

Douries looking to line up top ten

Among the young golfers to watch at this year's South Africa Disabled Golf Open at the Magalies Park Golf Club, from Monday 13 May to Thursday 16 May, is Ignation Douries.

The prestigious tournament has been organised by the South African Disabled Golf Association (SADGA) for 21 years and attracts some of the world's best golfers with disabilities. The 20-year-old Douries placed ninth overall in the tournament last year and will be playing his seventh tournament this year.

Douries started playing golf with the SADGA First Swing Programme nine years ago as an 11-year-old with loads of enthusiasm and a love for the game of golf. He comes from humble beginnings in Citrusdal. During his school years at Eros School in Athlone, the First Swing Programme managed to get him into the Western Province Sports School for Grade 10, 11 and matric.

After school, he joined the SADGA Academy with the help of sponsorships, completed a diploma in Information Technology at Damelin College in Mowbray, as well as the Dale Carnegie Skills and Presentations course. Currently, he is on a learnership for his NQF L4-7. During his learnership, he works from the SADGA office in Cape Town, shadowing

the operations manager, being an ambassador and making many of the SADGA speeches. Douries also lives in the SADGA Academy home.

"We are excited to see young Ignation in action again at the Canon South Africa Disabled Golf Open. As a longstanding and proud supporter of the First Swing Program, nothing pleases us more than seeing one of the programme's participants succeeding," says Dana Eitzen, corporate and marketing communications executive from Canon SA, which has a proud legacy of support for South African sport. This will be Canon South Africa's third year as the title sponsor of the tournament which is organised annually by SADGA.

This international amateur event incorporates golfers with varying disabilities, with divisions for leg amputees, arm amputees, deaf golfers, the visually impaired and Les Autres (such as limb deformities, permanent movement disorders or cerebral palsy). The company is also a primary sponsor of SADGA's First Swing programme for people with disabilities to live beyond their physical limitations and play golf. Canon is also associated with the Sunshine Ladies Tour as a sponsor of the season-opening event for the past two years.



Ignation Douries