



“MY SHOT” (Prince’s Grant Newsletter)

January 2008

Dear Homeowners

National Amateur

The highlight for January is no doubt the National Amateur Golf Tournament that takes place annually at Prince’s Grant. This year, the event leaped to the next level. The exemplary organisation of the event led to a decision by the SAGA to award the event official ranking points and as the amount of points is determined by the quality of the field, it was no surprise to see the Prince’s Grant Invitational move to the top of the ladder in respect of points on offer. Over the years the tournament has become a must for every top amateur in the country and one of the requirements by the SAGA is that only the top 60 players in the country be invited. The eventual winner, who had to chip in on the 72nd hole to become involved in a play- off, Johann Du Buisson, in his “winner’s speech” paid tribute to the high profile of the event and described it as one of, if not, the highlight of the year for the country’s top amateurs.

To every homeowner who makes his/ her home available to accommodate the amateurs, a very big thank you, without your generosity the tournament would not be possible.

Brendon Main, our golf director, who over the last two years took the Prince’s Grant National Amateur to a new level by securing significant sponsorship deals, including a R100 000 contribution by Standard Bank, has sadly decided to “call it a day” at Prince’s Grant. Brendon, with his wife, Chantell and son, Jarred, is moving down to East London where they have opened a business. We thank Brendon most sincerely for the superb job he has done over the last three years, not only in the National Amateur, but also for the revamp of the Pro Shop and the improvement of the golf experience at Prince’s Grant.

Finances

Our finances continue to remain very healthy with a year to date profit of R2 302 197, some 31% better than budget. Almost R2mil of the profit will be utilised to fund capital expenditure. The remaining R500 000 will be allocated to our reserves, bringing our reserve fund to a more respectable R3.5mil by the end of the financial year.

Our Board met on the weekend of the 2nd/ 3rd February to consider the 2008/ 2009 budget. Obviously with these matters there are invariably choices to make in respect

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of which project/s to tackle during the next year. The principle, which we had implemented over the last couple of years of “gradual but consistent” improvement, remains valid.

Building Operations

There are currently 222 homes completed at Prince's Grant with 23 buildings under construction. As the estate “fills up”, the management of building sites becomes an ever increasing burden. Not only are building sites now inevitably between existing houses, but we must also ensure that well earned vacations are not spoiled by excessive building operations. This challenge remains a balancing act between the interest of the contractors and the owners who are building and those who wish to enjoy the amenities of the estate. Co- operation, from all parties, is no doubt helpful and is encouraged.

The Hyde Park Development on our doorstep is finally having their DFA tribunal hearing on Monday and Tuesday the 11th and 12th February 2008. Shortly thereafter another development on our doorstep will be seeking Town Planning approval. We will attend these hearings and ensure questions on electricity, water, and sanitation are asked.

Electricity

Together with the rest of South Africa, Prince's Grant has become subjected to “load-shedding”. Some homeowners have requested guidelines in respect of “Generators”. Considering the close proximity of houses at Prince's Grant, we have to be very circumspect with noise emissions. The Building Committee, at its' meeting in February, will approve a set of guidelines for generators as well as alternative energy sources such as solar panels and wind turbines. Prince's Grant has always prided itself with an exemplary record in respect of environmental awareness and improvement. It is hoped that we will continue to confront the current energy crisis in the same spirit.

Golf Course

Finally, I can't resist the opportunity to inform our homeowners who do not receive the “Golf Digest” magazine, that the February issue published their golf course rankings for 2008. It is pleasing to note that Prince's Grant, who was in 2005 no.23 and both 2006 and 2007 no. 21, improved it's position to number 19 in the country. A further positive indication is that Prince's Grant is rated no.17 in the country in respect of the condition of our golf course. In this category they only rate the top 25 and it is great to see our name appear in their illustrious selection. One has to add that these improvements came at a time when a number of new golf courses were added to the list. Only time will tell whether we will be able to maintain this status in the New Year, but we are sure to give it our best shot.

Hope to see all homeowners during 2008, which I'm told by the very friendly and efficient office staff must be referred to as “Two thousand and great”.

Regards
Chris

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