

TANZANIA

Royal Golf

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SPECIAL EDITION



**GOLF COURSE
FOR CAPITAL
CITY READY
BY 2026**

**LINA PG TOUR,
A BIG FORTUNE TO
PRO-AM GOLFERS**

**HOW SOON ROYAL
TOUR TURNS
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**SEE THE BEST OF
WAITARA TROPHY
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**BUNGE TEAM
SET TO 'RULE'
EALA GAMES**

SAMIA
**ELEVATES SPORTS TO
GREATER HEIGHTS**



Golfers to brush shoulders with Serengeti Migration

By ADAM IHUCHA

TANZANIA National Parks (TANAPA) is making a major foray into sports tourism by investing multi-million dollars in developing a state-of-the-art golf course, as it seeks to unlock the hidden potential for leisure travel.

Tanzania Conservation Agency is putting up a world-class golf course besides Africa and the world's finest national park

The Acting Conservation Commissioner for TANAPA, Juma Kuji says the construction of the world-class golf course at its flagship national park, is currently underway, as part of his agency initiatives to hook a slice of sports tourism with its market value projected to hit 1,803.70 Bn US dollars by 2030.

Commissioner Kuji says a strategic golf course, a brainchild of the TANAPA Board of Trustees under the chairmanship of General (rtd) George Waitara is being constructed near Serengeti — the world's renowned and Africa's best national park.

"TANAPA Board of Trustees came up with the idea of having the golf course in 2019 as a new tourism product not only to woo more tourists but also to extend the tourist's length of stay in our country" Kuji explains.

The Serengeti National Park's golf course project bankrolled by the TANAPA Investment Limited, a commercial wing of the conservation agency, at the tune of \$3.8 million, or Sh 9.5 billion, is expected to be completed by the end of 2024 should the cash flow remain constant.

The TANAPA Investment Limited, a newly established subsidiary company with top-notch professionals in different fields, will be undertaking all projects involving the country's national parks and beyond as part of the conservation agency's strategy for diversifying its revenue sources.

The Chief Executive Officer for TANAPA Investment Limited, Assistant Conservation

Commissioner and consulting Engineer, Dr. Richard Matolo says Environmental Impact Consideration, feasibility study, and business plan have concluded that the Serengeti National Park's golf course ticks all the boxes as a viable project.

The Serengeti golf course with 18 holes is being constructed within 400 acres at Fort Ikoma, an area that serves as a buffer zone for the Serengeti District and the Serengeti National Park, which will be among the world's few golf courses within or near national parks.

"The facility has been designed to have front nine that usually consist of holes 1 to 9 and back nine that normally comprise 9 to 18 holes on a standard international 18-hole golf course layout" Dr. Matolo explains.

Layout details show that the Serengeti golf course will have a total of 7.065km long comprising 3.528 km for front nines and 3.357 km for back nine holes.

The golf course is further

designed to be a par 72 consisting, Dr. Matolo notes

"The golf course will not only be unique because of Serengeti being Africa's best destination, but because the design of the holes was done strategically to add individual quality that is exceptional compared to other holes in the World's gold courses" he explains.

Indeed, most golf holes are doglegs to be more competitive to golf players.

The facility will also accommodate a range hole, a modern and well-designed clubhouse together with high-class sleeping cottages for golf players.

Billed to be one of the world's exclusive and highly competitive golf courses with an array of challenging features such as hazards, hurdles, sand bankers, water ponds, water streams, and bridge-like structures, to mention but a few.

Dr. Matolo says that the Serengeti golf course promises the ultimate African golfing experience, where golfers share fairways with giraffes, zebras, impalas, and monkeys while viewing a bigger game behind the park.

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Time to enjoy black rhinos' games at Mkomazi National Park



By SPECIAL REPORTER

YOU might have visited some Tanzanian national parks and experienced a diverse range of tourism activities, what about nature's most solitary national park?

Mkomazi National Park abounds with unspoiled nature and is less trodden, with diverse activities awaiting to be explored, ranging from game drives to walking safaris, night game drives, and rhino viewing.

Visiting Mkomazi is tantamount to having your park to indulge yourself in.

With an area of 2,345 square kilometres, Mkomazi, one of 21 national parks Tanzania is endowed with, is credited for harbouring black rhinos.

The national park has a magnificent scenery of mountain ranges. Even Mount Kilimanjaro can easily be seen from some of its places.

Remarkably perched in northeastern Tanzania's Same township, Mkomazi National Park provides visitors relentlessly seeking leisure vacations with an unforgettable experience.

Driving barely 206 kilometres east of the bustling city of Arusha, off the Dar Es Salaam-Arusha Highway,



an incredible adventure is in store for visitors to the country's seventh-largest national park.

Towering peaks, scattered majestic grasslands, and thorn bushes teamed with a high diversity of wildlife offer an ultimate safari experience.

Mkomazi is home to a variety of wild animals, including the big five, namely buffalos, lions, leopards, elephants, and rhinos.

The little big five, namely the leopard tortoise, lion ant, rhino beetle, buffalo weaver, and elephant shrew also inhabit Mkomazi.

Black rhino, lesser kudu, fringe-eared oryx, vulturine guinea fowl, and gerenuk are Mkomazi's five special inhabitants.

Moreover, a visitor should not plan to miss Mkomazi mischievous zebras codename Zebedayo and Farisayo in the Mbula Rhino project.

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During a round of 18, golfers are likely to encounter aquatic life at various watering holes, while majestic, yet inquisitive giraffe, zebra, and cheetah nonchalantly observe their swing from their unique vantage points.

“For those who crave a world-class golf course and the ultimate leisure in breathtaking landscapes and awe-inspiring wildlife, then the Serengeti golf course could soon be their destination,” Dr. Matolo reveals.

“At the Serengeti golf course they will enjoy fresh air, birds singing, awe-inspiring wildlife migration, breathtaking landscapes, peace and tranquility that we all crave,” the TANAPA Investment Limited CEO says.

Scenery

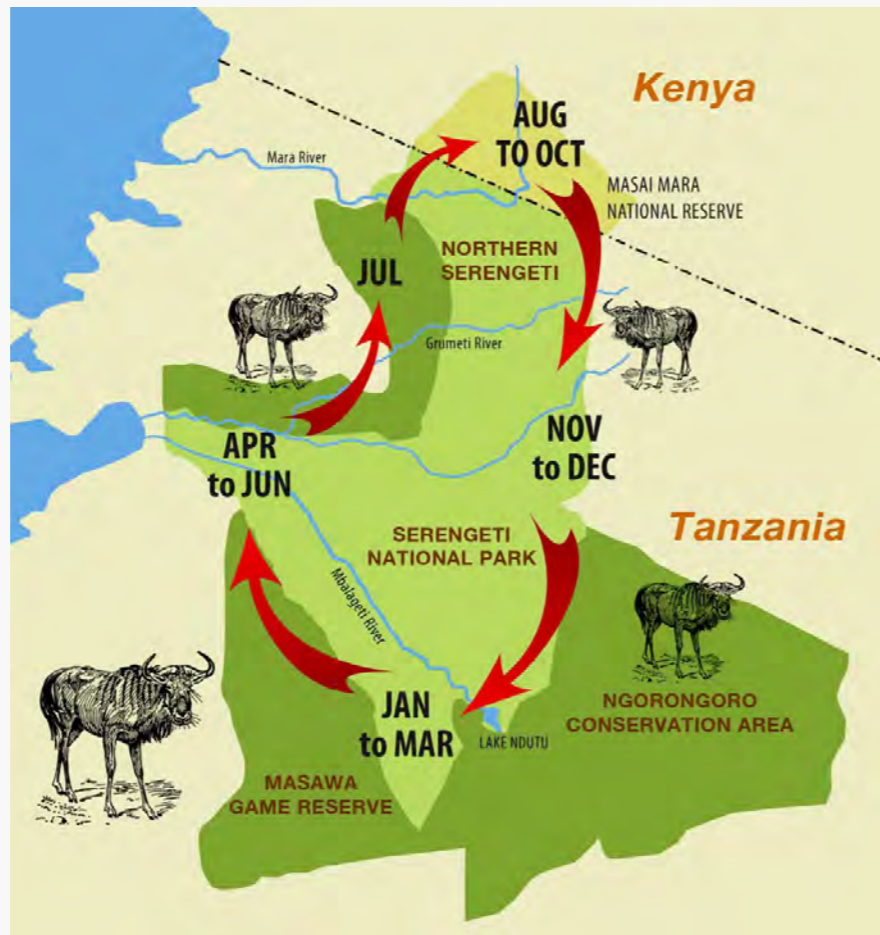
Being built at the Fort Ikoma situated on top of the most easterly of a series of low hills about one mile north of the Grumeti River, the golf course will offer a stunning view of the wildlife grazing and elite sporting under one roof.

Laying the foundation stone, the TANAPA Board Chairman, retired General George Marwa Waitara, said the proposed ultra-modern Serengeti National Park's golf course is part of the nation's comprehensive strategy for diversify its mainstream tourism products as it seeks to boost tourist numbers, extend length of stay and revenue.

The business plan shows that the golf course would attract around 3,000 global golfers annually, who in turn, will leave behind an average of \$857,632.93 and leapfrog other economic sectors with substantial multiplier effects to a critical mass of poor people around.

General Waitara believes the new tourism product will complement efforts by the government under President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan in stimulating tourism growth to achieve five million tourists and 6.6bn US Dollars earnings in 2025.

Analysts say the new tourism product would be a major boost to the tourism industry, as it will capture the growing market segment of tourists



who look beyond wildlife, mountains, and beaches.

The Chairman of Tanzania Golf Union, Mr. Gilman Kasiga, welcomed the Serengeti National Park's golf course project, appreciating TANAPA Investment Ltd, for the great innovation, saying the recreational facility would go a long way in spurring sports tourism in the country.

The United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) says tourism and sports are interrelated and complement each other. Sports – as a professional, amateur, or leisure activity – involves a considerable amount of traveling to play and compete in different destinations and countries.

Sports events of various kinds and sizes attract tourists as participants or spectators, prompting destinations to try to add flavours to them to distinguish themselves and provide authentic local experiences.

As per the Allied Market Research

report, titled Sports Tourism Market by Product, the global sports tourism industry was pegged at 323.42bn US dollars in 2020 and is expected to reach 1,803.70bn US dollars by 2030, growing



at an annual growth rate (CAGR) of 16.1 percent between 2021 and 2030.

Serengeti National Park is undoubtedly the best-known wildlife sanctuary in the world, unequalled for its natural beauty and scientific value, it has the greatest concentration of plains game in Africa.

The planet's remaining largest wildlife migration with an annual loop of two million wildebeest across the Serengeti and the Maasai Mara Reserve is a key tourist allure, generating multi-million dollars annually.

Nearly 700,000 tourists who visit the legendary Tanzania northern tourist circuit annually explore the Serengeti and are fascinated by its millions of wildebeest each, driven by the same ancient rhythm, fulfilling their instinctive role in the inescapable cycle of life.

From the sprawling Serengeti plains to the champagne-colored hills of Masai Mara, over 1.4 million wildebeests, 200,000 zebra, and gazelle, relentlessly tracked by Africa's great predators, migrate in a clockwise fashion over 1,800 miles each year in search for rain-ripened grass.

There is no real beginning or end to the wildebeest's journey. Its life is an endless pilgrimage, a constant search for food and water. The only beginning is at the moment of birth.

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Zebedayo is the oldest, yet naughty; while Farisayo is the youngest, but calm.

Mkomazi is a birdlife belt, harbouring more than 450 bird species, including the globally important ones such as the endangered secretary or Sagittarius serpentarius as it is known scientifically, global migratory (EurAsia) species and the rare ground species such as vultures guinea fowls.

Some places of the undulating mountains and grassland provide every Mkomazi visitor with a breathtaking bird's eye view, including beautiful sights of colourful butterflies during wet seasons.

While visiting Mkomazi, nothing should distract a visitor from sampling the rhino product to discover a depth of experience and astonishingly reveal Mkomazi.

Rhino tracking is an amazing, fascinating and superb wildlife experience, as it allows a visitor to see black rhinos at a close range in their play yard.

Mkomazi hosts two rhino projects whose activities offer an ultimate tourism experience, including seeing rhinos making noises as they communicate, rolling in the mud to protect themselves from insect bites, and cooling themselves down.

Usually, male rhinos are called bulls, females are called cows and the young ones are calves. The female and male calves energetically explore the vastness of Mkomazi as they wait for their names from visitors.

Most gifts do not last long, a flower withers within a blink of an eye. What gift can hoist up your loved one's mood and brighten her day then?

Try rhino naming, it perfectly expresses your inner feelings to the recipient of your gift, be it an intense love or simply gratitude.

Naming a rhino is an eccentric way of both honouring your loved one and supporting the conservation of black rhinos.

The name lasting for the entire black rhino's lifetime is, indeed, a gift well thought out for a visitor's loved one.

As we speak, Mkomazi has one female black rhino aged three years ready for adoption. She was reared at the Kisima Rhino Project and named after the project.

Her mom died when she was three months old. Kisima Rhino Project did all that it took to ensure the orphan grew to its full potential. She is now ready to be rewilded.

The doors are open for an interested visitor to participate in the rewilding of the rhino through a rhino capture operation.

By tourist visiting Mkomazi National Park directly support the conservation of the endangered black rhinos.

All it takes a tourist to let black rhinos live is coughing up \$200 for non residents and expatriates, At the same time, residents pay 200,000/-, to view them at Kisima or \$30 for non residents and expatriates as the resident's fee is 11,800/-, at Mbula.

With \$1,000, equivalent to about 2.5m/-on, a tourist participates in the rhino capture operation; 2,000 US dollars, equivalent to about 5m/-, in rhino adoption; and 5,000 US dollars for non residents and expatriates, and 1.25m/- for residents in naming a rhino.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Let's Take Sports Tourism to Next Level

ONCE again, we cordially invite our dear readers, golf enthusiasts and sports-loving families to our second edition of the Royal Golf Magazine. Our primary goal is to recognise and honour the remarkable individuals who have played a pivotal role in elevating Tanzania's status in sports tourism. Through their unwavering dedication and contributions, they have helped showcase the beauty of our nation to the world.

During Samia Suluhu Hassan's presidency, our country has experienced rapid growth in sports tourism. The business community, sports stakeholders and our legislators, whether individually or through the Bunge Sports Club, have all made significant contributions to this development.

Individuals such as Dr Tulia Ackson, the National Assembly Speaker, Dr Damas Ndumbaro, Sports Minister and Abas Tarimba, Bunge team's secretary, have been instrumental in Bunge team's sports innovation.

It's worth mentioning that the period from 2021 to 2024 was a remarkable season for sports in Tanzania and this success sets the stage for even greater achievements in the 2024/25 season.

But, to achieve more than what we have achieved in these three years, an increase in investment volume is very essential in the entire sector.

The increase in budget for the upcoming season will see improvements, including the construction and rehabilitation of sports facilities as well as the development of sports arenas. We believe that Tanzania will experience a significant leap in the field of sports in the coming season.

The sports sector is looking forward to the construction and renovation of sports arenas to create a favourable

environment for hosting the 2027 AFCON if the bid is successful.

But we should not let the government bear all the burden; the support of private firms and other stakeholders is needed to drive sports forward.

We believe that with combined efforts, Tanzania will undergo significant changes in the 2023/24 season. We anticipate increased investment, promotion and commitment in major football leagues, athletic events and court sports, as well as within the arts and cultural sectors.

With a superior budget, we expect the level of sportsmanship in the coming season to skyrocket as we will be producing quality athletes of global-level calibre.

We believe that the upcoming season will be even better based on the growth we have seen in our major football leagues. Teams can now build competitive squads by developing local talents and importing skilled players who can make a positive impact in the CAF Champions League (CAF CL) and CAF Confederation Cup.

We are emphasising the importance of commitment from everyone involved in sports to work hard. This commitment is necessary for the three sectors to achieve their goals. We believe that with dedication, extra effort and cooperation, we can reach the level of professionalism that is required in today's era.

Teams and athletes who excelled in the last season deserve mention. With increased investment and motivation, Tanzania's sports excellence will reach global heights.

We earnestly implore all Tanzanians to rally behind the government's efforts and actively invest in various sports disciplines. By doing so, we not only promote physical well-being but also create employment opportunities for our vibrant Tanzanian youth.

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Unwavering support and collaboration have been instrumental in the success of our inaugural magazine. We deeply appreciate your trust and partnership!



Samia

elevates sports to greater heights

By BERNARD BENSON



“WE play with them and not against them because they are our playmates as we are together classed as champions,” most of Young Africans fans have been quoted as saying before their team facing Mamelodi Sundowns from South Africa.

Yanga’s Head of Communication added: “We don’t fear Mamelodi Sundown because are fully winged to face anyone.”

The same sentiment has been echoed by Simba ahead of their team’s quarter-final games of the CAF Champions League against Al Ahly of Egypt.

“We are used to playing with them and meeting them regularly,” said a rabid Simba fan in Dar es Salaam two days before Simba hosted Al Ahly at Benjamin Mapa Stadium.

Three years under Samia’s captaincy have been remarkable and the impressive run of Tanzania’s football giants in the continental level club championship has heightened Tanzanian football and now playing against or with the African football giants is no longer a strange thing as opposed to a situation in a few past decades.

Tanzania seems to enjoy good sporting environments under President Samia Suluhu Hassan and seeing the Tanzanian teams placed in the gallery of greats alongside Al Ahly or Mamelodi Sundown, is a clear indication that professionalism has hit a sky-high success.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan continues to play a fundamental role in uplifting sports standards in the country as tremendous projects and success stories have been and are being stamped in her three-year leadership.

The massive investment made to promote sports infrastructure across the country is commendable bearing in mind that having proper and healthy infrastructure is key to sports

prosperity.

Various sporting disciplines have flourished during President Samia’s three years in office, a feat she celebrated recently and she is always on the frontline in spearheading the development of this broad industry that absorbs many people.

Just recently, President Samia led Tanzanians in a fundraising exercise for the national teams as one way to help the envoys do well in various competitions they are exposed to.

“Development of sports sector is the responsibility of government and all Tanzanians...as government, we are doing a lot to elevate this sector and most of our teams are doing well though we fail to finish at a good pace.

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President Samia Suluhu Hassan continues to play a fundamental role in uplifting sports standards in the country as tremendous projects and success stories have been and are being stamped in her three-year leadership.



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“Sports is expensive...to the side of government, we have played our part and due to minimal budget, we request you to render a helping hand and support our teams so that they can compete and not participate,” she said in a phone call made by Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa who represented her at the fundraising ceremony held at Johari Rotana Hotel in Dar es Salaam on January 10th, 2024.

President Samia opened the donation exercise by pumping in 500m/- on the day and recently, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry for Culture, Arts and Sports Gerson Msigwa revealed that over 4bn/- have been raised as the exercise whose proceeds are being channeled to support the national flag bearers when preparing for major competitions continues.

In terms of football, there are plenty of achievements that the country enjoys which have come courtesy of her seriousness in advancing the sports industry and a detailed one-minute clip prepared lately by the Director of Presidential Communication Zuhura Yunus clarified some of the key achievements stamped under President Samia.

The first item to be acknowledged in the clip is the success achieved in hosting the much-awaited 2027 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) finals to be jointly hosted by Tanzania, Kenya, and Uganda.

It was followed by the feat stamped by senior football team Taifa Stars who competed at the 2023 AFCON finals staged in Ivory Coast in January 2024, and the qualification of senior football women's team Twiga Stars into CAF Women's Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON) finals to be held this year in Morocco.

Also, the success made by national flag bearers Serengeti Girls who qualified for the 2022 FIFA Under-17 women's World Cup finals played in India and reached the quarterfinals not forgetting Magdalena Shauli who won Bronze Medal after finishing third at the BMW Berlin Marathon in 2023.

Similarly, Yunus's clip acknowledged Tanzanian runner Alphonse Simba who scooped second place in the Shanghai Marathon, China while in Boxing, Yusuph Changalawe was hailed for



President Samia Suluhu Hassan, receives a pair of jerseys from the former Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports Ambassador Pindi Chana, when handing over a letter of a request for Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda to co-host the AFCON finals in 2027, The handing over occasion was held at the Chamwino State House in Dodoma on May 24th last year.

winning the Silver medal in the 2023 Africa Boxing Olympic Qualifiers.

In promoting the Kiswahili language, President Samia has been appreciated for establishing eight centres through Tanzania embassies outside the country totaling 16 Kiswahili learning centres.

Again, the clip recognized President Samia for the Culture and Arts Fund which has so far supported 113 projects worth 2.39bn/- that benefited 230,685 artistes.

Also, under President Samia, the country witnessed Young Africans going all the way to the finals of the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup (CAF CC) where they lost to USM Alger on away goals rule after a 2-2 aggregate draw in both legs.

Again, Samia has seen Simba and Yanga for the first time qualifying for the group stage and quarter-finals of the CAF Champions League (CAF CL) a feat that has never happened before.

She was instrumental in this recording-making achievement as she used to offer goal scoring motivation package by buying each goal scored in the group stage for 5m/- and beyond the group stage for 10m/-.

In golf, there are also a lot of achievements stamped under the

three years of President Samia in office including the successes recorded by the Ladies Golf Team in various contests last year.

For instance, the National Ladies Golf team clinched the East and Central All Africa Challenge Trophy in Kigali, Rwanda.

At the individual level, Madina Iddi won the Ghana Ladies Open and Kenya Ladies Open, Vicky Elias won her first major title at the Tanzania Ladies Golf Open and they scooped second place in the Uganda Ladies Open a status that hyped the team's standards.

In terms of golf infrastructures, Dodoma is pegged to have a modern golf course that will help to give the capital city a new look and support the golfing community living in the city.

Also, outside Serengeti National Park, another top-class golf course is under construction that will likely spur tourism growth bearing in mind that most tourists will be interested to take a tee-off before or after admiring the beautiful park.

All these are some of the success stories enjoyed under the three-year tenure of President Samia and 2024 has already promised to be a prosperous year in sports.



Ayne Magombe



Dar Gymkhana Club Captain Fred Laizer hands over prize to Maryanne Mugo.



Dar Golfers at joyous mood.

Senior golfer and the former Morogoro Gymkhana Club chairman Collins Higgins (right), golfer Mosi Makau and Vincent Gallo take a souvenir photograph during one of the recent club tournaments.



Lugalo Chairman Michael Luwongo.

Kitrida Shah



The Breakfast Group Memorial Tournament held on March 17th this year at the Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) Lugalo Golf Club awarded winners of the different categories. The event was aimed to commemorate the legacy of two great golfers; the late Ali Mufuruki and University of Dar es Salaam Professor, the late Dr Mohabe Nyirabu.



Said Nkya

Lina PG Tour, a big fortune to Pro-Am golfers

By ROYAL GOLF REPORTER

SUDDEN-DEATH may look scary to non golfers, but to the golf family it is just a hard-earned score. It was the sudden-death that heralded the beauty of the first round showdown of the Lina Nkya Golf Tour, the newly formed golf innovation that heads to cover five golf courses countrywide.

It was the sudden-death playoff that made Nuru Mollel of Arusha the winner of the first round of the recently introduced Lina Nkya Golf Tour

Staged at TPC Club in Moshi, Kilimanjaro region Lina Nkya Tour is the unique Professional and Amateur Golf (Pro-Am Showdown) that saw Mollel emerging as the overall winner in a sudden-death playoff against his closest challenger Fadhili Nkya.

The 72-hole strokeplay tournament, organised by the Saidi Nkya family in collaboration with Tanzania Ladies Golf Union (TLGU), is exclusively for Tanzanian professionals and amateur golfers.

The tournament has been introduced as part of activities to remember the late Lina Saidi Nkya, who passed away on January 19, 2021, in Moshi. The late Lina was a golf player and a leader at national and club levels.

The event was forced to go into a sudden-death playoff, where Mollel went on to sink a birdie at the par 4-hole no. 18 to claim the 6.8m/- prize money that senior golfer Saidi Nkya handed over.

Mollel from Arusha Gymkhana Club (AGC) and Fadhili of Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) were tied on seven-under-par 281 gross after a four-day 72-hole competition.

Both players started strongly for a co-lead with four-under-par 68 after the first round on Thursday, but Nkya lost ground in the second round with level par 72, while Mollel took charge with one under 71 to lead by a stroke.

Nkya who plays to honour his late mother, Lina, went Sunday close round a shot drifted to Mollel who led with 6 under-pars after adding another 71 in the third round so as his opponent.

But Nkya came even stronger in the exciting battle to close with two-under-par 70 to level the score with Mollel who carded 71 to force the sudden death.

Nkya pocketed 4.3m/- after he finished second, Abdallah Yusuf from Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) Lugalo golf Club of Dar es Salaam who carded 8 over-par 296 finished third and collected 3.4m/-, with ten

over par 298 as Frank Mwinuka also from Lugalo, won 2.7m/- and the 5th placed Isaac Wanyeché from Kili Golf Club of Arusha who carded 13 over, finished 5th overall.

Other players who won cash prizes included the 6th placed Hassan Kadio of DGC with 13 over who bagged 1.2m/-, while those who finished from 7th to 10th; Rajab Iddi +17, John Saidi +19, Salum Dilunga +19 and Elisante Lembric +19) each pocketed 480,000/- .

For elite amateurs with handicap 5 and below, an overall winner was host Ally Isanzu who carded 5 over to win 2.2m/-, the second-placed George Sembi also of TPC with 14 over was awarded 1.3m/-, the third-placed Isiaka Daudi (+16) received 900,000/- .Ibrahim Gabriel who finished fourth pocketed 700,000 while Victor Joseph and Elisha Fadhili who shared the 5th place, bagged 570,000/- each.

THE inaugural Lina Professional Golf (PG) Tour Pro-Am first series teed off from February 29 to March 3 at the TPC Club golf course in Moshi, Kilimanjaro Region.

The 72-hole stroke play tournament, designed exclusively for Tanzanian professionals and elite amateur golfers, has been introduced to commemorate the late Lina Said Nkya, also known as Mother Golfer, who passed away on January 19, 2021, in Moshi.

This remarkable sum represents the largest reward ever offered in the history of the professional golf tournament in Tanzania compared to other tournaments.

"We aim to ensure Lina PG Tour remains at the pinnacle of the country golf and we have almost improved the prize fund to motivate the young generation to take the game even more seriously," the organizer Said Nkya stated.

"While we are seeing substantial increases in prize money across the professional game, we are fulfilling our wider obligation to the sport, strengthening pathways in the elite amateur game and encouraging more people across the country to play golf.

"We believe that getting this balance right is vital to the long-term future of the sport. Golf is employment, we want our youths to tackle opportunity and improve their lives too," elaborates Nkya.



Hassan Nkya

The tour came just right on time as golf clubs produced young talent who would like to excel in the game and a better way of doing so is by participating in many tournaments possible.

The Lina PG Tour offers over five series on which participants will be awarded hefty cash prizes fit for young coming.

The second event, according to the statement, is scheduled to take place from April 11 to 14 at the Sea Cliff Golf Resort and Spa in Zanzibar, while the third event is planned for the Arusha Gymkhana Club (AGC) from July 11 to 14.

The schedule shows that the fourth event will be held at the Moshi Gymkhana Club golf course from September 26 to 29, and the grand finale is scheduled to take place at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) course.

"This esteemed tour features five tournaments across different courses, uniting the nation's professionals with 12 elite golfers boasting handicaps 5 and below, creating a Pro-Am spectacle. Notably inclusive, the Lina Tour warmly

welcomes amateur golfers with a handicap of 24 and below, ensuring an enriching experience for all," said the statement.

The top three professionals and one elite golfer will win a chance to feature in a Dubai tournament. Late Lina was among the first lady golfers in Tanzania, a sport that was dominated by non-Tanzanian males.

She broke this stigma on the green and encouraged dozens of Tanzanian women and Africans to partake in golf as a recreational and professional sport.

Lina significantly contributed to the transformation of the renowned KOBE Golf Tournament, elevating it from a local event to a nationally recognized competition spanning over 11 years.

Taking place annually at the year's end, KOBE marked a milestone in Tanzanian golf by pioneering the inclusion of caddies as players.

This groundbreaking decision not only expanded the pool of indigenous players but also provided an avenue for those less privileged to engage competitively.

The tournament played a pivotal role in shaping the careers of many professionals in the country, as it became a vital starting point for their journeys in the world of golf.

During different periods of her lifetime, she served as a committee member of the Ladies Golf Section at Gymkhana Golf Club in Dar es Salaam and as the Honorary Treasurer of the Tanzania Ladies Golf Union (TLGU) from 2010 to 2012.

She also played an integral role in ensuring the sustainability and integrity of the Union and was a founding member of the Pink Panther Group which plays social tournaments every Friday at the DGC course.

Lina mentored and guided fellow women, living true to the very nature and essence of the sport of golf. She also represented the National Team during the All-Africa Competition and the Zambia Ladies Open held in Zambia in 2006.

"A mother, grandmother, and wife, the late Lina left her footprints on the greens and fairways of the Tanzanian Golf scene. She is forever remembered for her charm, charisma, integrity, and forthrightness," said the statement.

See the best of Waitara Trophy on fast track

By ROYAL GOLF REPORTER

GLARING scores, bumper entry, and immaculate course spoke everything that evidenced the beauty of this year's Waitara Golf Trophy.

It was on Saturday, January 27th 2024 when golfers enjoyed the best of the Waitara Golf Trophy at Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF), Lugalo Golf Course in Dar es Salaam.

It was an eventful day for the golfing

community convened at the place to be part of the memorable experience with most of them making new records of their own.

The weather was simply ideal for the glamorous event with the scorching sun in the afternoon as the sound of teeing off and dropping balls could not cease from being heard which is common when such a big golf event is happening.

If one ever said golf is a sport for lazy bodies, then tell that person to

in playing it.

The Royal Golf team was lucky to move along four prominent golfers led by the big man himself, retired TPDF General George Waitara whose golfing skills get better day by day no wonder he performed well on the day.

Waitara was joined in the group by Ambassadors Ombeni Sefue,



Prominent golfers from left Ambassador Charles Sanga, General (rtd) George Waitara, CCM Parents' Wing Chairman Dr Edmund Mndolwa and Ambassador Ombeni Sefue walks after teeing off during the tournament.

personally attend any of the golfing events and tell him or her to just walk along the golfers as they move from one tee box to another along the fairways.

This is the only way that can make them start having respect for this sport whose popularity continues to grow in the country as more people become interested

Ambassador Charles Sanga, and CCM Parents' Wing Chairman Dr Edmund Mndolwa.

It was good to see how the quadruple was seriously playing the game by adhering to all the available rules governing golf despite their seniority.

"Of course, I have vast experience of playing golf, at this age, this is the only sport I enjoy doing...what other sport can I perform other than this," Waitara asked

as he moved on the fairway to the next tee-box.

He continued: "Some people think that because in golf we do not run, then it is a simple sport, this is not true at all, we can move around the golf course for up to 9 kilometres a task that is not easy to fulfill.

"Is it possible for someone out there to just have a fun walk of about 10 kilometres?...but in golf, we do that and we use our brain to make calculations that is why we occasionally change the sticks before making any shot."

Yes, from his personality, and the way he talks, moves, and executes his golfing

Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) Lugalo Golf Course in Dar es Salaam.

It was indeed a successful annual tournament that kicked off the 2024 event calendar at Lugalo, the most active tournament club in the country.

Playing off a handicap of 23, host Japhet had to calm his nerves at the home course to beat over 120 opponents from across the country and win his first career golf title, which also ensured that it remains at the club.

Japhet carded a stunning five-under-par 67 strokes to emerge victorious

Nico Zambekitas from Morogoro was also smiling as he went home with the Division C title with 71 strokes, beating Abbas Mwalimu on countback after returning the same score.

The former Tanzania Golf Union (TGU) Chairman Joseph Tango was in good form and carded 72 strokes to win on countback against General team member Edmund Mndolwa, who also netted 72 strokes.

The ladies' category winner was I. Sharmac, who carded 68

responsibilities, you can see that his military leadership and strength are still in him.

After finishing their mission, the team happily shook hands in acknowledgment of the good job well done, another beautiful part of golfing.

The event saw a historic win for spirited Boniface Japhet, who put up a strong performance to be crowned the overall champion.

The delayed 2023 edition of the Waitara Trophy is meant to honour General (rtd) George Waitara, the founder of the

and take home the trophy and a cash prize from the main sponsor, NBC Bank.

He extended his compliments to his coach, professional golfer Athumani Chiundu, whose wonderful work has lifted him to where he is today.

The other category winners were Jose Pracid, who emerged as the Division A winner after carding 68 strokes, and Claude Mtavangu, who finished second after netting 70 strokes.

The Division B title went to Francis Ekeng, who penned 68 strokes, and Laurent Sangawe netted 71 strokes to finish second.

net, while Leticia Kapalia had 70 net to finish second.

The junior top prize went to Karim Ismail with an impressive 63 net, and second place went to Mohamed Rashid, who carded 68 net.

National team members Isiaka Daudi and Hawa Wanyeché carded 74 and 80, respectively, to win the men and ladies' gross categories prizes.

The longest drive for men went to Morogoro Gymkhana Club captain Seifu Mcharo, while the ladies' longest drive surprisingly went to national junior golf team member Shufwaa Twalib. The nearest to the pin award went to Khadija Suleiman.

Let's play golf to reap its mental health benefits

ROYAL GOLF'S HEALTH EXPERT

IN their recent research the world Golf governing body, The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews (R&A) of Scotland disclosed golf's widespread physical, mental and social health benefits.

The report was brought to life in a new video series from The R&A in which broadcaster and presenter Iona Stephen uncovers how playing the sport can help one become fitter, healthier, and happier.

R&A disclosed that at a time when record numbers are now playing golf worldwide, 'Iona Investigates' is a three-part series where Stephen learns how people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds are reaping the rewards of playing the sport.

Stephen speaks with famous faces from other sports – including former Liverpool and Republic of Ireland footballer Jason McAteer and ex-England cricket international James Taylor – leading medical professionals, fitness instructors, and club golfers to understand how golf improves general fitness, eases stress and anxiety, and offers social interaction.

The first episode of the new video series covers mental health and well-being, the second on physical health, and the final show on strength and balance.



Anita Siwale

"Working on this series has been a hugely rewarding experience," noted Stephen.

"I've discovered more about golf's wonderful health benefits and helped to highlight them by speaking to people from many different backgrounds.

"When I'm playing golf, I feel uncomplicated, it's like your mind is focusing on one objective – to get the ball from A to B. That focus brings you into a place of mindfulness and flow, where there isn't space for the complications and pressures in our daily lives.

"Golf is for people who are busy working, who have young children, and for those who have retired with more time on their hands. Golf is for absolutely everyone, young and old, and wherever they are from and whatever they do."

Former footballer McAteer has been instrumental in talking about mental health, especially for young people, and he outlines how he has used golf for his benefit in recovering from depression.

McAteer, who has been playing golf for around 12 years, says, "Golf has been amazing, certainly from a mental health aspect. I was probably in a bad place when I finished playing football. It left a massive void and my mental health spiralled out of control."

Taylor's thriving cricket career was sadly cut short by a life-changing heart condition aged just 26 in 2016, but he also reveals how golf has since benefitted his physical and mental health.

"To have to retire when you are at the top of the game was incredibly hard to take – my life

changed forever," he admits.

"The doctor in the hospital told me I couldn't exercise like I used to, but I could play golf. As soon as I took it up I was hooked, what a sport it is. Golf from then changed my life. It gave me a purpose, a technical challenge, the mental stimulation, the exercise, and allows me to be competitive."

St Andrews-based Stephen also tells her own story of coming late into golf and how the sport started to have a positive impact on her life after discovering Ranfurly Castle Golf Club when a student at The University of Glasgow.

In recent years, The R&A has strived to communicate golf's health benefits to a global audience and underline the role the sport plays in health and social well-being.

Working with organisations such as the World Health Organisation, the DP World Tour, other golf bodies, and respected medical professionals such as Dr Andrew Murray, The R&A has been involved in various scientific research studies to make the sport more appealing to all.

Research has revealed that, on average, golfers live five years longer than non-golfers while golf, as physical activity, can help prevent and treat 40 major chronic diseases, including diabetes, heart attacks, stroke, breast and colon cancer, depression, and dementia.

Mr Nape Nnauye, the Minister for Information, Communications and Information Technology echoed the report's findings.

The minister said: "It's like your mind is most focusing on one thing – to hit the ball from tea-box to hole. That focus brings you into a place where you do not have room to think about other daily pressures for those who are busy with responsibilities.

"This helps freshen up your mind and get ready for whatever is ahead. It is healthy and a very good form of exercise. You walk over 800 steps, while playing, and seems okay but it is difficult when you are not playing, it's also rare to get injuries in golf and the sport is for socialising too.

"I think we need to encourage as many people as possible to play golf from teenagers to elders since the sport can be played regardless of age or gender."

The former Tanzania Ladies Golf Union (TLGU) vice-president Anita Siwale also agreed that playing the sport makes one fitter.

"It is healthier, in addition to seeing beautiful landscapes, you get fresh air, you are exposed to the sun (vitamin D), you sweat to detox your skin, etc."

Siwale noted Golf can be a great way to improve your mental and physical health. It provides an opportunity to meet new people, socialise with friends, and focus on the game, which can help you forget your worries. You may even win prizes if you play well!

Gulam Dewji, a senior golfer from Tanzania, says that playing golf has benefited his health. Although he still works as the Chairman of Mohamed Enterprises Tanzania Limited Group and leaves the office late, he ensures that he gets exercise every evening by playing at least seven holes and visiting the putting green.

Chris Martin, a director of Africa Region 4 Golf Championship, is also a senior golfer, and he believes that golf has helped him stay healthy. He has avoided developing diseases like diabetes or high blood pressure that often affect older people. Martin is grateful for everything he has and believes that more people should be educated about the benefits of golf, especially the elderly.

THE BEST OF BUNGE TEAM AT EAST AFRICA INTER-PARLIAMENTARY GAMES 2023

Bunge Sports Club Chairman Tarimba Abbas (5th Left) in a souvenir photo with Bunge team that won a gold medal in tug-of-war during EALA Games.



Esther Matiko (left), the women's Most Valuable Player (MVP), scores against hosts Rwanda during the final game.



Tanzania Basketball President Michael Kadebe was one of the Bunge team's delegates.



Tug of war champions, Bunge team in action against the South Sudan team.



The brave Bunge soccer team players.



The Speaker of the National Assembly of Tanzania, Tulia Ackson (centre) in a souvenir photograph with the men's 400m relay bronze winners.



Time for celebration for the Bunge team as the netball champs.



Basketball Champions.



Distance
M: 297m

Nnauye

cherishes golf, blesses TZ Open

By BERNARD BENSON

A THRIVING golf industry is capable of attracting tourism, sponsors, partners and investors leading to the creation of job opportunities and income generation.

This was said by the Minister for Information, Communication and Information Technology Nnauye during his closing remarks of the 2023 NCBA Bank Tanzania Open Golf Tournament at Kili Golf Course in Arusha.

“It also boosts the country’s image on the global stage, attracting international tournaments, fostering a sense of pride and achievements for local

golfers representing Tanzania at regional and global levels,” he said.

He noted that private-public partnership often brings innovative ideas and business strategies to the table thereby facilitating the implementation of sustainable development initiatives for sports.

“This collaborative approach ensures a more inclusive growth of golf benefiting players of all levels and backgrounds and potentially uncovering and nurturing exceptional talents that could compete at regional and global championships,” Nnauye said.

He recommended Tanzanian golfers for performing well on the day saying he was proud of their work rate and wished them well in their upcoming events.



Claver Serumaga



Tanzania Golf Union Chairman Gilman Kasiga (left) and Bakari Machimu.

Distance
M: 297m

“Unfortunately, I am not a minister for sports but your fellow golfer...as such, I am excited to hear that Tanzanian pros have done it very well, congratulations,” he said.

He lauded golfers from other countries that came to compete saying they also fought the battle well and are welcome at any moment to take part in golf contests.

“I thank all those who made this a beautiful tournament, golf is not a sport meant for wealthy people but rather, it is a sport for everyone young and old,” he said.

The minister revealed that the Tanzania Government led by President Samia Suluhu Hassan is dedicated to advancing

sports while acknowledging that ICT plays a significant role in driving the world of golf and sports overall.

“As we conclude the NCBA Bank Tanzania Open Golf Tournament, it is important to underscore the role of technology in driving the future of sports.

“Government is committed to promoting ICT to elevate sports landscape, ensuring that our athletes have access to cutting edge tools for skills enhancement and performance analysis,” he said.

The tournament saw Uganda national team golfer Godfrey Nsubuga crowned the 2023 NCBA Bank champions.

After four gruelling rounds, Nsubuga scored a total gross of level par 292 played

over four days in the par 73 Kili course.

Tanzanian Isiaka Daudi carded 311 to finish second on countback over third-placed Uganda’s Ibrahim Bagalana who also carded the same score.

In professional, Nuru Molle of Arusha Gymkhana Club (AGC) finished second with +13 (305) strokes two shots drift to champions Daniel Nduva of Nyali Country Club in Kenya who recorded +11 strokes. And Justus Madoya of Kenya’s Great Lake Valley-Naivasha Club placed third with +14 strokes.

In the ladies’ category, Neema Olomi also from Arusha was the top-placed with 292 strokes beating her teammate Madina Iddy Hussein who grossed 307 strokes.

Golf Course for Capital City Ready by 2026

By ROYAL GOLF REPORTER

ACCORDING to the Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports, Dr Damas Ndumbaro, the government's plan to build a golf course at the State House in Dodoma remains on track, and everything will be ready by 2026. The Minister gave this assurance to the golf community at the Morogoro Gymkhana Club course during the fourth day's tee-off of the Lina Nkya Pro-Am Golf tournament, where he also played an 18-hole round of the tournament. According to the Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports, Dr. Damas Ndumbaro, the government's plan to build a golf course at the State House in Dodoma remains on track, and everything will be ready by 2026. The Minister gave this assurance to the golf community at the Morogoro Gymkhana Club course during the fourth day's tee-off of the Lina Nkya Pro-Am Golf tournament, where he also played an 18-hole round of the

tournament.

"The golf course at the State House in Dodoma will be constructed as promised and everything will be ready by 2026," the minister said at hole number 10 accompanied by Tanzania Ladies Golf Union (TLGU), Queen Siraki, and Jasmin Chali, the coordinator of the Lina Nkya PG Tour.

Efforts to recruit more legislators to the Bunge Golf team have begun to pay off, as several members of parliament have expressed interest in playing golf.

"We anticipate that the team will grow in size and strength, even with the limited time available. The Bunge session is lengthy and may require more than 12 hours. However, I am confident that the number of participants will significantly increase once the TPDF course is completed and the one to be built at the State House in a few years begins operation," stated the Minister.

Minister Dr Damas Ndumbaro putts on number one hole at Abidjan course during his tour of Ivory Coast recently, looking on is a French golfer, Jean-Luc Sion.



Abdulrahman Kinana

"We anticipate that the team will grow in size and strength, even with the limited time available. The Bunge session is lengthy and may require more than 12 hours. However, I am confident that the number of participants will significantly increase once the TPDF course is completed and the one to be built at the State House in a few years begins operation," stated the Minister.

Last year, President Samia Suluhu Hassan announced plans to build a modern golf course at the new State House in Chamwino, Dodoma.

During the inauguration of the new State House in Chamwino last year, the country's Capital City, the President announced the plan to build the golf course and other sports facilities at the Samia Complex in Chamwino area.

In order to continue developing the area, there is still a lot of work that needs to be done. The next step is to construct a modern building that my assistants have named the Samia Complex.

"I am describing a building that will have a meeting hall which can accommodate between 2,000 to 3,000 people. The building will also have houses for leaders, particularly from our neighbouring East African Community (EAC) and South African Development Community (SADC). Additionally, there will be a Zanzibar Lounge and an East Africa Lounge.

Furthermore, the building will feature a golf course, a plane runway, and various sports grounds. Lastly, parts of the history of our country's leaders will also be incorporated into the building," she explained.

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Community (SADC). Additionally, there will be a Zanzibar Lounge and an East Africa Lounge.

Furthermore, the building will feature a golf course, a plane runway, and various sports grounds. Lastly, parts of the history of our country's leaders will also be incorporated into the building," she explained.

This will be the second golf course in the capital to allow government officials, diplomats, and visitors to experience and enjoy the beautiful scenario of Dodoma.

The President has shown commitment to promoting sports like golf to provide opportunities for people to participate in sports, promoting Tanzania and putting the nation into the global spotlight. She walks the talk.

The Chamwino course will be second, following the construction of the first-ever golf course in the capital city, by Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) where retired General Venance Mabeyo laid a foundation stone last year.

The project is being undertaken at Ihumwa proximate to the Government City popularly known as the Magufuli City.

Ihumwa course is the second facility constructed by TPDF after the Lugalo golf course in Dar es Salaam engineered by the former CDF George Waitara in 2006.

The government has constructed modern golf courses in Serengeti and elsewhere to promote tourism through sports.

Both initiatives have an important role in promoting the nation's tourism. It's time to work together to achieve that.

Cherish 15-year RODJEY with his albatross wonder score

By ROYAL GOLF REPORTER

SINKING bird on golf courses is most often achieved by golfers, but claiming an albatross score is rare and one can play his entire career without achieving one.

The 15-year youth Rodjey Daudi Mwakawago is lucky as he netted it, making him achieve that at a tender age.

He has done something special on the course which many golfers longed to have but failed.

This happened on February 17, 2024, and perhaps will remain the day to remember for the youngster.

It was all smiles as the junior golfer made his first albatross score at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) course in Dar es Salaam.

In golf, an albatross is a term that most golfers know but few will ever have the fortune to make.

This scoring term, which is also known as a double eagle, represents three strokes under par on a single hole and is extremely difficult to achieve.

Every golfer dreams of hitting a perfect drive down the middle of the fairway, and then sinking a long putt for an eagle. But what if you could do even better? What if you could make

an albatross?

Albatrosses are technically harder to shoot because they are done on much longer holes, whereas a hole-in-one is feasible on a much shorter hole.

But it was not the case for Mwakawago who attained the feat during a practice round, preparing for the first-ever Lina PG Tours Pro-Am competition that was held from February 29th to March 3rd this year at TPC Moshi Club, in Kilimanjaro region.

How does this happen?

Mwakawago explained: "The hole was no. 8 on Saturday morning. It was a 437-meter par-5.

"I hit the driver about 245 meters, I had 192 left to get to the hole. I took 5-iron, I was tied between the 6 and 5 irons, but it depended on the wind, so I decided to take 5-iron.

Playing off handicap 22 Mwakawago added that used Cobra LTDX driver, and 'my



irons are Titleist ap2'.

He continues: "The feeling was unreal and I came to find out that at the time when my albatross happened, it was a time when my sister Daisylin was born.

Coordinating the times for the US and Tanzania.

"And the feeling itself was unreal, the sentimental behind it was even beyond the words," he added.

Mwakawago said it hasn't even been a year since he started to play golf.

"But already I see a future in the game and looking forward to continuing playing in college while studying engineering abroad and hopefully, one day can make it in professional rank.

"I want to thank my uncle Hassan and Fadhil Nkya, my mother Yasmin, grandfather Said Nkya, my dad, and everyone out there, who has done wonders for me," Mwakawago stated.

He noted that golf is his passion and life desire and also extended thanks to Dar golfer David Jonsen who played with him and helped one another achieve this goal.

"My attribute to my brothers Kiye Jr and Mikoh, I play with them every day, we don't have envy of ourselves, we always want to be like we always want to make each other better. My grandfather plays with us every day. He is our first coach.

"He started with us from day one, we didn't know anything. My mother is the one who made everything, she takes good care. Another is my sister, she's not currently in Dar, but working hard and I wanted to thank her for everything she's done for me as well. Thank you."

Delighted, Mwakawago said he was following his uncle Fadhil Nkya's steps as he was not the first to hit an albatross in the family.

"I'm the second person in my family to get an albatross where the first person is my uncle Fadhil, my mother's brother who's a professional now. He is an amazing golfer, he was reasoning my starting to practice.

"But he was 18 years old when he hit his albatross at hole no. 2 par-5 at the same DGC course."

Due to the logic of the shot, it's most commonly achieved on a par-5, with just two shots taken to get the ball in the hole. However, some impressive players can achieve an albatross by shooting a hole-in-one on a par-4 hole. Understandably, making an albatross on a par-3 hole or lower is impossible.

Considering that a regulation golf course's par-4 holes are between 240 and 490 yards, and a par-5 is typically between 450 and 710 yards, it's incredibly difficult to score an albatross. Very few golfers ever reach this accomplishment, and most who do are famous golf pros. Still, it doesn't mean that you can't try!

If you want to put that into perspective, your odds of being struck by lightning are 1 in 1.2 million.

It doesn't mean you should give up the dream, however. While your odds may be slim, it's still possible to shoot an albatross—you just have to combine incredibly fine-tuned skill with a bit of luck.



Mikoh



Kiye Jr

Lina PG Tour heralds new dawn for Pro-Am golfers

By ROYAL GOLF REPORTER

DURING the recently concluded second round of the Lina Nkya Pro-Am Golf tour in Morogoro, it was the tough who persevered when the going got tough.

Still sailing firmly ahead of the pack are Ally Isanzu, Isiaka Daudi Mtubwi and Victor Joseph leading the amateur boat while Nuru Mollel, Hassan Kadio and Fadhil Nkya are commanding the race for the professional golfers' class.

Contrary to the first round when the sudden death decision dictated terms at TPC Golf course in Kilimanjaro Region, the second staged in Morogoro missed that epic finish as the competitors finished in a clear-cut showdown.

It is the sudden death winner, Nuru Mollel at the helm superior two over par 586 aggregate strokes at the end of the second 72-hole showdown.

Mollel finished eight shots superior to his closest challenger, Fadhil Nkya who stamped eight shots inferior to the leader. Nkya grossed 594 strokes.

Hassan Kadio, who won the second round in Morogoro is placed third with a 601 aggregate score as Isack Wanyeché who is ten shots behind Kadio is fourth overall with 611 aggregate strokes.

For Amateur class, the race still rages on with Ally Isanzu who parades 590 aggregate strokes and has carved a 26-stroke lead over his closest pursuer, Isiaka Daudi Mtubwi with 616 aggregate strokes.

Victor Joseph is placed third having grossed 625 total strokes ahead of Michael Massawe who is fourth overall with 636 strokes.

It is officially christened Lina Nkya Pro-Am Tour for it awards both amateur and professional golfers.

Mollel, the overall winner of the



Lina PG Tour Pro-Am second edition's runner-up Abdallah Yusuf from the Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) Lugalo Golf Club holds a dummy cheque and a souvenir photo. From right are Tanzania Ladies Golf Union (TLGU) president Queen Siraki, the Tour's patron Said Nkya, the tournament's Director Yasmin Chali, who is also the TLGU honorary secretary of TLGU and treasurer Chiku Elias.

first round at TPC Club pocketed 6.8m/- while the runner-up, Nkya bagged 4.3m/- while Abdallah Yusuf from Tanzania People's Defence Forces



(TPDF) Lugalo Golf Club of Dar es Salaam managed to foot home a 3.4m/-, with ten over par 298 Frank Mwinuka also from Lugalo claiming 2.7m/- and 5th place Isaac Wanyeché from Kili Golf Club of Arusha carded total 13 over to finish 5th.

Nkya Tour is the unique Professional and Amateur Golf (Pro-Am Showdown) that saw Mollel emerging as the overall winner in a sudden-death playoff against his closest challenger Fadhil Nkya.

Both the first and second rounds of the Lina Tour have been played in a 72-hole, stroke-play format. The tour has been organised by the Saidi Nkya family in collaboration with the Tanzania Ladies Golf Union (TLGU). It is exclusively for Tanzanian professionals and amateur golfers.

The tournament has been

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Vicky Elias

introduced as part of activities to remember the late Lina Saidi Nkya, who passed away on January 19, 2021, in Moshi. The late Lina was a golf player and a leader at national and club levels.

Mollel from Arusha Gymkhana Club (AGC) and Fadhili of Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) tied on seven-under-par 281 gross after a four-day 72-hole competition.

Both players started strongly for a co-lead with four-under-par 68 after the first round on Thursday, but Nkya lost ground in the second round with level par 72, while Mollel took charge with one under 71 to lead by a stroke.

Nkya who played to honour his late mother, Lina, went Sunday close round a shot drifted to Mollel who led with 6 under-pars after adding another 71 in the third round so as his opponent.

But Nkya came even stronger in the exciting battle to close with two-under-par 70 to level the score with Mollel who carded 71 to force the sudden death.

Nkya pocketed 4.3m/- after he finished second, Abdallah Yusuf from Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) Lugalo Golf Club of Dar es Salaam who carded 8 over-par 296 finished third and collected TZS 3.4m/-, with ten over par 298 as Frank Mwinuka also from Lugalo, won TZS 2.7m/- and the 5th placed Isaac Wanyeché from Kili Golf Club of Arusha who carded 13 over, finished 5th overall.

Other players who won cash prizes included the 6th placed Hassan Kadio of DGC with 13 over who bagged TZS

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Lina PG Tour ignites Road to Dubai

By ROYAL GOLF REPORTER

TPC Club's Ally Isanzu (pictured) and professional golfers, Nuru Mollel, Faedil and Hassan Kadio now have a glimpse of a Road To Dubai after their impressive performance in the two rounds of the Lina Nkya Pro-Am held at TPC and Morogoro Gymkhana Club courses.

Road to Dubai is the theme of the Lina PG Tour as its best performers in both Amateur and Professional categories grab tickets to play in a global-level tournament in Dubai after the climax of the tour's fifth round, according to its Director, Yasmin Challi.

Isanzu has been the brightest star of both the first and second rounds of the tour, while Mollel, Nkya and Kadio grabbed the event's jackpot at the end of the second 72-hole showdown in Morogoro are close contenders at the professional category.

For winning an amateur title in Morogoro, Isanzu, pocketed 2m/- cash prize while Kadio, grabbed a 6.8m/- cash prize. Nkya who ended second in Kilimanjaro, is still placed second despite a poor finish in Morogoro. The seven-under score he returned at TPC has heightened his scorecard.

The tour is the unique golf marathon being staged in Tanzania at the moment, besides honouring Lina Nkya, who spearheaded the success of the Women golfers at the global podiums, it is also titled the Road to Dubai, especially for the overall best performers of both amateur and professional categories.

Isanzu who grossed 74,73,72 and 78 in his four-day onslaught won the event with +9 followed by golf pro, Hassan Kadio with +12 score.

Kadio fetched 6.8m/- cash prize for winning the second round.



Abdallah Yusuf finished overall runner-up in the pros category after grossing +16 ahead of the third-placed Nuru Mollel with +17.

Bryson Nyenza who penned + 18 was fourth ahead of the fifth-placed Isack Wanyeché who grossed +22.

Other golfers who claimed the top ten spot included Fadhil Nkya, Frank Roman, Salum Dilunga Ninja, and Athumanik Chiundu.

For amateur golfers' class, Isanzu beat his closest opponent, Isiaka Daudi Mtubwi by 15 strokes after he finished with +24.

The third finisher was Michael Massawe who grossed +30 as the fourth-placed Victor Joseph grossed +30 and the fifth, Seif Mcharo walked with +32.

The third round, according to the Tour's director Yasmin Challi will be staged at Arusha Gymkhana Club course in July this year.



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1.2m/-, while those who finished from 7th to 10th; Rajab Iddi +17, John Saidi +19, Salum Dilunga +19 and Elisante Lembric +19) each pocketed TZS 480,000/-.

For elite amateurs with handicap 5 and below, an overall winner was host Ally Isanzu who carded 5 over to win 2.2m/-, the second-placed George Sembi also of TPC with 14 over was awarded 1.3m/-, the third-placed Isiaka Daudi (+16) received 900,000/- . Ibrahim Gabriel who finished fourth pocketed 700,000 while Victor Joseph and Elisha Fadhili who shared the 5th place, bagged 570,000/- each.

The inaugural Lina Professional Golf (PG) Tour Pro-Am first series teed off from February 29 to March 3 at the TPC Club golf course in Moshi, Kilimanjaro Region.

The 72-hole stroke play tournament, designed exclusively for Tanzanian professionals and elite amateur golfers, has been introduced to commemorate the late Lina Said Nkya, also known as Mother Golfer, who passed away on January 19, 2021, in Moshi.

This remarkable cash prize is so far the largest reward ever offered in the history of the professional golf tournament in Tanzania.

“We aim to ensure Lina PG Tour remains at the pinnacle of the country golf and we have almost improved the prize fund to motivate the young generation to take the game even more seriously,” the organiser Said Nkya stated.

“While we are seeing substantial increases in prize money across the professional game, we are fulfilling our wider obligation to the sport, strengthening pathways in the elite amateur game and encouraging more people across the country to play golf.

“We believe that getting this balance right is vital to the long-term future of the sport. Golf is employment, we want our youths to tackle opportunity and improve their lives too,” elaborates Nkya.

The tour came just right on time as golf clubs produced young talent who would like to excel in the game and a better way of doing so is by participating in many tournaments possible.



Minister for Culture, Arts and Sports Damas Ndumbaro (Right) at a souvenir photo with Lina Professional Golfers Tour (PG) Pro-Am tournament director Yasmin Chali (second right), Tanzania Ladies Golf Union (TLGU) Queen Siraki and former Morogoro Gymkhana Club chairman Mosi Makau.

The Lina PG Tour offers over five series on which participants will be awarded hefty cash prizes.

“This esteemed tour features five tournaments across different courses, uniting the nation’s professionals with 12 elite golfers boasting handicaps 5 and below, creating a Pro-Am spectacle. Notably inclusive, the Lina Tour warmly welcomes amateur golfers with a handicap of 24 and below, ensuring an enriching experience for all,” read in part the statement issued by the organisers.

The top three professionals and one elite golfer will win a chance to feature in a Dubai tournament. Late Lina was among the first lady golfers in Tanzania, a sport that was dominated by non-Tanzanian males.

She broke this stigma on the green and encouraged dozens of Tanzanian women and Africans to partake in golf



Hassan Kadio

as a recreational and professional sport.

The late Lina significantly contributed to the transformation of the renowned KOBE Golf Tournament, elevating it from a local event to a nationally recognised competition spanning over 11 years.

This groundbreaking decision not only expanded the pool of indigenous players but also provided an avenue for those less privileged to engage competitively.

The tournament played a pivotal role in shaping the careers of many professionals in the country, as it became a vital starting point for their journeys in the world of golf.

During her lifetime, the late Lina served as a committee member of the Ladies Golf Section at Gymkhana Golf Club in Dar es Salaam and as the Honorary Treasurer of the Tanzania Ladies Golf Union (TLGU) from 2010 to 2012.

She also played an integral role in ensuring the sustainability and integrity of the Union and was a founding member of the Pink Panther Group which plays social tournaments every Friday at the DGC course.

She mentored and guided fellow women, living true to the very nature and essence of the sport of golf. She also represented the National Team during the All-Africa Competition and the Zambia Ladies Open held in Zambia in 2006.

“A mother, grandmother, and wife, the late Lina left her footprints on the greens and fairways of the Tanzanian golf scene. She is forever remembered for her charm, charisma, integrity, and forthrightness.”



LINA PG TOUR (PRO-AM) 2024

Journey to Dubai

FEB. 28

Seminar & Registration

FEB. 29 - MAR 3

TPC Club Moshi

APR. 11-14

Morogoro Gymkhana Club

JUL. 11 - 14

Arusha Gymkhana Club

SEP. 26-29

Moshi Club

NOV. 14 - 17

Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club

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Lugalo Club's *Daudi* surfs with golf passion

By BERNARD BENSON

PLAYING golf is an exciting adventure that promotes good health and empowers one with perseverance.

In life, giving up on something you started is not encouraged as long as you are sure that you can finish the task.

Recently, Isiaka Daudi, a member of Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) Lugalo Golf Club in Dar es Salaam shared an inspiring story on what drove him to engage in golfing, a sport that has taken him to different places around the world.

"I used to be a football player back then but, our house was located close to the golf course and whenever I saw people coming to play rounds of golf, I used to enjoy that moment.

"What inspired me a lot was that even children were descending in big numbers to play this sport and with the support of my father, it was easy for me to abandon football and dive into golfing," Daudi said.

At the age of 11 is when he started learning the basics of playing golf and he now fully understands the rules of this lucrative sport whose popularity continues to grow in Tanzania.

He continued: "I am now 24 years old and I have never given up on playing golf, a lot of my friends I started with are nowhere to be seen but for me, this is what I like most in my life."

Commenting on the perception that golf is a sport for wealthy people, Daudi clarifies that he is a good golfer despite not being rich.

"The positive thing about golf is that it is not discriminatory such that it can be played by both rich and poor people...what matters most is for one to have passion in this game."

According to him, for one to be competent in golf, he or she should be able to play at different golf courses

and be ready to adapt to changes as this sport is dynamic.

"I just want to be at the top level where I can represent my country in various major golf competitions around the world...that is why I always work hard while knowing that one day, my dreams will come true," he remarked.

Daudi invited young people to join golf clubs across the country, highlighting the sport's profitability and potential to positively transform lives.

He mentioned that playing golf enables him to manage his finances and fulfill his basic needs, such as paying rent and bills, leading to a better quality of life.

Daudi already represented the country at the junior-level international competition before being promoted to the national senior team.

In February this year he represented Tanzania at the inaugural edition of the Africa Amateur Golf Championship at the Leopard Creek Country Club, in South Africa.

Organised by the Golf World governing body The Royal Golf Ancient (R & A) of Scotland, the championship brings together top African amateur golfers in a 72-hole four-day battle from 21 to 24th February 2024.

At one of South Africa's best but toughest courses, Daudi managed to go past the second rounds of the competition.

Only 40 players out of 72 from 22 African countries including Namibia, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Rwanda, Zambia, Nigeria, Egypt, South Africa, Morocco, Seychelles, Tunisia, Malawi and Mauritius, Eswatini, Botswana, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Senegal, Gabon, Ghana, Angola and Tanzania who started the battle on Wednesday cut include Daudi.

Before heading to South Africa

Daudi produced a back-to-back outstanding performance to win the historic World Amateur Golf Ranking (WAGR) points at TPC Course during the Northern Zone Golf Championship played between 9th to 11th February 2024.

Daudi fired one under par 71 strokes in a final round at TPC Club course in Moshi, Kilimanjaro region to claim the biggest title of his career by eight shots.

He made a sound recovery from the first round's four-shot deficit to finish with an impressive one-under 215 (73,71,71) gross at the end of the 54-hole tournament that for the first time has been upgraded to the WAGR points event.

"It's a dream come true to win this title, but most importantly claim the vital WAGR points," said Daudi.

In 2023 Daudi won the Lugalo Open and Kilimanjaro Open national level competition titles. He also cuts the Uganda Open to make it a banner year.



Isiaka Daudi



Lugalo Club captain Japhet Masai celebrates with his player Isiaka Daudi after the latter was crowned Northern Zone Open 2024 Champion.

With golf academy insight, future is bright for TZ youths



LUGALO golf club juniors and officials.

By ROYAL GOLF REPORTER

TANZANIA Golf Union (TGU), with the backing of the World Golf Amateur Body the Royal Golf Ancient (R & A) of St Andrew's, Scotland ongoing support initiatives for African golf development, is set to tee off a new era for the sport in the country with the establishment of a dedicated golf academy.

This exciting initiative prioritises nurturing young talent and fostering a love for the game among Tanzanian youths, with a particular focus on making golf accessible to underprivileged youngsters.

Catering to a wide range of age groups, from beginners as young as seven years old to teenagers, the academy will provide a structured environment for youngsters to develop their golfing skills and ignite a lifelong passion for the sport.

This initiative aligns perfectly with TGU's ongoing commitment to junior golf development programmes as described the TGU Chairman Gilman Kasiga.

He said TGU is expecting to receive golf equipment for new golfers to enable an easy introduction to the game for beginners. The equipment is an initiative from R&A.

"The establishment of the academy is a significant step forward for Tanzanian golf.

"By providing a platform for young talent to flourish, the academy has the potential to produce a new generation of golfers who can compete at the international level, including the prestigious PGA/LPGA tours, the Olympics, and other major tournaments," he noted.

This, in turn, will not only elevate Tanzania's golfing profile on the world stage but also inspire future generations to take up the sport, ensuring a bright future for golf in Tanzania.

"This aligns with the new focus on sports in Tanzania as introduced by the Minister for Culture, Arts and Sports Dr Damas Ndumbaro which considers sports as an opportunity for business for Tanzania to take a fair share of the sports economy in the world," emphasises Kasiga.

The R&A's support for golf development initiatives across Africa, including Tanzania, is a testament to their commitment to growing the game globally.

Their strategic backing will be instrumental in ensuring the success of the TGU's academy and empowering Tanzanian youngsters to achieve their golfing dreams according to TGU boss.

Africa Tour inspires continent's golfers

By ROYAL GOLF REPORTER & AGENCY

The inaugural edition of the Africa Amateur Championship and Africa Amateur Women's Invitational are not only prestigious events for the continent – but also represent a pivotal moment for golf in Africa.

As well as the glory earned by the newly crowned champions and the life-changing opportunities that come

with success at Leopard Creek this

week, they are also catalysts for development, provide inspiration for young golfers and offer a clear pathway to the pinnacle of the sport.

“The African Amateur Championship and the importance of it to all golfers in Africa is just spectacular,” said South Africa's Jordan Burnand.

“It allows us to play for a spot in a major (The Open) and get into other big amateur events across the world. It's just incredible. There are similar events around the world, which is incredible, but for Africa it's unbelievable.

It's such an for all the play against

awesome opportunity African players to each other.”



From left: Tanzania top golfers Isiaka Daudi, Ally Isanzu, Vicky Elias and Madina Iddi in South Africa during the inaugural Africa Amateur Championship and Africa Amateur Women's Invitation

Opportunities available for Tanaka Chatora, the 17-year-old Zimbabwean who is part of the Africa High-Performance Programme supported by The R&A, the appeal lies in the opportunities that the Championship offers.

Indeed, the opportunity to play in The Open or The Amateur Championship is an unparalleled opportunity for any amateur and having it within reach ignites a fire in the hearts of these young players. “The different exemptions on offer are fantastic,” he emphasises.

“You have a chance to play in the Open Tour, you have a chance to play in the Amateur Championship. Those are two great championships for any amateur golfer and if you can have a chance to play there anytime it's a great opportunity.”

The influence extends beyond the men's game too. Kyra Van Kan, participating in the inaugural Africa Amateur Women's Invitational, echoes the significance of the event for her fellow women golfers. With role models like her emerging, young players across the continent can now envision themselves carving their paths in the game.

“This is honestly such a huge golf tournament,” she beams, acknowledging its role in attracting attention and elevating the profile of women's golf in Africa. “I'm so happy to be playing in this Africa Amateur Women's Invitational this year for the first time.

It's very attractive to women's golf. It draws a lot of attention to Africa and how great it is to come and play golf here at Leopard Creek.

It's a huge thing for women's golf and will help to grow the game as well.” Set against the stunning backdrop of the Kruger National Park, the events will provide a world-class platform for the region's rising talent to compete against each other.

The winner of the Africa Amateur Championship will earn exemptions into The 152nd Open at Royal Troon, The Amateur Championship, the Alfred Dunhill Championship and the Waterfall City Tournament of Champions powered by Attacq.

The winner of the Africa Amateur

Women's Invitational will earn starts in The Women's Amateur Championship, Final Qualifying for the AIG Women's Open and The Investec South African Women's Open in 2024, and the Lalla Meryem Cup and Magical Kenya Ladies Open in 2025.

To the future

However, the true significance of these events lies beyond the immediate impact. As Martin Slumbers, CEO of The R&A, says, “This is the start of a long journey. There are several players here who are extremely good and a number here who are going to develop in the next decade.

“It's about creating opportunities for people and creating pathways for people. It is our job to create an environment where they can do what they believe they want to do and, if they're good enough, have that pathway to move to the next level. This is why we do it and that is what is most exciting.”

Rolex is an event partner of the Africa Amateur Championship and Africa Amateur Women's Invitational and is committed to supporting The R&A's professional and amateur championships.

The Swiss watchmaker's contribution to excellence in golf is based on a rich heritage stretching back almost 60 years, forged through pivotal partnerships at every level of the game, from the sport's leading professional and amateur competitions and organisations to players at the pinnacle of their discipline and younger talents embarking on their journey towards greatness.

Tanzania Performance

Tanzania utilised well the lucky chance to be among 22 African countries at the history-making event.

Four local golfers Isiaka Daudi from Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) Lugalo Golf Club of Dar es Salaam and Ally Isanzu from TPC Moshi Club battled for the men's top honour, while Madina Iddi from Arusha Gymkhana Club (AGC) and Vicky Elias from Lugalo competed in the Women's Invitation showdown.

Daudi and Isanzu won an R & A invitation due to their impressive performance and helped top the 2023 national order of merit.

Madina and Vicky were the only Tanzanian ladies listed in the World Amateur Golf Ranking (WAGR) last year after victories in different open events in and outside the country while also doing well in the national team assignment.

Tanzania golfers put the country into the spotlight as Daudi fought hard to cut the second round of the prestigious inaugural edition.

He managed to finish among the 40 top players out of 72 golfers from Namibia, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Rwanda, Zambia, Nigeria, Egypt, South Africa, Morocco, Seychelles, Tunisia, Malawi and Mauritius, Eswatini, Botswana, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Senegal, Gabon, Ghana and Angola.

Daudi from Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) Lugalo Golf Club of Dar es Salaam headed to South Africa with a good feeling after being crowned the overall champions at the Northern Zone Golf Competition held at the TPC Moshi of Kilimanjaro and took it at African level showdown.

The heroic golfer started the tournament with a 78 gross before hitting 79 in the second round to cement his place at the top 40 who cut.

Though his country-man Isanzu from TPC Moshi missed a cut as two men's golfers represented Tanzania at the inaugural elite battle.

Isanzu struggled to return 84 in the opening round before a 79-second round which was not enough to save the day.

However, it was worth a lesson for players as noted by Madina Idd: “The course is very long compared to that we have in AGC, if you finish playing 18 holes here you have already walked about 15 km, in AGC it is only 8km, it is far different from what we have.

“The other challenge was greens, they are extremely fast, I have never seen green running like that one.”

Vicky said she was blessed to see different courses in the region but had never seen a more beautiful one.

“Surely the patience paid off, I have come to realise that when you have a dream of something good, God fulfills it.

Participation in this event itself is already a victory. This is a great history for me.”

TLGU boss sees lady golfers in perfect swing

By BERNARD BENSON

TANZANIA Ladies Golf Union (TLGU) President Queen Siraki has described 2023 as a banner year that witnessed the ladies' golfing community thrilling in major competitions.

She said there was a big improvement in the quality of domestic competitions they organised and competed saying everything was well organised.

"A lot of things were done properly and even the prizes which were offered were of great value and there was good time management for the contests that were held," she said.

The TLGU boss remarked that there was a big turnout of women who participated in various golfing events, which marked a milestone in uplifting the sport.

"There was an outstanding turnout of women in different competitions that were staged across the country and that alone was a positive thing that made 2023 memorable," she said.

Furthermore, Siraki who is among the top and most experienced Tanzanian lady golfers, highlighted that the performance showcased by the ladies' national team was also pleasing.

"We equipped our team with all the required resources no wonder it was easy to record convincing results in both domestic and international assignments.

Tanzanian ladies' golf team 'Tanzania One' defended their East and Central All Africa Golf Challenge Trophy (ECAACT) title well winning by seven strokes in Kigali, Rwanda last year.

They claimed the overall team title after returning 689 total strokes to retain the title for the second consecutive time in the biannual competition.

"We also competed in many contests outside the country, and we succeeded in bringing home a lot of lucrative trophies such as Ghana Ladies Open, Kenya Ladies Open and we managed to

finish in second place in Uganda Ladies Open," she said.

Moreover, Siraki cherished the good relationship they established with various stakeholders saying that it was easy for them to get potential sponsors.

"We also had a good relationship with the government...they treated us well and our trip to Rwanda was fully facilitated by the government, they paid for air tickets for us and we are grateful for that.

"Again, we partnered well with the media who are key partners as they help to disseminate messages of this sport to the rest of the world which is significant and vital as far as making golf popular is concerned.

"I think last year is when many people became aware of golf and this was highly contributed by strong cooperation, we established with media outlets who did a great job of disseminating information about golf to millions of people," Siraki said.

In a related development, Siraki recently won the Innovation in Women Empowerment Award after shining in the Empower Her Excellence Awards (EEA) held in Dar es Salaam.

EEA is firmly dedicated to recognising and celebrating the remarkable achievements of women across Tanzania.

"I was nominated as a TLGU Executive for this award and it was the first time for organisers of the Awards to be aware of TLGU. They asked many questions and assessed the progress of our club.

"This is just to say that society sees the determination and good works of our club and players... though we have not reached where we want with our sport, we should continue to fight hard to make a mark.

"I am dedicating this award to each of us in here, without your contributions and sacrifice, our union cannot move forward, thank you very much," Siraki said following the success.



TLGU president Queen Siraki (right) and Matilda Minde.

6 events set for ladies showdown

By ROYAL GOLF REPORTER

THE Tanzania Ladies Golf Union (TLGU) has paraded an eventful 2024 Tournament Calendar with six major events lined up to decorate the highly promising season.

Lina Professional Golfers (PG) Tour Pro-Am is first on the menu and has already taken TPC Moshi Club of Kilimanjaro Region by storm, Arusha Ladies Open is second and was planned to unfold at Arusha Gymkhana Club (AGC)

in Arusha region from March 23rd to 24th. It has to be a 36-hole contest.

Up next will be Lugalo Ladies Open slated at the Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) Lugalo Golf Club in Dar es Salaam from May 11th to 12th, a 36-hole competition.

Third on the list is the Dar Ladies Open timed at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club in Dar es Salaam region from July 20th to 21st which will also involve a 36-hole format.

The fourth slot on the calendar is the Tanzania Ladies Open scheduled at Arusha Gymkhana Club in the Arusha region from September 20th to 22nd and this will be a 54-hole tournament.

Also, the menu has got the All-Africa Challenge Trophy to be conducted in Morocco in November whose specific date(s) is yet to be confirmed and will be a 54-hole contest.

Then the last event queued for this year will be the Royal Tour Challenge Trophy pegged at Kilimanjaro Golf Estate from December 21st to 23rd, played on a 54-hole system.

Among the top missions of TLGU is to encourage and promote all clubs to implement robust Junior Programmes aimed at unlocking and maximising the potential of young talents.

Meanwhile, the TLGU Executive Committee is made up of five members who are: President Queen Siraki, Vice President Ayne Magombe, Honorary Secretary Yasmin Chali, Treasurer Joyce Ndyetabura and Acting Competition Secretary Rehema Athumani.



Hawa Wanyache





Natalie Isaya, 8, from Kili golf Club, Arusha. Tanzania tee off during Northern Zone Golf Open at TPC Moshi Club in Kilimanjaro regional February 2024.

Royal Golf sponsorship beckons Tanzanian girls

By BERNARD BENSON

TANZANIA Ladies Golf Union (TLGU) has encouraged more young girls to engage in golf as it harbours many life-changing opportunities.

The call came following the recent announcement of The Royal and Ancient Golf Club Scholarship designed to identify, support, and develop the next generation of golf leaders.

It is applicable through financial support and unique connections to the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews...the programme is open to those aged between 18 to 25.

“Guys, when you come across young girls in schools or streets, please, compel them to learn golf, there are many opportunities in golf for ladies.

“Whoever fits in that age group, please apply...such opportunities are

worth pursuing,” she said.

The scholarship consists of five elements of support which are up to 10,000 pounds per year for educational costs and 5,000 pounds per year for golf-related costs.

It also includes Mentorship from within The Royal and Ancient Golf Club’s Members and the membership of a peer support network of scholars not forgetting a visit to St. Andrews.

Mollel, Nkya, Wanyeche: Trio that Challenged Global Stars

By ESTER MARKO

TANZANIA’S professional golf trio; Nuru Mollel, Fadhil Nkya, and Isaack Wanyeche earned Tanzania its best outing in the global level golf circuit held in Uganda late last year and their performance is evidence of remarkable growth in the discipline.

Mollel from Arusha Gymkhana Club (AGC), Nkya of Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC), and Wanyeche a pro from Kili Golf Club of Arusha also took a huge step after making a cut in the prestigious Uganda Professional Golf Championship last year.

The competition held at the Kitante Golf Club in Kampala, Uganda from 25th to 28th October 2023 saw Tanzania make history for three pros to cut.

They were among 131 players from over 15 countries, including China, Germany, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, South Africa, Malawi, Nigeria, and Tanzania among others who started the 72-hole showdown.

However, only 34 out of them managed to cut and sailed through to the remaining two rounds as three Tanzanians were among them.

The trio had to dig it even deeper to go past the second rounds at the 72-hole four-day competition.

Tanzanian pros who have struggled to cut the pro events outside the country were on fire last

year.

Five pros including Abdallah Yusuf and Frank Mwinuka and an amateur Ally Isanzu, who missed a cut, represented Tanzania in the annual elite battle.

Mollel’s performance was outstanding to aggregate 2-over 290 (74, 68,72, 76) and finish overall 17th tied with Kenyan and Ugandan after 72 holes four days battle.

He tied with Kenyan Jastas Madoya (76, 69, 72, 73) and Ugandan Marvin Kibirige (73,70,69,78).

Nkya and Wanyeche tied at 29th aggregating one 7-over 295 shots each.

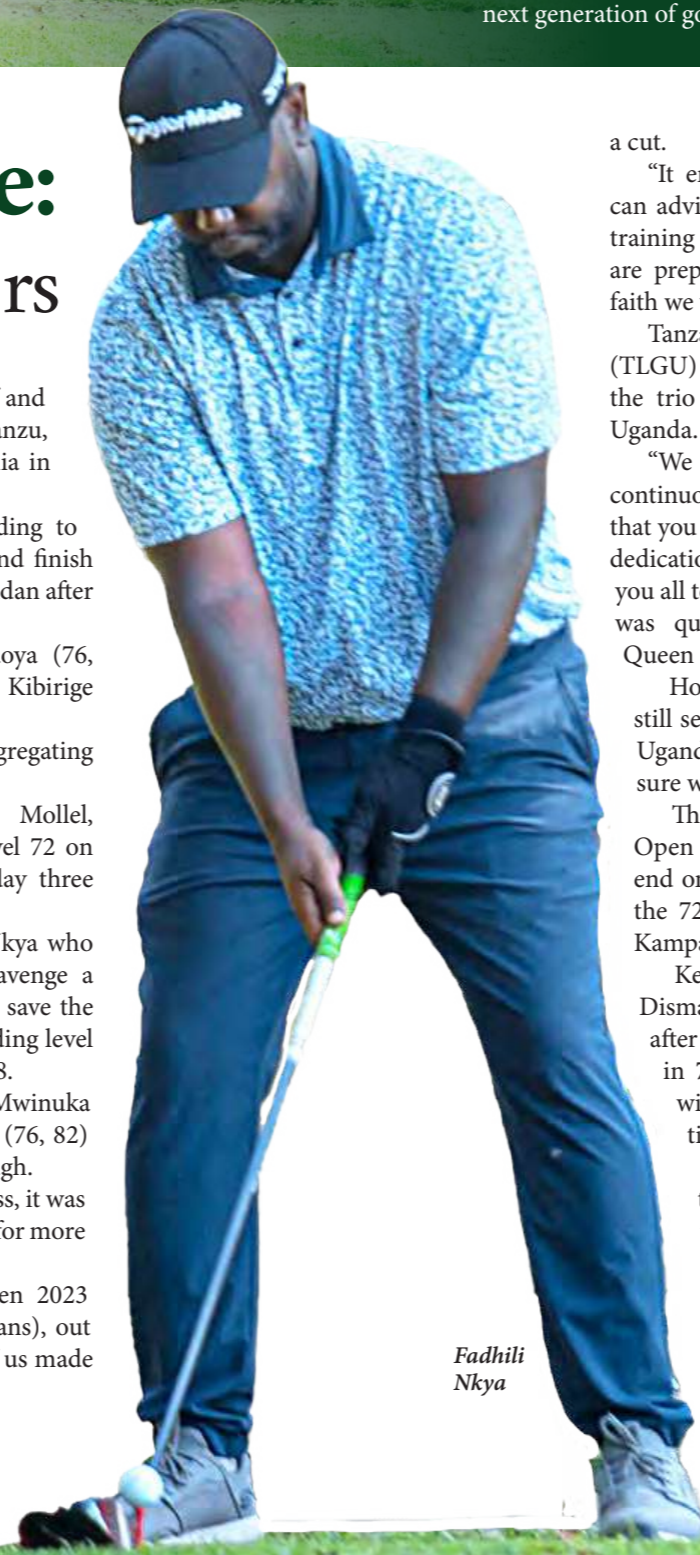
Wanyeche started with 74 like Mollel, maintained his stance returning to level 72 on day two and had 71 one-under on day three before closing with 78.

However, it was a tense start for Nkya who carded 77 on day one and had to avenge a mistake on day two with 68 strokes to save the day and stay in competition before carding level 72 in the third round and final round 78.

Yusuf carded 76 and 76 for +8 and Mwinuka had +12 (84,72) while Isanzu had +14 (76, 82) that were not enough to see them through.

“I’m very happy for the 2023 progress, it was a big step forward. Hopeful we can aim for more in the future,” said Nkya.

Wanyeche said: “The Uganda Open 2023 tournament went well for us (Tanzanians), out of the 4 Tanzanians who went, three of us made



Fadhil Nkya

a cut.

“It encouraged us a lot, what I can advise my fellow players is that training is everything. This year we are preparing for the same, I have faith we will do even better,” he said.

Tanzania Ladies Golf Union (TLGU) quickly complimented the trio for the remarkable job in Uganda.

“We are thrilled to celebrate the continuous exceptional performance that you have all demonstrated. Your dedication, focus, and skills have led you all to this exciting achievement,” was quoted by TLGU president Queen Siraki.

However, Tanzania Pros have still searched their first title in the Uganda Pros competition and that sure will be their next target.

The Johnnie Walker Uganda Open 2023 came to a riveting end on Saturday, October 28th, at the 72 Par Uganda Golf Club in Kampala.

Kenya’s legendary golfer Dismas Indiza took the top prize after scoring a total gross of 277, in 72 holes (11 under par), to win the Professionals Open title for a record 7th time.

Kenyans have dominated the battle, winning it nine times since 2006.

- 2006 – Deo Akope (Uganda)
- 2007 – Dismas Ndiza (Kenya)



Isaack Wanyeche



Nuru Mollel

- 2008 – Dismas Ndiza (Kenya)
- 2009 – Richard Ainley (Kenya)
- 2010 – Dismas Ndiza (Kenya)
- 2011 – Dismas Ndiza (Kenya)
- 2012 – Dismas Ndiza (Kenya)
- 2013 – Vicent Byamukama (Uganda)
- 2014 – Deo Akope (Uganda)
- 2015 – Madalisto Muthiya (Zambia)

- 2016 – Joshua Seale (South Africa)
- 2017 – Stephen Ferriera (Portugal)
- 2018 – Dismas Indiza (Kenya)
- 2019 – Madalisto Muthiya (Zambia)
- 2020 – Robson Chinhoi (Zimbabwe)
- 2021 – Jastas Madoya (Kenya)
- 2022 – Robson Chinhoi (Zimbabwe)
- 2023 – Dismas Indiza (Kenya)

Call to capitalise on *AFCON* potentials

By BERNARD BENSON

THE Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Culture, Arts, and Sports

Gerson Msigwa has implored Tanzanians to fully capitalise on the economic potentials of the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations finals, which Tanzania will co-host with Kenya and Uganda.

“We should look at the opportunities that will emerge before, during, and after the AFCON finals,” said Msigwa during an Investment Workshop for Sports Stakeholders and Hospitality held recently in Dar es Salaam organised by the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC).

He noted that at Olmoti in Arusha where a modern 30,000-capacity stadium will be built, there is enough space reserved for construction of hotels and accommodation facilities.

“This area currently has no hotels, hence an opportunity for the private sector to invest in Olmoti, which will not only have a stadium but will also be a new city with all the required facilities available.

In his remarks, the National Sports Council (NSC) Chairman Leodegar Tenga also called on investors to take full use of this chance of staging the AFCON contest saying it is of economic importance.

“I urge you to be on the frontline to take up the opportunities...to be honest, this is a big chance for economic development and



Gerson Msigwa



Gilead Teri



Leodegar Tenga

that the facility is always busy with people coming to take part in various sporting activities.

“Imagine if we had several such infrastructures...here is where we need the private sector to come forward and invest in establishing modern infrastructures,” he said.

Tenga hailed TIC for organising the workshop that brought together key players from different sporting disciplines who brainstormed on the positives that will be tapped from the contest.

He further highlighted that a lot of modern facilities with the potential to host night sports activities are in big demand so that people can have a chance to engage

in sports throughout the day. On his part, TIC Executive Director Gilead Teri highlighted that they are ready to create the enabling environment to facilitate investment ahead of the AFCON finals.

“Of course, we have to take a leading role in informing people on what they need to do so that they can benefit from hosting the biggest football contest in Africa.

“There are many economic potentials that we need to create and as TIC, we are always available to provide necessary insights on what should be done to make the AFCON tournament memorable,” he said.

Bunge team set to ‘rule’ *EALA Games*

By ROYAL GOLF REPORTER

THE ongoing efforts to transform the Bunge Sports team will soon establish it as a formidable entity in the region.

As revealed by the team’s Chairman, Abbas Tarimba, Tanzania is going to field a new-look Bunge Team in the coming EALA Games, East Africa’s multi-sports competition for the region’s legislative.

Tarimba, the team’s chairman said golf is among the major domains his Bunge Team seeks to reconquest after a dismal performance in the 13th edition staged in Kigali, Rwanda from December 8th to 18th in 2023.

He said they didn’t shine in the 13th edition because they failed to field 8 golfers because there were only two who participated.

“It won’t be the same in the coming edition as all of us will be there,” he said.

He said golf has continued to attract more legislatives on the course including himself.

He named others who will be joining the course as the National Assembly Speaker, Tulia Ackson and Mohamed Mchengerwa.

Others like the Minister for Culture, Arts and Sports Damas Ndumbo, and the Minister for Information and Communication, Nape Nnauye are regular



Grace Tandegu



Neema Mgaya

golf players.

Neema Mgaya and Grace Tandegu man the formidable ladies’ squad.

Besides Tanzania, other East African Community member states that participate in the EALA Games are Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, and Uganda.

The regional legislatives participate in the 13 to decide who is the best of all of them.

In the 13th edition, Tanzania emerged as the overall winner in netball, basketball, tug of war, and darts for both men and women’s disciplines.

Tanzania ended the overall runners up in volleyball (ladies), football (men), tug of war (women).

Bunge team’s Anatropia Theones won the 800m race for women as Simai

Sadiki won a similar category in the men’s category.

Anatropia Theones went on to win the 1500m race for the women’s category before claiming a silver medal in the women’s 400m race.

Simai Sadiki also won a silver medal in the men’s 1500m race as Regina Ndege won bronze in the women’s walk race.

Tanzania also won a bronze medal in the men’s 100m relay.

The Tanzanian women’s team also claimed bronze in the 400m relay while they also won another bronze in volleyball.

Tanzania finished fourth overall in golf as there were only two players instead of the required 8 golfers a position that Tarimba believes will be improved this time around since everybody will be available.

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How soon *Royal Tour* turns wealthy innovation



President Samia Suluhu Hassan, right, appears with journalist Peter Greenberg as they begin their trek up Mt. Kilimanjaro for the television show “The Royal Tour.”

By ROYAL GOLF REPORTER

TANZANIA has become one of the most popular tourist destinations due to its rich natural and cultural attractions, as well as its hospitable people.

Serengeti plains, stunning sandy beaches, and friendly sport-loving citizens make the country an ideal place to enjoy its wonderful environment.

It is indisputable that the Royal Tour documentary, in which President Samia Suluhu Hassan acted as a tour guide, has significantly benefitted the nation by attracting a surge in tourist arrivals.

The Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Danstan Kitandula outlined the benefits in Parliament recently when responding to the question posed by Special Seats legislator, Ms Amina Hassan (CCM).

The Special Seats MP sought the government’s answer on the number of tourists who arrived in the country since the production of the documentary.

According to the deputy minister, from May to December 2022, the country recorded a 40.38 per cent increase in tourist arrivals.

The Deputy Minister said during that period, the number of tourists recorded was 1,086,143 compared to the same period in 2021 when the number of tourists recorded was 647,595.

He said the number of tourists continued to rise since then, saying between May and December 2023, the number of tourist arrivals recorded was 1,302,271.

According to Kitandula, in 2023, the total number was 1,808,206 tourists who jetted into the country to visit various tourist destinations, compared to

1,454,920 tourists who visited the country in 2022.

“The number of tourist arrivals recorded is clear evidence that Royal Tour film brought positive results in the tourism sector, and it is important for Tanzanians to support President Samia’s efforts in enhancing the sector’s growth,” Kitandula said.

The Deputy Minister said, cognisant of the importance of the tourism sector for the country’s development, the government saw it necessary to carry out a campaign focusing on convincing people from across the globe to visit Tanzania’s tourist destinations.

The Deputy Minister said plans were underway to launch a documentary involving President Samia and Zanzibar President, Dr Hussein Mwinyi.

Early April, Prime Minister Kassim

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Majaliwa told the House that following the remarkable success of the Royal Tour film, the country is now poised to further increase the number of tourists.

According to the Prime Minister, the government believes that the launch of another documentary, named ‘Amazing Tanzania,’ will serve as a catalyst to attract more tourists, predominantly from China, to visit the country.

“Building upon the remarkable success of the ‘Tanzania: The Royal Tour’s film the government has produced another world-class tourism promotional film titled ‘Amazing Tanzania,’ Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa was quoted as informing the Parliament.

He said the film features recordings by President Samia Suluhu Hassan and Zanzibar’s President Hussein Ali Mwinyi, along with renowned Chinese actor Jin Dong.

“The film aims to attract tourists, especially from the Chinese market, and is scheduled for launch in May 2024,” PM Majaliwa said.

The Royal Tour’s documentary gained popularity between August and September 2021 before subsequently being screened in various locations, including New York on April 18, 2022, Los Angeles on April 21st, 2022, Arusha on April 28th, 2022, Zanzibar on May 7th, 2022, and Dar es Salaam on May 8th, 2022.

Tourism has regained its stronghold in the country as opposed to a few years ago, when the global economy was ravaged by the Covid-19 pandemic, with many countries experiencing devastating impacts. Tourism was among the sectors most affected by the scourge.

Lockdowns imposed by many countries caused difficulties for travellers and negatively impacted the tourism sector.

However, Tanzania took a different approach by keeping its doors open to tourists while implementing necessary precautions. To ensure the tourism sector remains strong, President Samia decided to create the “Royal Tour,” a documentary highlighting Tanzania’s unique natural scenery and promoting tourism.

The much-heralded documentary, the first of its kind, premiered on public television stations across the United States

Angellah Kairuki, Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism of Tanzania (right) and John McEnroe, an American former professional tennis player. John and his brother Patrick played a historic tennis match on the Serengeti as part of an eight-day safari at Serengeti Park in 2023.



starting April 21, 2022, followed by its launch in Arusha, Tanzania.

Presenting a report on activities undertaken by the committee in 2023 in parliament recently, the committee Chairman Timotheo Mnzava stated that the tourism sector is a leading contributor to foreign exchange earnings, accounting for more than 20 per cent of the country’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

He noted that the tourism sector has achieved unprecedented statistics since the country gained independence.

Tanzania is ranked at the top of the World Economic Forum’s Competitiveness Index for nature-based tourism in Africa. President Samia’s historic launch of the Royal Tour has reinvigorated the tourism sector and increased the number of tourists in the country.

The Bank of Tanzania Quarterly Economic Review for the last quarter of 2023 shows that the number of tourists who visited the country reached 1,790,301, the highest number ever recorded in the sector. In terms of employment, the sector has created 1,600,000 direct jobs, equivalent to 11 per cent of all jobs in the country.

The parliamentary committee Chairman noted that among the backpackers who visited the country for tourism purposes, 58 per cent visited the national parks while 42 per cent visited

other tourist attractions, including the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, beaches and Zanzibar.

Following the miraculous results of the Royal Tour documentary featuring President Samia, plans are underway by TTB to coordinate the production of four international documentaries, including two continuations of the Royal Tour film and two international documentaries from Hollywood. Mr Mnzava said.

“One of the films will be titled ‘Kijiji cha Milele’ or ‘Presidential Tour,’ featuring President Samia and the famous Chinese film actor Mr Jing Dong, while the other documentary will focus on the contribution of the late Father of the Nation Julius Nyerere in the liberation struggle of Africa.” President Samia’s initiative did not go unnoticed, as the Indian-based institution—International Iconic Award recognised her.

Similarly, the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) honoured President Samia with a special award in recognition of her zeal in promoting tourism.

While presenting the award to the then Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Ms Pindi Chana, TANAPA Board of Trustees Chairperson, General George Waitara (retired) said the conservation agency honoured President Samia for her starring role in the Royal Tour Documentary, which promotes destination Tanzania.

Dar strikes gold as Inter-Club vibe goes viral

By ROYAL Golf Reporter

THE Dar es Salaam-based clubs; Dar Gymkhana who emerged victorious in the team category and Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) Lugalo, which impressed in the individual category through Peter Fiwa and Joseph Tango's exceptional performances, have set the bar high for the next inter-club golf event.

Nevertheless, Seif Mcharo, from Morogoro Gymkhana, strongly believes that his club will clinch the inter-club golf championship in the upcoming event.

The revived Coast Zone Inter-Club Golf Competition is back and has already brought a new breath into the golf discipline after the recent tournament that involved three clubs; Dar Es Salaam Gymkhana, Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) Lugalo, and Morogoro Gymkhana.

Host TPDF Lugalo golfers had the best scores in the individual category, the par 72 course saw the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana emerging top at the team's discipline as broadly detailed in the three-club showdown staged in Dar es Salaam on March 9th

this year.

However, the competition turned into a two-horse affair with Lugalo and DGC battling for life.

Thanks to the Tanzania Golf Union (TGU) and Tanzania Ladies Golf Union (TLGU) the competition that went dull for several years was brought back this year and it was a thrilling event.

DGC team shocked their opponents after they were crowned the Inter-Club Coast Zone 2024 Competition winners in the overall team's performance.

At the end of 18 holes, the DGC team delightfully clinched the overall title to bring the joy home.

It was all smiles for the DGC team who outclassed their closest challenger hosts Lugalo by 11 pairs of matches to seven to be crowned 2024 champions.

Unlike other opponents, they re-organised themselves by distributing uniforms a day before the event.

The expansive DGC course located near the Indian Ocean at the heart of Dar es Salaam utilised the March 8 Women's Day Celebration tournament to drill golfers for the three-club showdown on March 9th this year.

It was Mother's Day and Mother's blessings altogether since the blessings are important no wonder the team went all the way to win the event, thanks to the club ladies.

The competition was divided into two main categories including pairs and individual battles.

Apart from club battles several individual players won prizes including the best pairs top prize



Fred Laizer



Dar Gymkhana Club team members celebrate with the trophy.

won by a team of Peter Fiwa and Joseph Tango from TPDF Lugalo who beat their opponents from Morogoro Gymkhana club by 8 with 7 holes to go.

Lugalo's best assist for his partner prize went to Chediel Msechu while Morogoro Gymkhana's captain Seifu Mcharo led by example for being a captain who won for his club, while the DGC team's prize went to Kiki Ayonga.

Lugalo's Peter Fiwa who netted 70 strokes, won the men's Division A prize, and host Nsajigwa Mwansasu who netted 73 strokes finished second in individual prizes.

DGC's Logan Grobean was awarded the men's B Division prize after netting 69 strokes as host Chediel Msechu emerged as the runner-up.

Dar Gymkhana's Barmeda Ashid carded an impressive 71 net to win the Division C title on countback against host Ali Mwalimu after they tied on 71 net strokes.

The senior top prize went to Ibrahim Muhona who netted 73 strokes as club-mate Jean Yang finished second with 76 net strokes.

The ladies' category was dominated by Lugalo with Dafroza Elam and Vicky Elias returning 70 and 73 net strokes to claim the first and second prizes respectively.

NCBA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Claver Selumaga of DGC won the men's longest drive award as Lugalo's Leticia Kapalia took the ladies' prize and, the nearest to the pin winner was again Vicky Elias of TPDF Lugalo.

The competition was not short of prizes as smart golfer prizes went to Jiten Lavingia, Nicholas Zambekitas and Nsajigwa Mwansasu for DGC, MGC, and Lugalo, while the ladies' prize winner was Joyce Ndyetabura.

Graced by the TPDF Air Force Commander Major General Shabaan Mani, the event's best performers were awarded trophies and cash prize from the tournament's sponsors.

Mani thanked the main sponsors CRDB Bank and co-sponsors TBL, SBL, and Serena Hotels for their successful cooperation at the competition.

He also complimented TGU and TLGU for good management and hailed the management of TPDF Lugalo's efforts to develop and promote the game.

Among others, the competition aims at strengthening friendship and cooperation among the trio clubs.

On the other hand, the joyful DGC captain, Fred Laizer had several weeks to celebrate the title at the club with members to ensure it was there to stay.

However, it will not be a stroll in the park in the next event as Morogoro Captain Seif Mcharo has vowed to ensure his team wins the title.



The Breakfast Group Memorial Tournament held on March 17th this year at the Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) Lugalo Golf Club awarded winners of the different categories. The event was aimed to commemorate the legacy of two great golfers; the late Ali Mufuruki and University of Dar es Salaam Professor, the late Dr Mohabe Nyirabu.



Venance Masebo

What to know about Tiger Woods and his 2 children



Tiger Woods and his daughter Sam.

NEW YORK, USA

GOLF legend Tiger Woods is a proud father of two.

The five-time Masters champion has made a name for himself in the world of golf in the nearly three decades since he turned pro in 1996.

Nowadays, Woods, who launched the lifestyle brand Sun Day Red with the TaylorMade Golf Company, also plays caddy for his son Charlie, who has followed in his father's footsteps onto the green.

In March, Woods joined Charlie as he and his high school teammates received their championship rings after winning the 2023 state championship in Florida.

Woods told *Golf* magazine in a 2022 interview that he aims to both guide and protect his kids as they grow into their own.

"Being a parent, you always want to be the protector and guider of them and teach them skills that they will need in life when you're not around. And so that's the most important thing about being a parent," Woods said at the time.

Get to know Woods and his children, whom he shares with ex-wife Elin Nordegren, to whom he was married from 2004 and 2010.

Who are Woods' children?

Charlie Woods

Charlie Axel Woods was born on Feb. 8, 2009.

Now a teenager, he has been competing

on the junior golf circuit.

Charlie has competed alongside his father previously but is making his debut Feb. 22 as an individual competitor in a pre-qualifier event for The Cognizant Classic, a PGA Tour event.

In September 2023, Charlie competed in the Notah Begay III Junior Golf National Championship Last Chance Florida Regional, where he emerged as the winner of the regional qualifier in the boys 14-15 age division with final scores of 71 and 66.

In a post-competition interview, Charlie said it was "great" having his dad right alongside him on the course as his caddy.

"We just stay in our own little world and we just take it one shot at a time," he told tournament host Ryan Burr.

"He puts me in my place," he added.

At the national championship in November, held in Louisiana, Charlie tied for 17th place.

The elder Woods has caddied for his son in the past and the father-son duo have also competed together at multiple PNC Championships, most recently in December 2023.

Tiger Woods has previously said he doesn't formally coach Charlie in golf in order to minimize any pressure his son might feel.

"He just watches me do it, and then he kind of does it," Woods said of Charlie in 2021.

When Charlie's high school team in Palm Beach, Florida, won the 2023 state championship, Woods was by his son's side as he received a championship ring.

Sam Woods

Sam Alexis Woods was born on June 18, 2007.

Sam honored her father by introducing him when he was inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame in March 2022, calling him a "fighter."

"You've defied the odds every time," she said.



In December 2023, Sam joined her dad on the golf course at the PNC Championship, where she served as his caddy for the first time.

The PGA Tour posted a video on Instagram showing a sweet moment between the father-daughter duo on the course, captioning the post: "For the first time, Sam Woods is caddying for her father today."

"Sam was fantastic," Woods said of his daughter, according to *Golfweek*. "This is the first time she's ever done this, so it couldn't have been any more special for all of us."



Charlie Woods

ROYAL GOLF MAGAZINE LAUNCHING IN PICTURE

Royal Golf Magazine Head of Administration, Sales & Marketing Amani Hamisi and Madina Idd, one of the Tanzanian top golfers hold copies of the magazine ready for distribution.



Kilimanjaro Golf & Wildlife Estate Director Jerome Bruins admires a copy of the Royal Golf Magazine.



The Minister for Information, Communication and Information Technology Nape Nnauye and the Royal Golf Magazine Head of Administration, Sales & Marketing Amani Hamisi during Magazine Launching at the Championship Kili Golf Club, in Arusha November last year.



The Minister for Information, Communication and Information Technology, Nape Nnauye



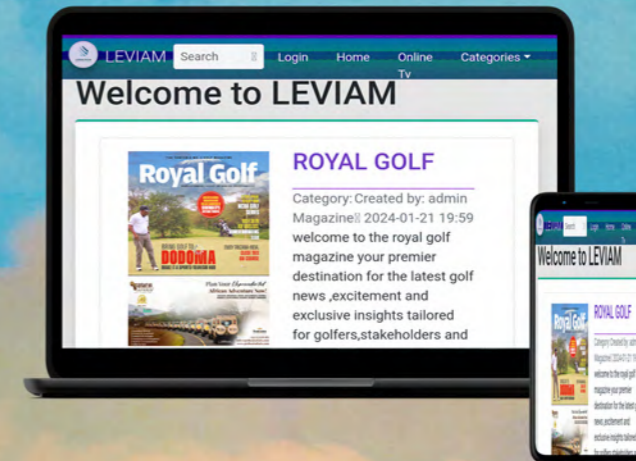
The Minister for Information, Communication and Information Technology Nape Nnauye poses with the Tanzania Golf Union chairman, Gilman Kasiga.

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