

Graeme van der Nest
28 Brewer Road
Port Elizabeth
6001

12-07-2019

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Entrepreneur – 2019 annual Awards

Many thanks for the opportunity to be awarded the Entrepreneur of the year for the SE Cape Area.

Golf has been in my blood for many years. Representing provinces and South Africa at various amateur levels and then moving to playing professionally in 1994. Fortunate enough to play on various tours in SA and around the world.

After my playing career ended, I become the head PGA Professional at Humewood Golf Club in 2003 and remained there for 10 years. We hosted the SA Open and various other main events at Humewood during my time there. I was responsible for introducing many people to our wonderful game and I was also the head mentor coach for the Golf Development coaches in the area.

In 2009, I opened the very 1st franchise of The Golfers Club and brought it to Port Elizabeth. After trading successfully under that umbrella for 7 years, we then decided to re-brand under The Pro Shop brand. The Pro Shop's underlining slogan of 'helping friends play better golf' was one of the attractions for moving into business with the Pro Shop. I feel we have added better value to the golfers in the Easter Cape area. Our larger stock offering and state-of-the art fitting booth and has shown amazing results.

We still invest in golf development on various levels and have always endeavored to work closely with the PGA professionals in and around our area. Sponsorships and collaborations are somethings that we don't shy away from neither.

My 'why' I go to work is 2-fold: one, is to grow this game and the other is to create a retail platform that will secure the livelihoods of my staff and for those who are still to come. We are definitely in it for the long-run!

I have also been involved with a US Tour operator for the past 18 years – in this time we have been responsible for bringing thousands of visitors into Southern Africa for golf and other forms of vacations.

I hopefully feel that through the businesses that I have created and are involved with, that I'm making a positive difference and adding value to ensure that the present and future state of our game is always moving in the right direction.

Thank you once again,

Graeme

Graeme van der Nest
AAA PGA Professional