

# Leopard Creek Times

Alfred Dunhill Championship Daily News



SCAN ME

ROUND 2, FRIDAY 9 DECEMBER, 2022



## Inspired Burmester leads at Leopard Creek

*Dean Burmester was so inspired by witnessing his first rhino dehorning project that he produced a round of seven-under-par 65 with as many birdies as he could muster to contribute to anti-poaching efforts and lead the first day of the Alfred Dunhill Championship at Leopard Creek on Thursday.*

Burmester and a number of other professionals support a campaign called Birdies4Rhinos whereby they donate money for every birdie they make in the season to rhino conservation. And it was his experience of the dehorning earlier this week that inspired him to produce one of his best back nines ever at Leopard Creek on Thursday. “What a back nine. Some of the best golf I’ve played in a while. A back nine to remember that’s for sure,” he said as he came home with six birdies to take the lead. “Earlier this week we went on a rhino

dehorning project in the neighbouring Kruger National Park and it was quite an emotional experience. “The thought of that came to me after the turn and I just wanted to make as many birdies as I could do keep supporting that cause,” he said. Burmester leads by one over Lukas Nemecz who did his scoring in the calmer morning conditions, and started his round with three straight birdies. “That makes life a lot easier,” he said. Former champion Branden Grace is one of five golfers just two shots off the lead.

Burmester is certainly relishing being back in South Africa after a year of travel on both the DP World Tour and PGA Tour. And he’s particularly enjoying being back in the bush this week. *Continues on p.2*

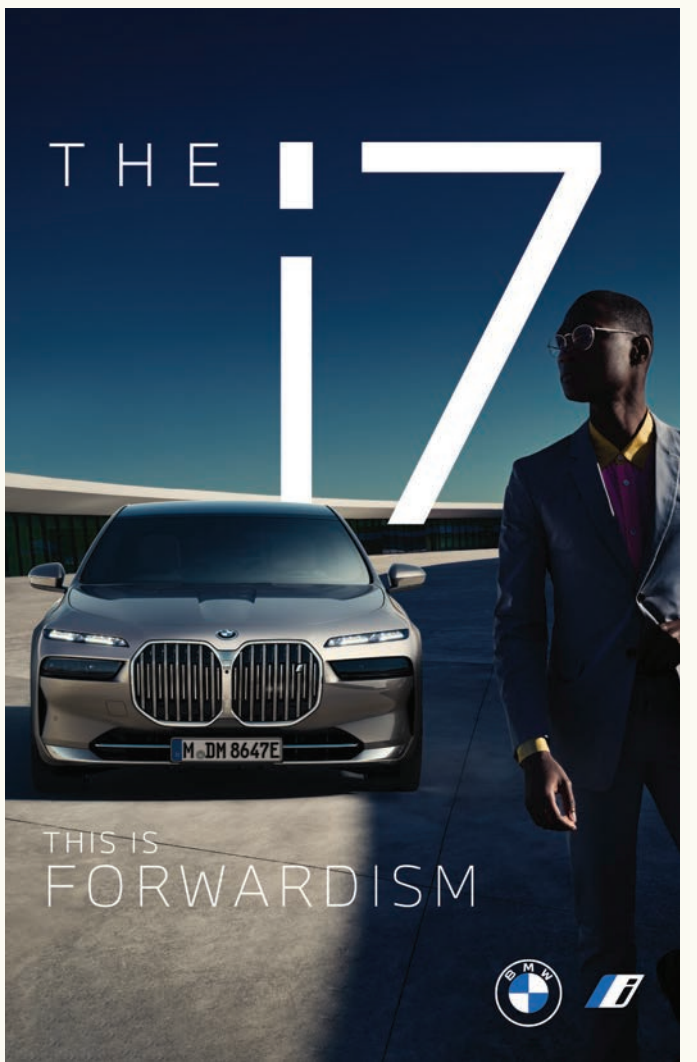




“We had a lovely game drive with the family this morning and saw lion and leopard on the way out. That put me in a great mood. We rushed back, I had a quick change and was delighted to hear that we could play in shorts because of the heat, had a bite to eat and then got myself ready and that mood carried into the day. It was probably one of the most fun rounds of golf I’ve had in a while. I hope I can keep enjoying myself. We know this golf course can bite you but America has paid dividends. I’ve played a lot on Bermuda grass this year and that has helped me a lot this week.”

Grace was very happy with his start to a tournament he won in 2014 by a commanding seven shots.

“It’s always nice to come back to South Africa and play golf courses like this, which is one of the best. It’s nice to see how the changes have now settled in here. There is no rough this week so that’s different but the greens will firm up as the week goes on, that’s for sure. This course will show its teeth over the next few days so let’s not get ahead of ourselves.”



# THE BIG PILOT.



IWC  
SCHAFFHAUSEN

## Ahlers feeling right at home in the bush



Jaco Ahlers made a strong start to this year’s Alfred Dunhill Championship with an opening five-under-par 67 and is feeling very comfortable in a part of the world he grew up in. The 10-time winner on the Sunshine Tour has an affinity for the bush and local wildlife having quite literally spent his childhood in the Kruger National Park.

“I lived in Skukuza for the first 18 years of my life. My dad was head of procurement for the Kruger National Park and we lived right next to Skukuza Golf Club,” said Ahlers.

“My dad was a founder member of the golf club, and my grandfather helped to build the clubhouse. So golf was always a part of my life.

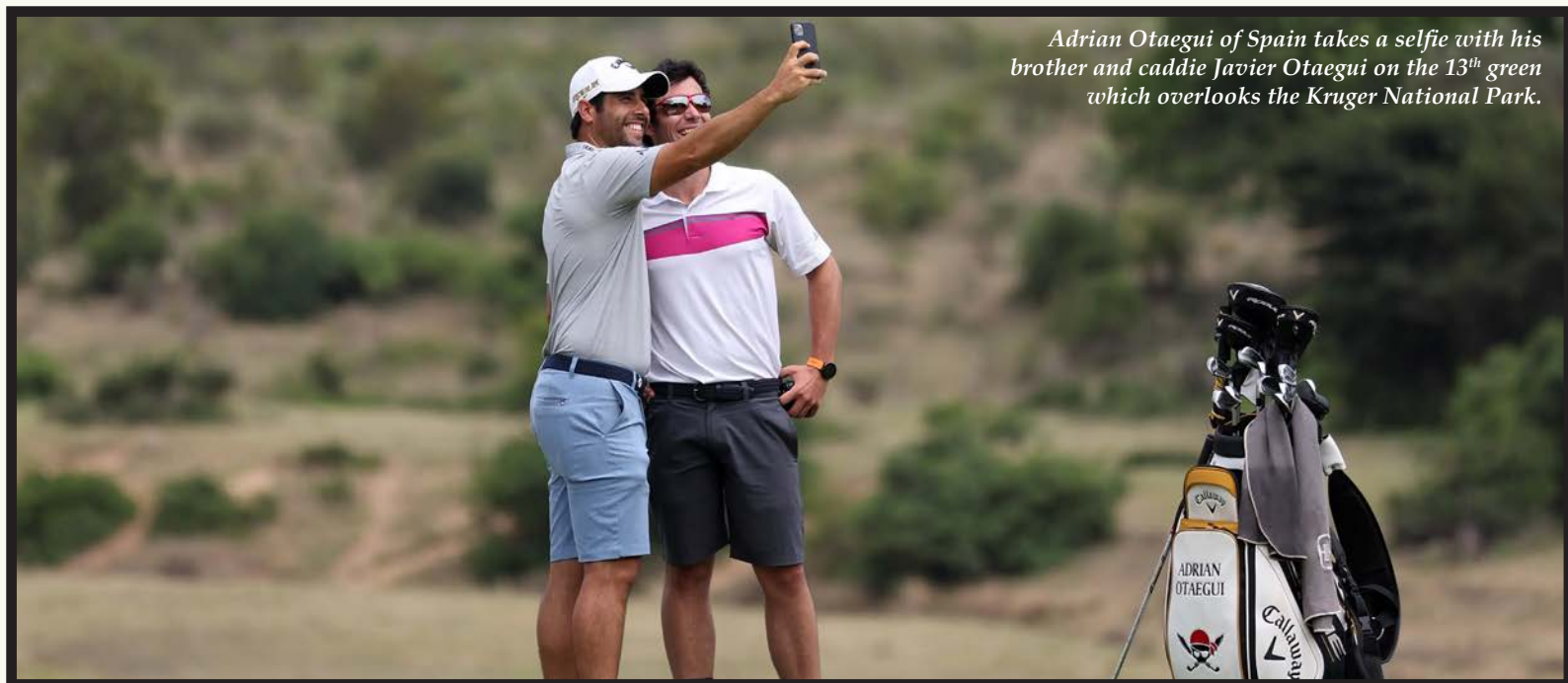
I used to caddie for my dad and started playing when I was 10.”

It was an idyllic childhood, and an adventurous one as Ahlers grew up surrounded by the animals that are such a special feature of this area, and especially at Leopard Creek.

“It was like living in a bubble. We used to get so complacent about the animals in the park. We lived in the staff village and there was no fence around that. There were so many times when it would get dark and we’d still be out kicking a rugby ball or something, and my dad would shout at us and remind us there were lions about. It was a great childhood and a nice way to grow up.”







Adrian Otaegui of Spain takes a selfie with his brother and caddie Javier Otaegui on the 13<sup>th</sup> green which overlooks the Kruger National Park.



Ernie Els in action during the first round of the Alfred Dunhill Championship at Leopard Creek Country Club.



Dan Bradbury enjoying the first round of the Alfred Dunhill Championship.



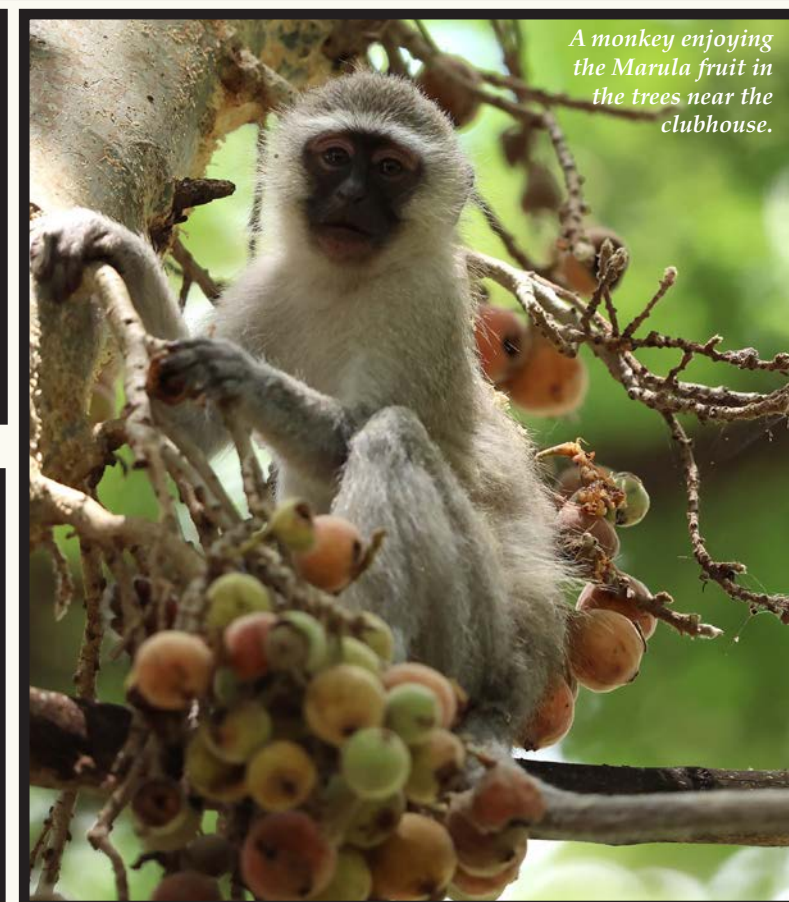
Ockie Strydom and George Coetzee enjoying a laugh during the first round.



Dylan Mostert trying to shield himself from the sun during a blazing hot Thursday at Leopard Creek.



Leopard Creek's wildlife were keeping an eye on the action on day one.



A monkey enjoying the Marula fruit in the trees near the clubhouse.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE  
TERROIR SPECIFIC WINES  
[www.capeofgoodhopewines.com](http://www.capeofgoodhopewines.com)

ALTIMA  
CLANDALOOZ  
SAUVIGNON BLANC

Serruria  
CLANDALOOZ  
Chardonnay

Onceuwkrans  
CLANDALOOZ  
Pinot Noir



ALFRED DUNHILL CHAMPIONSHIP - DRAWS FOR ROUNDS 1 AND 2

Round 1			Round 2					
Game	Time	Tee	Game	Time	Tee	Name	Country	
1	06:20	1	40	11:20	10	Gerard DU PLOOY	RSA	
						Rupert KAMINSKI	RSA	
						JJ SENEKAL	RSA	
2	06:30	1	41	11:30	10	Herman LOUBSER	RSA	
						Gudmundur KRISTJANSSON	ISL	
						Wynand DINGLE	RSA	
3	06:40	1	42	11:40	10	Gunner WIEBE	USA	
						Jbe KRUGER	RSA	
						Anthony MICHAEL	RSA	
4	06:50	1	43	11:50	10	Darius VAN DRIEL	NED	
						Todd CLEMENTS	ENG	
						Jacques BLAAUW	RSA	
5	07:00	1	44	12:00	10	Stephen FERREIRA	POR	
						Lukas NEMECZ	AUT	
						Hennie DU PLESSIS	RSA	
6	07:10	1	45	12:10	10	Aldrich POTGIETER (AM)	RSA	
						Dylan MOSTERT	RSA	
						Mateusz GRADECKI	POL	
7	07:20	1	46	12:20	10	Jovan REBULA	RSA	
						Laurie CANTER	ENG	
						Joost LUITEN	NED	
8	07:30	1	47	12:30	10	Philip ERIKSSON	SWE	
						Niklas Nørgaard MØLLER	DEN	
						Combrinck SMIT	RSA	
9	07:40	1	48	12:40	10	Keith HORNE	RSA	
						Jaco PRINSLOO	RSA	
						Santiago TARRIO	ESP	
10	07:50	1	49	12:50	10	Martin ROHWER	RSA	
						Lyle ROWE	RSA	
						Nick BACHEM	GER	
11	08:00	1	50	13:00	10	Tobias EDÉN	SWE	
						Kyle DE BEER (AM)	RSA	
						John MURPHY	IRL	
12	08:10	1	51	13:10	10	Estiaan CONRADIE	RSA	
						Heinrich BRUINERS	RSA	
						Neil SCHIETEKAT	RSA	
13	08:20	1	52	13:20	10	Luke JERLING	RSA	
						Nikhil RAMA	RSA	
						Jake REDMAN	RSA	
14	06:20	10	27	11:20	1	Jayden SCHAPER	RSA	
						Jeremy FREIBURGHaus	SUI	
						Keenan DAVIDSE	RSA	
15	06:30	10	28	11:30	1	Nathan KIMSEY	ENG	
						Dylan NAIDOO	RSA	
						Dale WHITNELL	ENG	
16	06:40	10	29	11:40	1	George COETZEE	RSA	
						Ockie STRYDOM	RSA	
						Dan BRADBURY	ENG	
17	06:50	10	30	11:50	1	Branden GRACE	RSA	
						Christiaan BEZUIDENHOUT	RSA	
						Eddie PEPPERELL	ENG	
18	07:00	10	31	12:00	1	Ernie ELS	RSA	
						Christian MAAS (AM)	RSA	
						Edoardo MOLINARI	ITA	
19	07:10	10	32	12:10	1	Oliver BEKKER	RSA	
						Antoine ROZNER	FRA	
						Justin WALTERS	RSA	
20	07:20	10	33	12:20	1	Jorge CAMPILLO	ESP	
						Jens FAHRBRING	SWE	
						Alexander KNAPPE	GER	
21	07:30	10	34	12:30	1	Ryo HISATSUNE	JPN	
						Ross FISHER	ENG	
						Scott JAMIESON	SCO	
22	07:40	10	35	12:40	1	Anton KARLSSON	SWE	
						Richard STERNE	RSA	
						Chase HANNA	USA	
23	07:50	10	36	12:50	1	Grant FORREST	SCO	
						Brandon STONE	RSA	
						Daniel BROWN	ENG	
24	08:00	10	37	13:00	1	Harvey YOUNG (AM)	AUS	
						Jaco AHLERS	RSA	
						Gary HURLEY	IRL	
25	08:10	10	38	13:10	1	Robin SCIOT-SIEGRIST	FRA	
						Matthew SPACEY	RSA	
						Henning DU PLOOY	RSA	
26	08:20	10	39	13:20	1	Kristian Krogh JOHANNESSEN	NOR	
						Joshua LEE	USA	
						Toto THIMBA JNR	RSA	

Round 1			Round 2							
Game	Time	Tee	Game	Time	Tee	Name	Country			
27	11:20	1	14	06:20	10	Casey JARVIS	RSA			
						Yurav PREMLALL (AM)	RSA			
						Freddy SCHOTT	GER			
28	11:30	1	15	06:30	10	MJ DAFFUE	RSA			
						Marcus ARMITAGE	ENG			
						James Hart DU PREEZ	RSA			
29	11:40	1	16	06:40	10	Erik VAN ROOYEN	RSA			
						Clément SORDET	FRA			
						Daniel VAN TONDER	RSA			
30	11:50	1	17	06:50	10	Charl SCHWARTZEL	RSA			
						Sean CROCKER	USA			
						Dean BURMESTER	RSA			
31	12:00	1	18	07:00	10	Thriston LAWRENCE	RSA			
						Adrian OTAEGUI	ESP			
						Louis OOSTHUIZEN	RSA			
32	12:10	1	19	07:10	10	Zander LOMBARD	RSA			
						Wilco NIENABER	RSA			
						Sami VÄLIMÄKI	FIN			
33	12:20	1	20	07:20	10	JC RITCHIE	RSA			
						Matthieu PAVON	FRA			
						Ashun WU	CHN			
34	12:30	1	21	07:30	10	Shaun NORRIS	RSA			
						Marcel SIEM	GER			
						Matthew SOUTHGATE	ENG			
35	12:40	1	22	07:40	10	Scott VINCENT	ZIM			
						Alejandro CAÑIZARES	ESP			
						Albert VENTER	RSA			
36	12:50	1	23	07:50	10	Darren FICHARDT	RSA			
						Wil BESSELING	NED			
						James MORRISON	ENG			
37	13:00	1	24	08:00	10	Louis DE JAGER	RSA			
						Simon FORSSTRÖM	SWE			
						Jean HUGO	RSA			
38	13:10	1	25	08:10	10	Ruan KORB	RSA			
						Jacquín HESS	RSA			
						Divan VAN DEN HEEVER	RSA			
39	13:20	1	26	08:20	10	Joël STALTER	FRA			
						Makhetha MAZIBUKO	RSA			
						Adam BREEN	RSA			
40	11:20	10	1	06:20	1	Thabang SIMON	RSA			
						Rourke VAN DER SPUY	RSA			
						Dylan FRITTELLI	RSA			
41	11:30	10	2	06:30	1	Michael G PALMER	RSA			
						David RAVETTO	FRA			
						MJ VILJOEN	RSA			
42	11:40	10	3	06:40	1	Louis ALBERTSE	RSA			
						Sam HUTSBY	ENG			
						Angel HIDALGO	ESP			
43	11:50	10	4	06:50	1	Pedro FIGUEIREDO	POR			
						Jeong weon KO	FRA			
						Christoffer BRING	DEN			
44	12:00	10	5	07:00	1	Daan HUIZING	NED			
						Bryce EASTON	RSA			
						Tom MCKIBBIN	NIR			
45	12:10	10	6	07:10	1	Joachim B HANSEN	DEN			
						CJ DU PLESSIS	RSA			
						Luke BROWN	RSA			
46	12:20	10	7	07:20	1	Aaron COCKERILL	CAN			
						Jens DANTORP	SWE			
						Jaco VAN ZYL	RSA			
47	12:30	10	8	07:30	1	Marc WARREN	SCO			
						Merrick BREMNER	RSA			
						Thomas AIKEN	RSA			
48	12:40	10	9	07:40	1	Matthew BALDWIN	ENG			
						Tristen STRYDOM	RSA			
						Deon GERMISHUYS	RSA			
49	12:50	10	10	07:50	1	Martin SIMONSEN	DEN			
						John AXELSEN	DEN			
						Alex HAINDL	RSA			
50	13:00	10	11	08:00	1	Pieter MOOLMAN	RSA			
						Jean-Paul STRYDOM	RSA			
						Alejandro DEL REY	ESP			
51	13:10	10	12	08:10	1	Gary STAL	FRA			
						Brooklin BAILEY	USA			
						Ruan CONRADIE	RSA			
52	13:20	10	13	08:20	1	Jastice MASHEGO	RSA			
						Mikael LINDBERG	SWE			
						Keagan THOMAS	RSA			

Golf and nature in harmony

The symbiosis between Leopard Creek and the surrounding Kruger National Park is taken extremely seriously by all involved, with a shared passion for the environment and the protection of this unique relationship.

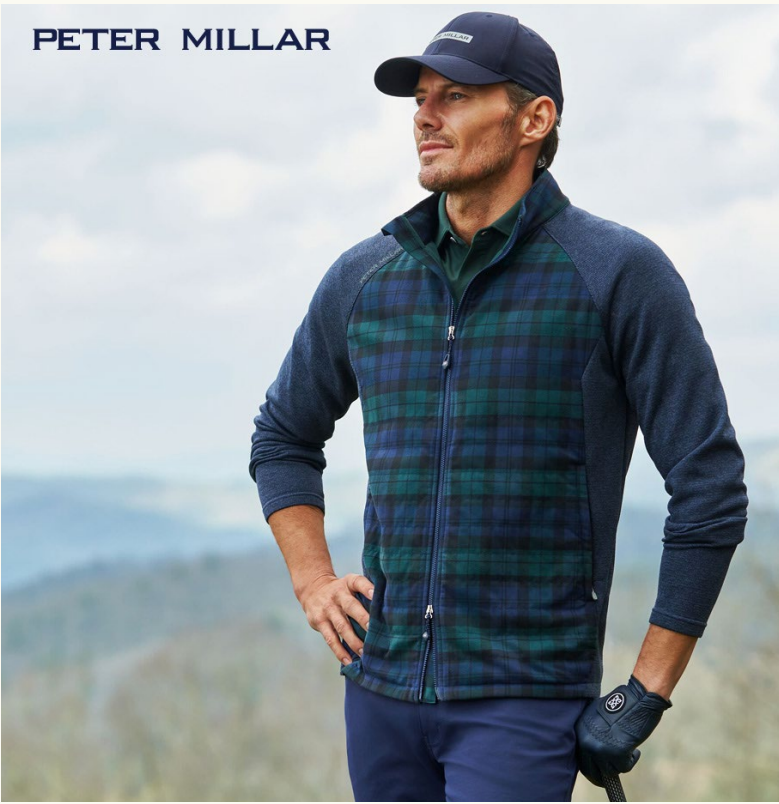
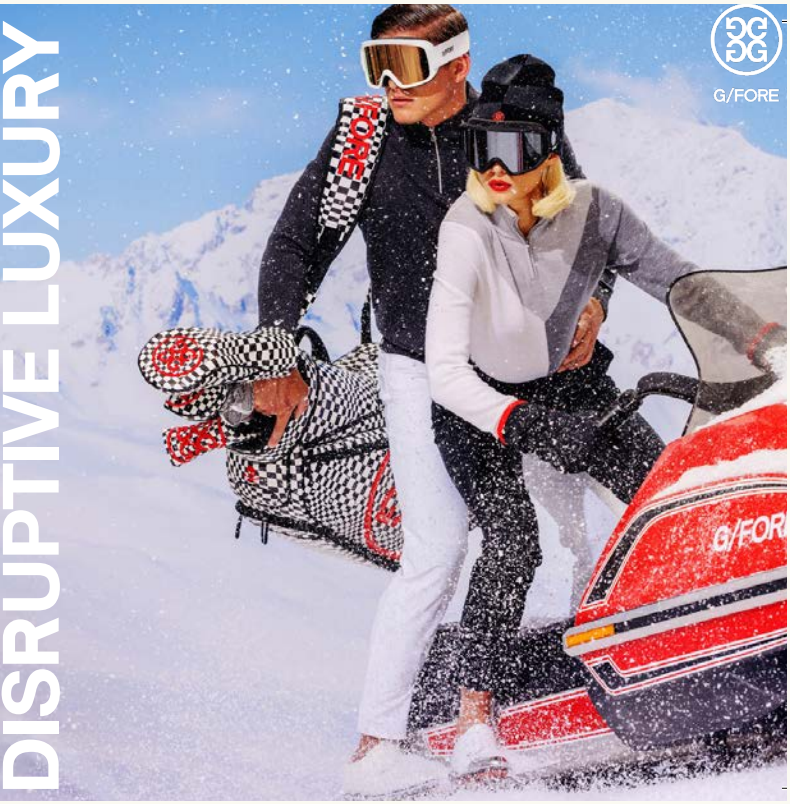
Whether it's the general maintenance of the golf course or the preparations for the hosting of the Alfred Dunhill Championship, every care is taken to maintain the balance with nature. It's a feeling shared by the professional golfers, in particular those who support the

Birdies4Rhinos cause started by Sunshine Tour and DP World Tour professional Justin Walters and PGA Tour campaigner Dean Burmester. With a growing group of professional golfers now in their ranks, they have committed to donating money for every birdie they make

during the season to help protect the endangered rhinos and combat poaching. Before the start of this week's Alfred Dunhill Championship, the golfers joined the South African National Parks on a white rhino dehorning project in the neighbouring Kruger National Park. "I joined Birdies4Rhinos about four years ago," said DP World Tour professional Oliver Bekker. "I've always felt a tremendous sense of peace when I see rhinos in the wild. But we are approaching a critical point where because of poaching, in a few years' time there will be no more rhinos left in the wild. I have children we take to the bush and I'd love for them to be able to see these amazing animals. Hopefully we can keep creating awareness and contribute to their future."



Dean Burmester (left) and Justin Walters (kneeling) with one of the sedated rhinos during the dehorning project.





dunhill

DUNHILL.COM