



SAGDB

south african golf development board

GROWING THE GAME · BUILDING THE NATION

The South African Golf Development Board (SAGDB)

For 27 years, a golf club has been much more than a piece of sporting equipment in the hands of thousands of young South Africans. It has been an introduction to a game, a classroom for life and, for many, the beginning of a pathway to opportunities they may never have imagined.

Since the South African Golf Development Board (SAGDB) was established in 1999, more than 36 000 children have passed through its programme. Some have gone on to represent their provinces and their country, earn university scholarships and compete professionally. Others have built careers in golf, medicine, science, journalism and a host of other fields.

Their destinations may be different, but many of their journeys began in exactly the same place: as youngsters being given an opportunity to discover golf.

Today, approximately 2 800 children participate in the SAGDB's weekly PGA-approved Long-Term Athlete Development (LTAD) coaching programmes across all 14 golf regions in South Africa.

As the country's official golf development body, the SAGDB has built a nationwide programme that combines golf development with education, personal growth and opportunity. Its work is supported and endorsed by the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, The R&A, GolfRSA, the Sunshine Tour, the PGA of South Africa, Remgro and other leading South African golf bodies, together with several long-standing sponsors.

The SAGDB is also a proud beneficiary of the Alfred Dunhill Links Foundation.

But while golf provides the starting point, developing great golfers has never been the SAGDB's only measure of success.

Its holistic approach places a strong emphasis on education alongside sporting development, using the discipline, values and life skills inherent in golf to empower young people and encourage them to become positive role models within their families and communities. The results of that long-term investment are increasingly visible – both on the golf course and far beyond it.

More than 400 SAGDB members have earned provincial colours on merit at Open Amateur and Junior level.

The SAGDB has also enjoyed a strong presence within the GolfRSA National Men's and Women's Squad structures since their launch in 2015. Current members include Josh Daniels, Zayaan Hendricks, Jayden Hoskins, Johndre Ludick, Zinan Maimane, Orateng Maphake, Lucia Mhlabane, Kamaya Moodliar, Mitch Phigeland, Phenyio Sebata, Alexis Toriani, Devon Valentine and Jaden Visagie.

National Headquarters: Mall Triangle, De Beers Avenue, Somerset West 7130
P O Box 2285, Somerset West 7129

T: +27 21 852 8056 • F: +27 21 852 8061 E: info@sagolfboard.org
Association Incorporated under Section 21 - # Reg 1999/007362/08 •

Non-Profit Organisation - #Reg 046-597-NPO.Public Benefit Organisation - #Ref No 930005996

President: & Chairperson: J. P. Rupert, Directors:
S. M. Nathan,

G. I. Hepburn* Managing Director, D. M. Egdes I.

Ficalbi, J.S. Loftie-Eaton, M.M. Ngoasheng,

D Nel, C. Logie*, A E. Rupert, T. Abt,

M. Mlangeni, S Andrew (Ms)

*Executive Directors

Former SAGDB members who have graduated from the national squad structure include Kieron van Wyk, Kaiyuree Moodley, Cole Stevens, Carl Mwale, Franklin Manchest, Hayden Garcia, Jordan Duminy, Karabo Mokoena, Keelan van Wyk, Rorisang Nkosi, Sentanio Minnie, Steven le Roux and Vuyisani Makama.

The depth of the pathway is also reflected in provincial team golf. Since 2021, SAGDB players have earned selection across GolfRSA's premier national team events, including the South African Premier Inter-Provincial Tournament, SA Under-19 Inter-Provincial Tournament, SA Country Districts Inter-Provincial Tournament, Challenge Inter-Provincial Tournament, SA Women's Inter-Provincial Tournament and 72-Hole Teams Championship.

SAGDB players have also become a regular presence at the country's leading amateur championships, including the South African Amateur, South African Stroke Play, South African Women's Amateur and Stroke Play Championships and the GolfRSA International Amateur Championships.

In 2012, Musi Nethunzwi and Sipho Bujela broke new ground when they became the first SAGDB graduates to represent South Africa at the Africa Zone VI Golf Championships. Since then, a growing number of SAGDB players have earned national colours, among them Zethu Myeki, Cole Stevens, Kieron van Wyk, Johndre Ludick and Phenyo Sebata.

For some, that pathway has extended beyond amateur golf.

SAGDB graduates are now competing professionally on the Sunshine Tour, Sunshine Ladies Tour and APGA Tour, while an increasing number are combining golf and education through the US college system.

Among them are GolfRSA National Squad members Phenyo Sebata at Troy University, Josh Daniels at Augusta University, Jayden Hoskins at Point University and Kamaya Moodliar at Lamar University.

While Kieron van Wyk and Stevens both pursued professional golf careers after college, success within the SAGDB pathway has never been measured solely by trophies, rankings or a career on Tour.

For many graduates, the opportunities, discipline and educational focus that accompanied their years in the programme have provided a foundation for success well beyond the golf course.

Hayden Garcia and Alkin Barkley attended Virginia Union University in the United States, while Anvy Shongwe studied at Wilmington University. Back home, Vuyo Klaas attended the University of the Free State, while Kim Daniels graduated from Nelson Mandela University with a degree in Journalism and is now building her career with national broadcaster SABC.

Others have followed paths into science and healthcare. Crystal Beukes and Jamie-Lee Daniels are both pursuing MBChB degrees in medicine, while Zara le Keur is studying Biochemistry at Stellenbosch University. Lee Ola Prince is completing a postgraduate diploma in Auditing, while Tristan de Kock is studying Pharmacy at Nelson Mandela University.

Golf itself has also created a growing range of career opportunities for SAGDB graduates.

More than 20 have completed the PGA of South Africa's three-year diploma, among them GolfRSA Tournament Director Kgomotso Kgopa; Tumo Motaung, who coaches in the Free State; Cameron Essau, the club professional at Stellenbosch Golf Club; and Cedric Rooi, the club professional at Worcester Golf Club.

More than 15 graduates have attended the African Turf Academy, including Kifentse Nukeri, Keelan van Wyk and Devin Twigg, opening another pathway into careers in golf course management and turf maintenance and close to 30 graduates have completed or are currently enrolled in the one-year Grow Golf PGA of South Africa programme, while 14 recent graduates are employed at golf clubs around the country.

Together, these journeys capture the bigger purpose of the SAGDB.

The pathway may begin with a golf club in the hands of a seven- or eight-year-old, but there is no single destination. It can lead to provincial colours or the Protea badge, a university lecture hall or medical school, a career in coaching, turf management or golf administration, the professional tours – or an entirely different career beyond the game.

For the SAGDB, that is the true measure of development: not simply producing better golfers, but using golf to create opportunities and equip young South Africans to build successful futures.