

Leopard Creek Times

Alfred Dunhill Championship Daily News



ROUND 2, FRIDAY 8 DECEMBER, 2023



Robin hits the target in Alfred Dunhill Championship

South African Robin Williams made a dream debut in the Alfred Dunhill Championship as he opened with a seven-under-par 65 to lead the first round of this Sunshine Tour and DP World Tour co-sanctioned tournament by a single stroke at Leopard Creek on Thursday.

Williams, who claimed his first Sunshine Tour victory in October's Fortress Invitational, showed himself to be more than ready to take the step up to competing against a DP World Tour field on South Africa's number one ranked golf course. "I can always say I shot 65 at Leopard Creek. I'll always have that," said Williams, who leads the duo of South African Jayden Schaper and Spaniard Manuel Elvira who both carded rounds of 66. The two GolfRSA amateurs Christo Lamprecht and Christiaan Maas started extremely well with their rounds of five under par. On a day that started in the rain and remained cool throughout, Williams did his scoring in the morning and set a clubhouse target that nobody else could catch. "The greens were a lot firmer than I think we all thought they would be after the rain the night before. It was a bit of a surprise, but you just adapt

to it. It was pretty fun out there. I took advantage of the par fives and the short holes and I putted well," he said. Williams has certainly been building to this kind of performance following his breakthrough victory on the Sunshine Tour. "The last six or seven tournaments on the Sunshine Tour with that win in there gave me a lot of confidence coming into this tournament to know that I've got the game to win out here and compete. It's now just a case of adapting and learning to play courses set up a bit tougher. This is all a learning curve for me in terms of trying to see what my game needs in order to compete at this level. It's about learning to handle my emotions and not just my game in these big events."



Christiaan Bezuidenhout



Manuel Elvira



Jayden Schaper



It's also vindicated his decision to come and learn his trade on the Sunshine Tour after being raised in the United Kingdom. Born in Stellenbosch to South African parents from Springbok and Pniel, Williams' father found work in the UK as a dentist and the family moved there when he was eight. He played for the England Boys and Men's teams, competed in the Junior Ryder Cup on the same team as the twins Nicolai and Rasmus Højgaard, and then turned professional in 2021. After a brief stint on the Euro Pro Tour he decided that the Sunshine Tour offered the kind of competitive opportunities his career needed. But he has plenty of experience lining up behind him, with former champions Christiaan Bezuidenhout and Charl Schwartzel as well as Erik van Rooyen all on four under par. "The golf course is in the best condition I've ever seen it in. It was a good round for me. The golf course has changed a lot from the one I did so well on. It's definitely tougher so I was happy to shoot 68," said Schwartzel, a four-time winner of this championship.

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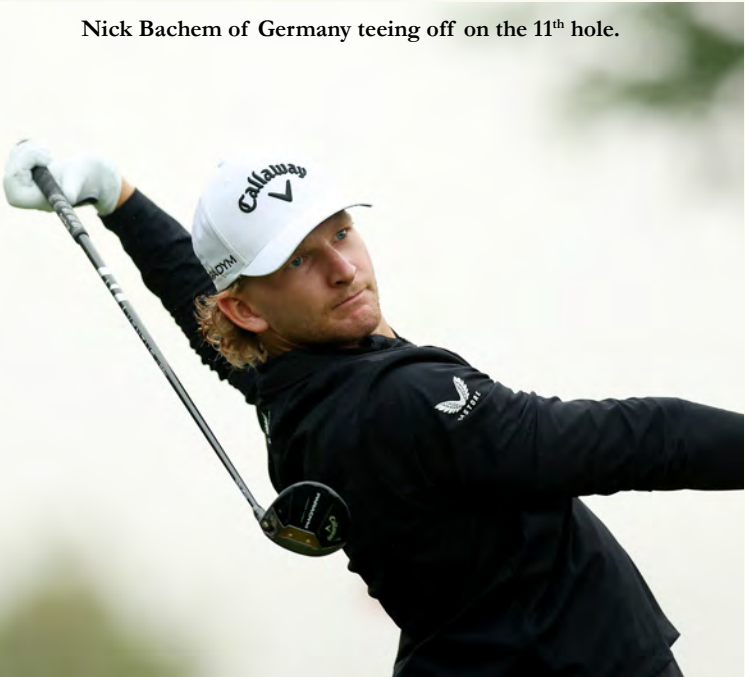
ALFRED DUNHILL CHAMPIONSHIP - DRAW FOR ROUND 1 & 2

| Game | Time | Tee | Game | Time | Tee | Name | Country | Attachment |
|------|-------|-----|------|-------|-----|---|-------------------|---|
| 1 | 06:20 | 1 | 40 | 11:20 | 10 | Hunter EPSON Musiwalo NETHUNZWI Thabang SIMON | USA RSA RSA | Hacienda GC Soweto CC Soweto CC |
| 2 | 06:30 | 1 | 41 | 11:30 | 10 | Espen KOFSTAD Nikhil RAMA Jayden SCHAPER | NOR RSA RSA | Oslo GC Bryanston CC Ebotse Golf Estate |
| 3 | 06:40 | 1 | 42 | 11:40 | 10 | Dylan FRITTELLI Matthias SCHWAB Angel HIDALGO | RSA AUT ESP | UT GC Schladming GC RCG Las Brisas |
| 4 | 06:50 | 1 | 43 | 11:50 | 10 | Albert VENTER MJ VILJOEN Kristian Krogh JOHANNESSEN | RSA RSA NOR | Silver Lakes CC Serengeti golf estate Drammen GK |
| 5 | 07:00 | 1 | 44 | 12:00 | 10 | Alejandro DEL REY Jack DAVIDSON Hennie O'KENNEDY | ESP WAL RSA | RCG La Moraleja The Caversham Stellenbosch GC |
| 6 | 07:10 | 1 | 45 | 12:10 | 10 | Lorenzo SCALISE Jaco PRINSLOO Trevor FISHER JNR | ITA RSA RSA | Golf Club Brianza Serengeti Golf & Wildlife Estate Royal Jhb. & Kensington GC |
| 7 | 07:20 | 1 | 46 | 12:20 | 10 | Benjamin RUSCH Alexander KNAPPE Anton KARLSSON | SUI GER SWE | GC Lipperswil Upsala GC |
| 8 | 07:30 | 1 | 47 | 12:30 | 10 | Jacques BLAAUW Marco PENG Heinrich BRUINERS | RSA ENG RSA | The Els Club, Copperleaf The Caversham Fancourt |
| 9 | 07:40 | 1 | 48 | 12:40 | 10 | Joakim LAGERGREN Anthony MICHAEL Tristen STRYDOM | SWE RSA RSA | Randpark GC Pretoria GC |
| 10 | 07:50 | 1 | 49 | 12:50 | 10 | Rupert KAMINSKI Stuart MANLEY Matthis BESARD | RSA WAL BEL | Parkview GC Mountain Ash GC Waregem GC |
| 11 | 08:00 | 1 | 50 | 13:00 | 10 | Francesco LAPORTA Samuel JONES Rourke VAN DER SPUY | ITA NZL RSA | San Domenico Golf Manala GC Durban CC |
| 12 | 08:10 | 1 | 51 | 13:10 | 10 | Jovan REBULA Mateusz GRADECKI David LAW | RSA POL SCO | George GC Gradi GC Paul Lawrie Golf Centre |
| 13 | 08:20 | 1 | 52 | 13:20 | 10 | Jason ROETS Ruan CONRADIE Jacquin HESS | RSA RSA RSA | Wingate Park CC Excelsior Wine Estate |
| 14 | 06:20 | 10 | 27 | 11:20 | 1 | Brandon STONE Matteo MANASSERO Ross FISHER | RSA ITA ENG | Mount Edgecombe GC Gardagolf CC |
| 15 | 06:30 | 10 | 28 | 11:30 | 1 | Nick BACHEM Oliver BEKKER Wilco NIENABER | GER RSA RSA | Marienburger GC Stellenbosch GC Costaterra G&OC |
| 16 | 06:40 | 10 | 29 | 11:40 | 1 | Dean BURMESTER Guido MIGLIOZZI Thriston LAWRENCE | RSA ITA RSA | Stinger GC Pretoria CC |
| 17 | 06:50 | 10 | 30 | 11:50 | 1 | Dan BRADBURY Louis OOSTHUIZEN Renato PARATORE | ENG RSA ITA | Wakefield GC Stinger GC |
| 18 | 07:00 | 10 | 31 | 12:00 | 1 | Charl SCHWARTZEL Erik VAN ROOYEN Dale WHITNELL | RSA RSA ENG | Maccaulvie GC Crondon Park |
| 19 | 07:10 | 10 | 32 | 12:10 | 1 | Daniel VAN TONDER Matthew SOUTHGATE Zander LOMBARD | RSA ENG RSA | Serengeti Golf & Wildlife Estate Thorpe Hall GC Pearl Valley GC |
| 20 | 07:20 | 10 | 33 | 12:20 | 1 | Shaun NORRIS Jeff WINTHER Dylan MOSTERT | RSA DEN RSA | Silver Lakes CC Royal Johannesburg |
| 21 | 07:30 | 10 | 34 | 12:30 | 1 | Martin VORSTER Jesper SVENSSON Sebastian GARCIA | RSA SWE ESP | Mossel Bay GC Upsala GC El Robledal Golf |
| 22 | 07:40 | 10 | 35 | 12:40 | 1 | Santiago TARRIO Louis ALBERTSE Darius VAN DRIEL | ESP RSA NED | Val de Rois Dundee GC |
| 23 | 07:50 | 10 | 36 | 12:50 | 1 | Manuel ELVIRA Robin WILLIAMS Keagan THOMAS | ESP RSA RSA | R.S.H.E. Club de Campo Peterborough Milton GC Pearl Valley Val de Vie |
| 24 | 08:00 | 10 | 37 | 13:00 | 1 | Stefan WEARS-TAYLOR Adam BLOMME Casey JARVIS | RSA SWE RSA | Phelan Golf Academy AIK GC State Mines CC |
| 25 | 08:10 | 10 | 38 | 13:10 | 1 | Gerhard PEPLER Wynand DINGLE James MORRISON | RSA RSA ENG | Silver Lakes CC St Georges Hill |
| 26 | 08:20 | 10 | 39 | 13:20 | 1 | Dylan NAIDOO Wade JACOBS Doug MCGUIGAN | RSA RSA SCO | The Club at Steyn City Klerksdorp GC Fancourt G&CC |

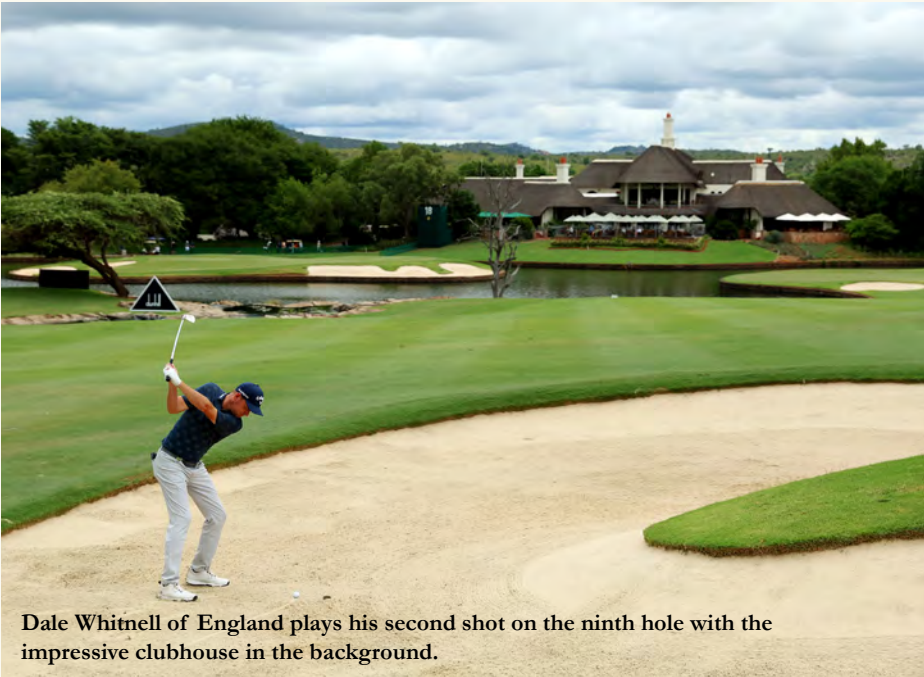
| Game | Time | Tee | Game | Time | Tee | Name | Country | Attachment |
|------|-------|-----|------|-------|-----|---|-------------------|--|
| 27 | 11:20 | 1 | 14 | 06:20 | 10 | Sebastian FRIEDRICHSEN Eduardo MOLINARI Hennie OTTO | DEN ITA RSA | The Scandinavian Edoardo Molinari Golf Academy Pearl Valley Val de Vie |
| 28 | 11:30 | 1 | 15 | 06:30 | 10 | JC RITCHIE Scott JAMIESON Hennie DU PLESSIS | RSA SCO RSA | Serengeti Estates Sesambos GC |
| 29 | 11:40 | 1 | 16 | 06:40 | 10 | Antoine ROZNER Neil SCHIETEKAT Christo LAMPRECHT (AM) | FRA RSA RSA | RCF la Boulie Royal Jhb. & Kensington GC |
| 30 | 11:50 | 1 | 17 | 06:50 | 10 | Christiaan BEZUIDENHOUT Ewen FERGUSON Branden GRACE | RSA SCO RSA | Serengeti Wildlife & Golf Estate Bearsden GC Fancourt G&CC |
| 31 | 12:00 | 1 | 18 | 07:00 | 10 | Darren FICHARDT Ryan VAN VELZEN Matthew BALDWIN | RSA RSA ENG | Centurion CC Benoni CC The Royal Birkdale GC |
| 32 | 12:10 | 1 | 19 | 07:10 | 10 | Ockie STRYDOM Ashun WU Louis DE JAGER | RSA CHN RSA | South Africa VEA Group |
| 33 | 12:20 | 1 | 20 | 07:20 | 10 | Matti SCHMID JJ SENEKAL Benjamin FOLLETT-SMITH | GER RSA ZIM | GC Herzogenaurach Stellenbosch GC Royal Harare GC |
| 34 | 12:30 | 1 | 21 | 07:30 | 10 | Joachim B HANSEN Aaron COCKERILL Thomas AIKEN | DEN CAN RSA | The Scandinavian The Els Club Dubai The Abaco Club |
| 35 | 12:40 | 1 | 22 | 07:40 | 10 | Tom VAILLANT Andy SULLIVAN Pieter MOOLMAN | FRA ENG RSA | Golf de Cannes-Mougins Stratford-on-Avon GC Benoni Lake GC |
| 36 | 12:50 | 1 | 23 | 07:50 | 10 | Peter KARMIS Lyle ROWE Jaco VAN ZYL | GRE RSA RSA | Clovelly CC Humewood GC Benoni CC |
| 37 | 13:00 | 1 | 24 | 08:00 | 10 | Andrea PAVAN John AXELSEN Deon GERMISHUYS | ITA DEN RSA | TPC Craig Ranch Smoerum GK Serengeti Estates |
| 38 | 13:10 | 1 | 25 | 08:10 | 10 | Combrinck SMIT Robson CHINHOI Willi ENEFER | RSA ZIM ENG | Eshowe Hills Golf Estate Zimbabwe Trinifold Sports |
| 39 | 13:20 | 1 | 26 | 08:20 | 10 | Omar SANDYS Makhetha MAZIBUKO Jacques P DE VILLIERS | RSA RSA RSA | Bloemfontein GC Schoeman Park GC |
| 40 | 11:20 | 10 | 1 | 06:20 | 1 | Alphus KELAPILE Slenda SITHEBE Conner MACKENZIE | RSA RSA RSA | Leopard Creek GC |
| 41 | 11:30 | 10 | 2 | 06:30 | 1 | Christian MAAS (AM) Martin ROHWER David RAVETTO | RSA RSA FRA | Pretoria CC Kloof CC RCF la Boulie |
| 42 | 11:40 | 10 | 3 | 06:40 | 1 | Daniel BENNETT (AM) Freddy SCHOTT Jean HUGO | RSA GER RSA | Dusseldorf GC |
| 43 | 11:50 | 10 | 4 | 06:50 | 1 | Kyle BARKER Jamie DONALDSON Joshua BERRY | RSA WAL ENG | Serengeti Golf & Wildlife Estate Doncaster GC |
| 44 | 12:00 | 10 | 5 | 07:00 | 1 | Mike LORENZO-VERA Filippo CELLI Sam BAIRSTOW | FRA ITA ENG | Golf International du Cap d'Agde Oligiata GC Hallowes GC |
| 45 | 12:10 | 10 | 6 | 07:10 | 1 | Luca FIUCCI Paul WARING Alexander LEVY | RSA ENG FRA | Milnerton GC Bromborough GC |
| 46 | 12:20 | 10 | 7 | 07:20 | 1 | Yurav PREMLALL Joel GIRRBACH Andrew JOHNSTON | RSA SUI ENG | Glendower GC Lipperswil GC |
| 47 | 12:30 | 10 | 8 | 07:30 | 1 | Søren KJELDSEN Johannes VEERMAN Jeong weon KO | DEN USA FRA | The Scandinavian |
| 48 | 12:40 | 10 | 9 | 07:40 | 1 | Ugo COUSSAUD Jonathan BROOMHEAD Keenan DAVIDSE | FRA RSA RSA | Golf de Arcangues Stellenbosch GC |
| 49 | 12:50 | 10 | 10 | 07:50 | 1 | Clément SORDET Malcolm MITCHELL Maximilian ROTTLUFF | FRA RSA GER | Heritage GC Kloof CC GC Hubbelrath |
| 50 | 13:00 | 10 | 11 | 08:00 | 1 | Gavin GREEN Merrick BREMNER Ruan KORB | MAS RSA RSA | Silver Lakes CC / Betway_za Silver Lakes CC |
| 51 | 13:10 | 10 | 12 | 08:10 | 1 | Ivan CANTERO Chase HANNA Adrien SADDIER | ESP USA FRA | La Cuesta GC Wolf Creek GC Esery GC |
| 52 | 13:20 | 10 | 13 | 08:20 | 1 | Toto THIMBA JNR Quintin WILSNACH Ross MCGOWAN | RSA RSA ENG | Silverlakes Golf Estate Magalies Park GC Al Hamra GC |



The nature of golf at Leopard Creek.



Nick Bachem of Germany teeing off on the 11th hole.



Dale Whitnell of England plays his second shot on the ninth hole with the impressive clubhouse in the background.



Robin Williams with his caddie during round one of the Alfred Dunhill Championship.



Sebastian Garcia playing his shot from amidst the magnificent trees on the course.



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Joakim Lagergren of Sweden plays his second shot on the 17th hole.





Erik van Rooyen planning his attack.

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Spanish flair on the fairways of Leopard Creek



Manuel Elvira

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Spanish golfers have always had success at Leopard Creek in the Alfred Dunhill Championship, so it was no surprise to see Manuel Elvira near the top of the leaderboard after the first round.

Elvira opened with a six-under-par 66 to place him just one shot off the lead in his first appearance in this prestigious championship.

“It was a lot of fun. The course is beautiful. It’s my first time here and you can see the wildlife around the course and it’s really enjoyable,” said Elvira.

His challenge continues a proud tradition of Spanish golfers in this event.

Álvaro Quirós was a winner here in 2006 when he beat Charl Schwartzel for the title that year.

Pablo Martin then won back-to-back Alfred Dunhill Championship titles in 2009 and 2010 to become the first player in history to achieve this before South Africa’s Schwartzel matched this in 2012 and 2013.

Then it was the turn of Pablo Larrazabal to triumph on a golf course he said is easily his favourite in the world in 2019.

And last year Spain’s Adrián Otaegui finished second to Ockie Strydom.

“I guess we like the heat and the good weather. I’ve played in a few European Challenge Tour events in South Africa as well and the weather has always been really good. It’s different because we don’t have this type of grass in Spain, especially where I’m from. But we seem to adapt quite well and I hope to keep doing that these next few days.”

A win by a Spaniard this week would make them the most successful country in this championship after the South Africans.

“It was a lot of fun. The course is beautiful. It’s my first time here and you can see the wildlife around the course and it’s really enjoyable.”

-Manuel Elvira



Impressive start by GolfRSA amateurs



Top GolfRSA amateurs Christo Lamprecht and Christiaan Maas impressed on day one of the Alfred Dunhill Championship as they played their way to within two shots of the lead. Both Lamprecht and Maas signed for first rounds of five-under-par 67. For Lamprecht in particular, this week represents a unique opportunity to play South Africa's number one ranked golf course as the world's number one ranked amateur.

"It's been a great year for me with a lot of good golf," said Lamprecht, who won The Amateur Championship this year to book his place in the 2023 Open Championship where he shared the lead after the first round.

"It's great to end off a really good year by coming home and playing in front of home crowds. Being part of GolfRSA makes you immensely proud to play in the Alfred Dunhill Championship here at Leopard Creek. The reason why this is one of the best courses in the world is because it's a true championship golf course that, while testing you, is also very fair. If you play good golf it rewards you, and if you hit bad shots it punishes you."

It's been a watershed year for Lamprecht's career and one in which he says he's learnt valuable lessons as he keeps building his game and experience in championships such as this.

"Belief is so important in this game. You've got to believe you're good enough and then go out there and work hard enough. And then I've also learnt to have fun. Know your golf game and enjoy it."



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