



RNGC Club life

October - December (Quarter 1 Newsletter) 2023



A ROYAL NAIROBI GOLF CLUB PUBLICATION

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Chairman's Note



Dear Honorable Members,

Welcome to the fourth edition of the Royal Nairobi Golf Club Newsletter this year. Reflecting on my tenure as Chairman, I'm filled with gratitude for the opportunity to contribute to the enduring legacy of our cherished Royal Nairobi Golf Club.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to my family for their steadfast support throughout this challenging yet rewarding year. The role of Chairman demands sacrifices, and your understanding and support made it all the more bearable.

Our Membership has flourished, and I extend a warm welcome to the new Members who have chosen Royal Nairobi Golf Club. To every Member, your continued patronage throughout this year is truly appreciated.

A special note of gratitude to all our generous sponsors who have supported us throughout this year. Collaborating with you has been an incredible journey, and on behalf of the club, I express my sincere thanks for the relationships forged and the unwavering support, especially during my Chairman's Prize. We look forward to nurturing these relationships in the coming year.

To my dedicated Board of Directors, I am immensely grateful for your tireless efforts in fulfilling your responsibilities. Together, we have achieved significant milestones, and I extend my heartfelt thanks to each one of you. I extend my deepest thanks to the past chairmen for their invaluable guidance during my tenure. Your wisdom has provided me with a clear sense of direction throughout the year.

Recognition is due to the Management, led by the General Manager, Mr. Jacob Omondi. Thank you for your unwavering dedication in steering this Club towards greater heights. The collective efforts of every department are truly appreciated.

This year, we embarked on the long-awaited extension of the Ladies' changing rooms, and I'm delighted to announce that this project is nearing completion. Contributing to the support of the growing lady membership at Royal Nairobi Golf Club is a source of pride.

Members, at the outset of this year, I stood before you and pledged not to leave without accomplishing my primary mission—ensuring a sustainable water supply. I assured you that RNGC would never host the desert classic again. Today, our lakes are filling, and the rivers of Royal are flowing. I take great pride in ensuring that RNGC will never go without water. Additionally, we successfully completed the pool project. More endeavors lie ahead.

I extend gratitude to Tile and Carpet for sponsoring RNGC with a borehole pump for the new borehole worth Kes 1 million. Thank you, Tile & Carpet and Chirag. Furthermore, I've tasked our projects director, Mr. Kimani Gicheru, with designing the brand-new pump house for our lakes. These will be sponsored to RNGC by Friends of Chairman 2023.

Members, your unwavering support has made these accomplishments possible, showcasing RNGC as a testament to our community's strength.

As I pass the baton, I hold confidence in RNGC's future. Let's not bid farewell but celebrate the journey. May the fairways ahead be filled with joy, success, and the timeless spirit of friendship. My final mission is to drill a brand-new borehole for RNGC, with all sponsor contributions dedicated to this enduring legacy.

In closing, I extend a warm welcome to the new Board of Directors 2024. I am confident that our club will ascend to greater heights in the coming year. We entrust the next year to your capable hands and have full confidence in your abilities.

God bless you all, and God bless Royal Nairobi Golf Club. Wishing everyone a prosperous New Year 2024.



Past Chairman Odongo Mark Okeyo receives the overall winner prize during JT Chairman's Prize 2023

*J.T - Jatinder Thethy
Chairman Royal Nairobi Golf Club*



RNGC 2023 Board Celebrates the Outgoing Chairman JT With a token recognition during the Chairman's prize 2023

Captain's Note

Esteemed Members,

Welcome to the fourth publication of our newsletter this year.

I have had the privilege to serve as the captain of Royal Nairobi Golf Club in 2023. It would not have been a success without the continued and unwavering support I have received from all of you, coupled with your dedication to the game of golf.

I was well aware of the immense responsibility that came with being captain, and I take pride in the results we have achieved.

Golf course maintenance

Since the start of my tenure, maintaining our golf course has been a top priority in collaboration with the Golf and Course Committee. I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated Green Keeper and the esteemed course committee for their exceptional maintenance and supervision of our course.

The following are the highlights on the course:

1. Aeration of the fairways and application organic manure. This keeps the playing surface in excellent shape.
2. Improvement of the drainage on various aprons, enhancement of water management, and prevention of waterlogging on aprons.
3. We Revamped our irrigation system. By dividing the course into two sections, we can efficiently water all fairways and greens in one day when water supply allows.
4. Adjustment of the irrigation on Hole No. 15 for even coverage and replacement of any malfunctioning sprinklers.
5. Improvement of the drainage on the putting green and replacement of the poor-growing areas with sand.
6. Our maintenance team refined their techniques, ensuring a tidy course by raking rubbish, clearing dry leaves, and collecting eucalyptus seeds.
7. Establishment of drainage systems to capture water from Ngong Road, utilizing both the Rose of Sharon and Jiweke drains. This water is now directed to our Northern and Southern dams located on Holes No. 15 and 16.

I cannot fail to mention the impactful tree-planting initiatives that we have undertaken throughout this year. The commitment and enthusiasm of our members in responding to the call to improve our environment have been truly commendable not forgetting the great turnout during the nationwide tree planting holiday on Monday, 13th November. I extend my gratitude to each and every member who actively participated in this meaningful initiative, showcasing our shared dedication to creating a greener and more sustainable environment.

Competitions

We have had successful tournaments and events that showcased the talent and sportsmanship of our golfers. We have had an increase in the green fee and range practice, as shown below:

Course Income	% Increase	2022'2023	2021'2022
		Kshs	Kshs
Green fee	12%	6,884,015	6,124,007
Range Practice	16%	4,884,015	4,175,377

Our **golf course income** rose from **Kshs. 111,453,839** in **2021/2022** to **Kshs. 117,571,409** in **2022/2023**, amounting to a **5% growth**.

This achievement is a testament to the vibrant and growing community of golf enthusiasts who frequent our facilities. The continued support and engagement of our members and visitors have significantly contributed to this positive financial outcome. As we celebrate this milestone, let us also express our gratitude to all the golfers who have played a key role in fostering the success of our club. Your commitment to the sport and our community is truly appreciated, and we look forward to further enhancing the golfing experience for everyone involved.

Our average attendance for competitions has been commendable with an average of 180 to 200 players per competition to a high of 200 players. The captain's prize 2023 attracted over 400 players over the two days. Indeed, the challenge going forward is hosting competitions and ensuring that every player finishes his/ her round and am sure the new Golf committee will be up to the task.

I wish to recognize the following sponsors for their contribution this year: Jamii Telcom Kenya, Crystal Rivers, EABL, Coca-cola, The Good Life Pharmacy, AAR, KNH, St. John's Ambulance, Safari Park Hotel, Farmers Choice, Ziara SEZ, Great Rift Golfing Society, Dentistry Charity, Fat Rhinos, IIK, KDF, KenGen, NCBA, Britam, Pro Shop, Peter Muasa, Superior Homes, Stellar Physio, Social Meds, IPS, Opulence, Rentco, Stanbic, Unclaimed Financial Assets Authorities, LAMI, CPF, Royal Doctors, First Assurance, Royal Seniors, ICEA, Kenya Pipeline Company, Amazon Consultants, KUSCCO, Pinecrest, Iron Mongers, Sanlam, KWAL, Kibo Sports, Tysons. Pernord Ricard AND MEMBERS OF ROYAL NAIROBI GOLF CLUB.

Our club also had the honor of hosting great tournaments such as the NCBA Golf Series, Alumnus Golf, KenGen Golf Day, IQSK Golf Day, KDF Friendly tournament, Old Cambrians Society Golf Day, Detour Golf Day, Wakili Golf Day, Mulembe Golf Day and Sunset Golf Society Festival, Wanabima, Nation Media Group Grand Finale, AIESEC, Kenya Editors Guild, Red Cross Golf Day and the Inaugural Cancer Awareness Golf Tournament in memory of the late Rosemary Kariuki-late wife of our member, Martin Kiruthu.

Handicapping

We have managed to align the procedure of issuance handicaps with the KGU handicap management guidelines. Thanks to the Handicap Committee led by Geoffrey Rono, Rachel Lofty, and DR JJ Masiga, we have issued 51 handicaps to adult Golfers and 17 junior golfers.

Adopt A Hole Program

I extend my sincere appreciation to all members who have participated in the adoption of golf holes. As this initiative continues to unfold, I strongly encourage additional members to join in and proactively contribute to the care and maintenance of these golf holes.

Tannahill Shield (Easter Tournament)

We successfully held the 98th Tannahill Shield (Easter Tournament) from 7th to 9th April, 2023. The juniors' competition was held on 3rd and 4th April 2023, where we emerged in fourth place with a total of 567 points. The seniors' tournament took place on April 7th, 2023, for the second edition of the Senior Tannahill Trophy where we emerged in fourth place with a total of 269 points.

The Royal main team, Team 27, emerged sixth place with a total of 269 points against the other 8 participating teams. Sigona emerged the winner for the 98th Edition of the Tannahill Shield. We knew they were the team to beat after facing them during the Patrons' Cup and the NDC League. I believe that we will regain our shield through our junior program.

As we approach the centenary of the Tannahill Shield in 2025, I extend my encouragement to all golfers to dedicate themselves to honing their skills. Let us collectively strive for excellence and aim to secure victory in the upcoming tournaments, proudly representing our club's legacy in the rich history of the Tannahill Shield.

Highlights:

1. Wanabima Tournament

The Wanabima tournament hosted their fourth edition at Royal Nairobi Golf Club from 20th to 24th April 2023. The Juniors competition was played on Sunday, April, 23rd, 2023, whose participants were invited juniors from JGF and The Royal Junior Academy. The caddies and staff had the opportunity to play on Monday, April, 24th 2023. Special thanks to our Vice Chairman, Charles Kariuki, and our Member, Eric Rugo for organizing such a successful tournament.

2. Wakili Golf Day

The Wakili Golf Day, held on Saturday, 16th September 2023, was a resounding success with the participation of over 150 golfers. In addition, the Wakilis graciously sponsored the clubnite on 14th September 2023, setting the stage for the main tournament. We extend our sincere appreciation to the esteemed sponsors who contributed to the success of this event, including Dr. Mutubwa, Theuri Wesonga Advocates, Kenya Originals, K2U, Mount Kenya University, Image Registrars, Muthokinju Paints and Cement, and Nestle, among others.

Our gratitude extends particularly to the Wakilis for their unwavering support as a Club. We eagerly anticipate the prospect of fostering more partnerships with them in the future.

3. Nairobi District League

We took the lead at the Nairobi District Captain's League with 157 points. I would want to convey my heartfelt appreciation to the Royal Simbas for the incredible run.

We have excelled in the game of golf, led by our league convener, George Makori but sadly lost on the last 3 games.

The Chairman's, the Lady Captain's and the Captain's Prizes Events

I wish to express my deepest gratitude to all those corporates and individuals who sponsored and supported all the three Prizes.

Annual Club Competitions

I would like to specially recognize Mr. Paul Ichangi for emerging the winner of the Men's Match Play Championship.

Royal Junior Golf

I have particularly invested in the Royal Junior Golf sector and I can say that I am proud of the growth we have made over the years. Our juniors represented us in the Nairobi Junior League and played all their matches. They finished fourth. Let us appreciate our junior players and parents who sacrificed their weekends to represent our club in these tournaments.

Golf Office

We have recently employed a new Golf Manager, Peter Otieno, and a new Golf Admin, David Waweru. This will greatly contribute to the improvement of efficiency at the golf office, including punctuality and discipline in presentations and the returning of scorecards.

Finally, as I sign off, I would like to wish our new Captain, Dr. Richard Owino, the very best for 2024. I hope that all the members will lend him, his Vice Captain, and the team the necessary assistance so that they can enjoy their year.

The course has seen significant improvement, and we're committed to ongoing excellence, now with water available. For any misunderstandings, please forgive me; it was simply part of the job. Serving as your 2023 Captain has been an honor. I appreciate everything, and here's to better golf next year.

Wishing you all happy festivities! God bless you and Royal Nairobi Golf Club.



Peter Mwangi
Captain Royal Nairobi Golf Club

- Lady Captain's Note -



Dear fellow Members,

I am pleased to welcome you all to the fourth publication of our newsletter this year. It is both an honor and a bittersweet moment as I conclude my tenure as your Lady Captain, a journey that has been marked by shared passion, and the wonderful spirit of the Royal Nairobi Golf Club.

First and foremost, I thank God for His grace and guidance. Without His support, this journey wouldn't have been possible. Secondly, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to my family—my pillars of strength and unwavering support throughout this incredible journey. Behind the scenes, they have been my rock, understanding the time and dedication required to fulfill the role of Lady Captain. Their encouragement, understanding, and countless sacrifices have allowed me to embrace this responsibility with passion and commitment. To my family, your love has been the driving force behind every event and every moment shared at RNGC. This journey would not have been the same

without you, and for that, I am eternally grateful. Thank you for being the foundation upon which my service to the Royal Nairobi Golf Club stands.

The journey as a leader in Royal has been a transformative experience starting with being a league convenor and being part of the Match and Handicapping Committee. It progressed to joining the board as the Vice Lady Captain and a convenor of the Human Capital Committee and finally the Lady Captain. It has challenged my capabilities, increased my patience, resilience and enhanced my leadership skills. It has been a journey of continuous learning, navigating the balance between tradition and innovation within our esteemed club. The support from fellow members, coupled with the various experiences encountered, have broadened my perspective and enriched my understanding of our unique golfing community.

As I reflect on this year, I am immensely proud of the strides we have made as a community. I would like to share the significant milestones we've achieved this year:

1. Competitions:

We hosted 25 ladies' competitions, including the Jubilee Cup, Kennedy Cup, Strokeplay Championship, and the Matchplay Championship. To crown it all, Cherono Kipkorir, one of our talented juniors, emerged as the champion of the Ladies' Matchplay Championship. Alongside these we organized the grand Ladies Invitational, The Ladies Open (a GOTY event open to all ladies across the country with valid handicaps), and the climax of the year, The Lady Captain's Prize!

2. The Ladies' Breakfast Conversations:

As I set up my calendar for the year, I wanted to enable all the ladies, golfers and non-golfers, to build their brand. I therefore was driven to organize a series of Breakfast Conversations as a platform for this to happen. This has provided an arena for connection and growth towards ladies building their brand. The inspiring discussions on leadership to enriching talks on investments, each conversation has been a stepping stone toward building a stronger and more connected community and I believe the goal was met.



The first two conversations were moderated by Patricia Okello, MD Candid Conversations; Women in Business Circles.

I would like to extend special thanks to our esteemed panelists and moderators who played a pivotal role in making these conversations insightful and impactful, particularly, Patricia Okello, founder of Candid Conversations; Women in Business Circles, who allowed us to use her brand in these conversations. To all who attended, your support and collaboration were instrumental in making each conversation a memorable and enriching experience.

3.The Ladies’ Clinic

Under the expert guidance of our Pros led by Pro Alfred Nandwa and Pro Anil Shah, the ladies’ clinics have been a journey of skill enhancement and great connections. We scheduled 3 clinics each running for approximately a month and taught them the basics of golf, golf etiquette, rules of golf and also covered the following areas: Theory R&A level 1, Practical Fundamentals, short and long game. We also gave the opportunity to participate in the Lady Captain’s Prize week on 1st November 2023. To the Pros, I appreciate you all and keep up the good work.

As we celebrate these golf achievements, I encourage all participants and golfers to embrace the challenge of improving their game—a journey that not only enhances skills, but also enriches the joy of the game.

4.Ladies' League Matches 2023

The Ladies’ Premier League had 25 teams with all of them playing a minimum of one match, and the winning team played 21 matches out of 25. During this year's the KLGU 4 Ball Better Ball League, introduced a different format a fantastic experience playing a total of nine matches. Well done to the Convenors and players.

5.Handicapping:

A total of 26 ladies, including juniors, have been issued with handicaps, ensuring a fair and competitive playing field. Thank you to everyone involved in this process, and congratulations to everyone who was handicapped this year. I encourage all of you to maintain the momentum and continue enhancing your game.

6.KLGU Matchplay Championship:

We had the honor of hosting the KLGU Matchplay Championship, where our very own Diana Mbuba emerged as the champion. Congratulations, Diana!

7.Kenya Team

Two ladies namely Ashley Awuor, a junior, and Diana Mbuba, KLGU Matchplay Champion, represented us in the Kenya team at the East and Central All Africa Challenge Trophy (EACAAC) held from October 29th 2023 at the Kigali Golf Resort and Villas. Kenya secured the second spot, and our own Ashley Awuor not only claimed an individual award, but also earned the title of the player of the tournament. A special thank you to Diana Mbuba and Ashley Awuor for representing us admirably. Congratulations to Ashley Awuor for holding up the flag throughout the year. We take immense pride in your achievements.

8. Expansion of the Ladies' Changing Rooms

From the inception of my term, the expansion of the ladies' changing rooms has stood out as a significant project. I'm thrilled to announce that we're in the final stages of completion, with the project having kicked off last quarter. This transformation promises to elevate the experience for our female Members and guests, offering a spacious and comfortable facility tailored to their needs. I would like to appreciate the Board Members whose support has been instrumental in bringing this enhancement to fruition. We look forward to revealing the upgraded changing rooms very soon.

I would like to say a special thank you to my sponsors who have made all these achievements possible. Your unwavering support has truly made a difference, and I express my deepest appreciation. Allow me to mention most of them: The Wine Shop, Past Lady Captain Mary Gatere, Seslaw Advocates, Lued (A) Chemicals Ltd, Samsung, Isuzu, Angelica Medical Supplies Ltd, KWAL, Farmer's Choice, Melvins Tea, Absa Bank Kenya PLC, LOREAL, Elegant Fittings, Amazon Consultants, Maina Lines, Tembo Wild, Health Classique, Jinnel Collections, Dawa Life Sciences, Spectrum, CIC Group, Glenmark, Dr. Ngugi, Kathleen Kihanya, Mumbi Ngengi, KCB Group, Piri, Kamuri - also supported by Kenyatta National Hospital, Diana Mbuba, Lucy Kisia, Hellen Sabwa, Hon. Anne Waiguru, Daughters of Kenya, Chairman Jatinder Thethy, Engineer Gicheru Kimani, Kenchic, Farmers Choice, Crown Paints Kenya PLC, AAR Healthcare, Pharmaplus Pharmaceuticals Limited, Phillips Therapeutics Limited, Madison Group Kenya, Coca-Cola, Fahari Aviation, AIG Kenya Insurance, Dr. Ngugi and Friends of the Lady Captain.

In conclusion, I want to express my deepest appreciation to the 2023 Ladies' Committee. Your unwavering support and dedication have made this journey truly special, and I am grateful for the opportunity to have served alongside such a committed team.

As I bid farewell to this role, I carry with me not just memories of successful events but also a deep sense of personal fulfillment and growth. The lessons learned and connections made will forever live in my heart, shaping the person I am today. As I pass on the mantle to Ms. Elizabeth Njau, our new Lady Captain, I am confident that the Royal Nairobi Golf Club will continue to thrive and grow under new leadership. The journey has been incredible, and I am excited to witness the ongoing success of the club, particularly in the ladies' section. With that said, let me officially welcome the new Ladies' Committee. I wish you all the very best as you strive to lead us to even greater heights. I urge the members to support them as they take on this fulfilling responsibility.

My best wishes for the coming holiday season and new year!

God bless you all, and God bless the Royal Nairobi Golf Club.



Christine Mathenge
Lady Captain Royal Nairobi Golf Club



Hon. Sec's Statement



Dear Honorable Members,

As we present the final newsletter for the year, I am delighted to offer an overview of the operations and activities of the membership office in the first quarter.

During this quarter, we vetted nine applicants, including 3 Full family members, 2 Family Up-grades, 2 Corporate members, and 2 Juniors. Additionally, we balloted a total of twenty new members, including 14 Full individual members, 4 Full family members, 1 Family Up-grade, and 1 Junior conversion.

At the end of this period, the Club's total membership stood at two thousand two hundred and eighty-one (2,281 Members).

Regrettably, we share the sad news of the passing on of Harshad V. Patel Hon. Life Member No. 00074, on October 13th, 2023. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, and we hope for his soul to find eternal peace. In the same period, we received two resignation requests, currently under review.

The Membership Survey was successfully completed and on behalf of the Board, I extend my appreciation to every Member who participated. The information received is currently under review by SDOC and we believe this exercise will significantly contribute to enhancing the services provided to the membership as we plan for the next Strategic Plan.

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) was successfully held on Wednesday, 6th December 2023. I express gratitude to every Member who actively participated in this important Club calendar event. During the AGM, Directors and Officers of the Club for the year 2023/2024 were elected and declared by the Returning Officer as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Charles Kariuki | - Chairman |
| • Hezron Arunga | - Vice Chairman |
| • Evans Kiplimo Lagat | - Honorary Secretary |
| • Abigael W. Munyinyi | - Honorary Treasurer |
| • Dr. Richard Okombo Owino | - Captain |
| • Willy Kibenei Mastamet | - Vice Captain |
| • Elizabeth W. Njau | - Lady Captain |
| • Penny Wambui | - Lady Vice-Captain |
| • Eng. Gicheru Kimanni | - Director |
| • Goel Yash Vedprakash | - Director |
| • Jatinder S. Thety | - Immediate Past Chairman |

Subsequently and pursuant to Article 36 of the Articles of Association of the Club, the new Board, in its inaugural meeting held on 18th December 2023, constituted the following Board Committees for the year:

COMMITTEE	CONVENER
1. Audit & Governance	Mr. Peter Mwangi
2. Finance & Procurement Committee	Ms. Abigael Munyinyi
3. Projects & Maintenance Committee	Eng. Gicheru Kimani
4. Facilities Committee	Mr. Hezron Arunga
5. Human Capital Management Committee	Ms. Penny Wambui
6. Food & Beverage, Service and Entertainment Committee	Mr. Goel Yash
7. Membership & Regulations Committee	Mr. Evans Lagat
8. Course & Golf Office Committee	Dr. Richard Owino
9. ICT, Sponsorship, Marketing, Communication & CSR	Mr. Willy Mastamet
10. Ladies Section Committee	Ms. Elizabeth Njau

Accordingly, the Board invites expressions of interest from the membership to actively participate in and serve on any of the above Board Committees with dedication. An application form has been circulated through various communication channels. Kindly fill it out and return it or email it (info@royalnairobi.com.) so as to reach the Honorary Secretary on or before 8th January 2023 for consideration by the Board.

I take this early opportunity in the year to remind each member that the rules and by-laws exist for the benefit of all members and for good order in the Club. It is therefore crucial that every member faithfully observes and adheres to them without exception.

Lastly, I express gratitude for the opportunity to continue serving as the Honorary Secretary in yet another year having been elected unopposed. Serving our Club is a privilege for which I am truly grateful and am cognizant of your steadfast support in fulfilling the responsibilities of this office.

Meanwhile, I also wish to extend warm wishes and an annus mirabilis in 2024 to you all and your families and very much look forward to seeing you enjoying the wonderful club facilities and amenities in the coming year.

God Bless you all. God Bless Royal Nairobi Golf Club.

*Evans Lagat, FCI Arb.
Honorary Secretary RNGC*

Rhumba TUESDAYS
AT THE ROYAL UPPER DECK

BLENDS BY
DJ VIC/ DJ YUSUF

Buy a bottle of Singleton 12 and get a platter for two

DO NOT FORWARD TO PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS.
EXCESSIVE ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION IS HARMFUL TO YOUR HEALTH.
NOT FOR SALE TO PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS

SUNDAY BRUNCH
AT THE ROYAL POOL AREA

THIS AND EVERY SUNDAY

CHARGES
KSH 1,000 MEMBERS KSH 1,500 MEMBERS GUEST
AND KIDS CHARGED PER ITEM PICKED

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Royal Junior Academy

A famous African proverb you've most likely heard states, "If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together." That, indeed, has been the story of Royal Junior Academy. In one sense, we've had the largest number of volunteers, and though it feels slow, we have started to see the potential fruits of drawing from a wider pool of volunteers who are vested in the initiative or have skin in the game—a statement made popular by the legendary long-term investor Warren Buffett! Indeed, Junior golf is a long-play initiative, but this should not take away from setting objectives to ensure we are on track, and signs are there to demonstrate that we are.

How can we tell? Well, Cherono Kipkorir and Mwathi Gicheru were called to the 2024 AAJTC National Squad Training that will be the basis of the team selection. This initiative that Junior Golf Foundation intends to run all year through with changes to the team composition as competencies change is an example of the growing transparency in team selection that allows junior players to work at giving themselves a chance to join the national squad. RJA has a good pool of players that can make this squad, and it will be vital for the academy through the players, parents, and coaches to work at growing the competence of our junior players to low single handicaps.

The other indicator of the success of the initiative includes the RJA players that took part in the self-caddying RNGC Junior Stroke Play Championship, which is a WAGR ranked event. Two players, Kanana Muthomi and Kevin Anyien, fulfilled the requirements and were added to the list of ranked juniors. Our turn is coming for our first junior to be ranked. At the same tournament, Cherono and Mwathi won their age categories with a very good showing from other star players: Andrew Gatherer, Ryan Mutinda, Bradley Malitt, Kimani Gicheru, Simaloi Mbeya, Steve Kinusu, Joshua Kounah, Kagame Handa, Fanuel Yebeltal.

It is a good time to congratulate Fanuel Yebeltal for the Hole in One achievement at Hole No. 13 Muthiga Golf Club with a 7 Iron to 155 Yards. Well done, Fanuel. Indeed, YG's camera flash was justifiably empty! Our juniors continue to open new territories at an earlier age, which is a sure sign we might be moving slowly, but we are on a great journey.

During the annual Captain's Prize, Maria Asiyu, Irene Asiyu, and Kaelyn Munene were the girl winners in the 6-7-, 8- and 9-10-year categories respectively. Talk of a clean sweep. Ryan Kyaka was the overall boy winner in the 15 and above category while Hope Oduour and Shawn Malesi were the girl and boy winners in the 11-12-year category. Wahura Gioko also took the girl winner prize for the 13-14 category while Tesha Magira was the girl winner in the University Category.

At the Chairman's Prize, Justin Ngeera emerged the overall gross winner at 81 while the 13 and Above Category was led by J. Ongwae 66 Nett and Cherice Wachira 73 Nett. Robert Waitara emerged R/up at 81 Nett. In the 12 and Under HC Section, Bradley Malitt commanded the boy's category at 68 Nett while Simaloi Mbeya carded 65 Nett to lead the girls. In the non-handicapped 14 and Over Category, the winners were A. Kimathi 117, R Anyona 149, while S. Devgun and S. Tchoketch led in the 11-13 Years. Other winners in the respective age categories were Eric Rugo, A Ahadi in 9-10 Years, T. Kyle and I. Thethy in 7-8 Years while in the 6-year-old category A. Kimari 51, M Asiyu 32, A. Thethy 57, and E. Rugo 32—some very impressive scores for the youngest category.

The Parent and Child event saw the pair of Bella/Cedrick Kaane take the overall prize at 44 Points in the Handicapped categories, beating the pair of Francis Mbithi/Pete Mbithi at 40 Points and Steve Lokonyo/Abigael Lokonyo at 39 Points. In the subsidiary category, Eng Kaunda/Ronnie Ngetich emerged the winners at 36 Points, beating JY Lee/Njogu Kungu and Richard Ngumeh/Bryan Gachuba. In the NHC Child category, the pair of PC Odhiambo/B Odhiambo at 43 Nett were the run-away winners, beating Simon/Jeff Kibe and the very well-kitted Lydia Mokaya/Maria Asiyu. In the NHC Parent category, the winners were Patrick/Aiden Muturi at 61 Nett, ahead of Vishal/Aaryan Shah at 65 Nett.

The leadership team this year was the very able team of Brooks Mbeya, Josiah Kamau, Tesha Magira, Chero Murgor, Bob Asiyu, Robert Kuria, Hellen Musalia, Rachel Lofti, Wairimu, and Wanderi Kariuki. As we start a new year looking forward to working with the new leadership and team, even as we continue this amazing journey of encouraging the enjoyment of golf amongst this valuable junior club members. A big thank you to the team, parents, and children—indeed, we will go far!

RJA Highlights



General Manager's Note

Dear Honorable Members,

A warm welcome to the fourth edition of this year's newsletter.

As we reflect on the past year, filled with activities and achievements, on behalf of Management and Staff of RNGC I want to express our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for the exceptional support provided throughout the year. Offering satisfactory Service to you is our utmost pleasure.

A reflection on this year's highlights;

In the realm of Data Protection and Compliance, we took significant stride by sending our IT team to a training organized by the Government in October 2023. Currently, our management is engaged in discussions with consultants to implement the insights gained. As a club we will ensure that we are not left behind in as far as compliance is concerned.

The expansion of the ladies' changing rooms, a project initiated in the last quarter of the year, is nearing completion. We eagerly anticipate the grand reveal of the enhanced and expanded facilities, which emphasizes our commitment to providing top-notch amenities to the membership and this time specifically our lady members.

Renewing our commitment to the well-being of our staff, we recently undertook the renewal of the staff medical scheme. This initiative reflects our dedication to maintaining a healthy and motivated team.

The Management in liaison with the neighbors, proactively formed a committee to strategize and mitigate potential impacts of the anticipated challenges posed by El Nino rains. This foresight ensured the safety and well-being of our members and the harmonious co-existence with our neighbors.

Special thank you to all the Members who took their time to complete the Members Satisfaction survey. As SDOC reviews the feedback received for the purposes of jumpstarting the next Strategic Plan, management is actively working to ensure that based on the insights, the issues and ideas shared are factored in our daily and annual plans aimed at enhancing service delivery to members.

In response to the dynamic economic landscape, we adjusted our food and beverage prices by a modest 15%. This strategic move basically gives a small cushion to the ever increasing input costs by the suppliers. We earnestly look forward to the continued support of our esteemed members.

In a move to reposition, and enhance the efficiency in the Golf section, the Club through the board, employed two senior Staff: these were, Peter Otieno the Golf Manager

who joined on November 6th, 2023, and David Waweru the Golf Administrator who joined on October 1st, 2023. We believe these strategic appointments will contribute to the seamless functioning of our golf operations.

This quarter saw the successful culmination of three major Club golf tournaments: The Lady Captain's Prize, The Chairman's Prize, and the Captain's Prize. These events were marked by seamless collaboration among RNGC management, Staff and the respective organizing Committees. Special thanks to each member of the team for their commendable roles.

In closing, once again on behalf of the Staff I extend a warm welcome to the 2024 Board and assure them of our full commitment to deliver on the expectation and their undertaking to the General Membership. We look forward to working collaboratively in the coming year, leveraging on the immense expertise to further enhance the brand of Royal Nairobi Golf Club.

Thank you Members for your continued support and feedback. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2024.

God bless you all. God bless Royal Nairobi Golf Club.



*Jacob Omondi
General Manager RNGC*

Golf Tips

How can you prevent golf injuries?

The hazards of the game go beyond sand traps and high rough. Here are some tips for preventing injuries and staying safe on the golf course:

- **Use the right equipment:**
 - Gloves can make clubs easier to grip and offer protection from blisters.
 - Don't play with clubs that are too long or short for your height. Playing with the wrong size clubs can lead to poor technique, which can cause strains, soreness and muscle pulls.
 - Wear golf shoes with spikes to avoid slipping when you swing. Real golf shoes provide better traction and stability than regular sneakers.
 - Also, make sure the shoes fit well and are flexible, and let the shoes dry off completely between rounds.
- **Repeating the wrong technique puts extra strain on the back, wrists, elbows and shoulders.** To learn the right technique, take lessons from an experienced coach or trainer. Look for a pro certified by the PGA (Professional Golfers' Association of America).
- **Even if you're just hitting some practice balls, stretch first.** Focus on the back, legs, elbows and wrists. Also, work up to a full swing. Try hitting shots with wedges and short irons before moving up to irons and drivers that require a full swing.
- The hot sun beating down all day can lead to sunburn and serious skin damage. **Bring sunscreen, sunglasses, a hat and protective clothing.** Also, make sure you have plenty of water to keep you hydrated.
- Always be aware of your surroundings. Flying golf balls can come from any direction and can cause injuries. **If someone yells "fore," cover your face or seek protection behind a cart or tree—a hard, fast-moving golf ball could be headed your way!**
- **Also, stay clear of other golfers when they are hitting their shots.** Young, inexperienced golfers must learn to stand back to avoid being hit by a club during a backswing.
- **Watch out for lightning.** If the lightning alarm goes off when you're on the course or if thunder and heavy rain signal that lightning may be on the way, head inside—fast!

Keeping Kids on the Course

Golf is a game you never really master.

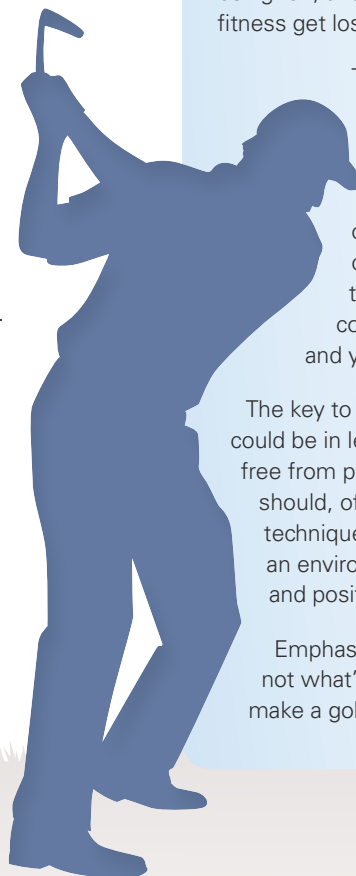
Missed putts and drives into the woods can be hard on the most seasoned players, but they are particularly tough on kids. In fact, a report by the National Golf Foundation found that, between 2005 and 2008, the number of golfers age 6 to 17 dropped 24 percent, to 2.9 million from 3.8 million. The study cited the intimidating design of many modern courses as the main reason most kids put down their clubs.

In many sports, not just golf, mastering new skills and trying to be perfect can lead to frustration and burnout. About 70 percent of young athletes give up on youth sports by age 13. With pressure from parents, coaches and others, sports stop being fun, and the benefits of physical fitness get lost.

That's a shame, because golf is a game that can be played by children, adolescents, adults and seniors. Instilling a love of the game at a young age could create a commitment to fitness and health that could reap rewards for years and years to come.

The key to keeping kids on the course could be in letting kids play the game free from pressure. Coaches and parents should, of course, teach proper technique, but they should do it in an environment that's encouraging and positive.

Emphasize what's fun about golf—not what's frustrating—and you may make a golfer for life.



Projects

The first most logical point to start this last update for 2023 would be to honor the amazing men and women who have dedicated themselves to serve the club over the club calendar year. I have had the honor of standing with accomplished, talented, balanced individuals: Dr. Rachel Njuguna, Qs. Lincoln Ireri, Eng. Kanyua, Pc Darshan Mistry, Cpt Peter Mwangi, Joshua Ichangi, and Arch. OG Wesonga. Indeed, we have achieved much due to your commitment to your club and the use of your competences and personal resources to improve the experience and generate more revenue for the sustainability of the club. The support and engagement of management in Facilities, Procurement, and Finance have been invaluable; thank you.

It would also be important to mention the support of members including former officials who were not part of the committee but volunteered to lend their historical knowledge. Here we would like to single out Arch Kahura, Arch Oscar Ikinu, Qs George Masese, PC Paul Ichangi, Eng. Hesbon Odumbe, Eng. Sheila Mwarangu Eng. James Kigutu who allowed us to draw from their knowledge when we came calling. They did not require a position to serve or come out to the course and willingly allowed that we use them as a sounding board, dispelling some of our thoughts and reinforcing concepts, many of which had been thought of before and needed very little refining. Indeed, we have a rich heritage as a club, and if each year builds on the great past, we have a great chance of coming close to our potential that far surpasses any other club due to the unique endowment of our facility and the richness of our membership mix.

You ask then where are we on the pending projects; on behalf of the committee, I will enumerate briefly on the three main ones:

1. Storm Drains:

Indeed, we have turned Ngong Road into Ngong River, which has fed into our dams approximately 60 million liters of water captured in the short rains. This translates to 300 days of irrigation at 200,000 liters/day. The simple beautification of growing grass continues, which will also help to hold the embank-

ments in place as we ensure the safety at the rear of the dam. Indeed, Tannahill does not need to be the Desert Classic anymore, and indeed, the rains were just in time. God answers prayers.



2. Swimming Pool:

The facility has enjoyed unprecedented patronage, with children and even members making full use of the facility, resulting in added revenues and an alternative that provides for the enjoyment of the club. We recommend that the facility generates decent revenues before any initiatives are made to add to the space; innovative utilization of the space is the low-hanging fruit. One intangible, unquantifiable benefit would be the health benefit to members or gym users utilizing the space that never swam at their club before. The facility seems to be a highlight for newer members, which is an unplanned but welcome benefit of the improvement. Snagging and repairs, too, need to be closed out, which are predicated on regularizing our pending certificate payments. As stated before, the records, tenders, analysis, peer review comments remain available to the members to interrogate the process and use of their valuable resources. Many thanks to the competent consultants that allowed us to complete this project and the goodwill of members and juniors who kept looking over and providing feedback on the developments. Asante Members!



Again, in relating with the members of this club, one can't help but stop to marvel at the genius and diversity represented that fills one with humility to be a part of and serve for the period. May we do our best for our time.

*ENG Gicheru Kimani
Projects Committee Convener*

3.Ladies Changing Room:

Lastly, the Ladies Changing room is 90% complete on the structure work and tiling. Indeed the space is a decent expansion of the previous unit with 12 showers, 7 Water Closets and a markup station. Unfortunately, due to the time of year when the club goes through leadership changes we do have a slight delay in approvals and payments to the contractor and a resultant time delay of about a month when you consider the holiday period. We can confirm that no single payment has been made to this point. The remaining activities are the procurement of the lockers and sanitary fittings. We are deeply apologetic for the current situation but are confident that the impasse will be behind us soon and the works completed. One of the key objectives of the project team on this scheme is to complete the project without variation to the contract amount. We are at a good place to achieve this objective. Dr. Njuguna, thanks for leading us so well on this scheme.

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