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Thursday, April 25, 2024

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Someone told me long ago,

There's a calm before the storm.... we all know that great song: *Have you seen the rain!* We are fortunate to be in the perfect storm every day of our lives, with only 41 days to go before Christmas and a week after another amazing Abacus Eikestad Classic, it's hard not to say that we are in the "perfect storm".

No matter how hard life can get, go to bed grateful for all you have! It's the time of the year to be happy and positive to spend the bonus you might not even receive, to continue celebrating the Rugby World Cup Victory and cherish the time you will be spending with family and friends during the up-and-coming festive season! **#strongertogether**

This December will be a little more special for me as I celebrate my 20-year anniversary at the club – wow time flies when you have fun and living the dream.



Our Ladies at the Daysh Cup celebrating the biggest victory for 2019!

#gogirls

It is just great writing about the 2019 Abacus Eikestad Classic

Almost getting a warm and fuzzy feeling.... I can report back that we had an overwhelming successful festival week, with my wife's happiest moment being, me at home before 1 am in the morning (well some of the nights at least). The ladies started the week off for us with their annual Member Guest event and what a pleasure it was welcoming more than 60 ladies to the club to a great day of golf, enjoying a glass of wine (or two) and something special from our kitchen.

Love your Nuts (Testicular Cancer) our charity in 2019 was well supported from the first day. As always R50 was donated by the players for every birdie made on the course, with a special R100 donation if you birdied the 7th, our blue hole, for the week! Integrity is such a big part of the game and seeing the players each night paying proudly when I asked who made birdies.... Congratulations to all those players and off course thank you very much for your contribution to the cause.

On Wednesday the members battled it out in rather "stormy" weather; hard to think it was the only day of the week that it rained!

On Thursday we said *"Thank You"* to our suppliers and sponsors – a day very special to the club and a great evening to be at the club (on our beautiful deck). I must thank all these wonderful sponsors and suppliers for

your contribution to our success story annually.



Wednesday winners in our Members Day!



Smiling on the Sponsors Day is the winning team for the day!

As the sun rose on a picture-perfect Saturday morning, one could feel a special kind of atmosphere in Stellenbosch. The first breakfast was served just after 6 am and the first 4-Ball (our dew sweepers) teed off at 06h38, followed by 51 x 4-Balls throughout the day. The decision to change the layout back to the SA Masters layout was very well received.... As a matter of fact, it was not just me enjoying the layout, I had numerous inquiries to why the course cannot always play like this? Loved it, loved it, loved it with the halfway house situated in the perfect spot?

Our Abacus Eikestad Classic Champions played behind me and it was hard not to know that they were doing well with all the high fives and screams coming from the champion 4-Ball. Well played gentleman, it was a pleasure to watch every now and again as the putts just kept on finding the bottom of the cup. Sadly, my ball feared dark places as I could not buy a putt on the day – but ladies and gentlemen please put your hands together for Neil Scheepers and his team for the beautiful golf course he prepares for us daily!

Chef Gerhard had a quiet, almost lazy day, on Saturday serving just over 1200 dishes. With no surprise, each one tasting better than the last – a big hand also to our F&B team for a wonderful week – looking after all the members and their guests!

On Saturday evening our Captain, Peter Hill, did thank some special ladies at the club, so for you who missed I would also like to end off by thanking them again on his behalf. From Stellenbosch GC Marizan and Samantha, you are both two very special people! But also, our special lady members assisting throughout the week, Charlene Theunissen, Ciska Serfontein and Rhoda Kotze - you are all simply the best!

A year ago, with the help of a number of corporates and all the players participating throughout the week, we raised R75'000 for Birdies for Breast Cancer.

With the help of our raffles (Abacus and Cluver and Markotter supporting us here), we raised R15'650 and all the birdies throughout the week raised R13'140, bringing the total to R28'790. We now urge our corporate partners as last year to assist us in raising some more money and I can just echo the feeling of our nation at the moment – STRONGER TOGETHER! The cheque will be handed over early in December when we host our annual Captains Day (4th of December). Please let me know if you (our corporate partners) would like to support once again.

Thank you to all the sponsors for making this event so special yet again!



Champions our Champions!



I played with the birthday boy!

De Stell Cup Final

The final round of the De Stell Cup was played on Wednesday (13 November) across the river. After round two, the scores were tied on 28 points each. The decision was made that the final round will be played at the "reigning champs" course. Great day out as always and I can say the course is in great nick. I would like to hear a slow clap for our sponsors, STM, Turfmanzi, Golf Data and Kleine Zalze. So, what was the final result, ok here we go, De Zalze defended the cup. They won 15 vs 9 with several matches being decided on the 18th hole. To all the members who represented the club through the year, we do appreciate it! Sadly, no picture for this one as we never got called up for any kind of handover...



Justin is taking the game to the next level in Sun City

Justin will be pegging it up in Africa's Major this week, surely a very special moment for him. Spending a little time with him during the Pro-AM none other than Stellenbosch GC member, Hennie Mentz. Hoping for something special, can you think of a better Xmas present?



Hennie Mentz with Justin at Sun City.

Tell us why you love Stellenbosch Golf Club

Stellenbosch Golf Club is participating in the 2019 Club Managers Association of South Africa (CMASA) "Club of the Year" awards.

Complete the survey [here](#).

Please remember to complete the survey – as we follow the BOKKE theme this month STRONGER TOGETHER!

One must be grateful, so what better way to finish than on a high note. Abacus has confirmed that they will be back in 2020 as the title sponsor for the Eikestad Classic. Save the date, because it's going to be even better than the best!

All the best,

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