

DUBAI GOLF | VIYA GOLF

MARCH | APRIL 2024

# CLUB LIFE

ISSUE 120

CELEBRATING THE HOLY MONTH ACROSS OUR  
ICONIC LOCATIONS

TOMMY AND RORY KICK-OFF THE 2024  
DP WORLD TOUR SEASON WITH A BANG

A BRAND NEW DINING CONCEPT COMING  
TO SAADIYAT BEACH GOLF CLUB

EMIRATES GOLF CLUB

Club Manager’s Message	4
Agronomy Update	20
Recreation Update	26
Captain’s Message	28
Lady Captain’s Message	30

JUMEIRAH GOLF ESTATES

Club Manager’s Message	6
School of Rules	16
Captain’s Message	32
Lady Captain’s Message	34

DUBAI CREEK GOLF & YACHT CLUB

Club Manager’s Message	10
Agronomy Update	22
Captain’s Message	36
Lady Captain’s Message	38

VIYA GOLF

Agronomy Update	24
-----------------	----

TOPGOLF DUBAI

The Latest from Topgolf Dubai	12
-------------------------------	----

DINING & EVENTS

Iftar Celebrations	40
Iftar Recipes	42
What’s On at Dubai Golf	44
What’s On at Viya Golf	46
Events You Can’t Miss	48

TOURNAMENTS & RESULTS

Emirates Golf Club	50
Jumeirah Golf Estates	54
Sunday Strollers Explore South Africa	66
Emirates Golf Club’s Viktor on the Rise	67
Dubai Creek Golf & Yacht Club	68
Yas Links Abu Dhabi	71
Saadiyat Beach Golf Club	76

NEWS & LATEST

Move Over Hovland, There’s a New Viktor on the Scene	78
History-maker Rory McIlroy wins fourth Hero Dubai Desert Classic	79
Tommy Fleetwood Wins Dubai Invitational in Dramatic Finish	80
Dylan Frittelli back in the winner’s circle in Bahrain	81

VIYA

Spotlight on Viya	84
-------------------	----

Originally founded in 1988 as the member’s magazine for Emirates Golf Club, ‘CLUB LIFE’ is the quintessential guide to what’s new and what’s next in and around Dubai Golf and Viya Golf Clubs, tailored to our network of Club members and residents across the United Arab Emirates. Discover the flavours of the month across the Clubs’ dining scene, seek out the latest lifestyle trends with unique fitness supplements, and digest the latest golfing tips and updates from the group’s 11 premium golf courses. The magazine is produced bi-monthly across digital and print platforms and offers a unique glimpse into the life of a member within the UAE’s leading golf and leisure destinations at Emirates Golf Club, Dubai Creek Resort, Jumeirah Golf Estates, Yas Links Abu Dhabi, Yas Acres Golf & Country Club and Saadiyat Beach Golf Club and entertainment venue, Topgolf Dubai.

Editorial:

Design:

Photography:

Hannah Edmondson

Dubai Golf In-House Publishing

Juliet Dunne | Dubai Night Productions | Dubai Golf

hedmondson@dubaigolf.com





# CLUB MANAGER'S MESSAGE

DEAN NELSON  
CLUB MANAGER, EMIRATES GOLF CLUB



I hope you have all been enjoying the lovely winter weather and our courses, which have been in stunning condition.

I would like to extend my thanks to all our Members for their patience around booking tee times at this very busy time of the year. The course conditions, great weather and many exciting events have helped make golf as popular as ever.

The walking season on the Majlis Course post Desert Classic retained the excellent playing surfaces and I do hope this extended period was enjoyed by all. Unfortunately, the over-seeded Rye Grass does not perform too well with the cart traffic, which is why we kept them off for longer this year. The greens have been in top class condition and putting has been a joy, despite the challenge when they are so fast!

## HERO DUBAI DESERT CLASSIC

It all seemed to be scripted at this year's Hero Dubai Desert Classic, with perfect weather, perfect course conditions and a winner in Rory McIlroy that stunned the vast galleries with some incredible golf. Whilst it was Rory's fourth win, we did see the first win for the Club team in the Pro-Am, with Captains, Frank Duggan and Fiona Berry assisted by Club Champion, Viktor Kofod-Olsen and Professional, Tom McKibben, who beat the field by three strokes on (-34). A fantastic win, and well done to our team!

## JUNIOR DUBAI DESERT CLASSIC

The Junior Dubai Desert Classic was again hosted on the weekend prior to the Desert Classic and is a platform for 54 junior golfers to compete on the Majlis Course the weekend prior to the main event. Club Member, Viktor Kofod-Olsen played stunning golf to record (-4) over the 36 holes, winning by four strokes. Many congratulations to Viktor, a Desert Classic to remember!



## FOOD & BEVERAGE

Chef Dayan and Food & Beverage Operations Manager, Martyn Davies, have been busy creating the all-new menu in the huts which started this month, and they have some exciting new additions. If you haven't yet tried the signature Milkshakes or the Pulled Beef Hot Dog, I recommend you try it on your next round! We will continue to amend and upgrade where we can, to increase the on-course dining experience.

Keep an eye out for the new menu items in Spike Bar, as Chef Dayan refreshes the menu with exciting new dishes, curated by him and his team as well as retaining the popular classics.

## SUMMER PROJECTS

Our Golf Course Maintenance yard, to the left side on the 18th tee box on Faldo Course, will see an extension over the next year. The yard is being extended to accommodate our golf cart fleet, in-house publishing, and our Engineering departments.

To minimise disruptions to players the cart path on hole 18 has been moved to the right-hand side of the tee box, which will enable safe passage whilst playing the hole. This work should not have any impact on play, and we appreciate the support as we enhance the Club's facilities.



## TEE TIME BOOKINGS

We have been seeing several tee times booked and then cancelled and mostly within the permitted cancellation period. Whilst things happen, I would ask Members to try to only book what is necessary as this leads to frustration for other Members who can't get a tee time and then find them re-opening closer to the time.

## COURSE CARE

The bunker raking has really improved, and I appreciate the efforts of all Members in ensuring bunkers are left the way you would expect to find them. It often sounds like a broken record talking about ball marks on the greens, but I will again mention that as we are still seeing many marks and shoe scuff marks on the greens not being repaired. Our greens are in excellent condition and let's help keep them that way.

Divots on the fairway can be a challenge when walking and with the return to cart usage, please use the sand provided the fill these divots and keep the fairways in great condition.



# CLUB MANAGER'S MESSAGE

STEPHEN HUBNER  
CLUB MANAGER, JUMEIRAH GOLF ESTATES

## COUNTRY CLUB EXPANSION

We are currently in the exciting planning phase of the summer gym and pool expansion at the Country Club. Over the last couple of years, these facilities have become more and more popular, and so it is important that enhancements are made so that we can continue to meet the demand from our Members.

The gym will be extended upstairs to the first floor where it is likely the cardio machines will be moved to, providing beautiful views for gym goers as they workout. This will make space for more weight machines downstairs and additional room for multifunctional personal training sessions, which are extremely popular.

The leisure pool will be significantly increased in size and the entire area will be upgraded. This will include beautiful new sunbeds and cabanas, plus enhancements to the landscaping. In addition, the dining offering at the pool will be improved and we expect this to become an even more popular area for our members to enjoy spending their leisure time. We will certainly keep you posted on the developments.

## UPANDRUNNING

We are delighted to have finalized a partnership with UPANDRUNNING who are the pioneers of multidisciplinary sports medicine in the UAE. UPANDRUNNING will soon be opening their latest state-of-art rehabilitation and sports performance facility right here at Jumeirah Golf Estates.

The new centre will be located in the basement of the Country Club where the Arcade was previously. There has been a great deal of feedback from the membership requesting such a facility and we are delighted to now be able to deliver this wonderful addition which I am sure our Members will greatly benefit from. We will be sharing more details of the new facility very soon.



## GOLF COURSE IMPROVEMENTS

Our Golf Course Superintendent, Stuart Horwood, and his team continue to do an outstanding job in presenting two beautiful golf courses for you to enjoy. A large project is underway to enhance our irrigation system which will allow the team to improve the watering of the golf areas. This will lead to a decrease in dry spots, a reduction in over-watering of certain areas, and overall better turf health. The project should be completed by the end of March.

Recently, the Earth Course bunkers were renovated, with a new crushed marble sand being added to enhance the aesthetics and playability. We will now be moving forward with work on the Fire Course bunkers. Those of you with a keen eye will have noticed that we have used the first and 18th holes as a test case for a new red sand which looks wonderful and is playing better also.

Upgrading all the bunkers is a big job due to the large undulating designs and of course the high quantity of bunkers. Stuart Horwood and his team are aiming to complete the project by the end of September ahead of the next golfing season. We look forward to presenting beautiful striking bunkers on both golf courses for you to enjoy.

I very much hope that you are keeping well and have had a great start to the year. It is wonderful to see the golf club buzzing with Members enjoying the facilities, and we are excited to have plenty of plans in place for 2024 which will help us to continue to enhance your experience at the Club.



## CAPTAINS' DRIVE-IN

We are delighted to welcome our new Club Captains for 2024, Anna-Retha Rafferty and Noel O'Leary. In early January we hosted the official driving-in ceremony and welcomed over 150 Members to the first tee of the Earth Course to watch Anna and Noel be presented with their Captains jackets and their hit first ball as official Captains of Jumeirah Golf Estates.

For those of you who were not present, I am delighted to inform you that both Anna and Noel hit fantastic drives straight down the middle of the fairway which was certainly not easy given the pressure of the large crowd. Well done, Anna and Noel, and we all wish you all the very best in your year as Captains!





GOLFING DRESS CODE

Please be reminded to adhere to the dress code when golfing at the Club. In addition to the two golf courses, suitable golfing attire must be worn when using the Driving Range, Putting Green and Short Game area. Jumeirah Golf Estates is a globally recognised golf facility.

We are working hard to elevate our standards across the Club, and part of this is ensuring golfers are dressed appropriately. Examples of incorrect golf attire include flip-flops, gym wear and denim.

PLEASE DON'T ALLOW  
YOUR CHILD TO DRIVE A  
GOLF CART!

Unfortunately, there are still many instances where children are driving resident golf carts which is strictly forbidden at the golf club. I strongly urge all parents to ensure that their children under 18 years of age are not allowed to do this. I fear that it is only a matter of time before someone is seriously injured due to under-age driving of golf carts, and as a club and community we must work together to avoid this.



MEMBERS' SURVEY

I would like to thank all Members who completed the recent Golf Member's Survey. We are happy that our satisfaction score has improved since the last survey and are currently reviewing the valuable feedback to help create a strategy document to set a pathway for more positive change at the Club.

The Country Club Member's Survey will be sent shortly, and the full action plan will be shared with the membership in due course. We look forward to receiving your feedback as we strive for continual improvement at Jumeirah Golf Estates.

TOMMY FLEETWOOD ACADEMY

For those of you who practice or take lessons at the Tommy Fleetwood Academy, I'm sure you will be happy with the continual improvements that our Head Professional, Tim Backhouse, and his team have been making. The outdoor practice areas are in truly world-class condition, and the technology available to pupils in the swing studios is constantly improving. We are currently building a new state-of-the-art putting studio to further enhance our offerings at the Academy. This should be opening sometime in April.

All Golf Members are reminded that they have a complimentary golf lesson as part of their membership. I encourage you all to take advantage of this so that you can improve your game, and more importantly the fun you have on the golf course! Please also remember that heavily discounted Tommy Fleetwood Academy Access Passes are available for all Members who wish to enjoy an elevated practice experience at the Club.



Finally, I would like to thank all of you for your continued support of the Club. The team and I are extremely excited for the year ahead and are fully committed to exceeding your expectations.



# CLUB MANAGER'S MESSAGE

DAVID TAGGART

CLUB MANAGER, DUBAI CREEK GOLF & YACHT CLUB

## DUBAI INVITATIONAL

Unfortunately, the winds that we had hoped for never materialised but nevertheless the golf course stood up to the best players in the world and Harry Wells and his team must be congratulated on the immaculate presentation of the golf course. The pictures of the Club on television and social media were spectacular and we have received words of praise from around the world.

Congratulations to Tommy Fleetwood on a superb rally on the final day to claim victory with an outstanding winning putt. We received some lovely feedback from players, amateurs, and tour officials about how they were all made to feel so welcome throughout the week and how excited they are to come back.

That is in no small part down to the hospitality shown to them by tournament host, Abdulla al Naboodah, who created the tournament and showcased Dubai and his home Club to the world. Abdulla nearly completed a famous victory in the Amateur event on home soil but was narrowly beaten on a card play-off.

There was a fantastic, fun atmosphere throughout the week with the Pro-Am format allowing the players to be a little more relaxed and with the open nature of the back nine it was amazing to watch the crowd follow Rory and Tommy during the closing stretch.

Preparations are already underway for the next staging of the tournament in 2026 and we hope to see you all there!



We would like to wish you and your families a blessed Ramadan!

With the Holy Month nearly upon us we hope you all take advantage of the cooler winter weather as well as the opportunity to sample two of the best Iftar's in the city. The setup in the Park Hyatt is due to be spectacular once again and is a truly special place to entertain.

My personal favourite however is Iftar at QD's. The atmosphere is relaxed but the food is no less delicious. Please let one of the team know should you wish to make a reservation.



## GOLF COURSE ETIQUETTE

Naturally, preparing the golf course for such high levels of stress during tournament week comes with a degree of risk. However, the greens have dealt with that stress very well and returned to normal health in seven days. This has facilitated excellent playing conditions through the rest of high season.

Preparation for tournament did also mean that we heavily reduced the amount of traffic from golf carts. This has had a very positive effect on the long-term condition of the golf course, and we thank all Members for observing these restrictions.

As we move into Spring, please continue to practice good golf course etiquette for the benefit of your fellow players. A particular focus must be on filling divots and repairing pitch marks. We will use the warmer temperatures to begin refining the surfaces even further, with light maintenance that will encourage the course to play firm and fast. Furthermore, at the end of April we will begin a summer programme of bunker reshaping.



# THE LATEST AT TOPGOLF DUBAI

MIKE WALTON  
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, TOPGOLF DUBAI



## TO START...

WOW. Just wow! What a start to 2024 it has been. Our New Year's Eve Party was the biggest and craziest ever with every single bay sold out as our guests welcomed the new year. The start of the year has been even better with more food, drinks, entertainment – and more golf and more not golf. Notably, Toad in the Hole has taken our dining offering to another level. Have you tried our Sunday Roast? I challenge anyone to tell me it's not the best in Dubai!

It's not rocket science to us when you ask why Topgolf is so popular. With 2023 numbers run, it speaks for itself. Topgolf is literally anyone's game with over 700,000 visits and 23 million golf balls hit in 2023. Almost combining the number of 2021 and 2022, that's the third highest number of golf balls hit compared to any other venue in the world!

If you have been living under a rock, it's time to get yourself down to Topgolf and see what all the fuss is about. We're open daily and live by our slogan; "It's golf. It's not golf. It's Topgolf.". So whether you've never been before or are a familiar face, we can't wait to welcome you and create your memorable moments.

## ARCADE

After a mega renovation to the Bunker Arcade in the summer of 2023, we are making it even bigger and better as we welcome a brand-new host of games in April 2024. Watch this space as Dubai's top entertainment venue continues to grow.



## DUBAI DESERT CLASSIC

If you were at the Hero Dubai Desert Classic at Emirates Golf Club, you couldn't have missed us.

The trademark Topgolf Deck on the 16th green was the prime location for one with an unbeatable front-row view of all the action of the world's best golfers in arm's reach along with the best food, drinks and atmosphere of the tournament.

Our Topgolf Food Truck has been making its way all around Dubai so it was no surprise to see it in the Tournament Village at the Hero Dubai Desert Classic. From markets, music events, food festivals, and so much more, make sure to keep an eye out for the Food Truck to taste Topgolf's classics – from Fish Tacos, Duck Spring Rolls, the famous Macaroni Cheese Bites and so much more.

We weren't finished there, though. Our SkeeBall activation in the Tournament Village was giving away a tonne of goodies all weekend. It really was a blast. The Dubai Desert Classic is always one of the best weekends of the year, and we always have our part to play! See you out and about again soon!



## ACADEMY UPDATE

The Topgolf Academy had another fantastic quarter with no signs of slowing down as we continue to improve our offerings and welcome everyone to the game of golf. We are delighted to now offer Arabic classes with our Arabic-speaking golf coach and have also relaunched a new and improved 'Get into Golf' programme.

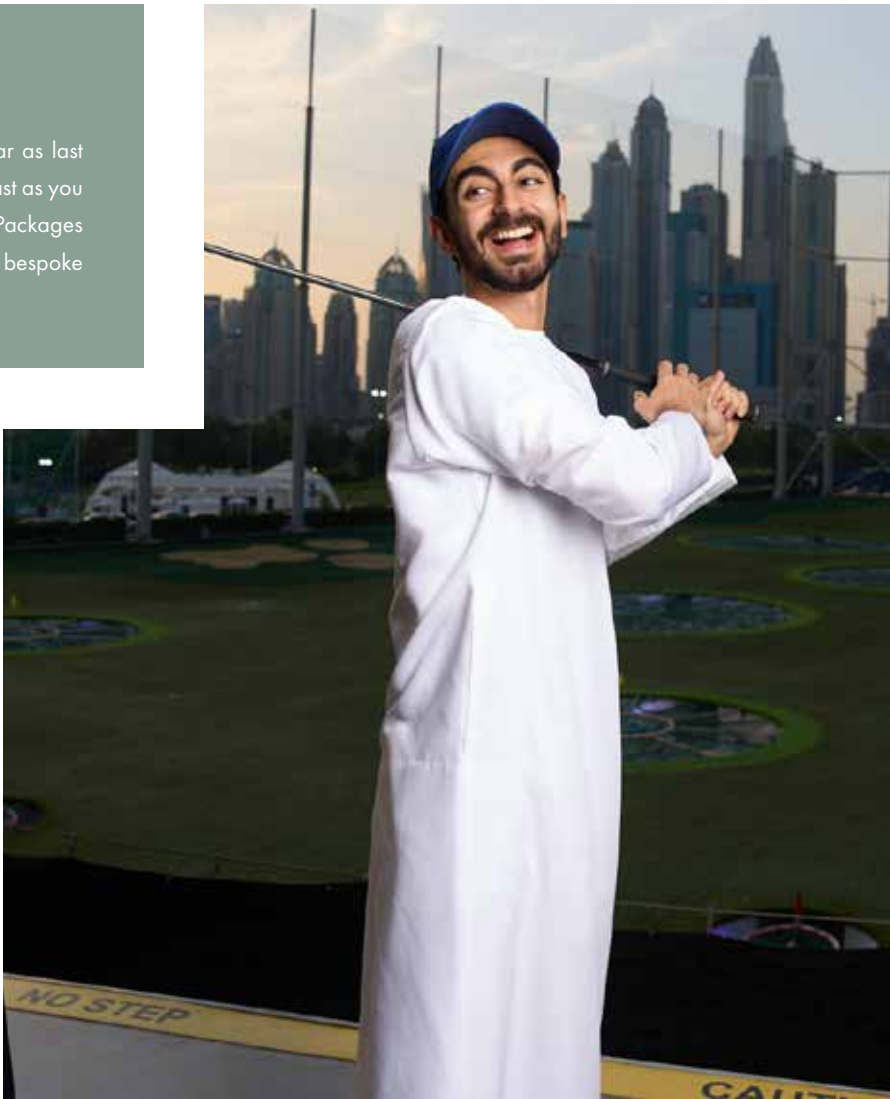
For complete beginners to advanced golfers looking to take their game to the next level against Topgolf's iconic views, the new programme structure gives everyone the opportunity to get hitting those back targets as well as a new 'Get into Golf' Membership so you can get the special treatment you deserve once you've completed all three 'Get into Golf' packages. Make sure you check out our website to find out more and join in on all the action!





RAMADAN WITH TOPGOLF

Iftar packages are making a return to Topgolf Dubai this year as last year proved that our venue is the perfect place to break your fast as you shamelessly enjoy priceless views of the Dubai Marina sunset. Packages are suitable for one to 100 people as you take advantage of bespoke Iftar packages to a casual celebration with friends.



TOAD IN THE HOLE

Don't tell us we didn't warn you. Our new restaurant has been absolutely 'hopping' (pun definitely intended) since its opening and continue to grow in popularity week-on-week. Guests have been queueing for the newly launched Sunday Roast which is now widely regarded as the best Roast in town. That's not a light statement to make but hard to argue; so, hat's go off to our Executive Chef, James Hitchens, on bringing his cooking secrets out to our bangin' British gastropub.

If you haven't tried it yet, make sure you come down. With an unbeatable offer available, inclusive of game play and the best in live sport, it's not one to miss.

We're not stopping there. If you want to be guaranteed good laughs, we are excited to launch Toads Trivia, our brand-new quiz night every Tuesday with renowned British singer, Dane Bowers, and charismatic, Chris Sibbers. Reserve your table for a night of curiosity, croaks, and conundrums as you play for a chance to win fantastic prizes and make it a totally 'ribbeting' night. Visit our website to find out more!



# GET INTO GOLF



WITH THE TOPGOLF DUBAI ACADEMY



GET INTO GOLF 1, FOR BEGINNERS

GET INTO GOLF 2, FOR INTERMEDIATES

GET INTO GOLF 3, FOR ADVANCED PLAYERS

GET INTO GOLF GRADUATION MEMBERSHIPS

GET INTO GOLF PACKAGE UPGRADES





# SCHOOL OF RULES

FRANCO BOTHA  
DIRECTOR OF GOLF, JUMEIRAH GOLF ESTATES

## RULE 18.2A(1) | LOST BALL (WHEN BALL IS LOST)

Your ball is lost if not found in three minutes after you or your caddie begins to search for it. If a ball is found in that time but you are uncertain whether it is your ball:

- You must promptly attempt to identify the ball and are allowed a reasonable time to do so, even if that happens after the three-minute search time has ended. This includes a reasonable time to get to the ball if you are not where the ball is found.

If you do not identify your ball in that reasonable time, the ball is lost.

## RULE 18.2B LOST BALL (WHAT TO DO WHEN BALL IS LOST | STROKE & DISTANCE RELIEF)

If your ball is lost or out of bounds, you must take stroke-and-distance relief by adding one penalty stroke and playing a ball from where the previous stroke was made (see Rule 14.6), or if you played a provisional ball, you must continue with that ball which becomes the ball in play under penalty of stroke and distance.

Exception: Player May Substitute Another Ball under Other Rule When It Is Known or Virtually Certain What Happened to Ball.

## RULE 18 | STROKE-AND-DISTANCE RELIEF, BALL LOST OR OUT OF BOUNDS, PROVISIONAL BALL

Rule 18 covers taking relief under penalty of stroke and distance. When a ball is lost outside a penalty area or comes to rest out of bounds, the required progression of playing from the teeing area to the hole is broken; the player must resume that progression by playing again from where the previous stroke was made. This rule also covers how and when a provisional ball may be played to save time when the ball in play might have gone out of bounds or be lost outside a penalty area.

As a reminder, most golf courses around the world have a unique set of Local Rules which are generally summarised on the back of the scorecard or may be found on the notice boards in and around the Clubhouse. With us forming part of a global golfing community it is advisable to familiarise yourself with the Local Rules prior to your round as this will certainly allow a more enjoyable round with some local knowledge and save you valuable strokes during your round.



## RULE 7.1A | LOST BALL (TAKING REASONABLE ACTIONS TO FIND AND IDENTIFY BALL)

You may fairly search for the ball by taking reasonable actions to find and identify it, such as:

- Moving sand and water, and
- Moving or bending grass, bushes, tree branches and other growing or attached natural objects, and breaking such objects, but only if such breaking is a result of other reasonable actions taken to find or identify the ball.

If taking such reasonable actions as part of a fair search improves the conditions affecting the stroke there is no penalty. But if the improvement results from actions that exceeded what was reasonable for a fair search, you get the general penalty.

In this month’s edition of the School of Rules, we will focus on a “Lost Ball” and determining when a ball is deemed as “lost” and which rules to apply when taking relief.

These rules are often misunderstood, and we hope to empower you with the knowledge and confidence to navigate the golf course with clarity and precision. As we continue this educational journey with you, we look forward to sharing valuable insights that will undoubtedly enrich your golfing experience across our Dubai Golf & Viya Golf Clubs.



## RULE 7 | BALL SEARCH (FINDING & IDENTIFYING BALL)

Rule 7 allows the player to take reasonable actions to fairly search for their ball in play after each stroke.

- But the player still must be careful, as a penalty will apply if the player acts excessively and causes improvement to the conditions affecting their next stroke.
- The player gets no penalty if the ball is accidentally moved in trying to find or identify it but must then replace the ball on its original spot.

## RULE 16.1E | LOST BALL (BALL KNOWN OR VIRTUALLY CERTAIN TO BE IN ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITION)

If your ball has not been found and it is known or virtually certain that your ball came to rest in or on an abnormal course condition on the course, you may take relief under rule 16.1b, c or d. You do this by using the estimated point where the ball last crossed the edge of the abnormal course condition on the course as the reference point.

## RULE 16 | RELIEF FROM ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS (INCLUDING IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS, DANGEROUS ANIMAL CONDITION, EMBEDDED BALL)

Rule 16 covers when and how the player may take free relief by playing a ball from a different place, such as when there is interference by an abnormal course condition or a dangerous animal condition.

- These conditions are not treated as part of the challenge of playing the course, and free relief is generally allowed except in a penalty area.
- The player normally takes relief by dropping a ball in a relief area based on the nearest point of complete relief.

This rule also covers free relief when a player’s ball is embedded in its own pitch-mark in the general area.





#### RULE 17.1C | LOST BALL (BALL KNOWN OR VIRTUALLY CERTAIN TO BE IN A PENALTY AREA)

If your ball has not been found and it is known or virtually certain that it came to rest in a penalty area you may take penalty relief under Rule 17.1d for one penalty stroke. But, if it is not known or virtually certain that your ball came to rest in a penalty area and the ball is lost, you must take stroke-and-distance relief.

#### RULE 17 | PENALTY AREAS

Rule 17 is a specific Rule for penalty areas, which are bodies of water, or other areas defined by the Committee where a ball is often lost or unable to be played. For one penalty stroke, players may use specific relief options to play a ball from outside the penalty area.

#### RULE 9.6 | LOST BALL (BALL KNOWN OR VIRTUALLY CERTAIN TO BE MOVED BY OUTSIDE INFLUENCE)

If it is known or virtually certain that an outside influence lifted or moved your ball at rest, there is no penalty. The ball must be replaced on its original spot (which if not known must be estimated).

#### RULE 9 | BALL PLAYED AS IT LIES (BALL AT REST LIFTED OR MOVED)

Rule 9 covers a central principle of the game: “play the ball as it lies”.

- If the player’s ball comes to rest and is then moved by natural forces such as wind or water, the player normally must play it from its new spot.
- If a ball at rest is lifted or moved by anyone or any outside influence before the stroke is made, the ball must be replaced on its original spot.
- Players should take care when near any ball at rest, and a player who causes their own ball or an opponent’s ball to move will normally get a penalty (except on the putting green).



We look forward to engaging with you in the School of Rules and to fostering a community of golfers who are well-versed in the nuances of the sport. By expanding your knowledge of the rules, you will not only enhance your own golfing proficiency but also contribute to the overall integrity and enjoyment of the game for all players, and remember to challenge yourself to learn 2 new rules in 2024 and download the R&A Rules of Golf 2023 App. This is a great tool to save you strokes on the golf course and help further educate fellow golfers.

# TOADS TRIVIA

WITH DANE & SIBBERS



**EVERY TUESDAY | FROM 8PM ONWARDS**

Test your knowledge at your (un)traditional, bangin' British Gastropub with great company, delicious drinks, a mouth-watering menu and fantastic prizes - the perfect recipe for a toadally ribbeting night.





# AGRONOMY UPDATE

MATTHEW PERRY

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT, EMIRATES GOLF CLUB

It has certainly been a great start to 2024 with the 35th Hero Dubai Desert Classic and how the golf course was presented for the tournament.

There was a lot of great feedback from organisers, the DP World Tour and the Tour players. The effort of the Agronomy team was spectacular, and I am in awe of what we were able to achieve. The preparation week, which I feel is always the toughest part, was the best experience I have had in my 14 years of being part of the Dubai Desert Classic. This was helped massively this year with the no rain ahead of the event.

The week of the tournament was, as always, a long week with many long hours, but the team continued to show their passion and commitment to what we wanted to achieve. It was great to have Rory go back-to-back and scoring only 14 under par, which shows the test given by the Majlis Course. The greens were firm and the rough was thick, which as we all know is the real test as it is tough to control the ball when landing on the green.

We are so happy with how our greens continue to improve year-on-year. This is down to them having time to mature so that it can manage wear a lot better. After the summer maintenance, I believe they will continue to improve and become even more consistent in the later part of 2024.



I want to say a huge thank you to my Assistant Golf Course Superintendent and Second Assistant Golf Course Superintendent, Mario, and Jordan, for their tireless work in the lead up and during the tournament. They both deal with a lot of scheduling and management of the team to ensure we can present the golf course to the level expected, and they were able to do this at a very high standard this year. The comments of "that was the best we have seen the Majlis" is all down to them and the team.

Now that the Hero Dubai Desert Classic is completed for another year, we have been making sure to keep the Majlis Course in great condition for our Members and guests through fast green speeds and great definition. We have managed to bring the rough height down slowly and now manage the height. The condition has also been maintained through the extended walking period this year, and we appreciate the feedback from Members who wanted to extend the season a bit longer compared to previous years.



We are starting to now look at projects for the summer and will provide a full update on plans in the next edition of Club Life. We are always looking to raise the bar and improve the conditions of our golf courses, so we look forward to sharing the near-future plans.

The Faldo Course conditions is starting to improve as the temperatures slowly rise. The grass on the Faldo Course slows down in the winter and we don't see much growth, along with the wear from the golf carts also having an effect. The golf course is greening up nicely and we are beginning to see more grass clippings when we cut areas and expect it to be presenting well in the coming weeks.

We recently had our Long Service Awards at Dubai Golf and we were proud to congratulate several colleagues in our Agronomy team who achieved five, 10 and 15 years of service with the company. We did have two special colleagues who reached the milestone of 30 years. This is a huge achievement and a testament to their commitment to the department and Dubai Golf.

A huge congratulations to Jessie Ocampo, our Senior Administrator, and Lizandro Yambao, our Landscape Foreman. These two colleagues are integral to the Agronomy team and the Club, and we are extremely proud of their achievement.





# AGRONOMY UPDATE

HARRY WELLS  
GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT, DUBAI CREEK GOLF & YACHT CLUB

## IRRIGATION UPGRADE PROJECT

We are very happy to announce that this year we will undertake a complete overhaul of our irrigation system. This is a significant investment from Dubai Golf and shows their deep commitment to sustainability and to keeping Dubai Creek Golf & Yacht Club among the top Clubs in the region and the world.

The new irrigation system will be state-of-the-art and lead to significant reductions in our water and power consumption as well as a significant improvement in golf course condition. The Agronomy team will have precise control over every litre of water that is applied to the golf course, further helping our efforts to produce a firm and fast golf course throughout the year.



It has also been designed to be future proofed, so that future generations of technology can be seamlessly introduced as they become available. Work will begin in early April and will be complete by early October and we will provide regular updates via our Club channels. This mirrors a similar project that was undertaken at Emirates Golf Club in 2012 and we cannot wait to see the results!



# AGRONOMY UPDATE

COREY FINN  
GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT, YAS LINKS ABU DHABI,  
SAADIYAT BEACH GOLF CLUB & YAS ACRES GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB



So far, the winter golfing season has been great with perfect weather and sunshine along with beautifully maintained golf courses for which is a real credit to the Agronomy maintenance teams. All Abu Dhabi clubs have successfully navigated key events like the Abu Dhabi Amateur at Saadiyat Beach Golf Club as well as the recent Men's Open at Yas Links Abu Dhabi and produced perfect tournament conditioning.

## YAS LINKS ABU DHABI

The team continue to follow key monthly maintenance works which keep all the Yas Links Abu Dhabi turf surfaces healthy along with key bunker projects upgrading drainage and restoring original design concepts lost over the years. With the completion of the Academy Par 3 Course bunkers the team are now focusing on the main course bunkering. A long slow process for which I would expect to take the next 18 to 24 months to complete.

The team have also started the process of ice plant eradication and management with the long-term goal to have this eradicated from property and replanted with native dune grasses. It's important the team kills this prior to removal and replanting so you will all see around the golf course yellowing of the ice plant species. Another long-term project which will continue to improve Yas Links Abu Dhabi. The Yas Links Abu Dhabi team will continue to have a strong focus on bunker improvements as well as preparations for the upcoming Club Championship and the ice plant eradication.



## SAADIYAT BEACH GOLF CLUB

Having successfully hosted now both the Abu Dhabi Amateur Championship as well as the Club Championship, I can say I am very proud of the team for the conditions produced for these events including managing the challenging conditions. The golf course was in fantastic shape and setup in conjunction with the Golf Operations team in a way where the true champions were found. The team continue to work hard on routine monthly maintenance which keep the turf surfaces healthy as well as now having a strong focus on Challenge Tour preparations. The team will continue to focus on routine maintenance as well as start to have a strong focus on course improvements like bunkers and Challenge Tour preparations with turf surface preparations and bunker upgrades taking a priority.



## YAS ACRES GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

It's great to see this course busy and being well use by all our Members and guests. The golf course remains in great condition day in day out for which credit needs to go to the Agronomy Maintenance team who work incredibly hard every day. The team continue to work on routine monthly maintenance for which keeps improving turf surfaces at Yas Acres as well as key bunker upgrades and landscape maintenance. Hopefully soon we can say Yas Acres Golf & Country Club is fully completed and all contractors are forever off site with the remaining works to the lake project soon to close. The Yas Acres team will continue to focus on key routine maintenance as well as continue to condition and present landscape areas. A key planting project will also be undertaken on hole four involving the planting of 40 date palm trees.

## AGRONOMY INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

At the Viya Golf Clubs, we are incredible proud to be able to offer 12-month internships for international Greenkeepers at our facilities where they get to experience many different areas of operation at all our Clubs. Recently, our Agronomy interns assisted at the Dubai Golf Clubs for the various DP World Tour events. A big congratulations to Stuart Horwood and his team at Jumeirah Golf Estates where our Yas Acres Golf & Country Club intern, Adam Rudkin, support the team during the DP

World Tour Championship. Another big congratulations to Harry Wells and his team at Dubai Creek Golf & Yacht Club leading up to, and during the inaugural Dubai Invitational, and Matthew Perry at Emirates Golf Club for the Hero Dubai Desert Classic where our Yas Links Abu Dhabi and Saadiyat Beach Golf Club interns, Ruan van Staden and Luke Baumer, supported. These experiences are vital for our future Agronomy Superintendents.



# RECREATION UPDATE

DOUGIE GAIR

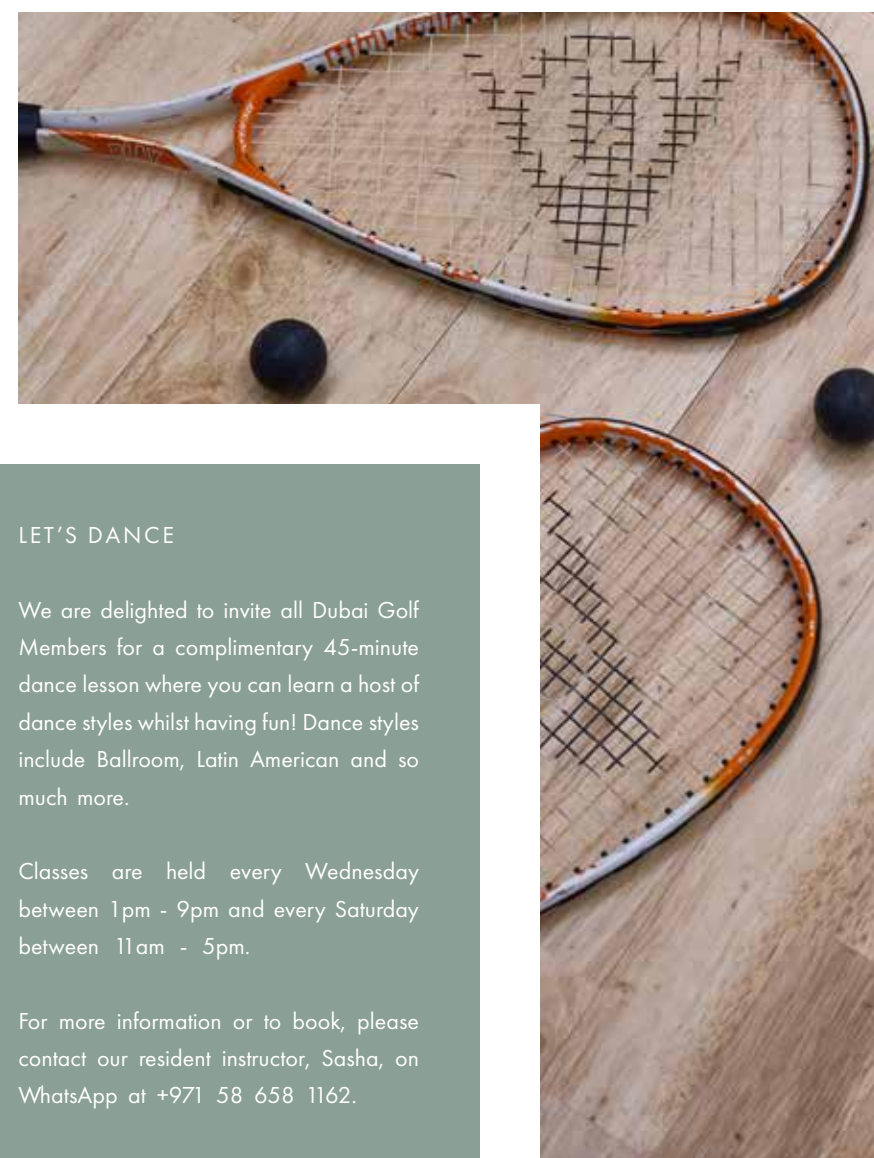
HEAD OF RECREATION, EMIRATES GOLF CLUB

It has been a very quick and busy start to 2024 and I hope that you all enjoyed another fantastic spectacle at this year's Dubai Desert Classic. Another great win for Rory, and another unbelievable performance from all the teams involved in making it happen. A huge congratulations to Falcon, DP World Tour, and all here at Emirates Golf Club for putting on a tremendous show.



Recreationally, our Swim Academies are back in full swing after a winter break so if you have a budding swimmer ready for action, sign them up for a series of lessons with either BabySplash or Torpedo. In the gym, we have enhanced our equipment with the addition of some new slam balls and a selection of bands. We will continue to add items throughout this year.

Our Squash Membership uptake is the highest it's been in recent years, and our Monday night socials and Wednesday leagues give Members ample opportunity to play the game. Elsewhere, our Physio and Rehab partners, UPANDRUNNING, have added a fourth room to the facility which will predominantly see a regular Chiropractor on site to treat all those aching backs so be sure to book in if you're struggling, you'll have a cracking time!



## LET'S DANCE

We are delighted to invite all Dubai Golf Members for a complimentary 45-minute dance lesson where you can learn a host of dance styles whilst having fun! Dance styles include Ballroom, Latin American and so much more.

Classes are held every Wednesday between 1pm - 9pm and every Saturday between 11am - 5pm.

For more information or to book, please contact our resident instructor, Sasha, on WhatsApp at +971 58 658 1162.

## PADEL TENNIS

Our tournaments have been coming thick and fast and thanks to RAKBANK sponsoring our own Padel Tour, each tournament has been elevated to a new level. Sign-ups have been excellent and the social aspect to our events brings a real sense of enjoyment and camaraderie to the venues. See all our recent events and results below.



### FIDU PROPERTIES DUBAI CREEK OPEN

12th - 14th January 2024

Dubai Creek Resort was the venue for our first event of 2024. Held during the Dubai Invitational, we saw excellent commitment from all participants with each category seeing some great play. Congratulations to all winners:

- Category C+ Winners: Luca & Nicola
- Category C+ Runners Up: Giacomo & Hamzeh
- Category C-/C Winners: Anastasia & Ayaz
- Category C-/C Runners Up: Octavian & Lasse
- Category D Winners: Kento & Abdulla
- Category D Runners Up: Pierre & Loic

### RAKBANK EMIRATES OPEN

9th - 11th February

Our return to competition at Emirates Golf Club saw 40 pairs battle it out over two main categories, and another 20 take part in our first ever Junior event. Our Open C category was the most fiercely contested, with players giving their all to come out on top. Well done to everyone who played!

- Category Open C Winners: Gonzalo & Carlos
- Category Open C Runners Up: Luis & Pepo
- Category Open D Winners: Roberto & Grace
- Category Open D Runners Up: Ameer & Sara

### RAKBANK JUMEIRAH OPEN

26th - 27th January

Our first RAKBANK event of 2024 took us to the fantastic Jumeirah Golf Estates where we had 32 pairs across two categories battling it out to be crowned champions. With skill, passion and lots of fun had, our winners had to work hard, with congratulations going to all who took part!

- Category C Winners: Ali & Jasha
- Category C Runners Up: Christos & Eric
- Category D Winners: Aryan & Thomas
- Category D Runners Up: Farzan & Michael

## CORPORATE EVENTS & VIYA PADEL ACTIVITIES

We are delighted that so many companies are now using Viya Padel for their corporate bookings. Thanks to Brookfield and BCG for bringing their recent events to us, and congratulations to the winners of those!

## PADEL & BUBBLES

Ladies! Come and join us on a Sunday night for 90 minutes of Padel fun followed by a glass of Prosecco! A match made in heaven!





# A MESSAGE FROM OUR MEN'S CAPTAIN

FRANK DUGGAN  
MEN'S CAPTAIN, EMIRATES GOLF CLUB

It has been a busy two months at Emirates Golf Club. The year kicked off with a good turnout for the New Year's Eve Scramble followed by a number of events at the Club to ring in the New Year. The well-known New Year's Eve Gala on the Lawns attracted even bigger crowds; however, this event is a bit too big for me and Members are maybe in the minority. We enjoyed a fabulous New Year's Eve in carine, so a big thank you to Leo and the team.

The tournaments on the Majlis Course pre and post the Hero Dubai Desert Classic have tested the golfing skills of the members with the high rough, especially close to the greens coupled with their speed. A big shout out to Matt and the team on the condition of the Majlis Course, not just for the tournament but over the last months. The golf course received rave reviews from the TV commentators and players during the DP World Tour tournament.

The main focal point of the last two months, of course, was the Hero Dubai Desert Classic. As I said above the course looked spectacular on TV and was complemented by the new hospitality structure, especially the structure around the ninth and 18th greens.

The views on TV in cold early January mornings in Europe and North America was surely a great advertisement for Dubai, and no doubt, initiated some vacation plans to the city. There were very good crowds for the event, especially from Friday to Sunday. On the playing front it was a tight and exciting tournament with Rory coming from what looked like a no hope position on Friday evening to prevail on late Sunday afternoon. So well done to Rory on his fourth title. I believe I must be a contributor to his success in Dubai as three of his four victories have come when he has used my locker for the week.

For me personally, the Hero Dubai Desert Classic had two highlights outside the main tournament. On the Monday afternoon of the tournament week, Thriston Lawrence, the South African Tour Professional held a clinic for the Heroes from Heroes of Hope on the Faldo Course Putting Green. It was a heart-warming event and great fun. I believe Thriston was truly moved by the experience. So, a big thank you to Thriston.

The second highlight of the week, and even of my Captaincy to date, came on Tuesday when I got to play in the Pro-Am with Lady captain, Fiona, Club Junior Champion, Viktor and Tour Professional, Tom McKibbin, on the Was11 team. The day was capped by our team winning the Tuesday event, which no doubt was a surprise to all as there were many well selected and former winning teams in the field. The great thing was that all the four team members contributed to the victory so a big thank you to my team.



Looking forward to the next few months, it continues to be a busy tournament time of the year with many long-term traditional events coming up such as the Indian Invitational, the Hankook, Senior Open and Club Championship to name a few. On a personal level it is getting very busy working with the very supportive Club Management to prepare for my Captains day on 9th March. I want to ensure that this is a fun event open to as many Members as possible. As this will be the kick off the St. Patrick's Day week of celebrations the order of the day will be to have "Irish craic". The Captain's Day event is geared to raising money for the charity Heroes for Hope.

In April, I look forward to leading the Emirates Golf Club's touring party on our trip to Japan, where among the many things planned, we will have an official Club match against Taiheiyo Golf, so hopefully we can win for our Club.

The weather, despite rain on a few occasions, remains perfect for golf, so I hope you all get out as much as possible and enjoy the two fantastic courses we have at Emirates Golf Club. See you all on the golf courses or in the bar.



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR LADY CAPTAIN

FIONA BERRY

LADY CAPTAIN, EMIRATES GOLF CLUB

As the stands come down after yet another highly successful Hero Dubai Desert Classic, we have the opportunity to enjoy the best weather and the best course conditions of the entire year. Huge congratulations to Matt Perry and his team for the long hours they devoted to presenting the course in such pristine condition. We have no excuses now, it's up to us!

Emirates Golf Club's PGA Professionals ZiHao Su and Jude Hobbs had been running a few clinics with the Heroes of Hope in the run-up to the tournament and the culmination of that programme was a clinic from South African Pro, Thriston Lawrence, immediately prior to the tournament. He spent over an hour with the kids and if they had their way he would still be here! His patience and enthusiasm for his subject was a joy to behold and once again one was left with a massive sense of humility.



The following day I was honoured to play in the Pro-Am competition where I was joined by Men's Captain, Frank Duggan, Junior Desert Classic Champion, Viktor Kofod-Olsen and our Tour Professional, Northern Ireland's Tom McKibbin.

To cap a brilliant day, we won, finishing 34 under par. The Hero Dubai Desert Classic proved once again to be a huge success in its 35th year with the excitement continuing until late on Sunday evening. Of course, massive congratulations to Rory McIlroy on his fourth win and Adrian Meronk and Cameron Young for pushing him so close. A winning score of only 14 under is a great tribute to the course and its set-up.



The best weather of the year heralds the start of a short season of special competitions. We started the New Year with the annual Lady Captain versus Lady Vice-Captain fixture which resulted in a win for the Lady Captain's Team, a very pleasurable way to work off the excesses of the festive season. Next came the Past Captain's Trophy which was won by Martha Wong with Yana Jamieson runner-up.

January closed with the Friendship Trophy, donated by immediate past Lady Captain, Marivi Arias and I was delighted to see two ladies from my beginner's group from last season in the winner's circle. Many congratulations to Chris Gemici and Pernilla Daniell on your win with 41 points. Past captain

Mitsuko Emmerson started the Valentine's Trophy during her Captaincy and kindly donated the on-course prizes. Thank you, Mitsuko, and it was great to see so much red around the course.

We had the Indian Invitational event in aid of the Junior Colleagues. Such was the popularity of the competition that both courses were full, with a total of 230 golfers. A huge thank you to Rekha Bandopadhyay and her team for all the hard work put in when organising such a massive event. While it has once again been good exercise to be walking on the Majlis Course, it came as a great relief to many Lady Members when buggies returned from 17th February.

February also included the Ladies Seniors and the Club Championship before another busy month in March with the Hankook Greensomes and Ladies Camel Trophy, among the flagship events. Add to that the Monthly Medals and there is still plenty of golf to come with hopefully some great Spring weather to accompany it.





# A MESSAGE FROM OUR MEN'S CAPTAIN

NOEL O'LEARY

MEN'S CAPTAIN, JUMEIRAH GOLF ESTATES



Hello everyone, I hope you have all launched into 2024 by splitting the fairways and holing those putts.

Our 2024 kicked off with myself and Anna-Retha's Captains Drive-in, which was a fantastic event. It was great for both of us to be greeted on the first tee by so many people and such a great atmosphere. Anna-Retha hit an absolute belter down the middle of the fairway (thanks for cranking up the pressure on me Anna-Retha!).

Last year's Captain decided to ramp up the pressure a few more degrees by teeing me up about 40 yards behind the tee box (you had one job Jonny!). But thankfully I managed to find a swing in there somewhere and the ball landed on grass. The combined looks of both relief and disbelief on various people's faces that I had actually found a fairway was a definite highlight.

A massive thank you to all those in the Club for wishing both myself and Anna-Retha well in our year of Captaincy... it means a lot; and a very special thank you to Stephen Hubner, Franco Botha, and the entire Golf Operations team for making our Captains Drive-In such a superb day.

Competition-wise, it has been a hectic first couple of months of the year with some sensational scoring in both Monthly Medals. Aron Lomax blitzed the field with a career best 74 (net 61) in the January Monthly Medal, while Chris Wilmot won Best Gross with a really solid 71. The February Monthly Medal saw some serious blustery conditions on the Earth Course but wasn't enough to stop Stephen Punch shooting a superb 79 (net 66) to take the Medalford Prize. Mark Schoombie played some great golf to shoot a 73 in windy conditions and take Best Gross by five shots. Meanwhile, the Thursday Curry Club continues to grow from strength to strength with so many Members enjoying a relaxing weekly nine-hole Scramble followed by some of Dubai's best Indian food and refreshments.

The Scratch Team continues to develop and deliver under the fantastic stewardship of Carl Downham. The team had a great first outing of the season beating the Montgomerie Team away 3-1 and are looking forward to another strong performance in the home fixture. Competition for the team is as strong as ever with so many scratch golfers in the Club. I am sure that we all wish Carl and the team well for a successful 2024.



Soon it will be time to tee it up for the Club Championship. No doubt Earth, Fire, the Driving Range, practice areas and the Tommy Fleetwood Academy will soon all be bustling even more than usual as everyone tries to find the elusive missing ingredients to delivering on the Club's biggest weekend of the year.

Our reigning champion, Dave Bainbridge, will have his work cut out to win back-to-back Club Championships, particularly with the strength and depth of high calibre golfers teeing it up. While we can debate who the various winners of the Club Championship will be, what is not in doubt is that they will be playing two golf courses that will be in world-class condition.

For those who want to maximise their chances of a strong performance in the Club Championship, then maybe now is the perfect time to pop down to the Tommy Fleetwood Academy and take advantage of your annual complimentary lesson. Whether it's just for a 30-minute refresh or it's time for a complete overhaul, the Academy has someone there to help you up your game.

Anna-Retha and I were recently welcomed by Stuart Horwood for a tour of the Agronomy Centre, where we were introduced to the incredible team of hidden superstars and the beautiful Bella. All I can say is that we are so lucky to have such a determined and professional team that take care of our beloved golf courses. Every day, 77 dedicated professionals work tirelessly and with such great pride to make sure that we walk out onto world-class fairways and greens. Stuart and the team will soon have access to a state-of-the-art enhanced irrigation management system which will help create even greater efficiencies in the great work they already do to keep our fairways and greens in pristine condition.

I just want to give a special mention to Franco Botha who has fitted so seamlessly into his role as Director of Golf. In a relatively short time Franco has already implemented some great ideas to enhance the golf experience that we all benefit from as Members. With a strong team around him including the likes of Adam, Kian, Ed, Kieran, and Ronan, we have a Golf Operations team to be proud of, always willing to help and always up for having a laugh. Extra kudos to Franco for making sure I arrived at the first tee of Captain's Drive-In with a freshly poured pint of Ireland's finest beverage!

Last but not least, it will not be long now until the third edition of our Members' Party on 26th April. The first two years of the Members' Party have been absolutely incredible, and I have no doubt that Gabriel and Chef Jobin will be busy plotting and planning an even better event this year. See you on the dance floor.



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR LADY CAPTAIN

ANNA-RETHA RAFFERTY  
LADY CAPTAIN, JUMEIRAH GOLF ESTATES

One of the most memorable golfing activities since my last update must be our Captain's Drive-In that took place on Saturday 6th January.

Noel and I were presented with our Captain's jackets and then hit our first ball as official Captains. Teeing off in front of so many people is not something I've done before. Thankfully my tee shot was down the middle of the fairway of the first hole on the Earth Course. I'll take an adrenaline fuelled 216-yard drive into the wind any day.



I hope most of you managed to go and see some of the action that has recently taken place, with the Dubai Invitational at Dubai Creek Golf & Yacht Club, The Hero Dubai Desert Classic at Emirates Golf Club and the Ras Al Khaimah Championship played at Al Hamra Golf Club. We are so lucky to have so many big tournaments in our region.

The past month and a half has also seen our ladies golf section back in full flow. Our Wednesday Ladies competitions have been well attended. This is a very good sign and can only mean that our ladies' section is growing with more and more ladies playing golf and new Members joining.

On Tuesday 16th January, we held our first 9 & Wine ladies' event of the season. This is a great event to integrate new Golf and Tommy Fleetwood Academy Members with some of our more seasoned players. We were delighted to have so many ladies join in the fun format of a fourball scramble for nine holes followed by the Ladies Night at Crafty Fox with some cheese and charcuterie platters.

Our ICC League concluded with a trip to Jebel Ali Golf Course on Wednesday 24th January for the final leg of the League games. I am very happy to report that we won our League with a total of 763 Stableford points accrued during the three rounds played at Abu Dhabi Golf Course, Fire Course at Jumeirah Golf Estates, and at Jebel Ali Golf Course. We will be adding to that total whilst competing for the ICC Trophy at the final on 17th April 2024.

We are so proud of Nicsha Russouw Rodriguez, Tanya Harrison (Vice Captain) and Mitsuko Emmerson who won some of the individual prizes for Nearest to the Pin, Longest Drive, and runner-up of the highest Stableford points of the day, and Juliette Castell being part of the best flight of the day.

So, all in all a fantastic result for our Jumeirah Golf Estates' ladies! I am so proud of each and every lady that was willing to compete. The ICC has allowed so many of our lady players to experience more competitive golf. We have managed to include different ladies over the three games, which is fantastic and helps our team to develop with this experience. It can sometimes be daunting for those that have never played in this inter-Club challenge, but it's great to see ladies that haven't previously played step up and represent our Club. Thank you, ladies!



The Jumeirah Golf Estates ladies' section had our first away game to Yas Acres Golf & Country Club on Wednesday 31st January with an Individual Stableford competition. Congratulations to both Lisa Lynch, the winner, and our runner-up, Marlies Zilkens. It is always fun to explore a new golf course and to have a day out with golf friends.

We also had our own Ladies Amateur Open at Jumeirah Golf Estates on Sunday 4th February, which was an unusual cold and windy day.

We had a fun fourball Texas Scramble competition called 'Beat the Pros' on Friday 9th February. Some people dressed up and some did not. But overall, there was an amazing atmosphere and friendly banter ending with an amazing buffet on the Earth Terrace watching the Professionals finish.



To cap off a fantastic February, we were delighted to host our Ladies Valentine's Day Special. Love was in the air and it was a lovely morning with our ladies.

Generations Day at Jumeirah Golf Estates was a day to remember as the rivalry between the 35 year olds and below, and 36 years old and above took place. Congratulations to the 36 years old and above team for you win!

Before the weather starts to warm up too much, I am looking forward to the next couple of months of golf. We have a packed calendar planned for March and April which includes our sponsored Lounge Spa and Park Hyatt Wednesday competitions, and some fun format competitions including the Leap Year Surprise.

By the time you read this, we will have also hosted our Club Championships at Jumeirah Golf Estates and we can't wait to see the turnout of our lady Members who will join, as well as our Golf Member's Party at the end of April. Until next time, happy golfing!



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR MEN'S CAPTAIN

KEVIN SAVAGE

MEN'S CAPTAIN, DUBAI CREEK GOLF & YACHT CLUB

What a fantastic start to the golfing year here at Dubai Creek. No, I'm not referring to the Captain's Drive-In, rather the hosting of the inaugural Dubai Invitational.

Huge congratulations to David Taggart and his team who worked tirelessly over many months leading up to that week. Special mention to Harry Wells and his team for ensuring we had a golf course worthy of hosting a major DP World Tour event.

As Members we already know how special our golf course is, well now the rest of the world knows it too. It was the vision and perseverance of our past Men's Captain, Abdulla Al Naboodah,

to bring the event to Dubai Creek, but I'm sure even Abdulla could only dream of the final day's pairing of Tommy Fleetwood and Rory McIlroy, providing the excitement and spectacle on that final day.

The drama in the closing holes was just another highlight in a memorable week for all that are associated with the Dubai Creek Golf & Yacht Club. We all know the reputation of the 18th hole; so, we feel your pain, Rory!

Congratulations to Tommy Fleetwood on winning the tournament and to Abdulla Al Naboodah as a great host, I'm sure when the event returns here in 2026 it will only be bigger and better.



Now that the new season of golfing events has started, I would like to congratulate the winners of last year's Omega Matchplay competitions, Men's Scratch: Nathan Seldon, Men's Singles: Gene Cha, Mixed: Anish Bhatia & Mini Philip; and Juniors: Samara D'Silva. A special mention to Shanka and John Fish for overcoming myself and Ben Stephens in the Men's Doubles final.



As mentioned earlier, the Captain's Drive-In was very entertaining. With Janet Kim as Lady Captain and Samira as Junior Captain, I thought it only fair to put them at ease by topping my tee shot!

That's my story and I'm sticking to it, but well done ladies on your fabulous drives.



The January OMA Emirates Monthly Medal was won by Soren Dam and congratulations to Carloa Becke for winning the February OMA Emirates Monthly Medal.

Please remember to sign up for the competitions on the Viya App.

Until next time, enjoy the cooler weather and play well.



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR LADY CAPTAIN

JANET KIM

LADY CAPTAIN, DUBAI CREEK GOLF & YACHT CLUB

The Ladies race started late due to the golf course closures for the tournament, but it was a fun start due to the anticipation as we had been waiting a long time! The first kick-off of the ICC was held at Montgomerie Golf Club where our 10 best ladies did their best to achieve good results.

The last match to advance to the finals was held at the Els Club on the 21st of February. With a lot of practice and a few lessons with our PGA Professionals at the Club, we did our best to get ready to compete.



On the 24th of January, we held our Dubai Creek Ladies Monthly Medal which was one by Yulia Golubeva. Congratulations, Yulia! Mini Philip was also honoured with the Order of Merit for the Monthly Medal, sponsored by the inaugural Dubai Creek Ladies Captain, Mego Han, for the second year in a row.

We had a spectacular Valentine's Day even on Wednesday 14th February where 20 ladies participated in a Pairs Scramble format. Lakeview's team welcomed the ladies with fascinating food and desserts, and the event ended successfully with a lot of help from our past Captains.



We got off to a good start at Dubai Creek Golf & Yacht Club by successfully completing the Dubai Invitational from the 11th – 14th January. We would like to send our sincere congratulations to Tommy Fleetwood on your incredible win. It was a fantastic couple of days at the Club, enjoyed by all!



In addition, the draw sheet for the Ladies Single Match Play, which will be held throughout the year, has been released and delivered to all participating ladies. We wish all of you the best of luck!

To cap off an exciting beginning of the year, on the 20th of February, we held the Members' Party with the theme, the Phantom of the Opera. We had a great time as we had to guess the Members' faces behind the masks! Thank you to the Club for hosting such a spectacular event!





## IFTAR AT QD'S

### QD'S, DUBAI CREEK

Nestle alongside serene Dubai Creek views as you indulge in QD's popular daily Iftar buffet featuring an array of delectable dishes, live stations and refreshing beverages.

AED 195 PER PERSON

[dubaicreekresort.com](http://dubaicreekresort.com)

# IFTAR CELEBRATIONS

## ROYAL IFTAR

### PAVILION, EMIRATES GOLF CLUB

Embark on an enchanting journey overlooking iconic Marina views as you dine on a sumptuous array of Middle Eastern dishes with a twist on the iconic Emirates Golf Club Lawns and Pavilion.

AED 295 PER PERSON  
AED 95 PER CHILD

*Children 4 years old and below dine for free*

[dubaigolf.com/royaliftar](http://dubaigolf.com/royaliftar)

## A BESPOKE IFTAR

### YAS LINKS ABU DHABI

Revel in a refined Ramadan celebration where tradition meets excellence in every moment. Tailor a personalised Iftar buffet inclusive of selected soft beverages and host of set-up, live music and special offers available to make it the perfect occasion to break your fast with friends and family.

Starting at  
AED 210 PER PERSON

[viyagolf.com/yaslinks](http://viyagolf.com/yaslinks)

## A GATHERING TO REMEMBER

### SAADIYAT BEACH GOLF CLUB

Gather with friends and family to enjoy a spectacular Iftar celebration in the Saadiyat Majlis where you can take advantage of a bountiful buffet and family-friendly fun.

Starting at  
AED 210 PER PERSON

[viyagolf.com/saadiyat](http://viyagolf.com/saadiyat)

## RAMADAN AT ROOTS

### ROOTS BAR & KITCHEN, YAS ACRES

When the sun sets, dine with friends and family and enjoy a specially curated set menu, available for dine-in or takeaway. What's more, you can create a bespoke hamper for a truly memorable Ramadan feast.

Starting at  
AED 120 PER PERSON

[viyagolf.com/roots](http://viyagolf.com/roots)

## INDO-IFTAR

### KASTURI, JUMEIRAH GOLF ESTATES

Discover a fusion of flavours with Kasturi's set-menu as you embrace the season of togetherness. Break your fast with the finest dates selection and fresh Laban followed by a host of sumptuous appetisers and delicious main dishes, it's a celebration on the rooftop you won't forget.

Starting at  
AED 115 PER PERSON

[dubaigolf.com/kasturi](http://dubaigolf.com/kasturi)

## IFTAR WITH A VIEW

### TOPGOLF DUBAI

Creating lasting memories this Ramadan overlooking Topgolf's iconic Marina views when you take advantage of Iftar packages inclusive of hot starters, main courses and desserts whilst sipping away on unlimited soft beverages with two hours of classic game play for up to six guests.

For groups larger than 36, enjoy an event-buffet option when you contact our team directly.

AED 1,499 PER BAY

[topgolfdubai.ae/ramadan](http://topgolfdubai.ae/ramadan)



# HARISSA TIGER PRAWNS

BY CHEF ALI | TOPGOLF DUBAI

## INGREDIENTS

- 12 Tiger Prawns
- 10 grams Fresh Dill
- 60 grams Lemon Juice
- 20 grams Fresh Garlic
- 2 grams Turmeric Powder
- 2 grams Paprika Powder
- 10 grams Salt
- 100 grams Vine Tomato
- 5 grams Black Pepper
- 5 grams Cumin Powder
- 5 grams Coriander Seeds
- 50 grams Harissa Paste
- 50 grams Olive Oil
- 5 grams Green Chilli
- 20 grams Red Chilli
- 100 grams White Onion
- 15 grams Sumac Powder
- 20 grams Fresh Parsley
- 25 grams Butter

## HOW TO MAKE

1. Wash all vegetables and clean the Tiger Prawns. Keep aside.
2. Roughly cut the Dill, Garlic, Coriander, Red and Green Chillis. Add to a blender along with the dry spices, Olive Oil and Lemon Juice until smooth.
3. Finely chop some Garlic and mix with the Butter and some Salt and Pepper. Keep in a warm place to brush the Prawns.
4. Rub the marinade from the blender onto the clean Tiger Prawns and season with Salt and Pepper.
5. Grill the flesh side of the Tiger Prawns down for two minutes to get colour. Flip them over and grill for another two minutes.
6. Remove the Tiger Prawns from the grill and place onto a tray. Spread the Garlic Butter onto the flesh side of the Tiger Prawns and place into the oven at 180 degrees Celsius to finish cooking.
7. Grill the Lemon and Vine Tomato whilst the Tiger Prawns are in the oven.
8. Cut the White Onion into fine slices. In a bowl, gently mix the chopped Onion with the Sumac Powder, Lemon Juice, Olive Oil, Fresh Parsley, and Salt and Pepper.
9. Serve the Prawns straight from the oven with the White Onion mixture, grilled Lemon and Tomatoes, and your fresh Sumac salad.



# LAMB OUZI

BY CHEF DAYANE | EMIRATES GOLF CLUB

## INGREDIENTS

- |  |                                    |                                |                                |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • 2-3 kg Lamb Leg or Shank with bones in | Powder                             | • 1 tablespoon Table Salt      | • 1 Cinnamon Stick             |
| • 1 Small Onion                          | • Black Pepper                     | • 453 grams Ground Lamb        | • 2 Garlic Cloves              |
| • 1 Small Tomato                         | • ½ teaspoon Turmeric              | • Toasted Pine Nuts or Almonds | • 2 cups Basmati Rice          |
| • 5 cloves Fresh Garlic                  | • ½ teaspoon Paprika               | • Chopped Parsley              | • 3 cups Broth                 |
| • 1 tablespoon Tomato Paste              | • ½ teaspoon Cajun Seasoning       | • Raisins (optional)           | • Ground Salt and Pepper       |
| • Arabic 7 Spices                        | • 1 teaspoon Curry Powder          | • 2 tablespoon Ghee            | • Toasted Pine Nuts or Almonds |
| • 1 teaspoon Ground Cardamom             | • 1 tablespoon Apple Cider Vinegar | • 1 Yellow Onion               | • Chopped Parsley              |
| • 1 teaspoon Adobo                       | • 2 tablespoons Fresh Lemon Juice  | • 1 Dried Lime                 | • Raisins (optional)           |
|  |                                    | • 2 Bay Leaves                 | • Friend Onion                 |
|  |                                    | • 5 Cardamom Pods              |                                |

## FOR OUZI LAMB MARINADE

1. In a blender, blend all the Ouzi Lamb Marinade ingredients.
2. Rub the marination mix all over the pieces of Lamb in a bowl. Cover the bowl and marinate in the fridge for 12 hours.
3. In another bowl, massage the Arabic 7 Spices and Salt into the ground Lamb. Place it in the fridge to marinate.

## FOR THE SLOW ROASTED LAMB

1. Heat the oven to 220 degrees Celsius. Line two Dutch ovens or roasting pan with Parchment Paper.
2. Place the marinated Lamb on top of the Parchment Paper. Roast in the heated oven for 20 minutes uncovered.
3. Cover the pan with a lid and lower the heat to 135 degrees Celsius. Roast for two and half hours or until the Lamb is buttery and falling off the bone.

## FOR THE OUZI RICE

1. In a large pot, heat the ghee over medium heat. Add the diced Onion and cook until the Onion is beginning to caramelize.
2. Once the Onion is cooked, add the marinated Ground Beef along with all the Rice spices. Cook until the Beef is browned.
3. Once the Beef is browned add in the Basmati Rice, cooking for three minutes. Pour in the broth and increase the heat to high until the broth boils, stir once.
4. Cover your pot with a lid, lower the heat to low and cook until the rice has absorbed all the liquid, about 15 minutes.

## TO ASSEMBLE

1. Serve the Rice with the Lamb, topped with toasted Pine Nuts or Almonds and fresh chopped Parsley and fried Onions.



BREAK YOUR FAST AT HOME  
IFTAR RECIPES



# WHAT'S ON AT DUBAI GOLF



## AN ELEVATED JAZZ FRIDAY JONES THE GROCER, EMIRATES GOLF CLUB

EVERY FRIDAY  
7.30pm - 10pm

Immerse yourself in refined indulgence as you savour unlimited grape with delectable cheese and cured meat platters. Explore our raclette station and cheese fondue trolley, all to the smooth sounds of sweet jazz.

Starting at  
AED 199 PER PERSON

[dubaigolf.com/jones](https://dubaigolf.com/jones)

## SUNSET HAPPY HOUR QD'S, DUBAI CREEK

MONDAY - THURSDAY  
5pm - 8pm

Sit against picturesque views of the iconic Dubai Creek as the sun sets when you join us at the iconic QD's Bar & Grill whilst sipping on your favourite selected house beverages.

[dubaicreekresort.com](https://dubaicreekresort.com)



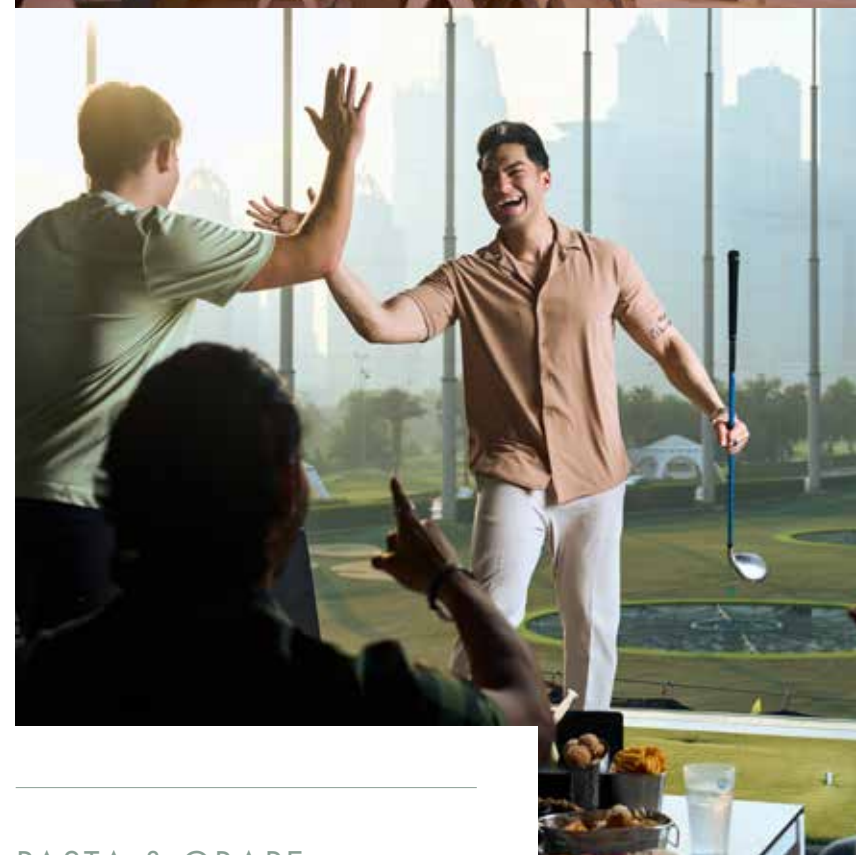
## CHOPS & SIP KASTURI, JUMEIRAH GOLF ESTATES

EVERY FRIDAY  
6pm onwards

Kick-off your weekend with a burst of authentic British-Indian flavours when you enjoy a spiced Lamb Chops platter paired with a glass of selected grape.

Starting at  
AED 149 PER PERSON

[dubaigolf.com/kasturi](https://dubaigolf.com/kasturi)



## BUSINESS LUNCH TOPGOLF DUBAI

MONDAY - FRIDAY  
Opening - 5pm

Enjoy a no hassle lunch break as you dig into a delicious two-course meal from our delicious limited menu and one-hour game play at your favourite entertainment destination.

AED 150 PER PERSON

[topgolfdubai.ae](https://topgolfdubai.ae)

## PASTA & GRAPE BUSSOLA, JUMEIRAH GOLF ESTATES

EVERY TUESDAY  
6pm onwards

Indulge in your favourite Italian flavours when you dine on a selection of three specially selected pastas whilst sipping on carefully paired glasses of grape.

AED 150 PER PERSON

[dubaigolf.com/bussola](https://dubaigolf.com/bussola)





## FOXY HOURS

CRAFTY FOX,  
YAS LINKS ABU DHABI

MONDAY - THURSDAY  
11am - 7pm

Sip away on your favourite house beverages overlooking stunning views on Crafty Fox's rooftop balcony at selected discounted rates.

[viyagolf.com/craftyfox](http://viyagolf.com/craftyfox)



# WHAT'S ON AT VIYA GOLF

## LADIES NIGHT

ACRES GRILL HOUSE, YAS ACRES

EVERY WEDNESDAY  
7pm - 10pm

Make it the perfect girls night out when you dine on one main course dish and enjoy unlimited selected beverages.

[viyagolf.com/acresgrillhouse](http://viyagolf.com/acresgrillhouse)



## SUNDAY ROAST

ROOTS BAR & KITCHEN, YAS ACRES

EVERY SUNDAY  
12pm onwards

Dine on a classic feast complimented by a selected house beverage or purchase four Roasts to receive a selected bottle of grape to make it an afternoon the whole gang can enjoy.

Starting at  
AED 90 PER PERSON

[viyagolf.com/roots](http://viyagolf.com/roots)



## SOUND ON

CRAFTY FOX, YAS LINKS ABU DHABI

EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY  
7pm - 10pm

There is no better way to start your weekend than on the Crafty Fox rooftop terrace whilst quenching your thirst and listening to your favourite hits.

[viyagolf.com/craftyfox](http://viyagolf.com/craftyfox)



## WHISKEY FLIGHTS

THE BLACK ROOM, YAS ACRES

EVERY FRIDAY  
8pm - 10pm

Sip around the world and enjoy three Whiskey flights to receive a 20% discount.

[viyagolf.com/theblackroom](http://viyagolf.com/theblackroom)



# Unmissable UPCOMING EVENTS

## EASTER SUNDAY BRUNCH

JUMEIRAH GOLF ESTATES

Sunday 31st March | 4pm - 8pm

Get the family together to enjoy a international buffet with an Easter twist, live stations and thirst quenching beverages as the little ones take advantage of a host of activities including an Easter Egg hunt, bouncy castle, and so much more.

Starting at  
AED 325 PER PERSON

[dubaigolf.com/jge/easter](https://dubaigolf.com/jge/easter)

## GET YOUR GREEN ON CRAFTY FOX, YAS LINKS ABU DHABI

Sunday 17th March

This St. Patrick's Day, hop on over to Crafty Fox and indulge in a delicious Shepherd's Pie for only AED 95! But that's not all, your Irish feast comes with a special St. Patrick's Day themed cocktail, absolutely free!

AED 95 PER PERSON

[viyagolf.com/craftyfox](https://viyagolf.com/craftyfox)



## ST PATRICK'S AT SPIKE SPIKE BAR, EMIRATES GOLF CLUB

11th – 17th March

Enjoy a week-long Guinness special with our specially crafted all-day St. Patrick's Day menu at Spike Bar with our Stoutie machine in action!

Indulge in a mouth-watering burger smothered in Guinness sauce or savour our comforting Pie & Mash paired perfectly with the rich flavours of Guinness. It's a taste of Ireland right here!

[dubaigolf.com/spikebar](https://dubaigolf.com/spikebar)

## EASTER BRUNCH SPIKE BAR, EMIRATES GOLF CLUB

Sunday 31st March | 1pm – 4pm

Hop along with the Spike Bunny for an exciting Easter Egg Hunt, be mesmerised by a magician, and let the little ones unleash their creativity with arts and crafts. It's an Easter celebration for the whole family.

Starting at  
AED 349 PER PERSON

[dubaigolf.com/spikebar](https://dubaigolf.com/spikebar)



## ST. PATRICK'S DAY BRUNCH JUMEIRAH GOLF ESTATES

Saturday 16th March | 5pm - 8pm

Join us on the Earth Terrace for a brunch that is set to showcase the best of Irish cuisine with a host of traditional dishes and your favourite selected beverages along with a live band and thrilling activities for the kids to enjoy.

Starting at  
AED 325 PER PERSON

[dubaigolf.com/jge/stpatricks](https://dubaigolf.com/jge/stpatricks)

## MOTHER'S DAY ON THE TERRACE SPIKE BAR, EMIRATES GOLF CLUB

Sunday 10th March | 8am – 12pm

Shower Mum with love and a heart-warming surprise this Mother's Day! Join us on the Spike Terrace, where Mum can enjoy a complimentary breakfast overlooking the picturesque Majlis Course, fresh flowers, and a delightful Mother's Day treat.

[dubaigolf.com/spikebar](https://dubaigolf.com/spikebar)





## LADY CAPTAIN VS LADY VICE CAPTAIN CHALLENGE MATCH

Tuesday 2nd January 2024

### RESULTS

- Lady Captain's Team: 6
- Lady Vice Captain's Team: 2

### ON-COURSE PRIZES

- Nearest the Pin | Hole 2 (Handicap Index 0 – 18): Imyoung Ma
- Nearest the Pin | Hole 12 (Handicap Index 18+): Anita Staahle
- Nearest the Pin | Hole 17 (Handicap Index 0-18): Wonjeong Lee
- Nearest the Pin in Two | Hole 9 (all players): Rekha Bandopadhyay
- Straightest Drive | Hole 5 (all players): Hattie He
- Straightest Drive | Hole 10 (all players): Colette Muttoni



## LADIES MONTHLY MEDALFORD

Tuesday 9th January 2024

54 ladies teed it up for the morning shotgun on the Faldo Course. There was an early morning breeze, and the air was fresh, but the ladies sure got into the swing of things and produced some amazing scores.

The winner of the Silver A Division (Handicap 14 and below) with an amazing net 68 (-4) was Wongjeong lee. Wonjeong produced six birdies in her round, including back-to-back birdies on holes 16 and 17.

The best gross was won by Nonita Chand with an amazing gross 75, (+3). Nonita produced two birdies in her round, one being a two on the 12th hole. Arathi Appaiah was placed as runner-up with a solid round of net 70 (-2). Third place went to Glory Xavier with a net 73 (+1).

Chantelle De Villiers won the Silver B Division (Handicap 15 – 23) with a great round of net 71 (-1) and beat runner-up, Caroline Grainger, with better back-nine holes. Chantelle produced five birdies during her round! Third place went to Alison Cowley with a level par, net 72.

Anita Jopp won the Bronze Division (Handicap 24+) with a level par round of net 72. Anita produced five birdies during her round and was four under par through the first six holes. The runner-up in the Bronze Division was Colette Muttoni with a round of net 73 (+1).

## LADY PAST CAPTAIN'S TROPHY & LADIES STABLEFORD COMPETITION

Tuesday 23rd January 2024

The Faldo Course welcomed 35 ladies for the Ladies Stableford competition and 10 past Lady Captains for the Past Captain's Trophy.

### STABLEFORD COMPETITION

Bronze Division: Handicap 20 - 36

- Winner: Chantelle De Villiers (38 points)
- Runner-up: Sonal Ghandi (36 points)

Chantelle produced a great front-nine with a net eagle on hole five, gaining four points!

Silver Division: Handicap 0 – 19

- Winner: Anca Pirvu (42 points)
- Runner-up: Nonita Chand (39 points (BB9))

Anca's playing Handicap for the Faldo Course was 12. This was the first time Anca broke gross 80, shooting an amazing gross 78 with five net birdies and two net eagles.

### PAST LADY CAPTAIN'S TROPHY

- Winner: Martha Wong (37 points)
- Runner-up: Yana Jamieson (35 points (BB9))

Martha had nine net birdies in her round and was Lady Captain from 2009 – 2010.



## LADIES INTER CLUB CHALLENGE (ROUND 2)

Wednesday, 31st January 2024

Three teams, 10 players per team, battled it out to gain points for their Club in the Ladies Inter Club Challenge. Ladies came from Arabian Ranches Golf Club, Trump International Dubai, and Emirates Golf Club with eight of the best scores to count from the 10 players.

### BEST COMBINED STABLEFORD FLIGHT

- Emirates Golf Club Winner: Birgit Baur-Gallizioli
- Arabian Ranches Golf Club Winner: Marjorie Maulit
- Trump International Dubai Winner: Donna Downes

### INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION

- Winner: Josie Tracy (38 points)
- Runner-up: Maura Duggan (35 points)

### TEAM POINTS

- Emirates Golf Club: 265 points
- Arabian Ranches Golf Club: 188 points
- Trump International Dubai: 218 points



## OMA EMIRATES MEDALFORD IN ASSOCIATION WITH CHRISTIE'S INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE DUBAI

Sunday 4th February 2024

71 golfers teed it up on Majlis Course and battled the tough conditions. The players had to battle not only the harsh wind, but the tough course conditions following the Hero Dubai Desert Classic.

Winner of Division A (Handicap 0 – 10) was Aashiv Adnani with a score of net 74 (+2) BB9. Aashiv (Handicap 9) made four birdies in his round, three of which were on the back-nine holes. Aashiv made up a great back-nine holes of 39.

Winner of the gross competition was Pontus Fredriksson scoring a gross 78 (+6). Pontus made two birdies in his round and lots of pars to create a round of six over par. Runner-up was Anil Shivanna with a final score of net 74 (+2), and third place went to Jake Carney with a score of net 75 (+3).



In Division B (Handicap 11 – 20), victory came to Pranav Rai with an exceptional final score of net 72 (E). Overall, Pranav (Handicap 15) produced a birdie filled scorecard with five birdies, four of which were on the back-nine holes. Following in second place was Eivind Hoiback with a net 73 (+1) BB9, and third place went to Ravi Khanna with a finishing score of net 73 (+1).

Winning Division C (Handicap 21 – 28) was Suresh Shewakramani, competing his round at net 72 (E). Suresh (Handicap 27) produced a great round of level par net. His score card was made up of three net birdies and two net eagles! His birdie on hole 14 was followed by back-to-back eagles on holes 15 and 16. Winner of the Gents Stableford Division was Ishu Rupani with a final 34 points. In the Ladies Stableford Division, Victoria Anikina saw triumph with a total 31 points. There were four on-courses prizes throughout the competition, kindly sponsored by OMA Emirates and Christie's International Real Estate Dubai.

Winning Nearest the Pin on hole four was Pontus Fredriksson and on hole seven was Shane Wilson. Hole 11's Nearest the Pin winner was Imran Qayyum hole 15's was won by Oliver Ravenscroft.



## OMA MIDNIGHT MADNESS

Friday 9th & Saturday 10th February 2024

For the second time in five months, Emirates Golf Club hosted the OMA Midnight Madness. 96 golfers wrapped up warm and battled through the night to gain the Midnight Madness victory title, to be greeted by a Full English Breakfast in Spike Bar following their rounds. Midnight Madness is made up of a Scramble over nine holes at 11pm, then back out again at 2:30am for an 18-hole Scramble over the floodlight Faldo Course.

Winning the tournament with an overall score of (-29), 51, was Kaushal Raipancholia, Dhruv Gupta, Divij Duggal, and Matthew Cole. Divij and Matthew paired together for the nine-hole scramble and produced two birdies and two eagles creating a round of (-6), 33. Kaushal and Dhruv produced a (-2) round over the front-nine holes.

Following the nine-hole scramble, the two pairs joined together to make a fourball and proceeded to play over the 18 holes of the Faldo

Course. They produced a great score card, with nine birdies and six eagles!

Five strokes behind first place came from the group of Shelton Sacrafamilia, Abhishek Kamani, Maximillian Quack, and Tjalling Jasper Van Den Burger, with an overall score of (-24), 57. Max and Tjalling played the back-nine holes first and bagged four birdies and an eagle, whilst Shelton and Abhishek had four birdies and one bogey. They joined together for the 2:30am shotgun and produced an 18-hole round consisting of seven birdies and four eagles!

Third place with a total combined score of (-21) went to the group of Russel Yeomans, Maria Dunkel, Jerome Natali, and Genie Owiti. Jerome and Genie first played the back-nine holes and made a bogey, two birdies and an eagle whilst Russel and Maria played the front-nine holes and produced three birdies and six pars! In their 18-hole scramble, they produced 11 birdies and two eagles.

## LADIES VALENTINE'S COMPETITION

Tuesday, 13th February 2024

The ladies were feeling the love for the Ladies Valentines Competition, and so was the Faldo Course. 52 ladies teed it up for the 08:30am shotgun and played a two-player team, 18-hole Shamble format. Both players tee off and the best drive was selected. From there, both players use their own ball until the ball is holed out. Each player contributed at least six drives each.

Winning the Ladies Valentine's Competition was the pair of Apoorva Gandhi and Glory Xavier with a total of 44 points. Apoorva and Glory both produced scorecards consisting of an eagle (net) each!

The runners-up pair was Josie Tracey and Wonjeong Lee, finishing their round with 43 points. Josie made a two on the par three, eighth hole and Wonjeong made a two on par three, hole 17!

Finishing at third was Delaney Leigh and Nicsha Rodriguez, finishing with 42 points (BB9). Delaney made a run of three birdies on holes six, seven, and eight, and Nicsha made an eagle (net) on hole 15!





## CURRY CLUB

Thursday 4th January 2024

Kicking off the New Year, the highly anticipated Thursday Curry Club made a triumphant return in 2024, welcoming both Members and their guests to the front nine of the Earth Course for the weekly event at Jumeirah Golf Estates.

Marking their debut in the Curry Club, Annabel Ayres and Bradley Webb made an exceptional impression by securing victory with a superb net -6 (30). Their remarkable performance was highlighted by two net eagles, notably including an impressive one on the challenging par four eighth hole.

Securing a commendable second place in a closely contested round were Gerhard Vorster and Lee Johnston. Their exceptional performance saw them match a score of -4 (32), characterised by an impressive display of four birdies



and a flawless round without any bogeys. In third place were Louis Thorne and Riley Scott-Ellis, matching a score of -4 (32). Their impressive round showcased four birdies and a steady performance without any bogeys. Despite the strong performance, a challenging three-putt on the par five, second hole, would stand as a pivotal moment, influencing the final

result in this closely contested event. Riley Scott-Ellis showcased impressive power, clinching the title for the longest drive on the second hole with an exceptional drive. Additionally, Gerhard Vorster displayed remarkable precision, securing the Nearest the Pin on hole six with an impressive approach shot that landed just 3.5 feet from the pin.

## JUNIOR OPEN

Sunday 7th January 2024

Jumeirah Golf Estates hosted the highly anticipated 2024 Junior Open, gathering the top junior talents from across the UAE and beyond. A total of 57 juniors competed fiercely on the challenging Fire Course vying for the coveted Gross Championship Trophy previously won by the likes of LET professional Chiara Noja.

Adrian Larsson of The Els Club claimed the prestigious 2024 Gross Junior Open Championship with an impressive round of gross 72. His stellar performance featured four birdies, securing the coveted title at the Jumeirah Golf Estates. Adrian needed two extra play-off holes to secure victory with a birdie on the second play-off hole over Nikhil Bhatia.

Nikhil Bhatia from Dubai Creek Golf & Yacht Club demonstrated outstanding

skill, securing victory in the Boys Gross category with an impressive round of 72. His exceptional play included a remarkable front nine of 34. Seth Hopkinson finished in second place with a score of (+1), narrowly missing out on the top spot by just one stroke.

Daul Kim displayed remarkable prowess in clinching the Girls Gross category, representing Jumeirah Golf Estates, with a score of 74 (+2).

Her exceptional performance led to victory through count back against Anca Mateiu, who also achieved a score of 74. George Pendleton-Nash secured victory in the Boys Net category with an impressive score of net 68 (-4), triumphing by a margin of two strokes over Dhruv Sharma, who secured a net 70.



Varvara Barilkina, representing the Russian Golf Federation, clinched the Girls net title with a remarkable score of net (-4) 68. Aasiya Saleem from Jumeirah Golf Estates secured second place with a net score of (+1).



## TOMMY FLEETWOOD ACADEMY JUNIOR SERIES BY DAVID GARDNER BY ST JAMES'S PLACE

Friday 5th January 2024

Jumeirah Golf Estates hosted the Tommy Fleetwood Academy Junior Medal Series. The event unfolded over the front nine of the Fire Course, drawing in participation of 42 juniors. Following the eventful play, players gathered to savour a chef's buffet and partake in an awards presentation held on the Earth Terrace.

The competition comprised of seven categories, catering to various skill levels and tee markers. These included the net winners from four distinct tee markers: Signature Tees, Forward Tees, TFA Junior Tees, and the newly introduced St James's Place (SJP) Tees, spanning distances of 100 - 150 yards from each green. Additionally, the event featured categories for the overall girls' champion, gross winners from both Forward and Signature Tees, and the best net performances from SJP & TFA Tees. The event was further enriched with engaging activities such as the "Beat the Pro" challenge on the second hole, completed by TFA Professional Joe O'Connor, and the "Nearest the Pin" competition on hole eight.

Jameel Choudry emerged victorious, claiming the gross prize from the Signature Tees following an outstanding round of level-par. Choudry's skilful performance showcased a remarkable display, despite two bogeys although bounced back with back-to-back birdies on holes six and seven.

Milana Rozhko clinched the gross category victory from the forward tees with an impressive round, finishing at (+6). Rozhko's play featured four pars, showcasing her consistent and steady performance.

Securing an outstanding victory in the overall girls' category was Fatma Kalbat, showcasing exceptional skill and determination to finish at (+10).

Siddhaan Chhibber secured an impressive victory in the Signature Tees category, finishing with a remarkable net score of (-2).

Chhibber's outstanding performance featured two impressive gross birdies on holes two and seven. Aryan Siddharth claimed the runners-up position, followed by Ethan Alan in third and Samarbir Kochar in fourth.

Tom Harrison secured an impressive victory in the Forward Tee category, delivering a stellar performance with a net score of (-1). Harrison's remarkable round included a noteworthy gross birdie on the opening hole. Sailesh Prabakaran closely followed, securing the second spot with a score of net (+1). Madhav Manoj claimed the third-place position, finishing on net (+3), while Hugo Pinto secured the fourth spot with a net score of (+4).

Sivaan Advani clinched an impressive victory in the TFA Tees, six holes, category, showcasing exceptional skill to finish with a net score of (+7). Kiaan Maharaj secured the second position with a score of net (+9), edging past Arjun Koduro via count back. In the fourth spot was Freddie Hopkinson, recording a net score of (+11).

Jack Myers clinched an exceptional victory on the St James's Place Tees with a stellar gross score of (23). Myers demonstrated remarkable skill, notably securing a three on the first hole and another on the fifth hole, solidifying his first-place position. Arjun Siddharth claimed the second spot, while Alex Andrews and Franklin Fleetwood secured the third and fourth positions, respectively. Additionally, Isabella Andrews emerged victorious in the girls' category.

During the event, the 'Beat the Pro' challenge on hole two witnessed exceptional performances, with Sivaan Advani, Samarbir Kochar, Siddhaan Chhibber, Nevaan Mundhra, and Bobby Myers all surpassing Tommy Fleetwood Academy PGA Professional Joe O'Connor. Additionally, Madhav Manoj emerged victorious in the 'Nearest the Pin' competition on hole eight.





## CAPTAIN'S DRIVE-IN

Saturday 6th January 2024

Jumeirah Golf Estates marked the dawn of its 2024 season with an electrifying Captains Drive-In event, warmly welcoming the newly appointed captains, Anna-Retha Rafferty, and Noel O'Leary. The Texas Scramble format for the day was held on the Earth Course and drew participation from 124 Members and guests.

Team Cashmore clinched victory at the Captains Drive-In event with a stellar performance, securing a net score of (-20), 52. Their exceptional round, boasting an impressive tally of six net eagles and eight net birdies, led them to a one-stroke victory.

Claudia Kilcullen, Kieran Kilcullen, Hilary Tomlinson, and Martin Stewart secured a commendable second place, posting a net score of (-19), 53. Their impressive performance showcased 11 net birdies, highlighting their strong play with a remarkable net 26 on the front nine.

Charlie King, Jack Herron, Ted Speller, and Daniel Mauro secured an impressive third place with a net score of (-18), 54, narrowly missing out on second place by one stroke.

Jackie De Vries triumphed in the nearest the pin contest on hole four, while Brendan Grieve showcased precision by winning the Nearest the Pin on hole 17.

The first tee welcomed Members and guests to participate in a guessing game, estimating the driving distances of the new captains. The 2023 Men's Captain, Jonathon Hall, hit the mark with Anna-Retha's drive, predicting her distance accurately at 216 yards, while Stuart Carr mirrored the feat, guessing Noel O'Leary's drive perfectly at 242 yards.

## THE LOUNGE SPA LADIES INDIVIDUAL STABLEFORD

Wednesday 10th January 2024

Jumeirah Golf Estates recently hosted the monthly Ladies' Individual Stableford competition, proudly sponsored by The Lounge Spa. The event unfolded on the Fire course, drawing 12 Members to take part in the competition.

Emerging victorious was Anna-Retha Rafferty, the freshly appointed Ladies' Captain for 2024, boasting an impressive score of 41 points. Her remarkable round showcased three net eagles and five net birdies, securing her a comfortable two-stroke lead and the win.

Claiming a commendable second place was Mitsuko Emmerson, tallying a total of 39 points. Her round was marked by an impressive showcase of net five birdies and one net eagle, coupled with a notable gross 37 on the back nine.

Sara Chadwick secured a well-deserved third place, amassing 36 points in the competition. Her round was highlighted by net two eagles and five net birdies, although four triple bogeys would prove costly in the hope of victory.



Two thrilling on-course competitions took place during the event. Willemijn Roeterdink emerged victorious in the Nearest the Pin contest on hole two, while Anna-Retha Rafferty showcased her accuracy by claiming the Nearest the Pin title on hole 14.

## LINCOLN OPEN

Saturday 13th January 2024

With a gathering of 99 Members and guests, Jumeirah Golf Estates hosted the highly anticipated Lincoln Open 2024 on the challenging Fire course. Participants engaged in an Individual Stableford format, each navigating the golf course with 95% of their calculated handicap.

Securing victory in the tightly contested Lincoln Open, Jerome Carle emerged triumphant after an exhilarating five-way count back. Despite a challenging front nine, Carle showcased remarkable resilience, posting a back-nine score of 37, highlighted by a spectacular gross eagle on the tough par five, 18th hole. Closely trailing in second place was Mohammed Darwish who exhibited exceptional skill, matching Jerome Carle with an impressive 40 points. Darwish's back-nine brilliance, featured a gross 39 and four net birdies, solidified his position in the competition.

Securing a notable third place was Andrea Cappellini who demonstrated their golf prowess with an outstanding score of 40 points. His impressive back-nine performance, marked by a gross 37 and a birdie on the challenging 16th hole. Jane Vorster showcased her power with an impressive 201-yard carry to secure victory in the ladies' Longest Drive contest,

while Nicolas Whiteford dominated the men's category with an astounding 320-yard carry. Alan Dobbins exhibited pinpoint accuracy, claiming victory in the Nearest the Pin competition on hole 14 by landing his approach just three feet from the pin. Seth Hopkinson's precision off the tee earned him the title of straightest drive winner on hole seven.





## CURRY CLUB

Thursday 18th January 2024

This week's Thursday Curry Club at Jumeirah Golf Estates unfolded on the Fire Course, attracting the participation of 26 Members and guests. The event took place on the challenging front-nine of Fire Course, with plenty of birdies available but also bogeys to be had!

In a remarkable performance, Jumeirah Golf Estates' Golf Experience Executive, Finlay Galloway, teamed up with Jamie Snowdon to clinch victory in this week's Curry Club. The dynamic duo posted a stellar net score of (-7). Their exceptional round featured an impressive run of six consecutive net birdies from holes three to eight, securing a comfortable three-stroke lead over the competition.

Securing a solid second place were the pair of Martin Ayrton and Jane Vorster. Their impressive performance on the Fire Course resulted in a commendable net score of (-4), highlighted by a net eagle on the challenging sixth hole. Claiming a commendable third place was Kieran Blackshaw, Golf Experience Manager, and Edward Janes. The duo showcased their skills on the Fire



Course, securing a net score of (-4). Despite an impressive performance, they narrowly missed out on second place, settling for third after a count back.

Lee Johnston showcased precision by winning the Nearest the Pin contest on hole two, while Edward Janes unleashed a powerful drive, earning him the title of Longest Drive champion on hole seven.

## LADIES INDIVIDUAL STABLEFORD

Wednesday 24th January 2024

Jumeirah Golf Estates recently hosted a Ladies Individual Stableford event on the Fire Course. Despite a limited field, with 12 participants, the competition unfolded with great energy. Notably, a significant portion of the ladies was engaged in the ICC match at Jebel Ali Golf Club.

Claiming victory by an impressive three strokes in the Ladies Individual Stableford event was Gill Stevens. Her stellar performance, accumulating 40 points, featured three net eagles and a noteworthy gross birdie on the challenging par four, ninth hole.

Securing the second spot was Marta Balaguer, with a total of 37 points and an impressive tally of seven net birdies, Balaguer showcased remarkable skills on the Fire Course. Her strong finish on the back nine, amassing 24 points, contributed to a fantastic performance.

Claiming the third was Willemijn Roeterdink with a total of 35 points, Roeterdink demonstrated consistent play throughout the round. Her notable performance on the back nine, concluding with a birdie on the 18th hole and a score of 39, solidified her third-place finish. Teresa Sheepwash secured victory in the Nearest the

Pin competition on the 14th hole. Her precision and skill were on full display, earning her this on-course accolade during the Ladies Individual Stableford.



## OMA EMIRATES MEDALFORD IN ASSOCIATION WITH CHRISTIE'S INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE DUBAI

Saturday 20th January 2024

Jumeirah Golf Estates proudly ushered in the new year with the OMA Emirates Medalford, presented in association with Christie's International Real Estate Dubai, the event unfolded on the challenging Fire Course, attracting 112 Members.

Aron Lomax emerged triumphant in the OMA Emirates Medalford, showcasing a stellar performance that set a new personal benchmark. Lomax achieved a remarkable net score of 61 (-11), navigating the challenging Fire Course. His round featured a remarkable tally of 10 net birdies and a net eagle, notably on the par four, sixth hole.

In Division A, a category for players with handicaps of 10.4 and below, Russell Wilson secured victory with an impressive net score of 68. Wilson's stellar round included seven net birdies, showcasing his skill on the Fire Course. Umair Javed claimed the runner-up position with a net 69, while the third spot went to the reigning Thursday Curry Club champion, Jamie Snowdon, who posted a net 70.

In Division B, comprised of players with handicaps of 10.5 and above, Steve Noon emerged as the winner with a net score of 69. Noon's solid performance featured a notable gross birdie on the first hole. Mohammed Darwish secured the runner-up position, delivering a commendable net score of 70. The third spot was claimed by Moustafa Shahin, who posted a net score of 71.

Sherma Ayrton showcased her exceptional skills in the ladies' category, securing victory

with a net score of (-2), her outstanding round featured an impressive tally of seven net birdies.

Jamie Clarke demonstrated his skill and finesse in the senior category, clinching victory with a net score of -1 (71). His stellar performance secured a one-stroke lead over the field. Young talent Samuel Durbin shone in the junior category, claiming victory with a net score of 75. Durbin's impressive round featured a net eagle on the challenging par four, fourth hole.

Chris Wilmot claimed the gross victory with a stellar round of 71 (-1), while the 2023 Club Champion, David Bainbridge, secured second place with a level-par 72. Joshua Worton emerged victorious in the

Stableford category with an impressive 39 points. Paul McMahon secured the second spot with a commendable score of 37 points.

Simon Howells claimed victory in the Nearest the Pin contest on hole two, showcasing precision and skill. The 2023 Men's Captain, Jonny Hall, demonstrated his prowess on the eighth hole, securing the other Nearest the Pin on hole eight.

During the Beat the Pro challenge, nine players surpassed Tommy Fleetwood Academy PGA Professional, Jamie Dreelan. Caleb Anderson's exceptional performance not only secured a victory against the pro but also earned him the prize of a lesson with Jamie after winning the raffle.





## CURRY CLUB

Thursday 25th January 2024

44 players gathered on the front nine of the Fire Course at Jumeirah Golf Estates for this week's Curry Club. The weekly event brought together Members and guests, to take part in the weekly nine-hole Pairs Scramble event.

Taking the coveted crown at this week's Curry Club, the dynamic duo of Philip Childs and Nicholas Whiteford showcased their prowess on the front nine of the Fire Course, clinching victory with an impressive net score of (-7), 29. Their stellar performance, marked by six gross birdies and a flawless round, secured their win and 10 points each towards the Order of Merit.

Securing the second spot in a closely contested battle, Nigel Thorne and Tom Moon emerged victorious on count back with a net score of (-5), 31. Meanwhile, Ed Atack and Scott Keller showcased their skills, notching a commendable gross eagle on the challenging par five, seventh hole to claim the third position. Neil Gallagher showcased his impressive skills, winning the Longest Drive competition on the fifth hole. Additionally, Mathew Ayrton demonstrated precision, securing the nearest the pin victory by hitting his approach shot to an impressive two feet.



The current Order of Merit standings are, tied first, Lee Johnston and Bradley Webb (19 points), tied second, Annabel Ayres and Edward Janes (17 points), and third, James Snowden (11 points).

## CURRY CLUB

Thursday 1st February 2024

This week's edition of Curry Club at Jumeirah Golf Estates drew 48 players, including both Members and guests. The event, hosted on the Fire Course, featured a Pairs Scramble format, adding an exciting twist to the evening on the greens.

The dynamic duo of David Warham and Richie Green clinched victory at this week's Curry Club on the Fire Course with a remarkable score of net (-5), 31, the pair showcased their skills with back-to-back net eagles on the challenging par four, fourth hole and the lengthy par five, fifth hole. Their stellar performance secured them a one-shot triumph, making them the toast of the evening.

Securing a commendable second place, Finlay Galloway and Jamie Snowdon exhibited their golfing finesse at this week's Curry Club with a score of net (-4), 32, their stellar performance included a noteworthy tally of five net birdies. Their impressive display led to a count back victory, narrowly edging out competitors Priyanka Parmar and Louis Thorne, who also delivered a strong performance on the course. Participants at this week's Curry Club showcased their skills



in two thrilling on-course contests. Jim Crowley emerged victorious in the Nearest the Pin competition on hole two, showcasing precision in his approach shots. Meanwhile, Jamie Caroline seized the title for the Longest Drive, unleashing a powerful and strategic drive on the ninth hole. The current Order of Merit standings are in third, Finlay Galloway (17 points), in second place, Jamie Snowdon (18 points), and in tied first, Bradley Webb and Lee Johnston (19 points).

## JUMEIRAH PAIRS BY THE LOUNGE SPA

Sunday 28th January 2024

Jumeirah Golf Estates hosted the monthly Jumeirah Pairs by The Lounge Spa over the Earth Course. This event was battled out in a brand-new format which was a Pairs combined Stableford. In this format, each player plays their own ball and the combined Stableford score on each hole will count towards the pair's score.

Bradley Webb and Annabel Ayres secured victory, achieving a remarkable score of 74 points embellished with an outstanding



combined front nine score of 35 points. Coming home in an even better score of 39 points to run away with the victory.

Fergus Gilmour and John MacGregor claimed second place that included an impressive back nine of 40 points, achieving a total combined score of 71 points.

Damian Hitchen and Paul Schwarz clinched third place, scoring a respectable 70 points, which included a fantastic front nine of 38 points.

Tommy Fleetwood Academy PGA Professional, Diarmaid Fraser, participated in the live 'Beat the Pro' competition by hitting an average shot to 30 feet, allowing others to capitalise on a rare bad shot from the TFA superstar. 32 players in the field managed to surpass Diarmaid's shot, with Simon Brind emerging as the fortunate winner of the raffle, earning a 45-minute lesson with Diarmaid.

The Nearest the Pin competition took place on hole six, and the victor was James Finnigan, who landed his tee shot a mere eight feet from the flag, showcasing exceptional precision on the tough par three.

## OMA EMIRATES MEDALFORD IN ASSOCIATION WITH CHRISTIE'S INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE DUBAI

Saturday 3rd February 2024

In this month's OMA Emirates Medalford competition at Jumeirah Golf Estates, 112 players took on the challenge of the Earth Course for the monthly Members competition.

Securing the OMA Emirates Medal championship at Jumeirah Golf Estates, Stephen Punch showcased exceptional skill with a gross score of 79 and a net score of 66, sealing his victory by a remarkable five-shot margin. His round featured two net eagles, highlighting a stand-out performance. Claiming victory in the Division A Net category with a composed performance, Fergus Gilmour secured the top spot with a net score of 72. He finished two strokes ahead of competitors Duncan O'Sullivan and Edward Long, both posting net scores of 74.

In the Division B category, Joshua Burton emerged victorious, securing a one-stroke win with a net score of 71. Daniel Gribbin finished closely behind with a net score of 72, while Steve Noon claimed the third spot with a net score of 73. Jane Vorster secured victory in the Ladies' Division with an impressive net score of 74. In the Senior Division, Mohammed Darwish emerged as the winner with a net score of 73, and Sam Robinson claimed the top spot in the Junior Division with a net score of 84. In the Gross Division, Mark Schoombie clinched victory with an outstanding score of gross 73 (+1), while Nicholas Whiteford secured the second spot with a score of (+6) 78. In the Stableford Division, Alex Whayman emerged victorious with a

solid score of 36 points, securing the first position, while Andy Spiers secured the second spot with a score of 34 points. There were two Nearest the Pin competitions sponsored by Christie's International Real Estate Dubai on holes six and 13. Rob Duce claimed victory on hole six, hitting his tee shot to an impressive seven inches. Meanwhile, Jonny Hall showcased skill on the 13th, landing his tee shot just two feet from the pin.





# TOMMY FLEETWOOD ACADEMY JUNIOR SERIES BY DAVID GARDNER AT ST JAMES'S PLACE Friday 2nd February 2024

Jumeirah Golf Estates hosted the Tommy Fleetwood Academy Junior Medal Series. The event unfolded over the front nine of the Fire Course, drawing in participation of 52 juniors. Following the eventful play, players gathered to savour a chef's buffet and partake in an awards presentation held in the Ballroom.

The event was enriched with engaging activities such as the 'Beat the Pro' challenge on the second hole, completed by Tommy Fleetwood Academy PGA Professional, Euan Bowden, and the Nearest the Pin competition on hole eight.

In an impressive display of skill, Alexander Rushika claimed the gross prize off the challenging Signature Tees at Jumeirah Golf Estates with a remarkable score of 35, finishing one-under-par.

On the Forward Tees, Ayaan Khan secured victory with a gross score of (+6), showcasing exceptional talent

and precision throughout the round. Ishika Kaul emerged as the overall girls champion of the day, delivering a stand-out performance with a net score of (+6). Her impressive round featured two net birdies, highlighting her skill and composure on the course.

In the Signature Tees category, Jameel Choudry secured victory with a net score of (-3), 33, showcasing remarkable skill. Samarbir Kochar finished as the runner-up with a score of (+1), 37, demonstrating competitive play in the category.

Claiming victory in the Forward Tee category was Eugenio Galeppini, delivering an impressive score of 32 (-4). Tom Harrison secured the second spot, displaying a commendable performance with a score of 35 (-1), finishing three strokes behind the leader.

Securing triumph in the TFA Tees category was Kiaan Maharaj with a score of



(+9). Ansh Dutta, displaying a strong performance, narrowly missed the top spot, settling for second place after losing out via count back. In the St James' Place Tees category, Hruhan Arora emerged victorious with a net score of (-1), claiming a narrow one-stroke lead over Franklin Thomas Fleetwood, who scored even par for the day.

In the Beat the Pro competition on hole two, seven players managed to beat TFA PGA Professional, Euan Bowden. The winners were entered into a raffle, and Jameel Choudry emerged victorious. Additionally, in the Nearest the Pin competition on hole eight, Aditya Tomar claimed the title after hitting his shot to five feet.

## LADIES AMATEUR OPEN Sunday 4th February 2024

Ladies from all over the UAE took to the Fire Course to take part in our Ladies Amateur Open. 30 Ladies from eight different clubs around the UAE battled it out to decide our Ladies Amateur champion. The format of the day was an Individual Stroke play. The Division A ladies competed in a gross competition, while the Division B Ladies competed to decide the net winner of the day. There was also a Nearest the Pin competition on the 14th hole. In the ladies Division A Gross competition, Sara Engsig emerged victorious, shooting a gross (-2). The highlights of her round included a remarkable chip-in eagle on the first, along with two birdies on the seventh and 15th holes. This great performance

put her clear in the lead by two shots and crowned her the 2024 Jumeirah Golf Estates' Ladies Amateur champion. Anca Mirela Mateiu secured second place with a strong performance, shooting level over the course of the day, gross 72. Even though she had three birdies, she just fell short of the first place prize. Meanwhile in the Division B Net competition, Leia Maccallum from The Montgomerie Dubai, emerged as the net champion, she shot a net (+1), handicap 17.0, gross 92. Her round included a very impressive five net birdies. Her performance led her to win the Division event. Following her Maria Talakina, came in as the runner-up with a net (+6), Handicap 16.7, gross 96. Her round included a net eagle on

the 13th, and two net birdies on hole's two and 14. Though it wasn't enough to win her the first-place prize. There was a Nearest the Pin competition on the 14th hole, which was won by Hannah Alan. Hannah stuck it to an impressive two feet.



## LADIES PAIRS SCRAMBLE MATCHPLAY Wednesday 7th February 2024

Jumeirah Golf Estates hosted the Ladies Pairs Scramble Matchplay competition this week on the Earth Course, drawing a significant turnout of 20 ladies. They engaged in an intense battle over 18 holes of Matchplay, showcasing their skills and competitive spirit.

Congratulations to the victorious pair, Bettina Schrockenfuchs and Lisa Lynch, who clinched the win with an impressive gross score of 74. Their outstanding performance allowed them to triumph over their opponents by a commanding eight-up after 18 holes of intense Matchplay. Noteworthy were their gross birdies on holes 14, 15, and 18, showcasing their skill and determination.

Securing second place in the ladies' pairs scramble Matchplay competition were Jacqueline de Vries and Claudia Kilcullen. Their impressive performance saw them win their Matchplay by a commanding six-up after 18 holes of play. Highlighting their round were two remarkable gross twos on the challenging par three, fourth and 17th holes, showcasing their skill and ability to capitalize on key opportunities throughout the match. Jacqueline de Vries showcased her accuracy on the course by winning the Nearest the



Pin competition on hole six, hitting her shot to an impressive eight feet from the pin. This added to her and Claudia Kilcullen's successful outing in the Ladies' Pairs Scramble Matchplay competition.

## CURRY CLUB Thursday 8th February 2024

The popular weekly Curry Club at Jumeirah Golf Estates drew 34 players, including both Members and guests. The event, hosted on the Fire Course, featured a Pairs Scramble format, adding an exciting twist to the evening on the greens.

Ashley Peat and Claire Torr emerged victorious in the competition with an impressive score of (-6), posting a net 31. Their stellar performance included a total of six net birdies and no bogeys, demonstrating exceptional consistency and skill throughout their round.

Adam Hodgkins and Zak El-Taher secured the runners-up position, clinching victory on count back from third place. Their round featured a remarkable streak of four net birdies in a row to close out the front-nine. Jean Viollet and Paul Tomlinson secured the third-place position, narrowly missing out on second place via count back with their score of (-5), net 31.

Eirik Andresen emerged victorious in the Nearest the Pin competition on hole eight, showcasing precision with their shot. Meanwhile, Mathias Bottern claimed the Longest Drive title on hole five, demonstrating impressive distance off the tee.

The current Order of Merit standings:

- First: Bradley Webb (23 points)
- Second: Annabel Ayres (21 points)
- Third: Finlay Galloway (20 points)





## LADIES VALENTINE'S DAY PINK BALL SPECIAL

Wednesday 14th February 2024

The Valentine's Day Pink Ball Special at Jumeirah Golf Estates saw 18 ladies gather for the Lounge Spa event taking place on the Fire Course. The format of the day was a three-ball shambles, where each player teed off, and the team selected the best drive to proceed with. From there, each player played their own ball, taking turns using the designated pink ball, which carried double the points.

Congratulations to the winning team of Dilek Yildiz, Lisa Lynch, and Jane Vorster for their outstanding performance. Their total score of 131 points secured them a well-deserved victory, finishing seven points ahead of the competition.

Their round was highlighted by two exceptional 10-pointers on the fourth and



ninth holes. In second place was the team of Claudia Kilcullen, Martina Corr, and Anna Retha Rafferty with a total score of 123 points, they demonstrated excellent teamwork and skill throughout the round. Despite an unfortunate four-pointer on the 18th hole, they managed to accumulate

five nine-pointers, showcasing their consistency and determination. Lisa Lynch showcased her precision by clinching the Nearest the Pin title on the challenging hole eight during the Valentine's Day Pink Ball Special adding an extra touch of flair to her team's impressive performance.

## CURRY CLUB

Thursday 15th February 2024

This week's edition of Curry Club at Jumeirah Golf Estates drew 40 players, including both Members and guests. The event, hosted on the Fire Course, featured a Pairs Scramble format.

Kian Higgins and Mark Schoombie took the Curry Club crown by storm with their remarkable performance, boasting a net score of (-6), seven under par gross, during their round on the front nine of the Fire Course. Their stellar play, highlighted by five birdies and an eagle, propelled them to victory in impressive fashion. Louis Thorne and Eirik Andresen showcased their skill and consistency, securing an impressive (-5) score without any drop shots, earning them a well-deserved second place.

Meanwhile, Cavit Yildiz and Dilek Yildiz also posted a (-5) score, demonstrating their competitive edge, albeit narrowly missing out on second place due to count back.

The updated Order of Merit standings:

- First: Bradley Webb (23 points)
- Second: Lee Johnston (22 points)
- Third: Annabel Ayres (21 points)



## GENERATIONS DAY

Saturday 17th February 2024

Generations Day at Jumeirah Golf Estates brought together 64 players for a Member's event on the Earth Course. The format, a Pair Scramble, pitted two teams against each other. One comprised of Members above the age of 36, and the other of Members below that age threshold, with the winning team taking home the trophy.

The over 36's team secured a decisive victory, showcasing their collective skill with a combined score of (-48) for the day. In contrast, the under 35's team trailed behind, posting a combined score of (-32), resulting in a 16-shot deficit.

Gerhard Vorster and Jane Vorster, the husband-and-wife duo, clinched victory as the top-performing pair of the day. With a stellar score of (-12), their round featured a remarkable gross eagle on the challenging par five, 18th hole. Securing second place with a score of (-8) and representing the under 35 team, Kehar Narismulu and Rohan Gupta displayed their skill with five net birdies and two net eagles during their round. Finishing in third place with a commendable score of net 65 (-7) was the husband-and-wife duo of Alan Sheepwash and Teresa Sheepwash. Their round featured a notable gross birdie on the challenging par four, fifth hole.

On the course, two competitions added to the excitement. Matthew Stevenson showcased precision, winning the Nearest the Pin on hole four by landing his shot a mere six inches from the cup. Meanwhile, Alan Dobbins demonstrated his accuracy on hole 17, securing the Nearest the Pin prize with an impressive approach shot to just four feet from the pin.





# SUNDAY STROLLERS EXPLORE SOUTH AFRICA

In November, just before the DP Tour World Championship 16 of the Sunday Strollers' group at Jumeirah Golf Estates ventured down to South Africa for eight days of golf, outstanding food, and great company.

The group played six fantastic courses in Cape Town and the Winelands region including Arabella, Pearl Valley, Royal Cape and Milnerton, overlooked the whole round by Table Mountain.

The other two courses were equally enjoyed, Erinvale, with its stunning drops and views of the Helderberg Mountains and Clovelly in a small coastal town. The group did their very best to enjoy the local hospitality, with some stunning restaurants, a fabulous wine tasting at a well-known local vineyard and a last night dinner at the Cavelli Estate.



Sunday Strollers' Captain and tour organiser, Mark Schofield, summed the whole week up: "A highly enjoyable experience! It was great to be able to bring several of us together to share some great golfing moments and social times over the eight days.

The fact that we were unable to agree on which course was the best reflects the quality and variety of the courses we were able to play. I'm looking forward to next year's trip further down the Garden Route."



# EMIRATES GOLF CLUB'S VIKTOR ON THE RISE

Viktor Kofod-Olsen started his golfing career at Emirates Golf Club as a mere four-year-old and has spent the last 14 years honing his golfing skills around the Majlis & Faldo courses. He has played an integral part in the Emirates Golf Club Scratch League team for the past two years gaining valuable experience playing in high pressure scenarios.

Viktor has further enjoyed great golfing success over the past two years at Emirates Golf Club, winning the Men's Club Championship, Junior Club Championship and more recently being crowned the champion of the Hero Dubai Junior Desert Classic with fantastic rounds of 70 (-1) on the Faldo Course and a bogey free 69 (-3) on the Majlis Course for a total score of (-4).

Following his success in this year's Hero Dubai Junior Desert Classic, The Emirates Golf Federation extended an invitation to Viktor to participate in the Ras Al Khaimah Championships a DP World Tour Event, which allowed Viktor to gain key insights into what it takes to be a Tour professional.

He described the opportunity as: "It was a great experience for me and being able to play alongside the professionals was an amazing opportunity".

As is tradition at Emirates Golf Club, the winner of the Hero Dubai Desert Classic kindly donates a golf club for the wall of past champions in the main reception of the Golf Club, this year Rory McIlroy kindly donated a TaylorMade Lob Wedge with 60 Degrees of Loft, 8 Degrees of Bounce and a Project X Rifle Shaft with a 6.5 flex shaft, which Viktor deservingly displays.

We wish Viktor all the best for his future golfing aspirations.





## LADIES MONTHLY MEDAL BY PARK HYATT DUBAI

Wednesday 3rd January 2024

This month we were delighted to welcome our ladies to the first Ladies Monthly Medal of the season 2024, under the generous sponsorship of Park Hyatt Dubai.

Winning this month's Ladies Monthly Medal sponsored by Park Hyatt Dubai was Yulia Golubeva with a 71 (E). Congratulations, Yulia what a fantastic score!

Taking first place in Division A, with a score of 73, net (+2) was Shiba Wahid, and the Division B winner was MS Kim who scored a 73, net (+2).

## OMA EMIRATES MONTHLY MEDAL IN ASSOCIATION WITH CHRISTIE'S INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE DUBAI

Saturday 27th January 2024

The Dubai Creek Golf & Yacht Club hosted its first Monthly Medal tournament, but the strong winds made it a challenging day for the golfers. Despite the tough conditions, the event saw a good turnout of golfers who were eager to test their skills on the course.

As always, we would like to thank our fantastic sponsors OMA Emirates & Christie's International Real Estate Dubai for their continued support in our Monthly Medal Championship.

Winning round one of the 2024 OMA Emirates Monthly Medal with Christie's International Real Estate Dubai with a fantastic (-1), 70, was Soren Emil Dam, congratulations Soren! Taking the prize for best gross score was JP Fitzgerald (+4), 75.

In the Men's Division A, Edward Long took the prize with (-1), 70, Michael Nielsen finished second with (+1), 72. Aaron Stevenson took victory in the Men's Division B with an (E), 71. Shan Haq finished second with a score of (+4), 75.

The Ladies' Division was won by Samara D'Silva with a score of (+1), 71.

This season we introduced Medalford and Stableford category and the winner was Adonis Nars with 35 points and Max Blackmore finished in second place 34 points. Christie's International Real Estate Dubai sponsored all our Nearest the Pin prizes. On hole five was won by Scott Harrison, on hole eight was won by Adonis Nars, on hole 14 was won by Karl Shehfe and on hole 16 was won by Samara D'silva. Congratulations to all our winners, very well deserved!

## LADIES MONTHLY MEDAL BY PARK HYATT DUBAI

Wednesday 7th February 2024

This month we were delighted to welcome you to the first Ladies Monthly Medal of the season 2024, under the generous sponsorship of Park Hyatt Dubai. Winning this month's Medal sponsored by Park Hyatt Dubai, was Janet Kim with a 68 (-2). Congratulations, Janet what a fantastic score!

Taking first place in Division A, with a score of 75 net (+4), was Shiba Wahid, and the Division B winner was MS Kim who scored a 74 net (+3). We had two on-course prizes this week, rewarding the very best approach shots. These were won by Yulia Golubeva on the 5th hole and Yujung Seo on 14th hole.



## PING LADIES AMATEUR OPEN

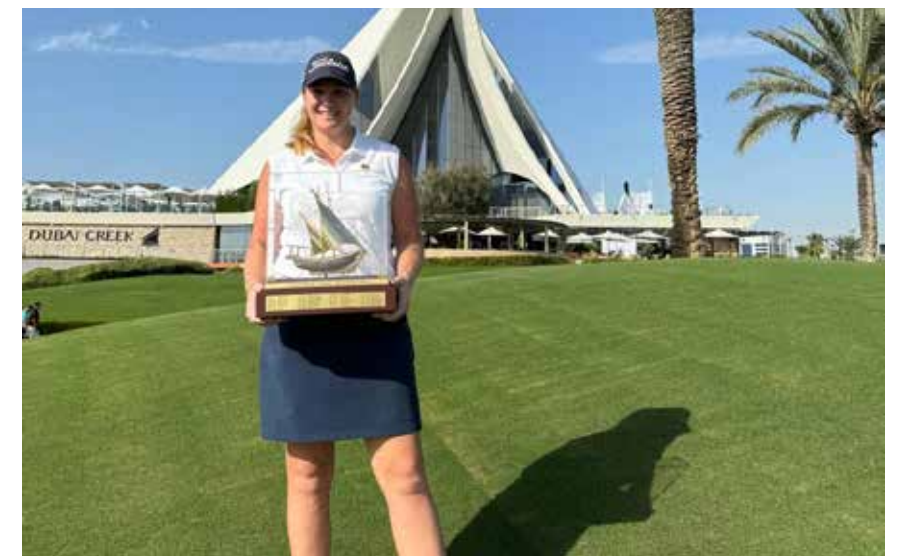
Saturday 17th February 2024

An unusually windy February day troubled our ladies as they headed out to compete for the 2024 edition of the PING Ladies Amateur Open. It was a resounding success, with 35 ladies participating in the event. And this was only made possible by the generous support of our sponsors PING.

Taking the winning spot was Aoife Kelly by winning on a one-hole playoff. The two players were in the playoff were Aoife Kelly and Lara el Chaib. Both players battled it through the 18 holes with two very good scores of 73 (+2), which made the decision of a playoff hole.

Winning the net category was Irum Kim with a score of (-3), 68, and in second place was Anca Pirvu with a score of (-2), 69.

We had two on-course prizes, rewarding the very best approach shots. The Nearest the Pin on hole eight was won by Janet Kim and Nearest the Pin on hole 14 was won by Hamda al Suwaidi.







## OMA EMIRATES MONTHLY MEDAL IN ASSOCIATION WITH CHRISTIE'S INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE DUBAI

Sunday 18th February 2024

The Dubai Creek Golf & Yacht Club hosted its second Monthly Medal tournament with the strong winds made it a challenging day for the golfers. Despite the tough conditions, the event saw a good turnout of players who were eager to test their skills on the golf course. As always, we would like to thank our fantastic sponsors OMA Emirates & Christie's International Real Estate Dubai for their continued support in our Monthly Medal Championship.

Winning round two of the 2024 OMA Emirates Monthly Medal with Christie's International Real Estate Dubai with a fantastic (E), 71, was Carlos Becke. Congratulations, Carlos! Taking the prize for best gross score was Obediah Ayton with a score of (+1), 72.

In the Men's Division A, Mark Hughes took the prize with (+1), 72. Imran Qayyum finished second with (+2), 73. Simon Stephens took victory in the Men's Division B with a (+1), 72. John Kartonchik finished second with a score of (+2), 73.

The Ladies Division was won by Jane Kim with a score of (+3), 74, and the Junior Division was won by Samara D'silva with a score of (+5), 76. This season we introduced Medalford and Stableford category and the winner was Ashok Ahuja with 34 points. Mark Williams finished in second place with 34 points as well.

Christie's International Real Estate Dubai sponsored all our Nearest the Pin prizes. Hole five was won by Ishwar Jodha, hole eight was won by Isabella Ricci, hole 14 was won by Angela Meng and hole 16 was won by Anish Bhatia.

Congratulations to all our winners, very well deserved!



## CAPTAINS DAY

Sunday 7th January 2024

Firstly, thank you to all our Members for attending the Captains Day at Yas Links Abu Dhabi. It is the traditional first event of the new year and a calendar highlight as one of the best supported Members events since Viya Golf has taken over the Club. It was a brilliant day as we inaugurated our new Club Captains for the 2024 season, Damien War and Dierdre Dudeney. Well done to our Captains' Drive Predictor winners, Tim Kennett who predicted Deirdie's drive at 115 yards, and Kathryn Carter who predicted Damien's drive at 254 yards.

### ON COURSE PRIZES

- Nearest the Pin | Hole 4: Tim Kennett
- Nearest the Pin | Hole 13: Joakim Thornqvist
- Beat the Captain | Hole 17: Nick Marriott

### RESULTS

- Winners: Damon Mitchell, Gavin Oosen, Rudy Rigoni, Joakim Thornqvist (114 points)
- Runners up: Mark Cox, Sonia Cox, Karl Bishop, Tim Kennett (110 points)



## OMA EMIRATES MONTHLY MEDAL

Saturday 10th February 2024

We had a Fantastic attendance of 43 players for the OMA Emirates Monthly Medal. The golf course was in great condition with some very tricky holes out on the links. Many thanks to all those that participated.

In the overall Net Division, receiving an AED 1,000 Proshop voucher with a winning score of net (+4), 68, was Mark Benn. In the overall Gross Division, winning an AED 750 Proshop voucher, a massive congratulations goes to Damon Mitchell with a winning score of (+1), 73 (BB9). Well done, Damon! In Category One (Handicap Index 7.0 and below), winning an AED 500 Proshop voucher as runner-up with a net score of (+1), 73, went to James

Cook. Winning first place went to Aart Lehmkuhlwith with a net score of (+1), 73 (BB9) securing an AED 750 Proshop voucher.

In Category Two (Handicap Index 7.1 and above), winning an AED 500 Proshop voucher was runner-up, Gavin Oosen, with a net score of (+2), 74. Winning Category Two and an AED 750 Proshop voucher was Eamonn Sullivan with a fantastic score of (+1), 73.

OMA Emirates provided a lucky draw prize where one random participant from the field received an AED 750 Proshop voucher. The winner of the lucky draw went to Richard Griffith.

## LADIES OPEN

Sunday 11th February 2024

We had an attendance of 23 players for the Yas Links Abu Dhabi Ladies Open, the first Ladies Open at the Club for five years. The golf course was in great condition with the wind making some very tricky holes out on the links.

Beginning with the Division B net results, with a score of (+1), 73, runner up place when to Yas Links Abu Dhabi Member, Lucy Woods, winning on count back. Winning Division B with a net score of (E), 72, was Yas Links Abu Dhabi Member, Natalie Storey. In the gross Division A, it was Els Club Dubai's Ananyaa Sood who took the runner-up title with a (+9), 81.

Winning the overall gross Division A title was Els Club's Jamie Camerotaking with the winning score of (+6), 78. Finally, winning the overall Yas Links Abu Dhabi Ladies Open was Lara El Chaib from Abu Dhabi Golf Club with an exceptional score of (-1), 71 to take home the trophy.



## FEBRUARY STABLEFORD

Sunday 18th February 2024

A total of 49 golfers took part in the Club's monthly event. The golf course presented its greatest challenge with strong winds and lightning-fast greens, testing the abilities of all participants. Within the on-course events and winning Nearest the Pin, on hole eight was Lucy Woods and Gavin Oosen on hole 17. Congratulations to both winners who took home an AED 150 voucher each to use at Crafty Fox Abu Dhabi. In Division One, where players played from the 70 tees, first place went to David Ross with a respectable

score of 35 points, taking home an AED 500 voucher to use at Crafty Fox Abu Dhabi. In Division Two, where golfers played from the 66 tees, first place went to Gavin Oosen with 39 points, winning an AED 800 voucher to use at Crafty Fox Abu Dhabi. In Division Three, where players played from the 62 and 54 tees, first place went to Sonia Cox with a fantastic score of 38 points on count back, winning an AED 500 voucher to use at Crafty Fox Abu Dhabi.

## PAIRS SHAMBLES

Saturday 20th January 2024

Yas Links Abu Dhabi hosted the Pairs Shambles event with 50 golfers competing on the Championship Course.

Damon Mitchel showcased his precision on hole 13 as he claimed the Nearest the Pin with an impressive shot that earned him a Titleist cap and towel.

Securing second place with a fantastic score of 47 points was the father-and-son duo of Ilya Sklyarov and Alex Sklyarov winning by a better back-nine. Both Ilya and Alex were awarded Yas Links Abu Dhabi embroidered Footjoy Athletic shirts.

However, claiming the top spot and crowned as the champions of the Pairs Shambles event were Eamonn Sullivan and Neale Carter. They posted an outstanding score of 47 points and secured the victory by virtue of a better back-six. Neale and Eamonn's triumphant performance earned them a Titleist SM9 Vokey Wedge each.

A heartfelt thank you to all participants for competing.



## JUNIOR OPEN

Sunday 4th February 2024

31 Juniors of different ages all competed at Yas Links Abu Dhabi in some incredibly difficult conditions. Many thanks to all that played, and we hope you enjoyed a true test of our links golf course.

Onto the results, starting with the winner of the Girl's Division with a great score of net (+7), 79. Congratulations to our Member, Erin Rotkvic. In the Boys Division B, ages 13 and below, the winner with a fantastic score of net (+2), 74, went to Els Club Dubai player, Oliver Timlin. Winning the Boys Division A, ages 14 and above, with a great score of net (+3), 73, went to Jumeirah Golf Estates' Member, Samarbir Singh Kochar.

Onto the overall Junior Open results which included a two-hole play-off to decide the winner. Well done to Jumeirah Golf Estates' player, Aayan Dadabhoy, who came runner up with a gross 74 to put himself into the play-off. Winning the play-off and named the Yas Links Abu Dhabi Junior Open champion was Emirates Golf Club's Aasiya Saleem. Aasiya won in great fashion with a birdie on the second play-off hole.

## MEN'S OPEN

Saturday 27th &amp; Sunday 28th January 2024

Despite tough conditions, thank you to all participants of the Men's Open and a massive shout out to our Agronomy team for their hard work to set up a well-conditioned golf course.

## ROUND ONE RESULTS

- Best Net: Nicolas Ferdonnet((+2), 74)
- Best Gross: Obadiyah Ayton ((+4), 74)

## OVERALL NET RESULTS

- Winner: Ben Alexander (69 & 75, 144)
- Runner Up: Ricus Lehmkuhl (76 & 69, 145)
- Third Place: James Griffith (72 & 74, 146)

## ROUND TWO RESULTS

- Best Net: Aengus Farrell ((-2), 70)
- Best Gross: Marcus Dutton ((-3), 69)

## OVERALL GROSS RESULTS

- Winner: Padraig Curry (74 & 72, 146)
- Runner Up: Nathan Seldon (71 & 76, 147)
- Third Place: Dan Byrne (77 & 72, 149)









# Elevate your Lifestyle at 1 Residences

Where Luxury Meets Elegance

Discover a state-of-the-art freehold community in the heart of Dubai at 1 Residences. With easy access to Sheikh Zayed Road, exquisite craftsmanship finishing and panoramic views of Zabeel Park, you'll enjoy the finest of living with limitless luxury.

**Exclusivities await you**

**Starting from AED 1.7m**  
**1-3 bedroom apartments**

-  Children's play areas
-  Swimming Pool
-  Gym
-  Retail outlets



Call now  
**800 9275**

**wasi**



## MEMBER'S MONTHLY MEDAL

Saturday 6th January 2024

Saadiyat Beach Golf Club hosted our first Member's Medal of the 2024 season proudly sponsored by OMA Emirates. The first round of the season showed some tough scoring in the wind and scoring for the day reflected this. Coming out on top with a score of net 72 was Eugenie El-Chayeb, and she was the only person to shoot their handicap. With a great back nine of 37, this allowed her to have a one-shot victory over Shawn Welgemoed who shot net 73.

### RESULTS

- Overall Winner: Eugenie El-Chayeb (net 72)
- Lowest Gross: Kevin Moore (gross 77)
- Division One Winner: Aarav Ganguly (net 76)
- Division One Runner-up: Philipp Klohr (net 77)
- Division Two Winner: Shawn Welgemoed (net 73)
- Division Two Runner-up: Subhash Bhatia (net 74)

## CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th February 2024

This year's Club Championship weekend unfortunately had extremely windy conditions across both days, with 40+ mph gusts from early in the morning. It was a challenging two days playing Medal format with the conditions. Despite the scores, there was some good golf played.

The Agronomy Team, led by Jackson Joseph, provided a fantastic surface for golfers to play off and really maintained a fair setup for Members in the event, given the conditions. Over the two days, the on-course events were sponsored by our Club Captains, Mark and Helene. There were Nearest the Pins and Nearest the Pins in Two for Saturday & Sunday:

- Round One | Nearest the Pin: Stephanie Bochet
- Round One | Nearest the Pin in Two: Garry Frost
- Round Two | Nearest the Pin: Eugenie El Chayeb
- Round Two | Nearest the Pin in Two: Barry Dwyer

For the event, prizes were given across the Men's & Ladies gross and net Divisions, with the main Club Championship played as Gross.

- Ladies Net Winner: Oksana Hess
- Men's Net Winner: Alem Selimovic
- Men's Net Runner-Up: Barry Dwyer

In the Ladies Gross Division with a score of (+18) across the two rounds (77, 85), the 2024 Ladies' Club Champion was Galyna Zagorodnia, her first Club Championship win!

The Men's Gross Division was closely contested throughout the 36 holes, with two players both tied on (+12) on the 18th tee on day two. Ron Berry narrowly missed out on winning the event with a final score of (+14). Kevin Moore, however, made a solid par on the last hole and become the 2024 Men's Club Champion with a score of (+12), (80, 76), his fifth Club Championship win!

## CAPTAINS' DAY

Sunday 14th January 2024

Our first major of the year welcomed our 2024 Club Captains Mark Slater and Helene Simmons to start their captaincies at the Club.

A fantastic turnout of 66 players for the Pairs Scramble event added a more pressure than normal on the first tee, while watching Mark & Helene start their year with a Captains' Drive. No first tee nerves for either player as they both hit their shots down the middle; Mark's ball reaching 273 yards down the fairway and Helene with 167 yards!

As the shotgun got underway, there were three on-course events to play for including Men's and Ladies Longest Drive as well as a Nearest the Pin on Hole 17. Shannon Moore and Iain Selkirk won the Ladies & Men's Longest Drives respectfully, and Christian Gartner took home the Nearest the Pin on the short par three.

The main event of the day saw a very tight leader board. In third place was the pair of Richard Croudson and Shawn Driedger with a score of 44 points. Also, with the same score but beating them on count back was Ron Berry and Shannon Moore. The winners, however, with a score of 45 points were Iain Selkirk & Kevin Moore. For 2024, the Vice Captains were also announced, Richard Croudson and Sandra Rochte, who will support the Men's & Ladies Club Captains throughout their Captaincies.

On behalf of everyone at the Club, we'd like to wish Mark and Helene all the best for their year as Club Captains!

## MEMBER'S MONTHLY MEDAL

Saturday 17th February 2024

February's Medal at Saadiyat Beach Golf Club sponsored by OMA Emirates produced excellent scoring. On a calm day, it allowed our runner-up of the 2024 Club Championship, Ron Berry, to continue his impressive form and shoot a two under par, 70 (net 67) having four birdies and an eagle on the par five, ninth hole, on his way to four-shot victory over Sue Partridge (net 71).

### RESULTS

- Overall Winner: Ron Berry (net 67)
- Lowest Gross: Kevin Moore (gross 76)
- Division One Winner: Jerome Martin (net 74)
- Division One Runner-up: Mark Slater (net 76)
- Division Two Winner: Sue Partridge (net 71)
- Division Two Runner-up: Barry Dwyer (net 72)





## MOVE OVER HOVLAND, THERE'S A NEW VIKTOR ON THE SCENE

Viktor Kofod Olsen of Denmark produced an impressive display to win the second edition of the Junior Dubai Desert Classic at the Emirates Golf Club.

The venue welcomed the sport's future stars, aged under 18, as they competed in the 36-hole tournament hosted by the Hero Dubai Desert Classic (HDDC) in collaboration with Emirates Golf Federation, just days before the 35th HDDC event.

The tournament attracted a competitive field with 54 boys and girls from countries including the UAE, France, India, Qatar and Sweden, who took to the famed Faldo and Majlis Courses over the two days

with Kofod Olsen coming out on top. The Danish golfer carded a score of Gross score of 140 (71 and 69) to clinch the trophy, enough to hold off Kartik Singh (144) and Mo Craig (147), who finished second and third place, respectively. The young golfers were presented with their prizes in a ceremony that was attended by Indian professional, Shubhankar Sharma, Simon Corkill, Executive Tournament Director of Hero Dubai Desert Classic, and Akram Skaik, Director General, Emirates Golf Federation.

As well as winning the trophy, Kofod Olsen won a Callaway Tour Custom Fit Experience, an invite to the Hero Dubai Desert Classic Star Player Demonstration, the Shubhankar Sharma Junior Invitational Final 2024 in India and entry to the Faldo Series Grand Final in Al Ain.

Speaking after his victory, Kofod Olsen, 17, said: "It was a great event and I particularly enjoyed playing the Majlis course a few days before the Hero Dubai Desert Classic. Overall, I'm really happy to have performed well. I had a triple-bogey yesterday which wasn't great but happy to have come back strongly and play well. I'll now be watching the Hero Dubai Desert Classic this week and looking forward to watching the top players in action."

The event provided an opportunity for the younger generation to experience what it is like to be a professional at an elite tournament with access to the courses, driving range, locker rooms and lounges at Emirates Golf Club.

Simon Corkill, Executive Tournament Director of the Hero Dubai Desert Classic, said: "The second edition of the Junior Dubai Desert Classic showcased the very best of the sport's future and it was fantastic to see the young golfers so determined to do well and raise their game competitively.

"We know opportunities are crucial to help develop golf's stars of tomorrow and we hope this year's tournament has been a great learning experience for them to take their game to the next level and become the best golfers they can be."

Credit: Golf Digest Middle East



## HISTORY-MAKER RORY MCILROY WINS FOURTH HERO DUBAI DESERT CLASSIC

Rory McIlroy won a record-breaking fourth Hero Dubai Desert Classic as he successfully defended his title on a dramatic afternoon at Emirates Golf Club. The Northern Irishman claimed a maiden Rolex Series crown at this event 12 months ago but came into the weekend ten shots back before a stunning third-round 63 put him into the final group on Sunday.

He then turned a two-shot deficit into a four-shot lead with six holes to play before a bogey on the 13th gave the chasing Adrian Meronk and Cameron Young a glimmer of hope. Pole Meronk cut the lead to one as he signed for a 71 but McIlroy held his nerve down the stretch and carded a 70 for a 14 under par total and a one-shot win.

American Young finished with a 74 to sit at 12 under, two shots clear of Canadian Aaron Cockerill, Spaniard Pablo Larrazábal and Chilean Joaquin Niemann. The win takes McIlroy past Ernie Els' hat-trick of Desert Classic victories and hands him his third Rolex Series triumph, having won three of the last five blue riband events.

He also becomes just the second player to successfully defend this title after Stephen Gallacher lifted the Dallah Trophy in 2013 and 2014 and makes it six wins in Dubai with his two victories at the DP World Tour Championship. The 34-year-old has started the defence of his Race to Dubai Rankings in Partnership with Rolex crown with a runner-up finish and a win as he looks to become Europe's Number One for a sixth time, moving to the top of the Rankings for the 2024 title and the International Swing.

"It's a great start to the season," he said. "I started well last year with the win here. A couple of little things still to work on but these weeks are great. You learn a ton from them and obviously great to get the competition and come out on top as well.

"I thought on Friday night, I thought ten under for the weekend, I would have a really good chance to win. I shot 11 and ended up winning by one.

"I've played the game long enough to sort of know how these things are going to go. Thankfully I played the golf I needed to and it's just incredible to get my fourth win here at the Emirates.

"The pivotal point for me came on the eighth and ninth hole - making two threes there, that sort of set me up to try to control it on the way in.

"I made that one blunder on 13 and made bogey there but felt like I steadied the ship well over the last few holes and it was one of those days where there wasn't a ton of fireworks just because the course was so difficult. I held on as best as I could and thankfully no one around the top of the leader board made much of a run."

McIlroy drove the 351-yard par-four second and got down in two to sit one behind overnight leader Young, with Meronk also moving to 13 under with the help of a stunning bunker shot on the par-five third.

Young missed a five-footer as he failed to get up and down from the sand on the fourth to make it a three-way tie but McIlroy would soon lead alone as his rivals faltered. Young had a stroke of bad luck as his drive at the sixth clipped a person down the side of the fairway and ended up next to a tree, causing him to play out left-handed and drop a shot, while Meronk chipped into the water on the seventh and made a double-bogey.

That left McIlroy one ahead and he put his foot down, holing a huge right-to-lefter from 31 feet at the eighth and a 16-foot putt on the ninth to lead by three at the turn. The advantage was briefly trimmed as Young got up and down from the sand at the par-five tenth but he missed the green at the next two holes and a pair of missed par putts from inside six feet put McIlroy four ahead.

Meronk had missed a short par putt after finding sand on the ninth but hit back with an up-and-down after another excellent bunker shot on the tenth and a two-putt birdie from the fringe at the 13th. Back down the par-five, McIlroy was in the trees after going a long way left off the tee and as he made a bogey, Meronk put an approach to four feet at the 14th and cut the lead to one.

It was back to two after Meronk found nasty rough with his first and second on the 16th, a hole where McIlroy made a brilliant par save after sending his drive into the waste area and Young holed a 25-footer to rejoin Meronk in second. Meronk then made a two-putt gain on the last and while that was not enough for the win, it did give him solo second as Young finished bogey-birdie, with McIlroy parring the last for the title with the minimum of fuss. Larrazábal carded the lowest round of the day with a 66, two shots fewer than Cockerill and four less than Niemann. Dane Nicolai Højgaard, Japan's Masahiro Kawamura, China's Li Haotong and Australian Adam Scott finished five shots off the lead.

Credit: DP World Tour





# TOMMY FLEETWOOD WINS DUBAI INVITATIONAL IN DRAMATIC FINISH

Tommy Fleetwood produced a stunning birdie-birdie finish to hold off the challenge of Rory McIlroy and Thriston Lawrence and win the Dubai Invitational. The Englishman entered the final day at Dubai Creek Resort with a one-shot lead and with McIlroy his nearest challenger, a mouthwatering head-to-head was in store.

While those around him produced fireworks, Fleetwood was a picture of consistency, but he dropped out of the lead for the first time with a bogey on the 16th. He was still one back on the 18th tee after he and McIlroy both birdied the penultimate hole but as the Northern Irishman found the water and made a bogey, Fleetwood holed from 16 feet for a 67, a 19 under total and a seventh DP World Tour title.

South African Lawrence finished alongside McIlroy at 18 under, two clear of England's Jordan Smith and three ahead of 2018 Open Champion Francesco Molinari. The victory is Fleetwood's third in the United Arab Emirates after claiming two wins in Abu Dhabi and follows a second-place finish at the 2023 season-ending DP World Tour Championship.

A first win since the 2022 Nedbank Golf Challenge also moves Fleetwood to the top of the International Swing Rankings, to fourth in the Race to Dubai Rankings in Partnership with Rolex and could take him as high as 11th in the Official World Golf Ranking.

"I'm very happy," said Dubai resident Fleetwood. "It was amazing winning. Like almost everybody else in the world of golf, I don't win anywhere near as much as I would like to but just that winning feeling great.

"This is obviously where I live and have a lot of support. It's great to kick off the year with a great result and push on from here.

"I feel like I've been saying for a long time that I've been doing a lot of really great things. I have amazing people that I'm working with, win, lose or draw today. Next week will be the same. We just crack on and we keep pushing forward and hopefully keep moving in the right direction.

"I was very happy with the way I played today for the large majority of the round, felt like I didn't hole some of the putts that I wanted to.

"I just stayed patient and kept playing. I knew I was playing very, very well, and even the last two holes, played 17 and 18 great."

Fleetwood and McIlroy both got up and down from the sand for a birdie on the drivable par-four third and while they missed out on the gettable next, Fleetwood hit a stunning tee-shot to six feet at the fifth, with McIlroy also making a gain from twice that distance. Fleetwood led by two after McIlroy found water on the sixth and a stunning bunker shot on the par-five tenth kept the leader ticking over but two birdies after the turn moved Lawrence into contention.

The 27-year-old had driven up to the front of the third and got up and down and then made a two-putt gain on the fourth before putting an approach to 11 feet at the sixth. A smart up-and-down brought another birdie on the tenth and a ten-footer on the 12th meant he was two back and we had a three-horse race.

McIlroy then launched a booming drive down the 11th and put his second to three feet to get back within two before holing from 30 feet on the 12th to sit in solo second.

Lawrence holed from 32 feet on the 14th to join the four-time Major Champion at 17 under but McIlroy birdied the 13th after a smart lay-up to join the lead, only to three-putt the 14th from two feet and leave Fleetwood alone at the summit.

McIlroy bounced straight back from 20 feet at the 15th and with Lawrence hitting a stunner into the 17th and holing from nine feet, there was a three-way tie. Lawrence parred the last to sign for a 64 and set the target at 18 under, with Fleetwood dropping out of the lead for the first time all day when he failed to get up and down on the 16th.

A stunning approach from McIlroy to five feet at the 17th piled on the pressure but Fleetwood holed from 30 feet and two birdies set the scene for late drama and a two-shot swing on the last. Smith made an eagle and four birdies in his 66, while Italian Molinari looked back to is very best, starting his round with four birdies and adding another five on the back nine in a 63. American Sean Crocker and in-form South African Zander Lombard finished at 14 under, two shots clear of Dane Thorbjørn Olesen and German Yannik Paul.

Credit: DP World Tour

# DYLAN FRITTELLI BACK IN THE WINNER'S CIRCLE IN BAHRAIN

Dylan Frittelli won his first DP World Tour title in six years with a two-shot triumph at the Bahrain Championship presented by Bapco Energies.

The South African started the final day at Royal Golf Club with a two-shot lead but was overtaken at the turn and two over for the day after 12 holes as a host of players staked a claim for the trophy. Frittelli is not a winner on the DP World, PGA and European Challenge Tours for nothing, though, and he made three birdies in four holes from the 13th, signing for a 71 and finishing at 13 under.

Countryman Zander Lombard and Swede Jesper Svensson were his nearest challengers after rounds of 68 and 70 respectively, two shots clear of another South African in Ockie Strydom and Frenchman Frederic Lacroix.

Frittelli enjoyed a fine amateur career, holing the winning putt as the University of Texas won the national collegiate championship in the United States in 2012. A Challenge Tour graduate in 2016, he won the LYONNESS OPEN powered by ORGANIC+ and the AfrAsia Bank Mauritius Open in 2017 before moving to the PGA TOUR and taking the title at the 2019 John Deere Classic.

After a difficult 2023 which left him contemplating his future, he said this week he was "invigorated" to be back on the DP World Tour after taking up a route for those who finished outside the top 125 on the FedExCup Fall Points List and he has now been rewarded with a first worldwide victory since the summer of 2019.

"It feels great, it feels awesome," said Frittelli, who missed the cut or withdrew from 23 of his 27 starts on the PGA TOUR last season. "It's been a long road the last five or six years since I left the DP World Tour and went to the States. It was a pretty tough year last year in America but it feels awesome to back on top right now.

"Last year I was in a couple of spots where I thought I was giving the game up to be honest and looking for something else.

"I found some resolve at the end of last year and got some good work from my physio and my coaches and trainers. I'm glad I persevered and all the support from family and friends has been well worth it."

He added: "I think it shows my mental toughness, it shows the focus I have and those things that you can't really quantify. I was swinging it great all week and then all of a sudden couldn't hit it on the planet on the Sunday round so I'm glad I managed to have the resolve."

Svensson started the day three shots off the lead but a 24-footer at the second and a lovely approach using the contours of the green at the fourth had him within one. Strydom recovered from a bogey on the fifth with an approach to 14 feet at the next and an excellent tee-shot on the seventh, and that had him in a three-way tie as Frittelli three-putted the par three. Svensson and Strydom then both took advantage of the par-five ninth - Svensson finding the green in two and Strydom holing a 21-footer to get up and down - but the 39-year-old bogeyed the tenth and 11th to fall back.

Svensson also dropped a shot on the 11th after sending his tee-shot right but Frittelli missed the green on the 12th to leave him alone at the top. At that point Frittelli was in a four-way tie one shot off the lead but it was soon a three-man group as Lombard moved to the summit. After a bogey on the first, the 29-year-old birdied the third after laying up, put an approach to 11 feet at the fifth and got up and down on the ninth.

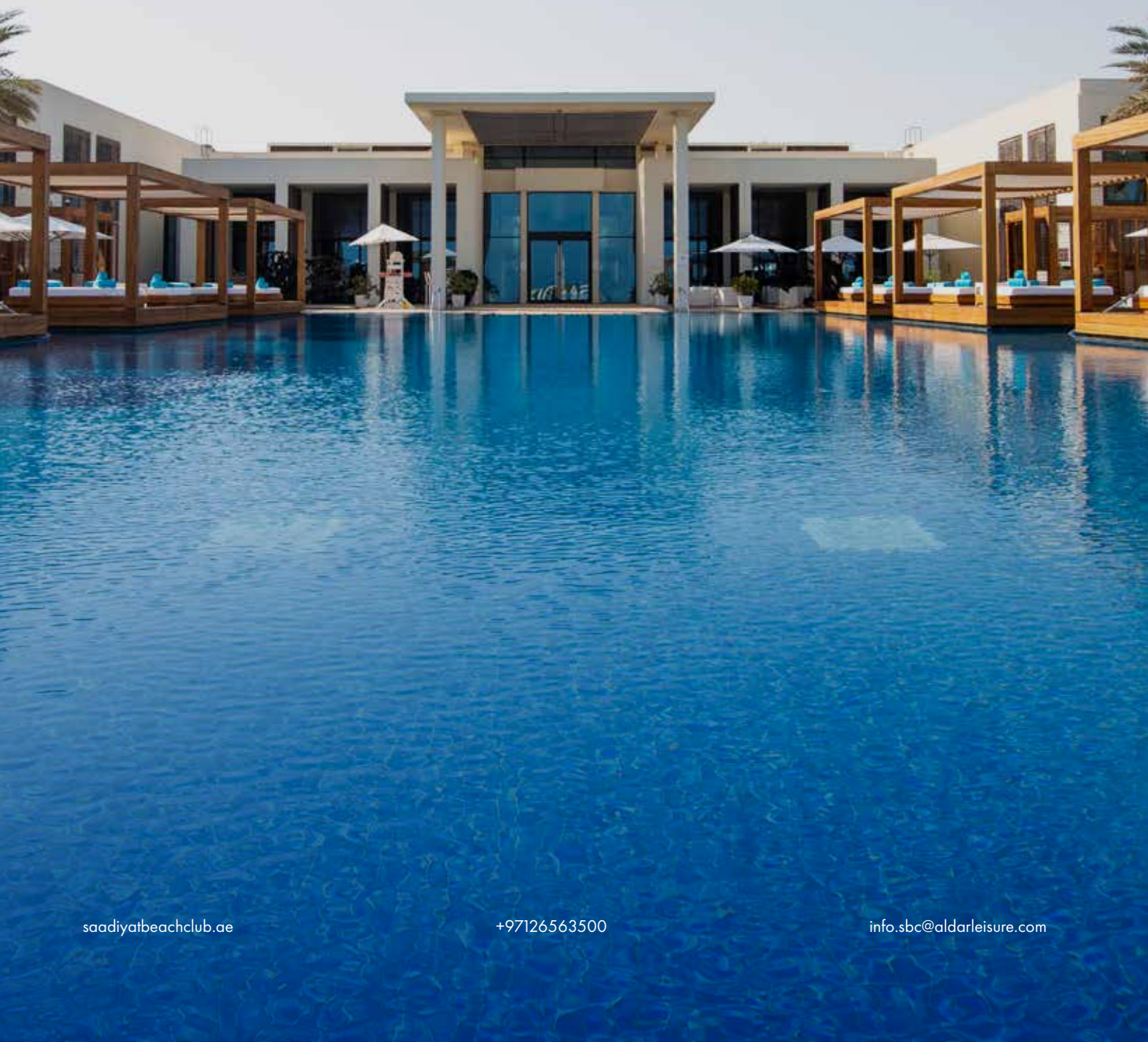
A tee-shot to tap-in range on the 12th had him in double figures and two putts on the 14th had him on top but Svensson made a two-putt gain of his own on the 13th to edge back ahead. A three-putt from over 80 feet on the 15th dropped Lombard two back and Frittelli was once again the nearest challenger after a smart up and down on the 13th.

Svensson then made an awful mess of the 14th, going from waste area to sand to a tricky lie as he dropped a shot, handing the lead back to Frittelli who made a two-putt gain after a 398-yard tee-shot. A 42-foot putt on the 16th moved Frittelli two ahead and while Lombard birdied the 17th from eight feet, he had to settle for a seventh DP World Tour runner-up finish as the leader held his nerve. Strydom bogeyed the 15th on his way home in a 73, while Lacroix had a birdie-birdie finish in his 70. Canadian Aaron Cockerill and Swede Sebastian Söderberg finished at eight under, a shot clear of Danes Rasmus Højgaard and Niklas Nørgaard, Swiss Joel Gierbach and Frenchman Julien Guerrier.





# SAADIYAT BEACH CLUB



saadiyatbeachclub.ae

+97126563500

info.sbc@aldarleisure.com

## EXPERIENCE SAADIYAT BEACH CLUB



Built on a 39,500 square meter site along the shores of the Arabian Gulf, Saadiyat Beach Club is no ordinary venue. Here, you have everything in place to enjoy an exclusive and relaxing time on the beach front.

Set amid glorious natural surroundings, this lifestyle venue boasts a truly exceptional location, with an infinity pool and a variety of amenities including private cabanas, spa services, contemporary dining, and private beach access.

Situated in a protected area of the beach that has been certified Blue Flag since 2013, guests can walk, swim, relax and make everlasting memories. If you're lucky, you may see some dolphins playing in the bay, or even catch a glimpse of Hawksbill turtles on the shore.

Saadiyat Beach Club offers its guests numerous world-class facilities including a 650 square meter outdoor infinity pool, pool bar, library, gym and spa, sauna and steam rooms, private poolside cabanas and sun loungers on the beach for exclusive use.





# EXPLORE THE NEWEST ADDITIONS TO **viya**

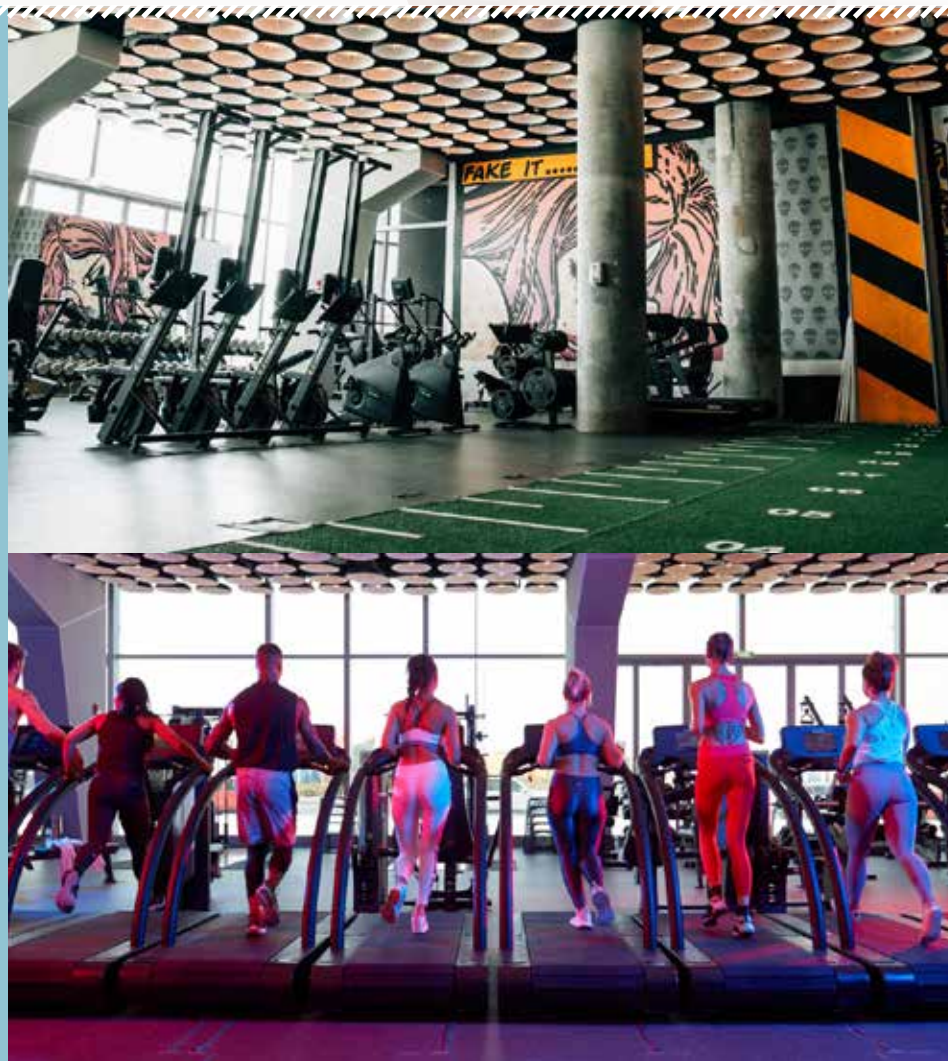
**NIKKI BEACH** Experience a taste of luxury and earn up to 10% back at Nikki Beach, now on Viya. Viya Access Members can enjoy complimentary access to the pool, gym & beach facilities on the waterside property, as well as 20% off spa treatments for those days when you need to unwind and relax!

## WAREHOUSE GYM

Warehouse Gym, now available at nine convenient locations across the city! Experience cutting-edge fitness at modern facilities designed to inspire.

Whether you're into strength training, cardio, or group classes, Warehouse Gym offers a variety of workouts to suit all enthusiasts. Benefit from expert guidance with personalized plans from passionate trainers. Immerse yourself in a vibrant fitness community at Warehouse Gym's locations, including Yas Bay, Ibn Battuta, Al Quoz, Business Bay, Design District, DIFC, Jumeirah Park, Al Khawaneej, and Springs Souk.

Gain unlimited entry to these Warehouse Gym facilities and much more with Viya Access!

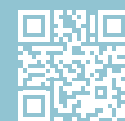


## VIYA PADEL

Discover Padel, the dynamic blend of tennis and squash. Book your court across five premium Clubs with just a few taps on the Viya App.

What's more, you'll also earn 10% back on every booking!

**SOUTHERN SUN ABU DHABI** now on Viya, there's something exciting happening every night of the week. From Cheese & Grape Nights on Wednesdays to Japanese Theme Nights on Thursdays, and a seafood extravaganza on Fridays. Don't miss out on the perfect Saturday Garden Brunch and the vibrant atmosphere every night!



**viya** ACCESS  
LIVE THE FIVE STAR LIFE WITH OUR  
UNMISSABLE LIFESTYLE & LEISURE PASS!



THE UAE'S MOST REWARDING LOYALTY APP  
DOWNLOAD TODAY





# رمضان كريم

## RAMADAN KAREEM

During the sacred month of Ramadan, let us embrace the spirit of togetherness as we fast, reflect, and strengthen our bonds with loved ones and community. May this auspicious time be filled with unity, compassion, and blessings for all

