

Senior Professional Golf Tour of South Africa

Trading as: Sunshine Senior Tour

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Press Release

To: OFM

The Born Free Civils Pro-Am at Orkney Golf Club; 3rd - 4th October 2020

On behalf of the Sunshine Senior Tour we are pleased to announce the staging of the initial Born Free Civils Pro-Am to be held at the Orkney Golf Club over the weekend of 3rd and 4th October.

The tournament will be played in a Pro-Am competition format (4 ball alliance, two scores to count), where teams of 3 amateurs will partner with a top senior professional competing for great prizes over the two days. The professionals will also play a stroke play tournament concurrently with the teams' event for a disclosed prize fund.

There will be 90 amateur players comprising of men and ladies playing alongside some fantastic professional players, who are all in the 50+ age bracket but still very much competitive. The amateurs will play off their recognised and accredited handicaps off their chosen tee markers in accordance with Golf RSA handicapping rules. A maximum of 30 professionals will play with the amateurs and the rest of the professional entrants will play ahead of the Pro-Am field in the mornings of both days.

Which professionals have entered?

Past greats like:

- James Kingston, past SA Open Champion, current SA Senior Open holder and 2019 order of merit winner and with career earnings of over R10m. Currently also plays on the European Senior Tour.
- Chris Williams, PGA Champion, and former SA Senior Open champion with multiple wins in Europe and locally.
- Doug McGuigan, who has just turned 50 and still plays on the local Sunshine PGA Tour with multiple wins and career winnings of nearly R10m will be teeing up in his first 'senior' event.
- Des Terblanche, who has overcome recent health issues, is a prestigious winner on the Asian and Sunshine Tour circuits, with nearly R4m in career earnings.
- Andre Cruse is another past winner of multiple Sunshine Tour events and past SA Senior Masters champion.

- Nic Henning is part of the ‘Henning clan’ of past golf champions. People may remember his father, Graham and Nic’s uncle’s Harold and Allan who were both SA Open champions. Nic represented South Africa in the World Cup and will contest the finish of this event.
- Bobby Lincoln will also be in the field and his career record is well known, especially the Randpark event where he beat Ernie Els into 2nd place. He holds the Senior Tour scoring record of 60 with another fine player participating, namely, Neil Cheetham, the current UK PGA Club professional champion.
- Chris Davison, the past SA Masters champion on the Sunshine Tour may also play alongside players like Nico van Rensburg, a multiple winner on the Asian circuit and Callie Swart a past SA Senior Open champion.
- Dave Usendorff, a past TV presenter with Dale Hayes will be participating and doing the golf clinic after the first -days play.

“Entries close on the 25th September and we expect many other of our members to enter by then”, says Neville Clarke, of the organising committee.

Who are the Sponsors of this event?

1. We must thank Mr François Muller, from Born Free Civils for submitting the main investment to the event.
2. Overland have also stepped up to the plate and presented their offerings to assist in balancing the budget for the pro-Am. We also thank them for their contribution.
3. Rio Casino have also come to the party with sponsorships in cash and value in kind. We thank Hennie Steenkamp and the Rio Casino for offering some free accommodation and special rates for the duration of this event. They have also given gambling vouchers as prizes and trust our participants will visit their casino and try their luck.
4. Agri Tracking will be sponsoring a “hole-in-one” prize on the Sunday, where amateurs and professional will be able to win a Tractor as a prize for an ace shot to the 2nd green. We thank Wessels for this initiative in creating a good vibe and incentive for the players.
5. Thanks also to Harry Kruger of Toyota for their investment in the tournament and to the others who have committed to inject funds, without whom this event cannot go on.
6. Those companies who still want to invest in the event can buy a hole for R10 000 and in return can advertise on course and have 3 free amateur participants enjoy the golf, hospitality, and prizes on offer.

Can more companies still offer investment to the tournament?

Your company is invited to enter a team of 3 amateurs, the details are as follows:

Cost per team: R10,000.00 + VAT

This includes: Dinner and prizegiving (Saturday evening)

Complimentary gift pack

Great prizes (daily and overall)
Halfway snack both days
This excludes: Golf carts & Caddies

Your company may further benefit from your entry by displaying advertising on a designated hole (green or tee) on the course. You may also have your own staff at this designated area promoting your company and products. If refreshments or food will be offered in these areas, it would be necessary to seek approval from the club management.

What other activities are on offer during the weekend?

We are also pleased to announce that our nominated charity for this event will go to the caddies, who have been affected by the Covid-19 restrictions. Raffles will be arranged with a small auction to contribute to the charity.

A golf clinic will be given by Dave Usendorff after play on day 1.

The Pro Shop will have an activation where players can test clubs and buy equipment on site.

A Dinner/Braai will be held on Day 1 and the event **prize giving** on Day 2 with snacks served.

How can amateur players enter for the event?

This can be done by contacting the Orkney Golf Club at 018 473 2899 through Petro. Entry fees are R750 for either of the days or R1300 for both days, payable to the club by EFT or on the competition day.

Please note we can only accommodate 30 teams, so enter as soon as possible, not to miss out on playing alongside some of our great past champions.

Entries close on 25th September 2020.

Are there safety measures in place for Covid-19?

The event will be played under strict Rules and Conditions as agreed between Government Authorities and the Golf RSA Committee for this purpose.

Screening and registration of players and guests on arrival will be administered on site at the golf club, where temperature testing and a non-symptoms declaration is required by all.

Further, sanitisation and social distancing will be in place and all participants will be made aware of the rules of play covering Covid-19.