



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Inaugural World Club ProAm Officially Launched at Gala Dinner**

The inaugural PGA of South Africa I Mercedes-Benz World Club ProAm, was officially launched at a lavish gala dinner hosted at the Southern Sun Elangeni & Maharani. Guest speaker, the renowned course designer, Peter Matkovich provided insights on the five championship courses that are hosting the tournament this week – Durban Country Club, Cotswold Downs Golf Course, Zimbali Country Club, Prince's Grant Golf Estate and Umhlali Country Club.

Setting the tone for the week's play, Matkovich said, "Let's get golf back to golf course design that is not simply computer driven and get strategy back into the game. My wish is that when you are finished playing each of the five courses, that you will look back with a desire to play them again".

Chairman of the PGA of South Africa, Paul Marks, said that they were thrilled with the number of teams participating in the inaugural event and that it was an honour to be hosting a great diversity of PGA Professionals. He added that it was the intention of the PGA of SA to grow the Mercedes-Benz World Club ProAm annually alongside their partner's Cup status, and that it was a means of rejuvenating the competitive spirit amongst club professionals globally into the largest and most prestigiously recognised Club ProAm in the world.

Nurdesh Maharaj, Deputy Director with the HOD for the Department of Economic Development and Tourism for KwaZulu-Natal, extended a traditional "warm and friendly" welcome to the golfers and highlighted the significance of KwaZulu-Natal forming a platform to boost golf tourism through events such as the World Club ProAm.

International and local PGA club teams, comprising one professional and three amateurs from clubs around the world will compete for the inaugural World Club ProAm title and a lucrative prize purse of US\$350 000 including cash for the professionals, amateur prizes and no less than two hole-in-one prizes of two



Mercedes-Benz SLK vehicles valued at over R1.2 million for both the professionals and amateurs.

For more information on the tournament, visit [www.worldclubproam.com](http://www.worldclubproam.com)

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#### **About World Club ProAm**

*The Mercedes-Benz World Club ProAm is hosted by the PGA of South Africa and invites PGA professionals and amateur golfers to compete in a 4-ball for a total prize fund of US\$350 000 including cash for the professionals, amateur prizes and no less than two hole-in-one prizes of two Mercedes-Benz SLK vehicles valued at over R1.2 million for both the professionals and amateurs.*

*The tournament is a unique format of 90-holes of golf played across 5 premier championship courses. All registered PGA club professionals are invited to enter and identify three amateur golfers with official handicaps who will make up the entry.*

*There are two competitions that will be played simultaneously. The professionals compete in an individual stableford championship and the team in a ProAm 4-ball alliance. The winning PGA Professional will walk off with US\$33 000 in prize money and the winning 4-ball will claim the coveted inaugural World Club ProAm team trophy along with daily prizes and give-aways. The runner-up, third and through to the tenth finishing 4-balls all win permissible prizes.*

*The entry includes a full golfing package, plus seven nights 4-star accommodation sharing, meals and three 5-star gala events.*

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