

The Victorian



5 February 2026
3rd Edition

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*Victoria Country
Club*



Book your Round Here

*Victoria Country
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*Victoria Country
Club*

—ESTABLISHED IN 1859—



Book your Round Here



*Victoria Country
Club*
**Wednesday
SCHOOL**

11 FEBRUARY 2026

Titleist

GOLF NEWS

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TROPHY update

The 1st round of this years **Mengi Trophy** qualifier tees off on Saturday which is also the Takealot Monthly Mug. As per usual, the 2nd round will therefore form part of the March Monthly Mug as well.

Thereafter, the top 16 players with the lowest nett score will qualify to compete in the knock out stages of the competition, so Good Luck to all!!

The 2025 Mengi Trophy presentation took place on Wednesday and well played to Shabeer Essa.

The **Farrant Cup Trophy** for 2025 was also presented on Wednesday to Shabeer Essa and Afzal Mahomed, well played gents!



To Give OR NOT TO GIVE

This is a question often debated at the 19th Hole and the traditionalist will say "if it is that short or easy, hole it."

In a nutshell, if you are playing in a competition and your score is required for the competition, please hole out, and if it is not, please apply the provisions as set out by the WHS as this does help to speed up play and keep the game honest.

GOLF NEWS

-brought to you by - *Titleist*



Sunshine Tour Rookie of the Year
LEADERBOARD

 **THE** *FORTRESS*
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Pos	Player	Tours	Points
1	 Luis Carrera 1,386.50 Pts		
2	 Warwick Purchase 728.06 Pts		
3	 Pierre Viallaneix 445.63 Pts		
4	Kieron van Wyk	8	372.73
5	Allen John	13	370.86
6	Jordan Burnand	21	324.32
7	Xander Basson	19	322.48
8	Rowan Lester	20	290.33
9	Ryan van der Klis	19	276.99
10	Thomas Spreadborough	20	249.75

 **SUNSHINE TOUR** *GREATNESS*

Following the SDC Open

HNA SYSTEM UPGRADE MIGRATION REMINDER

The HNA system migration commences 22h00 on Sunday 1 February 2026. As communicated by HNA, there is a required offline down time until Thursday 5 February 2026.

For continuous updates please visit the HNA website 

<https://www.handicaps.co.za/>



FROM THE FAIRWAYS **COURSE & GREENS**

WHY BUNKERS DON'T BEHAVE LIKE THE BEACH

The bunker looked innocent enough — until you stepped into it. Suddenly the sand felt different, your confidence disappeared, and the green felt miles away. Sound familiar?

Every golfer has experienced it. One week the bunker plays soft and forgiving, the next it's firm, damp, or unexpectedly compacted. Same bunker, completely different outcome — and no, it's not out to get you.

Unlike beaches, bunkers are carefully engineered playing surfaces. Each one is built with specific sand depths, drainage systems, and shaping to create a fair challenge rather than an unfair penalty. So what changes? Quite a lot.

Rain causes sand to settle and firm up. Dry spells loosen it. Foot traffic compacts certain areas, especially when golfers enter and exit from the same spots or rake sand out of play. Over time, this affects how the bunker plays — sometimes from one day to the next.

Our course maintenance team spends countless early mornings reshaping faces, redistributing sand, and managing drainage to keep bunkers consistent and playable — even if they don't always feel forgiving.











So next time you find yourself staring down a bunker shot and questioning your club choice, remember: it's not bad luck — it's weather, wear, and a few hundred footprints before yours. A proper rake on the way out doesn't just help the next golfer... it might help you next week.



GOLF NEWS

CLUB CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Ladies Golf 	4 Wednesday School Rhode Island 4 BBBS	5	6  15h00: Chicken Run	7 TakeAlot.com Monthly Mug & 4 BA 1st Round Mengi PQ 
8  ROYAL DURBAN GC	9	10 Ladies Golf 	11 Wednesday School Acushnet 4 BBBS <i>Titleist</i>	12	13	14 Valentine's Day 4 BA 
15 PM: Family Par 3 	16	17 Ladies Golf 	18 Wednesday School Lexus Uhmanga 4 BA SMG LEXUS	19	20	21 GOWRIE <i>Challenge</i> 2026 KZN CLOSED
22 KZN CLOSED	23	24 Ladies Golf 	25 Wednesday School 4 BA  Hatfield Motor Group Proud to be Green! BBBEE level 1 Contributor 135%	26	27	28 Club Competition: 4 BBS

MEMBERSHIP OFFICE

Michell's Desk

A reminder to all that the **100 Club** Monthly Draw takes place on the last Wednesday of every month and additional tickets can be purchased of the day prior to the draw.

You can also **secure your favourite number** for the year by contacting Michell at membership@victoria.co.za
Good luck!

Please be reminded that all cart owners are required to pay an **annual cart trail fee** and if applicable, the relevant **parking fees** as well. This includes **homeowners** that make use of the club's golf cart pathway network to access the club from the estate.

We have started to issue **numbered cart discs** to valid golf cart users and the **2026 discs** are available for **collection at the proshop**.



GOLF NEWS



On Wednesday, 4 February, our Ladies Team opted for cooler Fairways, and played in the Nel Hean Trophy - hosted by Gowrie Farm.

This Ladies Event was played in great spirit, friendly competition and made more meaningful by raising funds for the SPCA.

RESULTS

1st place (41 points): Camilla Barlow & PJ Greene

2nd place (40 points): Kath du Preez & Darryl Fainsinger

3rd place (38 points): Carryn Smith & Janeen Cole



As we are into Feb 2026 already, I would like to highlight some upcoming events and news from the captain:

- An ongoing problem is the failure of golfers to not rake the bunkers, repair divots and pitch marks – the main culprits are normally the corporate groups – I appeal to members to assist in reminding any golfers who fail to do this.
- The new Signs are up on the T Boxes – I hope the tips assist our golfers.
- We have 24 player challenge against Gowrie on the Sat 21st Feb – please support this as it will be a great day. Transport has been arranged for - VCC to Gowrie and back. Please submit names to the Pro Shop. It should be noted that the course is closed for the KZN Closed Champs on 21st and 22nd Feb.
- We are trying to arrange a Valentine's theme for Saturday 14th Feb – Details to follow.
- Please also diarize the Thirsti Club Champs over the the weekend of the 9th and 10th May – this will be a very festive weekend, where we will see who our top players are.

Thanks for your support in 2025 and let's hope 2026 continues to make VCC the top club in the Midlands.

See you on the course or in the air-conditioned Bar.

Cheers Your Captain.

RESULTS



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Attorneys, Notaries, Conveyancers

THE JUG QUALIFIER: PINEHURST MEDAL

Saturday 31 January

1st: Berrick Wills, Matt Dukes: 64,20 Nett

2nd: Jeff Walker, Justin Platt: 65,20

3rd: Mark Laing, Guss Gubba: 66,00

LADIES RESULTS:

Tuesday 3 February: Individual Stableford

1st: Wendy Carruthers: 42 points

2nd: Bev Stewart: 39

3rd: Simone Raymond: 38 oco

WEDNESDAY SCHOOL -



Rd.IsInd
NEW ENGLAND , USA

Better Ball Bonus Bogey

1st: Glen Usher, Alan Martin: +10 Points

2nd: Wynand Hart, Lee Chalk: +6 oco

3rd: Mike Eglington, Hente Martens +6



RAQUET NEWS

- Squash Summer League takes place every Tuesdays from 17:30
- Results are to follow soon
- Access to the Tennis Courts are via the Squash Complex - Please have your biometrics done at the Club during Office Hours

*Did you catch Neal for his Facebook Live debut?
Watch it here...*



There were some real humdingers in the 2nd round of fixtures in this year's VCC summer league.

Sean Muller blew 6 match points, going down to Jason 2-3. Aphiwe showed his youthful exuberance in narrowly defeating Paul Siddal 3-2. Neal lost to him nemesis, Chris Bentley, once again in another closely contested match.

Some of the "older" players are starting to show their age, with Dalmain tearing his hamstring and losing 2-3 to the lively Ellena. Garth had a really unfortunate incident, where he collided into the wall and broke his hand and Neal rolled his ankle, but managed to complete his match.

The Sonid Hedgehogs have stormed into an early lead, followed by Daniel's Ducks. Dalmain's Divas and Nicola's Nomads are level pegging, with Naidoo's Nachos sitting at the bottom of the log. Both Sean's Strikers and Bruere's Biuncers have only played one match this far.

We look forward to next week's fixtures, with the weather forecast not being kind to us at the moment.



THE CLUBHOUSE TABLE

**SPECIAL
PROMO**




Reggie's Bar



**ANY 2
PIZZAS FOR
R199**

Special

MEET OUR TEAM



MANDLA MAPHALALA
MAINTENANCE TEAM

Mandla joined Victoria Country Club in 2006 and has proudly been part of the club family for nearly 20 years.

He began his journey with the club at the age of 40, working in the gardens, where his strong work ethic and dedication quickly became evident.

Over time, Mandla was promoted to the changerooms — a role he truly enjoys. Whether it's meticulously cleaning golf shoes or assisting with the Saturday School, he takes great pride in making sure members and young golfers are well looked after.

Now 60 years old, his outlook on life is simple and sincere: good health and continued well-being, especially after facing health challenges over the past year.

Quietly dependable and deeply committed, Mandla remains a cherished part of the Victoria Country Club team.



SPHAMANDLA
'SUNSHINE' ZONDI
PROSHOP & GOLF
OPERATIONS

A familiar smile around the club, Sunshine has been part of the Victoria Country Club family since 2014. He began his journey as a bar porter and, following Covid, transitioned into the Proshop environment where he now serves as our Caddie Master.

Sunshine oversees a team of 29 caddies and plays a key role in ensuring smooth interaction between golfers and caddies on any given day.

He says the best part of his job is the people — engaging with golfers and sponsors — while the most challenging is managing the occasional caddie misbehavior.

A proud dad and still learning the game himself, Sunshine is happy in his current role and looks forward to continuing his growth within the Proshop. If you see him on the course, a friendly greeting is always guaranteed.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Victoria Country Club
Introducing
VALENTINE'S GOLF
4BA
FEBRUARY 14
SATURDAY | 2026

Prizes for
BEST DRESSED 4 BALL
LOUDEST 4 BALL

Enjoy Family Love
KIDS FUN ZONES
MEAL SPECIALS @ REGGIES
MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT



CHICKEN RUN
6 FEB
9 HOLES – IPS
3PM START
PRIZE GIVING @ 17:30

R150
GREEN FEES & CART

PIZZA Friday
REGGIE'S BAR SPECIAL
ANY 2 PIZZA'S @ R199



Monthly Sponsored by
the local choice here for you.
OMEGA
PHARMACY & CLINIC

FAMILY PAR 3 COMPETITION
15 FEBRUARY

U16 PLAY FREE ADULTS @ R100 CARTS @ R150
FAMILY, FUN & FAIRWAYS
10 HOLES • PITCH & PLAY FROM 1PM
PRIZE GIVING @ 3:30PM
BOOK YOUR SPACE
marketing@victoria.co.za 033 347 1394

Victoria Country Club



Victoria Country Club
GOWRIE Challenge
2026

Are you ready to take on the Members @ Gowrie Farm?
Bring your A Game for this Inaugural Challenge!

SATURDAY
21 February 2026
Tee Off Time - 11:30

INCLUDES:
• Green Fees
• Shared Cart
• 'Yes Please' Concierge
Return Transport
Fee: R950 per player

BOOK TO SECURE
LIMITED AVAILABILITY

**NEW
DROP!**

THE BACK PAGE

Members Only

ADVERTISING SPACE

Your ad here



Your ad here



Your ad here



**CONTACT US FOR A MARKETING OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUR BUSINESS IN
OUR MAGAZINE WITH A DIRECT CLICKABLE LINK TO YOUR
WEBSITE/CONTACT**


FCFS - T'S & C'S APPLY



UNTIL WE MEET AT THE CLUBHOUSE

*Victoria Country Club is more than a destination — it's a place
to belong. Whether you're here for a round of golf, a great
meal, or familiar faces, we look forward to welcoming you
again soon.*



 Victoria Country Club <small>-ESTABLISHED IN 1859-</small>	+27 33 347 1394
www.victoria.co.za	marketing@victoria.co.za

