

# CHRONICLE SPORT

## St Francis golf courses rise in rankings

St Francis Bay's golf courses moved up in the Golf Digest top 100 courses for 2016 rankings.

St Francis Links moved past three great courses in rising to its best-ever position, at no.7 in 10 years!

St Francis Bay moved up three places from 99 to 96. These higher placings are significant, according to Jeff Clause, CEO of St Francis Links, five-star golf estate, because 9 new courses entered the Top 100 this year. Jordan's Bay, Top 100 from the Eastern Cape were negligible. Wedgewood, NEW at No 88 and PE Golf Club, re-entering the Top 100 at No95.

St Francis Links, the Jack Nicklaus signature design, moved past Arabella and Pearl Valley, both former Top-5 courses, and Blair Atholl, which fell from the Top 100. The Links had some internal problems on the estate. Glendower was the big mover in the ratings this year as it moved from the second 10 to the Top-5.

After hosting three National Opens on the trot, the parkland received its proper recognition. Durban CC moved back to the top-5 as their renovations over the past years have helped the course return to greatness.

"We are in good company with this year's Golf Digest SA Top 10 and Top100," Clause says, "and."

Other movers on the list were Emrie Eis' Helderberg, St Francis Links, Stilbaai and Humewood Links in Port Elizabeth. Highland Gate is located on a beautiful piece of land that offers superb shot-making and great conditioning with an amazing mountainous backdrop. Humewood with its greens renovation by Sean Quinn has pushed its way back up the rankings to No11.

Clause notes that International golf

tourism is the best it has been in years and all courses from Cape Town through the Garden Route are reporting record-breaking years. Both local courses have been bought by a single group of golfers coming from Sweden.

The Sun Birdies are based at Cape St Francis Resort. These golfers, most of whom, arrived as couples, have played hundreds of rounds over the past two years.

The word is that they have secured rooms and golf for next year. This boost to the golfing scene can also be felt in all of the area's businesses.

## International Squash tourno 2016 - the best ever



### Janine is Ladies' Champ



After a great 78 the first day at the St Francis Bay Golf Club Ladies Championships Janine van der Merwe says her 84 84 the next day - was good enough to win by one shot! All the prize winners for recent Ladies Champs golf event at

Back: Carol Boonzaier; Middler: Dale Ball, Heather Kruger, Jean Fynn. Front: Dot Masterson and Janine van der Merwe, the Champio, with Claire Milson

South African Squash champions Craig Wapnick and Steve Nicholson were the winners of the recent Open A division after an intense nail-biting finish Squash Invitational at St Francis Bay's courts.

This internationally recognised 14th annual St Francis Bay Squash was the best yet. St Francis has been, organisers say with 80 pairings, 7 sections, 91 individuals and 147 matches, plus a packed clubhouse of supporters. The two and a half day

tournament brought top squash players from all over the country, including Alex Fuller SA no 3 World no 71, Karen Schulz SA no 19, Michael Wood Mixed Doubles National SA Champion, Paul Atkinson Mixed National SA Champion and Craig Wapnick former SA no 1.

This was excellent and intense squash - though there was some fun too with events off-court. DJ Johnny Dyllsell provided some excellent music. Benno supplied the food and the nights were enjoyed eating drinking and dancing.

The winners were: Handicap: Jason Lepp and Michael Wood, Over 50 B's: Theo Llewellyn & Caren Fouche, Open B: Ryel Steele & Stephanie Bester; Open: Janet Bymer & Alison Andrews; Over 50 A: Dave Jacques & Pierre Roodt; Mixed A: Paul Atkinson & Catherine Atkinson.

A huge thank you was extended to everyone who helped in the planning of the tournament, whether in the foreground or background. Thanks was also expressed to the sponsors for donating top early-morning tee-bag lights, to the locals for their support, to sponsors Greg Darke from Kathe Energy, Richard Ardenne from Pam Golding and BOS Ice Tea and to the club's FB page.

### WORLD'S HIGHEST BUNGY BRIDGE - 216m

FOR THE MOST AMAZING EXPERIENCE OF YOUR LIFE  
**BLOUKRANS BUNGY**

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL  
BOOK ONLINE - SAVE MONEY

► All weather operation  
► Open 7 days a week  
► 9am - 5pm  
042 - 281 1458

**FACE**  
**ADRENALIN**  
faceadrenalin.com



### BEACH HORSE RIDES Papiesfontein      Jeffreys Bay



Magnificent Views      Experienced guides      Depart twice daily      Bookings essential  
Phone: 079 299 8080 OR Book Online: [www.horsetrails.co.za](http://www.horsetrails.co.za)

St Francis Bay Golf Club

**JEFFREYS BAY MAIN BEACH**  
**SUPERTUBE**  
**PUTT-PUTT**



082 445 4014

[www.ferreiraleisure.co.za](http://www.ferreiraleisure.co.za)