

Dominant

DLAMINI



Swaziland's Nobuhle Dlamini broke the Bryanston Country Club course record as she won the Nomads Gauteng Championship.

The absence of a ladies professional tour in Southern Africa has not stopped players from pursuing their dreams, writes **Tauriq Ebrahim**.

The 36-hole Gauteng Nomads Strokeplay Championship proved to be an easy test for Swaziland's Nobuhle Dlamini as she equalled, then bettered, the par-73 Bryanston Country Club course record and won the event with a brilliant 9-under-par 137 (69, 68).

Despite the Gauteng Ladies Golf Union lengthening a couple of holes for the tournament and the course generally being very tough on a normal ladies set-up – where the greens are extremely challenging – Dlamini cruised to a six-shot victory over South Africa's No 1-ranked amateur, Kim Williams.

The course did, however, prove to be a stern challenge to the rest of the participants, as only the top three managed to finish under par.

Equalling Bertine Strauss' 2009 course record of 69 in round one, Dlamini set out in the final round and went one better, closing with an impressive 68, breaking the course record by one stroke.

Williams finished runner-up as she put together rounds of 71 and 72 for a total of 3-under-par 143, which was two shots better than third-placed Izel Pieters who finished on 1-under-par 145, with rounds of 73 and 72.

The B Division was won by Paula Brisley of Emfuleni Golf Club and the C Division was won by Anne Bergh of Wanderers Golf Club.

Gauteng Nomads' Mike Gaghan said, "It really was an eye-opener to walk with the final flight over their last nine holes and see such high-quality golf – which included a new ladies course record at Bryanston, at 5 under par.

"South Africa is really rich with so much talent in the world amateur lady rankings, and that is in no small way due to the time and effort that the ladies golf unions throughout the country spend on organising quality tournaments for our young ladies to hone their skills.

"Finally, it is absolutely incredible to see the ability of Nobuhle Dlamini and her progress from world number 260 to 51 in such a short space of time. I am sure that her win today, and potentially many more, will see Southern Africa add to its dominating position in already holding three of the top 10 world amateur lady rankings."

WORLD AMATEUR LADIES RANKINGS

1	Lydia Ko	NZL
2	Cecilia Cho	NZL
3	Mitsuki Katahira	JPN
4	Erica Popson	USA
5	Bertine Strauss	RSA
6	Sophia Popov	GER
7	Madelene Sagstrom	SWE
8	Iliska Verwey	RSA
9	Stephanie Meadow	IRL
10	Kim Williams	RSA

SAGA AMATEUR RANKINGS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



AS AT 21 JULY 2011

	NAME	CLUB/UNION
1	Brandon Stone	GDR/GN
2	Haydn Porteous	MOD/CG
3	Ruan de Smidt	KRU/CG
4	Jared Harvey	MEC/KN
5	Graham v/d Merwe	RJH/CG
6	CJ du Plessis	PLK/LP
7	Riekus Nortje	FAN/SC

8	Daniel Hammond	WAN/CG
9	Coenie Bester	CEN/GN
10	Shaun Smith	FAN/SC
11	Pieter Moolman	BNL/EK
12	Luke Jerling	PEB/EP
13	Pedrie Oosthuizen	WPC/GN
14	Ryan Dreyer	KIL/CG
15	Zander Lombard	WHL/GN

16	Hendre Celliers	PCC/GN
17	Michael Hollick	DBN/KN
18	Herman Minnie	CEN/GN
19	Jacques Kruyswijk	EUP/LP
20	Jean-Paul Strydom	DBV/WP
21	Wayne Stroebel	POL/EK
22	Steven van Heerden	SBN/KN
23	Christiaan v/d Merwe	PRG/KN

ALL IN A WEEK'S WORK

Played in what can only be described as miserable conditions, Kim Williams' final-round score of 3-under-par 69 gave her the strokeplay title by a mammoth 10 strokes over her nearest competitor, Bertine Strauss, in the Gauteng North Championships.

Williams found herself trailing the leaders, Henriette Frylink and Gina Switala, by one shot after the first round, but stamped her dominance on the event after a second-round score of 1-over-par 73, giving her a four-shot lead going into the third and final round.

As the tournament progressed, the conditions deteriorated and it seemed as though the players were competing in winter snow sports rather than a golf championship.

Conditions proved challenging to all the golfers as the only sub-par rounds of the tournament were returned in the third round by Williams (69), Strauss, Izel Pieters and Iliska Verwey – all carding 71s.

Williams gained invaluable experience in the recent Astor Trophy (an international women's amateur event), where she beat the world's best amateurs, and that experience proved decisive as she romped to victory in the Gauteng North matchplay.

Williams cruised through to the final against Strauss, with wins over Lora Assad 5 & 4 (first round), Bianca Barnard 4 & 3 (second round) and Nobuhle Dlamini 2 & 1 in the semi-final.

On her way to the final, Strauss recorded wins over



Kim Williams romped to a double victory in the Gauteng North Championships.

GAUTENG NORTH CHAMPIONSHIP

Centurion Country Club

4-6 July 2011

STROKEPLAY RESULTS

1	Kim Williams	74	73	69	216
2	Bertine Strauss	74	81	71	226
3	Gina Switala	73	80	76	229
	Nobuhle Dlamini	75	76	78	229
5	Henriette Frylink	73	79	78	230

MATCHPLAY RESULTS

Round 1 results

Kim Williams	defeated	Lora Assad	5 & 4
Bertine Strauss	defeated	Emma-Jo Du Bruyn	6 & 4

Round 2 results

Kim Williams	defeated	Bianca Barnard	4 & 3
Bertine Strauss	defeated	Izel Pieters	5 & 4

Semi-final results

Kim Williams	defeated	Nobuhle Dlamini	2 & 1
Bertine Strauss	defeated	Gina Switala	5 & 3

Final

Kim Williams	defeated	Bertine Strauss	4 & 3
--------------	----------	-----------------	-------

Emma-Jo du Bruin 6 & 4 (first round), Izel Pieters 2 & 1 (second round) and Gina Switala 1 up in the semi-final.

Williams eased her way to a 4 & 3 victory in the final, confirming her No 1-amateur status in the country.

HARVEY-ING A GOOD RUN

The 2011 South African strokeplay champion Jared Harvey continued his rich vein of form over the past few months when he finished in a tie for fifth in The Berkshire Trophy held in Ascot, United Kingdom.

Harvey, joined by South Africans Graham van der Merwe and Rae Mackie in the tournament, played really solid golf with scores of 69, 73, 70 and 72 to finish on 4-under 288, which gives him yet another high finish in 2011, having also won the Western Province Amateur Strokeplay earlier in the year.


The tournament was won by the UK's Josh White with a score of 277.

He was followed by another local boy in the shape of Matthew Wallace from Moor Park on 278.

Jack Hiluta of Chelmsford and John Kemp from Woburn finished on a score 280 while Harvey finished in a tie with Matt Stieger of Australia, Peter Tarver-Jones of Worthing and Josh Loughrey from Wrag Barn.

Harvey's great form bodes well for his quest to climb up the World Amateur Golf Ranking where he is currently 23rd.

Van der Merwe was the only other South African to make the cut, finishing in 33rd position with scores of 72, 72, 77 and 78.

Mackie missed the cut, which fell at 145, with scores of 74 and 76. 

24	Thabo Maseko	CCJ/CG
25	Conway Kunneke	IRE/GN
26	Drikus Bruyns	HEX/BL
27	Bryn Flanagan	WAN/CG
28	Francois Coetzee	WPC/GN
29	Stephen Pienaar	MAC/CG
30	Damian Naicker	CRW/CG
31	Jacques van Tonder	PCC/GN

32	Justin Turner	STR/WP
33	Gert Myburgh	ENG/EK
34	Wesley Baptiste	PRG/KN
35	Thomas Lovett	GDW/CG
36	Rae Mackie	WKF/GN
37	Victor Lange	RJH/CG
38	Francois Haughton	LBN/BL
39	Le Riche Ehlers	PRW/WP


www.taylormadegolf.co.za

R11 

