

Brown seals SA Open title

FORMER British soldier Mike Browne showed the nerves and composure of a true champion when he claimed a victory in wire-to-wire style at the South African Disabled Golf Open yesterday.

Competing in his first disabled championship, the 38-year-old leg amputee from England carded successive rounds of 78 to head into the final round at the Magalies Park Golf Club with a 10-shot lead over former two-times champion Iglis Grobberlaar. Browne let a few shots slip during the round, but his magic touch around the greens netted him a birdie at 17 and he parred the final hole for a four-over-par 76, to close out a 12-shot victory on 232.

Grobberlaar and Daniel Slabbert both posted final rounds of 78, but the Clovelly golfer edged out four-times champion Slabbert by one stroke for second on 244. Grobberlaar also won the Les Autrés Medal Competition, edging out 19-year-old Iglis Douries for the victory.

Hernan Garcia from Chile finished fourth overall on 248 and lifted the Arm-Amputee Medal title with rounds of 89, 82 and 77.

Double-leg amputee James Hourigan from Ireland closed with a 79, to round out the top five