



QUESTIONNAIRE- Grow Golf 2020

1. Name of Facility/Club/Company.

Indie Golf Holding PTY Ltd, which is the holding company of Indie Golf Stores PTY Ltd, University Golf Centre CC and Indie Kloof PTY Ltd.

2. What led you to becoming a PGA Professional?

I came from a strong financial background working with the JSE and Meridian Group in London. I decided to make a life-style change and give golf a go. My golf was never up to playing on tour and like most people didn't realise there is a professional life in golf without being a player. A good friend of mine in the UK took me under his wing and I completed my PGA through the PGA of GB and Ire. Coaching and business combined incorporate both of my passions.

3. What is your current job title?

AAA PGA Professional - Managing Director of Indie Golf Holding PTY Ltd.

4. How long have you been in your current position?

8 Years.

5. What does your job entail?

Contractual Work (Lease renewals, working with UKZN and Governing Bodies), HR within our various structure. Financial planning including reinvestment strategies, borrowing and supplier contractual work. New venture procurement, consultancy and recently a corporate MC. Purchasing for the fitting centre and Indie Golf Stores as well as being a master fitter, utilising Trackman and the Mizuno DNA Fitting Systems. Coach to the Natal Golf Union Elite Players and my own Elite Squad of golfers. I am the PGA mentor to my PGA apprentices Michael Dunlop and Keegan Rawling.

6. Do you have any environmental or sustainability goals that you have met and would like to share?

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Natalie, who works with me has engaged with UKZN at our Durban Range, she has made our facility the drop off point for Consol Glass Recycling and we have indigenised most of our flora in and around the grounds. Water wise projects both cost us less on water, fertiliser and labour as well as supporting South Africa's ever increasing demand for water.

7. Please share your social media platforms with us, if you would like to

We have a company web-site: www.indiegolfstores.co.za

Our Instagram Account is: [#indiegolfstores](https://www.instagram.com/indiegolfstores)

Our Facebook Account is: [Indie Golf Stores – Better Golf Starts Here](https://www.facebook.com/IndieGolfStores)

8. Please give us a brief outline of the path you took to lead you to your current position

Path Through The PGA:

1. PGA Apprentice to AAA PGA Professional Mike Dodd – Sturminster Marshall Golf Club. Worked intensively with is large junior academy and programme. He mentored me through his coaching processes and is highly respected by the PGA of UK&Ire as a coach specialising in growing the game and innovative coaching techniques.
2. Qualified PGA Professional: I finished my qualification through the PGA of GB&Ire under the watch of AAA PGA Professional and ex-European tour player Clive Bonner at Bramshaw Golf Club. Clive excelled in his role as a golf director and owner of one of the busiest on-course retailers. He formed great relationships with suppliers and customers. Custom fitting and hardware sales became his forte long before it became the modern norm.
3. Returned to SA in 2008. Wrote Kids golf Books for both the Gary Player Academy and for Sunisport which I supported with a program. This program was rolled out to 27 Clubs nationally.
4. Started Durban's 1st fitting centre in 2010 at the UKZN Driving range. Opened up Indie Golf Stores, specialising in Hardware sales in 2011. Purchased 20% of University Golf Centre. 2014 Took over the Kloof Pro Shop and all golf related activity with a 6 year contract. Have continued at KCC by only running the retail element. I am now the 50/50% Shareholder of Indie Golf Holdings PTY Ltd. Which owns Indie Golf KCC, Indie Golf Stores, The Titleist Fitting Centre and the University Golf Centre.

9. Why do you feel that you would be a good candidate to win this award?

Being introduced to golf at a young age I was privileged enough to get into the sport, where other were less privileged. Now that I have worked my way up through the PGA ranks and gained 20 years' experience in the industry, I am able to use these skills to run with initiatives that grow the game of golf. I have set up the "Paul Bowden Elite Academy" working with the young adults who have come through our various junior programs. My apprentices work with my junior programs teaching various schools and our SunshineKids academy. I coach the Elite KZN players for the NGU. We have a club and coaching school set up with the University of KZN. We have, through various initiatives, been able to significantly improve on our diversity at our facilities. Our demographics are more in line with what they should be, 26 years post democracy, than what they were.

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