

Welcome message

The Pilsner Urquell SuperSport Shootout continues to grow in stature and popularity, and in 2008 set a new benchmark for an amateur celebrity golf event. While emulating the best attributes of a pro tour event, the Shootout has succeeded in providing a competitive yet relaxed and friendly environment for all levels of golfers. This in turn has created a very special camaraderie among the players, many of whom are leaders of our society.

The social components of the event are very special occasions; however the highlight of the weekend remains the prospect of challenging the breathtaking Pinnacle Point golf course. Perched alongside some of the world's most picturesque ocean-side cliffs, the layout is truly exhilarating.

The highly acclaimed Pinnacle Point Beach and Golf Resort continues to add immense value to the Shootout experience. There is simply no better venue in the country to host the Shootout, as Pinnacle Point provides an unrivalled golfing and leisure experience. Special thanks to Dave McGregor, Wayne Krambeck and the entire Pinnacle Point team for their key role in the success of the Shootout.

Pilsner Urquell, SABMiller's premium brand, is the proud title sponsor. Thanks to their loyal support and commitment since inception, the event has become the perfect platform to showcase the extraordinary 'Pilsner Urquell Experience'. A very special welcome to the Chairman and CEO of SA Breweries Ltd, Norman Adami, on his inaugural appearance at the Shootout. My gratitude is extended to Tony van Kralingen and his fellow trustees, for their role

in establishing and managing the ultra-successful SAB Caddies Educational Trust Fund.

SuperSport are strategic partners of the Shootout and continue to raise the profile and prestige of the event through an innovative TV production. The new theme for the 2009 Shootout is 'The Tournament of Champions – where the stars come out to play', and will feature throughout every aspect of the event. My sincere thanks to Imtiaz Patel, Tex Teixeira and Andrew Skelton for their valued contribution in ensuring the Shootout remains an exceptional event within SuperSport's dynamic production portfolio.

Our premium-brand associate sponsors deliver excellent value to the Shootout and play a key role in achieving our objectives. This year I am pleased to announce the inclusion of BMW, Absa, Lechabile, Rudy Project, *Golf Digest*, *Sports Illustrated*, Polo and Ken Forrester. I also extend a special welcome to our new sponsors, Nike Golf and 1time Airline.

The Shootout continues to raise significant funds for our official charities, the SAB Caddies Educational Trust Fund and the Gozololo Centre for Needy Children. It is truly rewarding for the Shootout to be associated with making a difference to the lives of so many of our less privileged children and families. A special tribute to our sponsors and players, each of whom contributes generously to these worthy causes.

Congratulations to our 2008 winners, former SA cricketer Tich Smith, in the individual event, and Pascal Portes and Rafique Bagus, in the betterball. In keeping with the Shootout's objective of assisting the less fortunate citizens of our country, Tich is a true ambassador for the event, spending much of his personal time counselling and funding the empowerment of some of the most poverty-stricken communities in KZN. We look forward to seeing him back in 2009.

A special thank you to our Chairman, Terry Rosenberg, and fellow director Derek Macaskill, for their invaluable contributions. And finally, thanks to all our celebrities for sacrificing their time to make this an ultra-special event. Our goal is to ensure each of you leaves with many fond memories and new friendships, knowing that your participation has contributed towards a brighter future for our less privileged communities.



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