



## **IT'S WORLD CUP TIME**

*12 Teams ...5 Rounds....1 Winner.*

The battle lines are drawn for the second World Cup of Disabled Golf at King David Mowbray Golf Club in May 2017.

The scrimmage between the 12 teams vying for glory will kick off with 54 holes of stroke play during the prestigious Canon South African Disabled Golf Open. Then the tussle will go head-to-head in a showdown of spectacular shot-making in

the Foursomes and Fourballs until one team stakes their claim on the coveted title.

Let's have a look at the contenders for the second World Cup of Disabled Golf.

### **TEAM CANADA 1**

Josh Williams and Bob McDermott

### **TEAM CANADA 2**

Johannes Grames and Matt Hallat

### **TEAM DENMARK**

Keld Schmager and Flemming Rasmussen

### **TEAM GERMANY**

Reinard Friske and Andreas Ladendorf

### **INVITATIONAL 1**

Manuel de los Santos (Dominican Republic) and Hernan Garcia Urrutia (Chile)

### **INVITATIONAL 2**

Juan Postigo (Spain) and Martin Williams (Wales)

### **TEAM IRELAND**

James Hourigan and Cian Arthurs

### **TEAM RSA 1**

Ben van Zyl and Byron Calvert

### **TEAM RSA 2**

Rupert Fortmann and Herman van Wyk

### **TEAM SWEDEN**

David Schutsander and Lars Lindeberg

### **TEAM UNITED KINGDOM**

Mick Horsley and Shaun Bakker

### **TEAM USA**

Chad Pfeifer and Kenny Bontz

### **TEAM RSA 1: Butch and the Sundance Kid**

Seasoned campaigner Ben van Zyl is a seven-time South African Disabled Golf Open champion, a former British Amputee Championship and Canadian Amputee Championship winner and the 60-year-old veteran will bring a bucket-load of experience to the table, while rising star Byron Calvert boasts the confidence and fighting spirit of an athlete who cut his handicap to eight in five short years since his leg amputation in 2012.

### **TEAM RSA 2: The Nice Guys**

Fifty-somethings Herman van Wyk and Rupert Fortmann have big smiles, big swings and big-time BMT. Van Wyk showed his stealth when he chased 2016 champion Chad Pfeifer around the Zwartkop Country Club layout and the John Daly-lookalike won't back down against the foreign offence. Fortmann from the Midlands in the KwaZulu-Natal has a mellow demeanour, but don't be fooled – this eight-handicap, two-time Provincial Challenge winner has game.

### **SO, WHO ARE OUR BOYS UP AGAINST?**

Former SA Disabled Open champion **Josh Williams** and his partner **Bob MacDermott** share a winning tally as thick as the Yellow Pages. In 2014, they finished third in the inaugural World Cup of Disabled Golf. This year, this dynamic Canadian duo could be the team to beat.

Williams is a regular visitor to South African shores and it's worth noting that he took third and second respectively in the last two editions of SADGA's flagship championship.

But that MacDermott is returning to South Africa on the back of four victories last year and for the first time since the first World Cup in 2014 should sound serious alarm bells for the rest of the teams.

And they brought back-up.

**Johannes Grames:** two-time Canadian Amputee and Disabled National Open Senior Champion, top 4 Canadian 4 years in a row, a 5 win one loss singles record at International Cup.

**Matt Hallat:** Three-time Paralympian on para-alpine circuit. Standing Shalom. Single handicap. BMT.

Britain's **Mick Horsley** is a two-time SA Disabled Open champion. We know Horsley. One of the grittiest competitors to darken our shores and that never-say-die vein runs strong in his blood.

His partner **Shaun Bakker** is a dark horse, though. A dark horse that no-one has clapped an eye on since he immigrated to England in 2005. We don't know much, but we know you don't make the Great Britain team if you're a hacker. Could this ex-Port Elizabeth player set a cat among the pigeons?

Welshman **Martin Williams** placed a career best sixth in his third start in the SA Disabled Golf Open and Spanish hunk **Juan Postigo** took third on his own in his debut in the SADGA flagship event last year. These guys don't travel to South Africa to sample the wine and biltong. They mean business.

**Kenny Bontz** anchored the United States team that finished fourth in the 2014 World Cup. **Chad Pfeifer** is the defending champion in the Canon SA Disabled Golf Open. Incidentally, he won that title in his first visit to South Africa. So, here's hoping that the golfing gods smile upon the rest of the field and this fearsome duo from the US of A struggle just a tad to adjust to the altitude in the Mother City. Not much, but just enough to give the other 11 teams a chance to get a foot in the door.

**James Hourigan** and **Cian Arthurs**. Irish. Funny. Lethal. Especially when James starts to sing.

**Manuel de los Santos** from the Dominican Republic, another international campaigner who lived up to his star billing and claimed a top four finish in his debut at the SA Disabled Golf Open last year. He travels the world and plies his trade everywhere, so a little drop in altitude won't slow him down. His sidekick **Hernan Garcia Urrutia** was born without a right hand. So, what does a guy who is passionate about golf do when he is the only disabled golfer in Chile? He plays off a six handicap. Just saying.

David Schutsander and Lars Lindeberg for Sweden. Keld Schmager and Flemming Rasmussen for Denmark. Double assault. Scandinavia in Stereo. Throw in the Germans Reinard Friske and Andreas Ladendorf and you know this World Cup for Disabled Golf is going to go right down to the wire.