
101 reasons to study the PGA Golf Diploma at TGSE

About us

1. Students receive elite training to prepare them to be a successful tour player.
2. Students receive training in all aspects of the golf industry for additional career options.
3. PGA qualification and membership is recognised in over 40 golfing nations worldwide.
4. TGSE has partnered with Exercise Teachers Academy (**eta**) to present the PGA Golf Diploma.
5. **eta** is accredited by PGA of South Africa to present the National Diploma.
6. TGSE is South Africa's leading elite performance academy.
7. **eta** is South Africa's leading provider of sports education. It is registered with the Department of Education as a higher education institution (see point 53 under academics for full details).
8. TGSE is a division of Balderstone Golf (Pty) Ltd, a family business run with passion and a commitment to the highest levels of excellence.

Access to facilities

9. Students receive membership of Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Golf Club.
10. This membership includes unlimited prepaid golf, at any time including weekends.
11. Students receive membership of Observatory Practice Facility, which includes unlimited balls, and use of the world-class short game area.
12. Students have full access to the short game facilities at Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Golf Club.
13. Students have access to golf specific gym equipment at the practice facility.
14. Affiliation to Central Gauteng Golf Union (optional).

Elite training

15. Students embark on our unique Performance Development Programme and are trained using TGSE's Total Golf Coaching System, to allow them to achieve elite performance.
16. TGSE has a unique and extensive Game Evaluation Process.
17. Students receive 2½ hours of coaching per week.
18. TGSE utilises specialist coaches for each technical aspect of the game, with a designated swing and short game coach to improve the students' performance.
19. Elite Performance Director Michael Balderstone oversees each student's performance development.
20. Students are assessed in their golf fitness on a bi-monthly basis using the Titleist Performance Institute screening test. Individual programmes are issued from the results.

21. Students receive extensive video analysis using the V1 Professional coaching software.
22. Students are filmed during tournament play to identify swing tendencies under tournament pressure.
23. TGSE has a partnership with Srixon to provide club fitting and ball tracking analysis to ensure that the students are correctly fitted in their equipment.
24. Students receive regular course strategy sessions.
25. Students receive regular rules sessions.
26. Nutritional advice is provided for on-course performance and everyday life.
27. Students have access to their playing statistics on the TGSE website, updated weekly.
28. TGSE uses extensive training aids including Explanar and Leaderboard.
29. TGSE also uses exclusive training aids and drills to accelerate the learning process.
30. TGSE students set goals using our unique Goal-Setting Ladder.

Tournaments

31. TGSE has an internal tournament schedule of 35 strokeplay tournaments (comprising 50 tournament rounds) and 30 designated matchplay games.
32. TGSE holds weekly medal tournaments.
33. TGSE holds a 72-hole championship at the end of each cycles (5 per year)
34. An order of merit is derived from the internal tournaments.
35. All vital statistics are recorded to help identify strengths and weaknesses.
36. The Order of Merit champion wins a 50% **scholarship** for the following year.
37. Player of the Month prizes are awarded each month.
38. A matchplay championship is held throughout the year with trophy.
39. All TGSE tournaments are held on the 2 championship courses at Royal Johannesburg & Kensington GC, host of a European Tour event and Open Championship international qualifying.
40. PGA Diploma students compete against TGSE's Elite Academy students.
41. Students retain their amateur status throughout the study period, allowing them to participate in amateur tournaments and achieve amateur goals before turning professional.
42. Students can represent Royal Johannesburg & Kensington in league matches.
43. Students can compete in club competitions each Wednesday and Saturday and major club competitions like the club championship.
44. Students are encouraged to compete in national amateur tournaments and are allowed time from lectures for such tournaments.
45. TGSE facilitates entry to national amateur tournaments.
46. Students participate in Ryder Cup style internal matches
47. Students compete in matches against other academies and colleges.

Academics

48. The Diploma covers 9 subjects; Golf Coaching, Anatomy & Physiology, Sports Psychology, Retail & Club Management, Rules of Golf, Equipment Technology, Golf World, Tournament Organisation and Personal Career Development.
49. TGSE also adds Entrepreneurship to the curriculum.
50. TGSE has an extensive golf specific library to help students with research for assignments and exams.
51. Students have access to past exam papers to prepare for exams.

52. The PGA Golf Diploma is registered with SAQA (South African Qualifications Authority) under the title National Diploma: Club Professional Golfing, ID 50017.
53. eta is registered with the Department of Education as a higher education institution under the Higher Education Act 1997, registration number: 01HC04 and accredited with THETA, registration number: 613/P/000007/2004.
54. All study material is produced by the PGA of Great Britain & Ireland.
55. Students can become certified as TPI fitness trainers.

Expertise

56. The Diploma is facilitated by PGA Advanced Professional Michael Balderstone. Michael started his career in golf by studying for a diploma run by the PGA of Great Britain & Ireland in 1993. His career has taken him all over the world including coaching stints in USA and Europe before settling in South Africa. He works closely with the PGA of SA as a lecturer and assessor for their apprentice programme.
57. Michael Balderstone also provides the Golf Coaching lecturing at TGSE.
58. Garth Milne is the lecturer for Anatomy & Physiology. Garth is widely recognised as the leading golf fitness trainer in South Africa and works with a whole host of tour players on the local and international tours.
59. Greg Smith is the lecturer for Equipment Technology. Greg is the equipment technology guru of South Africa and is certified through many international equipment and club making institutions.
60. Kymi Bodenberger lectures the students in Golf Retail. Kymi, an American national, has extensive experience in the golf retail market including the management of two on-course golf shops responsible for \$6 million in sales per year.
61. Theo Bezuidenhout lectures the students in Sports Psychology. Theo is recognised as the leading golf psychologist in South Africa, working with South Africa's leading amateur players and many tour players around the world.
62. TGSE has a range of additional specialists, including physiotherapist and sports doctor that are on hand if needed.

Practical experience

63. TGSE offers a high practical element to the course through our direct contacts in the golf industry.
64. A select number of students are sent each year to Philadelphia, USA for 8 weeks of coaching experience.
65. 1st year students help to organise a junior tournament in conjunction with the Junior Golf Foundation.
66. 2nd year students organise a 'sporting celebrity golf day' with funds raised benefiting golf development.
67. 3rd year students organise a Pro / Am tournament.
68. Students coach Special Olympics participants.
69. Students complete 2000 hours of industry experience before they graduate.
70. Students receive a Golf Internship Logbook to record their industry hours.
71. Students get to work at Sunshine Tour events.
72. Students receive the V1 Home coaching software.
73. Students have access to TGSE's extensive library of tour player swings.
74. Students become certified in the Total Golf Coaching System.

Upon Graduation

75. The Diploma provides a wide range of career options including playing, coaching, club management, retail, tournament administration, event management and many more.
76. The global golf industry is worth over \$90 billion.
77. 3 years study equals 3 years academic credit towards PGA membership.
78. As TGSE is directly involved in the golf industry we have strong relationships with the SA golf industry to source job opportunities.
79. TGSE has industry contacts all over the world to help source opportunities for graduates.

General

80. Parents receive a performance and attitude report at the end of each cycle.
81. Inspirational and motivational sessions are held using CD's and DVD's of leading players, mental coaches and success gurus.
82. Students receive exclusive TGSE shirts and caps from Ahead.
83. Students receive discounts on Srixon equipment, balls, gloves and caps.
84. There is a strict code of conduct in place to ensure discipline and an optimum training environment for all.
85. TGSE has a strict no-smoking rule at all times during the schedule.
86. Students must adhere to a strict dress code at all times.
87. 100% class attendance is required (unless prior notice is given) in order to compete in the weekly tournaments & achieve maximum performance.
88. TGSE provides furnished accommodation for a limited number of out of town students.
89. Monthly spot inspections are made to the accommodation, with reports being sent to parents.
90. A strict code of conduct is in place for those taking accommodation.
91. Students receive a CD showing swing improvements throughout each year. TGSE has national representatives studying for the PGA Diploma.
92. Students receive a swing sequence printout at the end of each year.
93. Guest speakers are brought in to educate and motivate.
94. Student loans are available.
95. Lectures, coaching and practice sessions take place at Observatory Practice Facility, ensuring no time is wasted travelling between venues.
96. Students receive speechmaking and media training.
97. TGSE has a strict enrolment process.
98. TGSE follows an Optimum Performance Schedule of 5 x 7 week cycles.
99. TGSE organises school away tours each year.
100. Photos of students in action are posted on the TGSE Facebook page each week.
101. "So grateful that we found you and could support Nic's passion. With what you offer at TGSE I know that he can follow his passion and actually finish off with choices of a career. To know that these boys are being guided in the correct direction and principles in life, the peace of mind I now have is worth more than money could ever buy!"

~ Robyn Stawski (Parent of PGA Golf Diploma student)