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Saturday, July 12, 2025

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From the Founder's Desk

This week's newsletter is packed full of winners again, from international tournament victories to our coaches being recognised by their PGA peers.

Enjoy.

MJ BALDERSTONE

BSI Graduate wins Congo Open

Stephane honours BSI with his victory

Congratulations to BSI PGA Diploma graduate, **Stephane van Neer** on winning the Congo Open last week with scores of 72,68 (-4).

After his win, Stephane commented; *"I just want to say a massive thank you to the BSI team. I couldn't have done it without what you taught me and I'll always be grateful".*



Stephane van Neer

PGA Coach Award Winners

Murray and Martin add prestigious PGA awards to their names

We're delighted to announce two PGA award winners amongst the BSI family. BSI PGA Diploma graduate, **Murray Smit** has won the Western Cape PGA Coach of the Year Award, and BSI Coach, **Martin Briede** has won the Gauteng Central PGA Coach of the Year Award.

Murray spent seven years at BSI in total; completing his PGA Diploma in 2012, then enrolling in our Elite Academy for a couple of years before joining our coaching staff. Martin, a PGA Master Professional, has been on our coaching staff since 2015. The awards are voted for by PGA members in each specific region.



Murray Smit



Martin Briede

BSI Open Days

Take the first step in your golf journey

A quick reminder of our upcoming Open Days at the BSI Campus at Huddle Park;

Saturday, 17th October – Full-Time Junior Academy with Cambridge education (Grades 8 to 12)

Saturday, 7th November – PGA Diploma, Greenkeeping & Academy Programmes (Post-matric)

To join us on either of these days, meet the team and find out more about the programmes, please contact info@bsisports.com to book. Limited spaces available.

BSI Tournament Results

Who's in it to win it?

Congratulations to **Matthew Higino**, **Mangezi Maswanganyi** and **Heinrich Prinsloo**, who came out on top in our medal last week with scores of 71 on the East Course at Royal Johannesburg & Kensington GC.



In our **Junior Academy** section, **Bernard Meyer** won the BSI Junior Medal with a score of 74 on the East Course at Royal Johannesburg & Kensington GC.

In our **Global Medal**, Junior Academy student, **Pranay Kapur** won with a round of 74 at **Borrowdale Brooke, in Harare, Zimbabwe**. The Global Medal is played between the BSI students who are not able to return to South Africa at the moment.



Alumni Profile

Thabang has the confidence to achieve his golfing goals

Name: Thabang Tlou

BSI Programme: PGA Diploma (Class of 2016)

Current Position: Brand Ambassador AVC

Previous Positions: Apprentice to John Dickson at Els Club, Copperleaf 2017–2018; Club Builder and Fitter at Cool Clubs South Africa 2018-2019

Here's what Thabang had to say about his experience at BSI:

"The coaching staff are great. They are all there to help you become a better athlete. Being exposed to a very good practice facilities at Huddle Park and having the privilege of being a member at Royal Johannesburg & Kensington GC. BSI's PGA Diploma studies are the best in the country and the academy really gave me that student-athlete feeling.

With mental sessions with Mark, I learned the dynamics of being goal driven not only in my career, but also for how I live my life. Through the academy, I've learnt to believe in myself and my talents more, believing in the process of becoming a better athlete through hard work and mental toughness.

For new students joining up: trust the process, stay in the present and enjoy your time at BSI."



Contact info@bsisports.com to apply for our prestigious junior, college or academy programmes. Limited spaces available for January 2021 enrolment.

Looking for a College Scholarship to USA?

Your dream golf career starts here

We get approached by a lot of college recruiting agents, but our friends at **Aspire Atlantic** are by far the most knowledgeable and ethical that we have found. They are hosting a free webinar entitled **How to win a sports scholarship to a USA University** at 6pm on October 21st. [Click here](#) to register.



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Performance Tip

Master your bunker shots

Struggling out of the bunker? BSI Coach **Christopher Wright**, explains how to execute an effective greenside bunker shot that flies high and lands softly.



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