



Santa says

Off to the Presidents Cup – Ernie, here I come!

It's our year to win! Ernie vs Tiger, again!



On the night of the Els for Autism event held here earlier this year, Nico Van Rensburg said something to me in the middle of our auction. I was pretty wrapped up in being the Auctioneer and what he said went over my head. We went on to raise more than R400 000 before he repeated that I would be attending the Presidents Cup! "What are you talking about?", and Liezl just smiled... "You're going to the Presidents Cup as a VIP and an ambassador for Ernie!"

Well, today I am off! First stop is Sydney where I'll watch the final round of the Aussie Open, staying with my friend and CEO of the Australian Club, Steven Shearer. He has a home at the Club so it'll be a short walk to the tee.

From there I travel to Melbourne and will see it all. I am packing my best St

from there I travel to Melbourne and witness team fan parking my soccer Francis Links logoed shirts and caps to be visible at every opportunity! I got asked if I wanted to play golf while in Oz, and my answer was simple as I am going to watch golf, not to play. I will be there every minute of every day, from the first shot to the last.

The tournament will be played on what is referred to as the composite course, a combination of holes from their East Course (6 holes) and from their West Course (12 holes).



From the scorecard below, take note of the holes that are played. It is interesting to note that the composite course is the course that is rated one of the best in the world and I think it could only be played in special events. I don't think you can pitch up and ask to play it!

● Mens				
🚩	Hole Order	Metres	Yards	Par
1	3W	341	373	4
2	4W	487	533	5
3	5W	161	176	3
4	6W	401	439	4
5	7W	135	148	3
6	10W	285	312	4
7	11W	416	455	4
8	12W	435	476	4
9	17W	402	440	4
10	18W	396	433	4
11	1E	304	332	4
12	2E	402	440	4
13	3E	350	383	4
14	16E	173	189	3
15	17E	520	569	5
16	18E	433	474	4
17	1W	399	436	4
18	2W	419	458	4



When you watch the Presidents Cup next week, look at the natural bunkers and how some are simply cut into the green. The greens and the entire course will play firm and fast. Shot-making will determine who wins their matches. Confident putters will have an easier time. Ernie loves the course in the Sandbelt as the area is known. He not only played well there, but his course design was also inspired by them. Our member James B just reminded me that Ernie has the course record there – 60!

Ernie will be fielding a side with only one South African and six rookies. The American side is all ranked higher than the entire International team, except

Adam Scott. But what is on paper does not necessarily determine the result. With Tiger playing (and don't be surprised if you only see him once or twice before the singles) I like our odds even better. Let Ernie do a "Bjorn" on Tiger and get the boys together as a team despite the cultural and language differences. He has been working with the prospective team members over the past 18 months and Tiger has his guys at the Hero Challenge before flying 20 hours to OZ. Maybe I'm thinking with my heart more than my head, but Ernie will give them the South African drive!

INTERNATIONAL TEAM	HOW PLAYERS QUALIFY >	UNITED STATES TEAM	HOW PLAYERS QUALIFY >
CAPTAIN: ERNIE ELS CAPTAIN'S ASSISTANTS: K.J. CHOI, GEOFF OGIUVY, TREVOR IMMELMAN, MIKE WEIR		CAPTAIN: TIGER WOODS CAPTAIN'S ASSISTANTS: FRED COUPLES, ZACH JOHNSON, STEVE STRICKER	
2019 PLAYER ROSTER		2019 PLAYER ROSTER	
 Hideki Matsuyama	 Adam Scott	 Dustin Johnson	 Justin Thomas
 Louis Oosthuizen	 Marc Leishman	 Matt Kuchar	 Xander Schauffele
 Abraham Ancer	 Haotong Li	 Webb Simpson	 Patrick Cantlay
 C.T. Pan	 Cameron Smith	 Bryson DeChambeau	 Tiger Woods
 Joaquin Niemann	 Adam Hadwin	 Gary Woodland	 Tony Finau
 Sungjae Im	 Byeong Hun An	 Patrick Reed	 Rickie Fowler

Go internationals!

What to look forward to

Great "Hutchie Tribute" coming to SFL and the community!



DALE HAYES WILL BE HOSTING A
TRIBUTE
 EVENT FOR
Denis Hutchinson
SAT 4 JAN 2020

The "Voice of Golf" and "Mr Golf" in South Africa invite you to enjoy an evening with them as they discuss their incredibly interesting involvement in this wonderful game. Between them, Denis and Dale have over 100 years' experience in golf as they have played and commented on millions of holes on thousands of courses and associated with hundreds of thousands of players and characters around the world. Relax with a refreshment and delicious table snacks whilst these Golf Hall of Famers regale their stories and answer a few of the questions posed to them.


St Francis Links
 Enquiries 042 200 4500

R180pp incl snack platters
7.30pm for 8pm
Bookings via Quicknet
 and then call the Links to book your table together with your friends

- Please get your Knockout matches played, and remember, it's a double-elimination event!
- Ladies - do you have your Member-Member Partners?
- The Annual – Ultimate Par-3 Champs are on December 8 – get out on the Par-Three-course!

Muirfield, the 2nd Annual – what a great day!





St Francis Links **“The Muirfield”**

Monday, 02 December 2019



When Keith Simpson agreed to say a few words about Scotland, playing Muirfield and some stories about St Andrews, the Home of Golf and other bits, he started the Muirfield lunch with style. After foursomes in the morning and the traditional gin, dram or pint before lunch, we moved to the dining room for a spectacular tribute to Scottish cooking. Chef Jon just got it right. The lunch featuring everything from amazing haggis bonbons to the most tender lamb ever. The afternoon golf was played with spirits (I mean great spirit) and everyone gathered above the 18th for stories and a final toast or three to the day. See you next year!





Click to enlarge

Events at St Francis Links

Visitors most welcome at the Club and Bard'au Spa! TEL 042 200 4500 | info@stfrancislinks.com

<p>THE ULTIMATE 80'S DANCE PARTY! Centrestage FRI 27 DEC R200pp Show at 8pm Dinner Optional Tickets via Quicket</p>	<p>DOOLHOF WINE ESTATE Food & Wine Paired Dinner Friday 13 Dec 2019 9 Wines 4 Courses 1 Night Limited Seating Contact us for information and the menu</p>	<p>St Francis Links CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH with Santa & Live Music CALL US FOR THE MENU & BOOKINGS Bookings Now Open</p>
<p>BOTTOMLESS COFFEE BAND Multi-instrumental folk-pop duo, Lourens and Esté are back, playing 22 instruments between them ... over Sunday Lunch! 29 Dec Show at 13h00 R320 pp Optional Lunch Tickets via Quicket</p>	<p>Annual Food & Wine Festival 19 December 2019 20 Farms Artisan Food R150 pp 14h00 - 20h00 Tickets via Quicket</p>	<p>കേരള കററി നൈറ്റ് 20 NOV Indian Butter Chicken Lamb Rogan Josh Vegetable Pakora with mint raita 4 DEC Lamb Tikka Masala Thai Yellow Chicken Curry Onion Bhajis with danya raita 11 DEC Beef Madras Pangang Fish Curry Chickpea Koftas with creamy curry sauce R145 for 3 curries incl naan, sambals & poppadums</p>
<p>THE MAGNIFICENT 7 The Beatles, Bee Gees, Rolling Stones, Beach Boys, Abba, Creedence & Queen Centrestage FRI 3 JAN R200pp Show at 8pm Dinner Optional Tickets via Quicket</p>	<p>RADIO KALAHARI ORKES with Ian Roberts 23 Dec Show at 20h00 R350 pp Optional Dinner Tickets via Quicket</p>	

19 Dec – **Annual Food & Wines Festival** – Buy tickets [here](#)

23 Dec – **Radio Kalahari Orkes** – Buy tickets [here](#)

27 Dec – **Ultimate 80's Show by Centrestage** – Buy tickets [here](#)

29 Dec (Sunday Lunch) – **Bottomless Coffee Band** - Buy tickets [here](#)

3 Jan – **Magnificent 7 Show by Centrestage** - Buy tickets [here](#)

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St Francis Links
042 200 4511 or 083 4980718 (whatsapp)

For more information on our upcoming events, [contact us](#).

And the winners are...

30 November 2019

Saturday School – 4-Ball Alliance 123

1st – Tim Elliott, Norman Rock, Dave Harpur & ST Maarschalk 80 points c/i
2nd - Lynn Slogrove, Lesley Fisher, Beth Jaskolski & Charles Gilmour (Ghost)
80 points c/o

[Click here](#) for the rest of the results.

4 December 2019

Wednesday School – Betterball Stableford

1st – Fred van Eyssen & Neil Mulder 46 pts
2nd – Percy Owen & Joe Dickenson 45 pts

[Click here](#) for the rest of the results.

What matters most to you?

It's the question
'WHY?'

Last week we asked if you could answer one question. With the ability to be entirely anonymous. We wanted to know how you viewed your position on a simple continuum. Where do you see yourself on your golfing journey?



At one end there's space for the person who sees golf totally as a competitive sport, and on the other end there's those that see it as a social and recreational activity. We're asking golfers to position themselves. Next month we'll publish a SUMMARY of how our community of golfers see the game.

If you haven't already done so

So, if haven't given a response then please follow the link below. It's a very short and very private survey – no personal details required – so go on

[Answer now >](#)

Think about your golf

Trvina to

TRYING TO **BREAK 85?**

The second statistic we want you to collect over 4 rounds, is your average score on Par 3s that are within iron shot range. If you missed last week's article, and the first statistic [click here](#).

If you're often under 90 but struggle to get below 85 regularly, then there's a good chance that becoming consistent on the Par 3s will get you there.



Two 3s and two 4s on your card and you're doing well. Three 3s and provided your steady elsewhere then you're likely to be below 85.

Improvements you can make that pay off on any approach shot:





If we can make sure your rotation and ball striking is led by your large muscles and not your hands, then we can improve your consistency of contact and accuracy of result.

There're a number of consistent club and shot selection errors we see from less experienced or skilled golfers that often cost them a stroke per Par 3. It's an easy fix.



"Improving your ball striking consistency, club selection, and shot selection on Par 3s will have a big impact on your approach shot performance on every hole."

Book your skills assessment

Get an insight into your game. Discover what you could improve quickly.
Let's plan an improvement journey together.

[Contact us >](#)

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