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THE PGA OF SOUTH AFRICA

Dear Members,

Thank you for nominating me for the PGA Club Pro Category. I am honoured to be one of the nominees.

I have been in the golfing industry for 13 years and love every minute of it.

I started my career training with Paul Marks who is currently the Chairman of the PGA of South Africa. Paul is one of the most amazing mentors I have ever had.

Herewith a brief run-down of my achievements in the industry:

After leaving Woodhill and after completion of my apprenticeship, I was very fortunate, at the age of 24 to become the Golf Director of Koro Creek Bushveld Estate. During my time at Koro Creek I managed to host a very successful National festival, namely The Kudu Festival. This festival still runs today. I also managed to do life skills development with one of my fellow professionals, Pierre van Nieuwenhuizen, for the smaller towns in the Limpopo region.

I joined Vulintaba Country Estate in Northern Natal on the second leg of my career. When I started there, the estate and golf course was only 2 years old. We started a golf club, wrote the constitution, grew the membership from 50 to 200 members. This was a complete new challenge, as I had to implement everything from scratch. Growing with the estate was not easy but I accepted the challenges.

After a long journey away from home I had the privilege of joining Silver Lakes Golf Estate as Golf Operations Manager. In my year of employment at Silver Lakes I was contacted and offered the Director of Golf position at Woodhill Residential Estate I could not refuse, as I was going to fill the shoes of my mentor, Paul Marks, who had decided to move on from Woodhill.

At Woodhill I grew the membership to a new level. Upselling Corporate business and introducing new operating systems and structures. I also introduced a monthly caddy training

program where life skills development was included. My career had now gone full circle as this is exactly where I started to understand the business side of golf, building honest relationships with corporates and members and growing the game of golf as we were taught in the great program of the PGA.

Currently I am the Golf Manager (Golf Director) at Silver Lakes Golf Estate running all golf related operations. I believe I can make Silver Lakes one of the most prestigious courses in Gauteng.

Just as it is an honour to be nominated, it will be an even greater honour to win the category of Club Pro of the Year. Just to have my name permanently etched on a trophy, alongside colleagues that have such outstanding reputations and who are well respected in the golfing fraternity, would be an absolute honour. Once again thank you.

Kind regards

BRENDON VAN NIEUWENHUIZEN
MEMBER OF THE PGA OF SOUTH AFRICA
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