

## **First Greg Norman Golf Course launched in South Africa**

**20 April 2010, Johannesburg:** Eye of Africa Residential & Golf Estate (Eye of Africa) has launched its recently completed Greg Norman golf course, the first in South Africa. Joint Venture partners, Dr Rui Graca of Pixley World Investments, and Neil Anderson CEO of Medallist Developments, officially launched the golf course by symbolically teeing off from the first.

Eye of Africa is the fourteenth golf course designed by the legendary golfer "Great White Shark" in collaboration with the award-winning international developers Medallist, who had the vision to create the first residential and golf estate in the south of Johannesburg.

Anderson stated that "Norman fulfilled his vision to seamlessly integrate from the first tee to the eighteenth green, while enhancing the natural landscaping features".

The Par 72 golf course spans over 6,895 metres and incorporates all the famous Norman design trademarks associated with one of golf's most prolific players of recent times.

Additional Norman features include signature bunkering with wide fairways, greens with easy grades (slopes), no hidden traps whilst maintaining playability as each hole has between 4-5 tee boxes, which allow players to challenge their own skills.

One of the unique features of the course is the elevation changes experienced through all eighteen holes. Players will also be challenged due to the changing wind conditions.

The course is played as a continuous loop with a small half-way house at the 9th green, which is on the far side of the course. A temporary clubhouse has been constructed adjacent to the driving range; which includes a coffee shop, golf Pro shop and locker rooms. The golf course is a member's only course and the membership program will be available early in May.

The greens are bentgrass built to USGA specification. The fairways are cynodon Gulf Green, a drought-resistant indigenous grass providing an extreme smooth surface. The fairways go dormant in winter requiring minimum water for maintenance during the dry season. Roughs are seeded with veldgrass in keeping with the existing environment.

The golf course irrigation system will eventually use grey water from the residential houses, besides a fully computerized irrigation system that is weather sensitive and programmed to automatically adjust water supply according to weather conditions.

The Estate is designed on the award winning Masterplan philosophy of Australian developer Medallist. This philosophy commits to restoring and preserving the natural fauna and flora of the area, combined with best practice urban planning standards, to create safe and sustainable communities.

Eye of Africa is a phased estate with over 1,200 freehold stands and space for up to 2000 townhouses/clusters. There are also stands for retail operations, commercial operations and hotels. Half the estate is allocated to open spaces and community facilities. Besides the world-class Greg Norman championship golf course, residents can also enjoy the stylised natural landscapes of aloes, monolithic rocks and sweeping grasses with patches of flowers for bursts of colour. There are community focussed parks featuring children's play areas with water fountains, picnic areas and plenty of seating, bringing families and friends together. The design for the proposed community facilities which will overlook the 18th hole and enjoy vistas to the Johannesburg CBD skyline and incorporate golf clubhouse and facilities, a café, day spa, gym and community hall, restaurant. In addition a world class landscaped lagoon pool will be the centerpiece of the 2 hectare precinct.

**ENDS ...**

**About Medallist:**

Medallist is a joint venture between Macquarie Group Limited, a global provider of banking, financial, advisory, investment and funds management services, and Greg Norman's Great White Shark Enterprises which has developed a portfolio of amenity-focused lifestyle communities throughout the United States, Australia and South Africa containing over 15,000 residential sites and 270 holes of golf over the past 12 years.

**About Eye of Africa:**

Eye of Africa is Medallist's first private lifestyle golf estate to be developed in the South of Johannesburg. The developers are Medallist Developments – a joint venture between Greg Norman's Great White Shark Enterprises and Macquarie Group Limited – and local players, Pixley World Investments.

Eye of Africa is conveniently located 17km south of the Johannesburg CBD and comprises 667ha of land. When completed, the estate will be home to approximately 1 200 freehold stands (Res 1) and 900 sectional title units (Res 3).

Eye of Africa will incorporate hiking and bicycle trails among other healthy lifestyle amenities, within a secured estate environment. The golf course, expertly designed by Greg Norman Golf Course Design, will have minimal impact on the natural environment, by utilising and enhancing the natural landscape features into the shape of the course.

Homes will display a distinct character that complements the site. The architectural vision is to incorporate the use of simple raw materials gleaned from the surrounding Highveld earth fused with European and African designs – all combining into a unique “Afropean” style.

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