



# Press Release

## **Simonstown's Riaan Spreeth to compete in 2017 Canon South Africa Disabled Golf Open**

**Johannesburg, South Africa. March 2017-**One of South Africa's top ten leg amputee golfers, Riaan Spreeth joins the diverse field of competitors in the 2017 Canon South Africa Disabled Golf Open taking place in Cape Town from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> of May 2017.

Spreeth, who hails from Simonstown, lost his leg below the knee in a motorcycle accident at the age of 29, 14 years ago. He started playing golf two years later and has made a name for himself as one of the best disabled golfers in the country. He has played in five Provincial Challenges, having been selected for the Western Province provincial team, and in 2014 won the Langebaan Country Estate Passion Award for his passion and commitment for disabled golf. This prestigious award is presented annually at the Canon SA Disabled Golf Open.

Spreeth has worked for the Metropolitan Police as a Superintendent for 24 years, and recently got engaged. He is looking forward to competing in his 11th Canon South Africa Disabled Golf Open and is certain to give players in his category a run for their money.

Many talented local and international golfers have already confirmed their participation in the 2017 Canon South Africa Disabled Golf Open. Amongst these are Bob MacDermott (Canada); Martin Williams (United Kingdom); Shaun Bakker (United Kingdom); George Mecs (France) and Cian Arthurs (United Kingdom).

South Africans have historically dominated the tournament, with Ben van Zyl winning the event from 1998 to 2003; Pieter Jansen in 2004; Nico Wentzel in 2008; Iglin Grobbelaar in 2009 and 2010; and Daniel Slabbert from 2011 to 2013, and again in 2015.

Organised annually by the South African Disabled Golf Association (SADGA), the Canon South Africa Disabled Golf Open has at its heart the goal to inspire and unite players, as well as acknowledge their achievements.

The tournament attracts the world's top golfers with disabilities; most of whom boast handicaps of 18 or lower. Spreeth himself plays off an impressive 12 handicap.

Canon South Africa, which has been a proud sponsor of SADGA for many years, has proudly taken the reigns as the official sponsor of the South African Disabled Golf Open for 2017.

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About Canon Europe

Canon Europe is the regional sales and marketing operation for Canon Inc., represented in 116 countries and employing 17,000 people across Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA).

Founded in 1937 with the specific goal of making the best quality camera available to customers, Canon's tireless passion for the Power of Image has since extended its technology into many other markets and has established it as a world leader in both consumer and business imaging solutions. Its solutions comprise products, ranging from digital compact and SLR cameras, through broadcast lenses and portable X-ray machines, to multi-function and production printers, all supported by a range of value added services.

Canon invests heavily in R&D to deliver the richest and most innovative products and services to satisfy customers' creative needs. From amateur photographers to professional print companies, Canon enables each customer to realise their own passion for image.

Canon's corporate philosophy is [Kyosei](#) – 'living and working together for the common good'. In EMEA, Canon Europe pursues sustainable business growth, focusing on reducing its own environmental impact and supporting customers to reduce theirs using Canon's products, solutions and services. Canon has achieved global certification to ISO 14001, demonstrating a world-class environmental management standard.

Further information about Canon Europe is available at: [www.canon-europe.com](http://www.canon-europe.com)

#### About Canon South Africa

Canon South Africa (Pty) Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Canon Europe, came into being on January 4, 2000. Canon Europe is the regional sales and marketing operation for Canon Inc., represented in 120 countries and employing over 11,000 people across Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA). Canon Europe invested in South Africa with a view to growing and expanding its market share in the country.

In South Africa, the Canon brand is today synonymous with consistency, driven by the company's passion, imagination, knowledge and importantly, loyalty to its customers. Canon SA offers a wide range of consumer imaging products and business solutions as well as a variety of large format printers.

Canon technologies are durable, innovative, intuitive, and feature smart and environmentally sustainable designs. Canon invests heavily in R & D and will continue to deliver new and technologically advanced products that cater for a variety of requirements.

In South Africa Canon will continue to support environmental sustainability by operating responsibly, minimizing the impact of its business on the environment and also encouraging a culture of environmental awareness and accountability amongst their staff, business associates and partners. Canon has also maintained its ISO 14001 environmental accreditation since 2007.