

KZN amateurs go international

THERE'S a fantastic amount of amateur golf on the go at the moment, with golfers from KwaZulu-Natal in action from Ireland to Irene... and in Potchefstroom and Hartbeespoort Dam.

● A number of players from KwaZulu-Natal will be playing in the SA Challenge Cup at Irene CC this week.

Jason Broomhead of Durban CC is playing for the University Sport South Africa (USSA) team.

Gregg Gilson, son of past KZN player Murray Gilson, is also in this team, although he's living upcountry and is a member at Pretoria CC.

The GolfRSA Presidents Team will have the experience of Siya Mwandla (Mount Edgecombe CC) and the youthful exuberance of rising talent Nikhil Gopal (Victoria CC).

Former Mount Edgecombe CC member Aneurin Gounden, now a member at Glendower, is also in this side.

● The KZN country districts team, captained by Corné van Deventer, is defending their SACD title at Potchefstroom CC this week.

The team is Jens Hillermann (Noodsberg), Jason Gilliver (Selborne Park), Van Deventer (Vryheid), Tom Lovett (Prince's Grant), Koenie Erasmus (Umhlali), Chris Thorpe (Prince's Grant), Graham Fabricius (Port Shepstone) and Sean Baker (Kokstad).

● Two deaf golfers from KZN, Tembalani Mveli (Cato Ridge) and Shangile Shange (Cato Ridge), are taking part at the Canon SA Disabled Golf Open at Magalies Park CC this week.

They earned their start in the crown jewel of the South African Disabled Golf Association (Sadga) through the Go for Gold Programme.

“Go for Gold is a reward

David Rush



WHAT'S THE RUSH

programme that we launched for our deaf learners in the First Swing Programme (FSP) with the aim of encouraging them to earn national colours and represent South Africa abroad,” said Lily Reich from Sadga.

● In international news, Matt Saulez was the best of the SA players at the recent Lytham Trophy played at Royal Lytham and St Annes.

He tied for 29th on scores of 71, 73, 74 and 76.

His Durban CC, KZN and SA teammate Clayton Mansfield was three shots back in a tie for 40th.

Saulez, Mansfield and Malcolm Mitchell (Kloof CC) are part of an eight man squad that will play in the Irish Amateur at Royal Country Down from May 17 to 20.

There's more golf in the UK after that, but for this week, the Irish Amateur is the focus.

● Back home, league golf gets going again this coming Sunday.

In premier league action, Maritzburg GC host Durban CC and will probably get beaten about 8-4 is my prediction.

Toti are at home to Kloof and will do well to get a half, but my call is Kloof to shave it.

In the other pool, Umhlali host Royal Durban in what should be an absorbing game. I expect the hosts to win at least 7-5.

In the A-division Victoria CC are at home to MECC 'A' and Bluff are at home to Midlands. In the other pool, Zululand host Maidstone and Royal Durban 'A' host Durban CC 'A'.