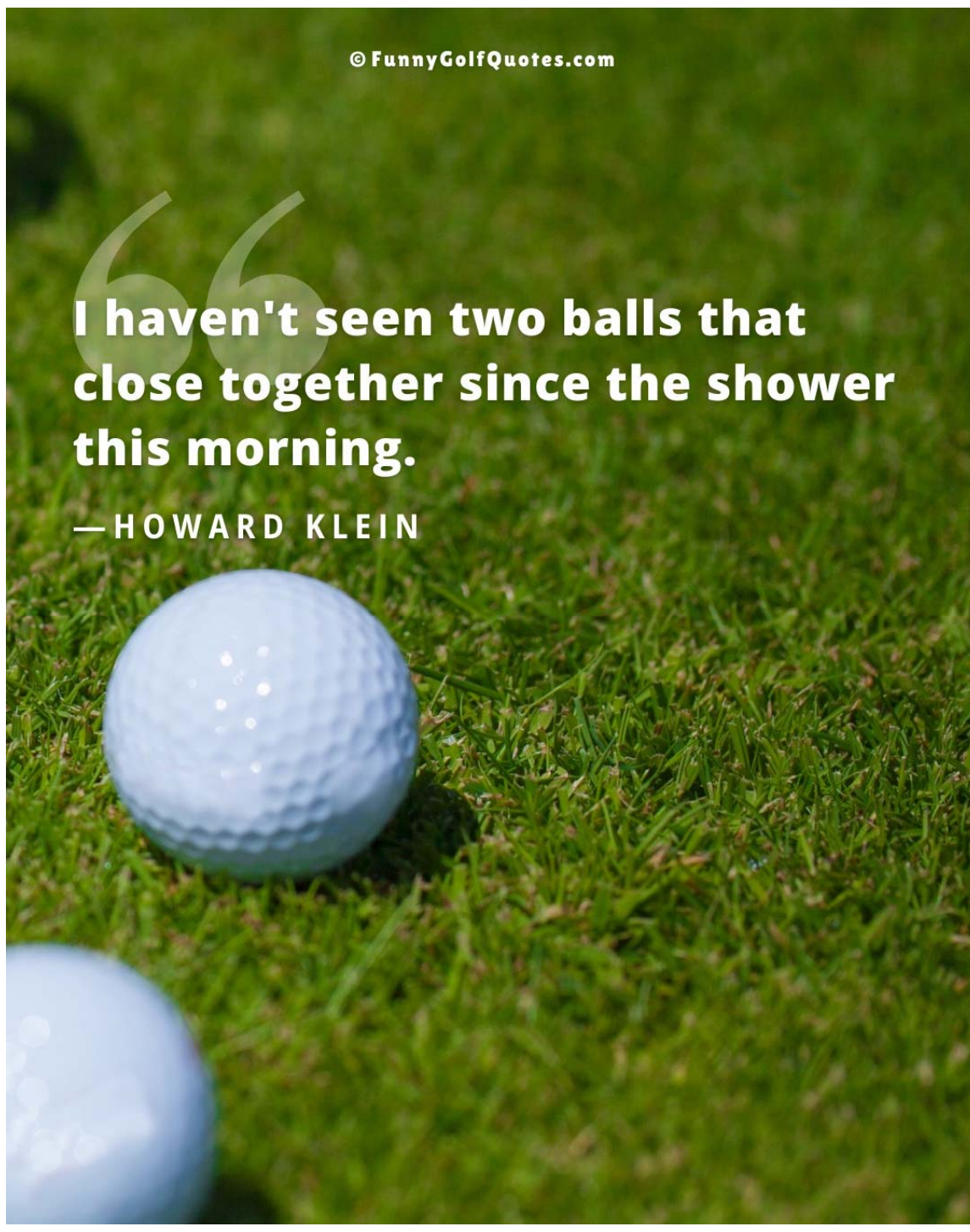
Mount Edgecombe “The Woods”

Thursday 25 June 2026



My grandpa was the one; he started taking up golf when I was about two and introduced me to the game as far as just taking me to the driving range where I grew up playing. That was really all he had to do was let me hit a golf ball and kind of fell in love with it from there. He didn't really have to teach me a whole lot or anything.

Rickie Fowler



Vice Captain Report

11 May 2026 - Natal Nomads Committee 2026/27

Firstly, I would like to thank you, Natal Nomads, for electing me as VC and for your trust and confidence shown in me.

Congratulations to my JVC, Antony Kerdachi and all incoming committee members, and the best of luck to the outgoing team.

Sponsorship Matters

Alten, the National PRO, reiterated that a 30% discount on TaylorMade products is available, however through the clubs and the current captain, but not to individual members. It is important to note that all purchases must be processed via Alten.

Johnnie Walker Challenge Standings

This competition runs from January to December. To enhance visibility for Johnnie Walker, the latest standings covering at least the top five, or ideally the top ten players should be shared during the monthly prize-giving ceremonies.

AMEF Update

The event will take place on Friday, 4th September, at Bluff Golf Course.

A fundraising activity, the Mantshinga Open Golf Day, has been scheduled for 20th December at Selborne Golf Estate.

Langham Drakensberg 2026 Update

Date: 30 & 31 May 2026

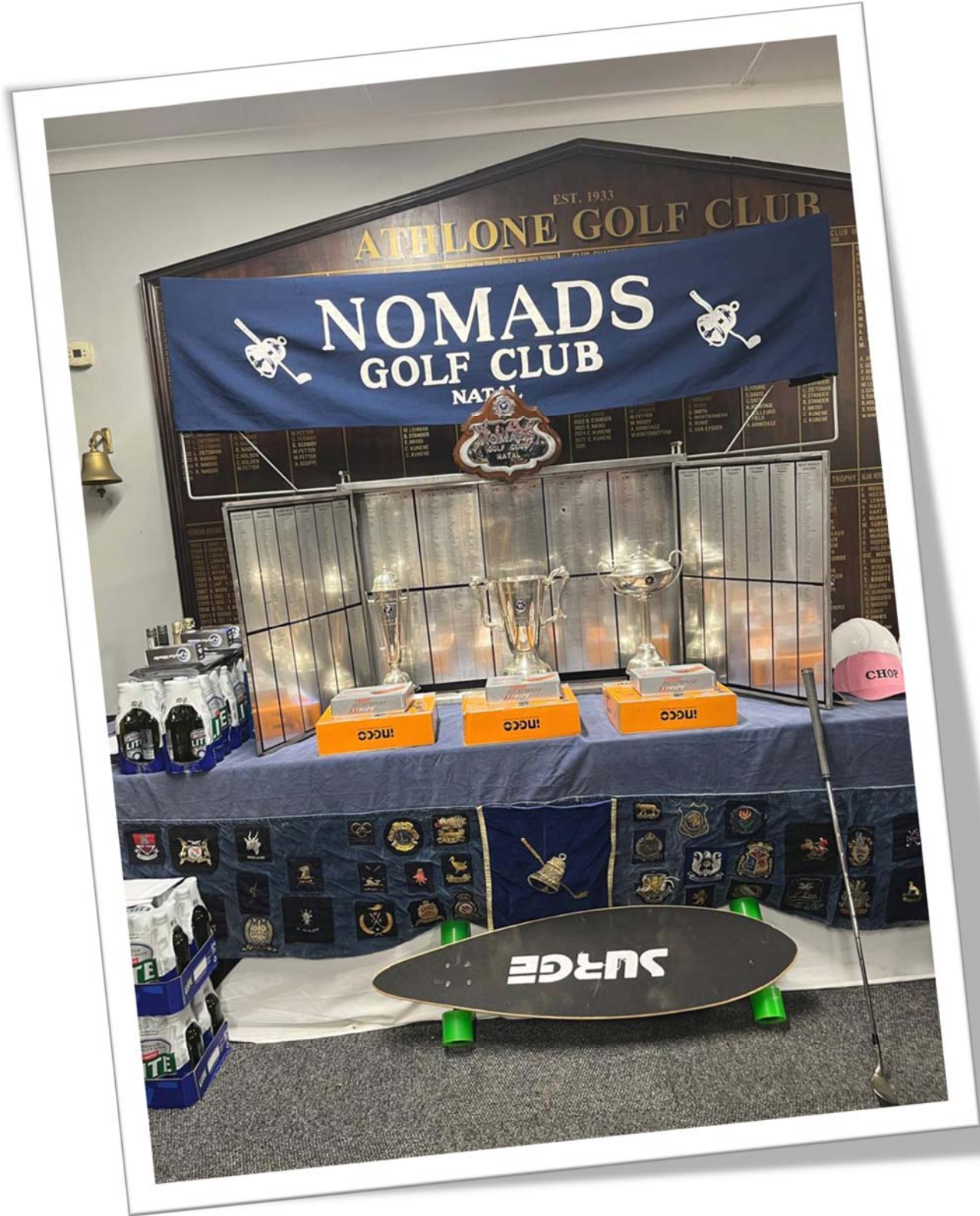
Venue: Gowrie Farm Golf Course

- Freestate Nomads has regrettably withdrawn from this year's event but remains committed to participating next year.
- Southern Natal managed to bring only four members.
- Gauteng brought twenty members, most of whom are arriving with partners and staying from Friday and departing on Monday.
- Natal Nomads is bringing twenty-eight (28) troops—a contribution for which I am truly grateful.
- Accordingly, the total number of participants stands at fifty-two (52)

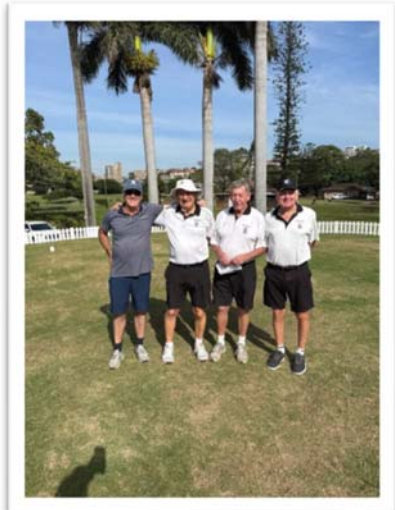
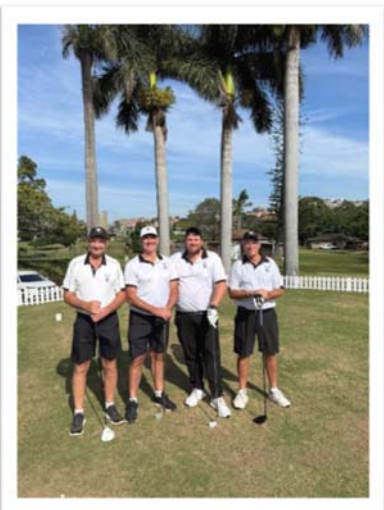
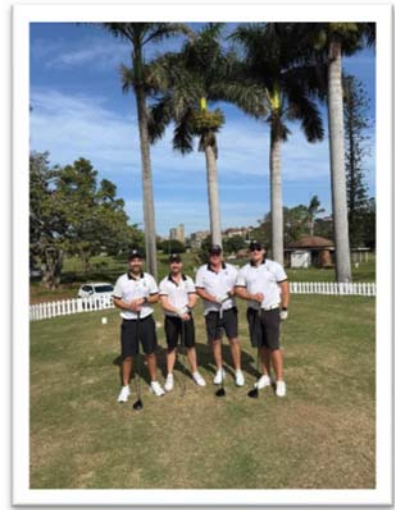
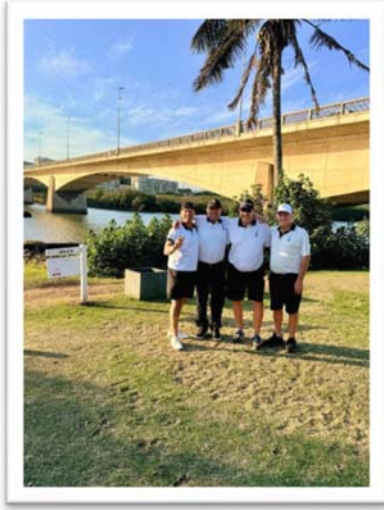
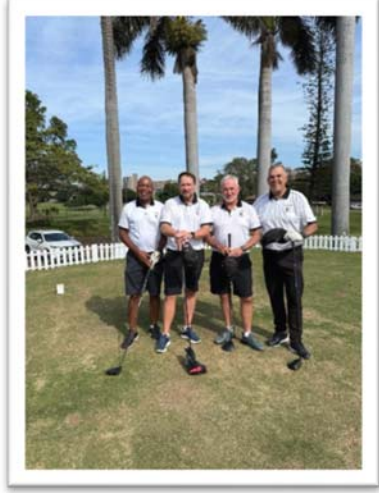
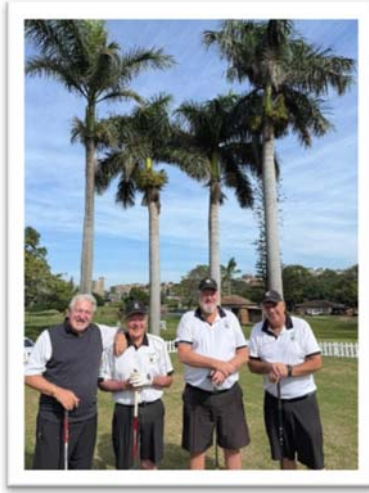
Puma was a great fit for me. Obviously, they were looking for someone that was going to fit their brand, and I was looking to wear stuff that was going to fit me and not where I was going to go out and just blend in with everyone else. So it's been a great fit. [Rickie Fowler](#)

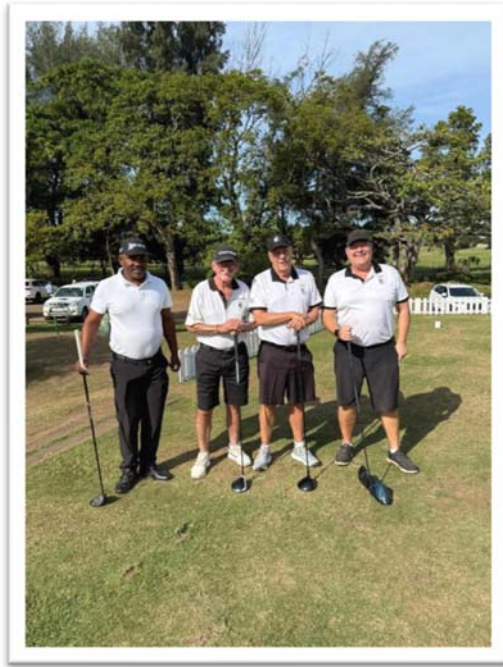


PRIZE GIVING



THE PLAYERS



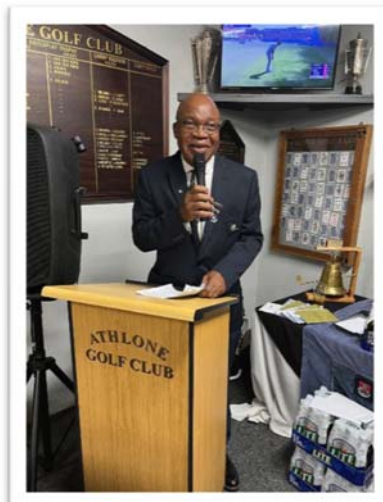


PRIZE GIVING PIC'S WINNERS & LOSERS



The way I see it, thinking about the position of the club during the swing is about the worst way to play golf. It makes you tight and defensive, which kills your natural speed and rhythm. Although there's obvious value to minding your technique, at best you'll play an OK round. Where's the fun in that? **Rickie Fowler**



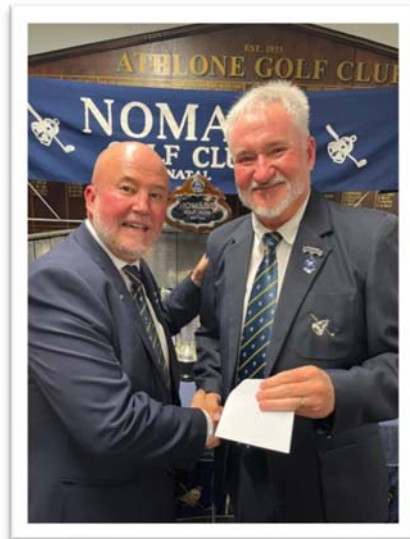


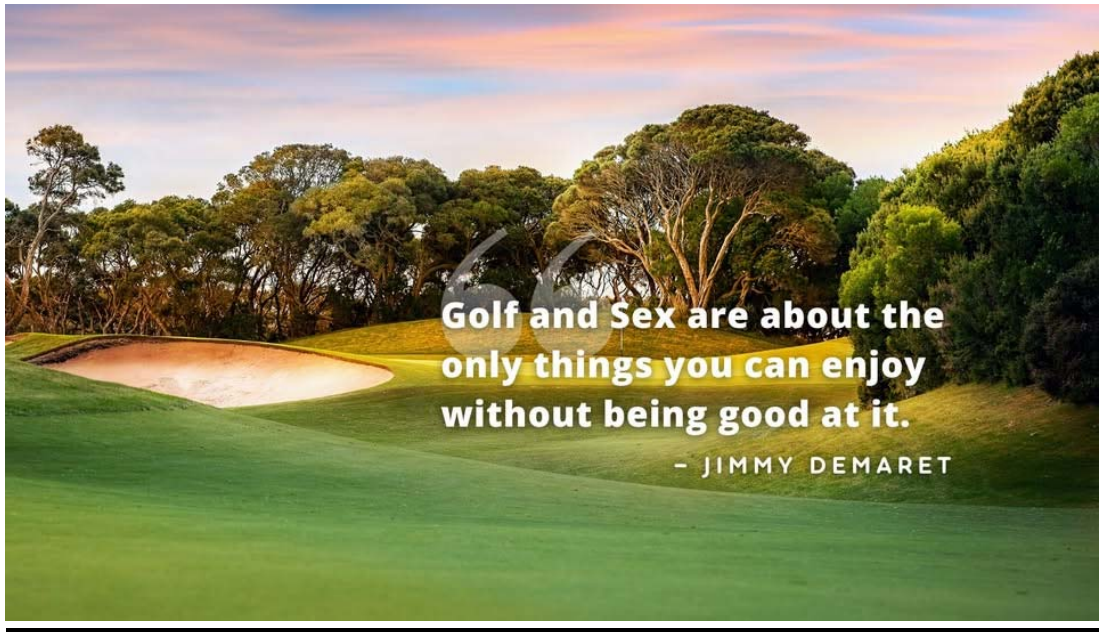
It's pretty cool to see yourself on a video game.

Rickie Fowler









Golf and Sex are about the only things you can enjoy without being good at it.

- JIMMY DEMARET



Thank you to our National Sponsors



I'd love to have a lasting impact as far as growing the game. It would be cool to be remembered as a major champion. I'd like to be remembered as a great golfer but also a great person, as far as growing the game and charity work. The whole well-rounded athlete.

Rickie Fowler



Please support our local sponsors who continue to make a valuable contribution to our community and events possible:

F-wise Capital – Warren Geers
BRANDFIN – Brand van Niekerk
THE BOYTJIE BRAND – Tyrone Rudolph
SICA's GUEST HOUSE – Janus Horn
S A FASTENERS – Trishen Naidoo
GAS & SOLAR to GO – AJ Smith
Pre-Match WHISKY – Budgie Shearer

Special thanks to:

FIAMMA GRILL
CONCHILLA
CONCHA CAFÉ

Coco De Mer Boutique Hotel – Fabien Durocher
Yvon Mfuyi Wines – Bongani Mdeletse

Your support is truly appreciated.
Please support the businesses that support
local initiatives.





NEXT GAME – THURSDAY 25th June



Mount Edgecombe CC (Course 1)

Mount Edgecombe Country Club Estate (Course 1), formerly known as Huletts Country Club, is a classic parkland layout originally designed by Sid Brews in 1935 and later redesigned to full USGA championship specifications by Hugh Baiocchi in 1992.

Set in the lush sugar cane region of KwaZulu-Natal's North Coast, the course offers a memorable championship golfing experience. The fairways wind gracefully between towering pine trees, mature gums, and beautifully landscaped vegetation, creating a peaceful yet challenging environment.

Commonly referred to as the "Woods Course," Course 1 is renowned for its strategic layout, attractive water features, and large multi-tiered greens planted with Country Club grass. Accuracy and course management are essential, particularly around the closing stretch.

A standout feature of the course is its famous "Amen Corner" from the 14th to the 16th holes:

- The 14th is a demanding par five with water guarding the approach and green.
- The 15th is a striking par three requiring a full carry over water.
- The 16th is a difficult par four where the tee shot must carefully avoid a small dam before setting up the approach.

Located approximately 25 minutes north of Durban's city centre, Mount Edgecombe Country Club Estate remains one of KwaZulu-Natal's premier championship golf destinations.





"Gentlemen,

Please can all players make a sincere effort to remain for prize giving after our monthly Nomads Golf Days. Prize giving is an important part of the day and forms part of the fellowship, camaraderie and traditions that make Nomads such a special organisation.

Over the past few months, we have worked hard to improve the flow of the day and reduce the waiting time between the completion of golf and prize giving. The capturing of scorecards has been streamlined and players have also been encouraged to shower and change immediately after their round. These changes have resulted in prize giving commencing noticeably earlier than in the past.

We therefore ask for your cooperation and support in ensuring that we have a good attendance at prize giving. The "captain" in each 4-ball is specifically encouraged to take responsibility for encouraging his team members to remain behind until the conclusion of the formalities. A strong turnout reflects respect for the club, the sponsors, the organisers and fellow Nomads.

While you may not always be fortunate enough to receive a prize yourself, it is important that we support and acknowledge those players who have performed well on the day. The applause, the banter and shared enjoyment are all part of what makes our golf days memorable and enjoyable for everyone involved.

Our sponsors also make a significant contribution towards these events and it is only fitting that we show our appreciation by supporting the full programme of the day, including prize giving.

Thank you to everyone who already stays behind and contributes to the atmosphere and spirit of the occasion. Your continued support is greatly appreciated and we trust that going forward we will see even stronger attendance at prize giving after our monthly games."

For the players wanting to go to nationals, points are allocated for attendance. Just saying!

Editor: Mike Clark

