



MALTA GOLF ASSOCIATION

14TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (2024)

Minutes of the 14th Annual General Meeting
held on Thursday, 27th March 2025 at 18:30 hours.

Agenda:

- Reading and approval of minutes of the AGM held on 6th March 2024.
- Reading and approval of minutes of the EGM held on 26th September 2024.
- Resolutions to amend the Statute and adopt the Bylaws.
- Receiving the Accounts for Year ended December 2024.
- Tournaments' Report.
- President's Statement.
- Matters arising.
- Closure of Meeting.

Introduction:

Apologies were received from Mrs Geraldine Cranley (*RMGC Lady Captain*), Mr Irwin Gratil (*RMGC Vice-Captain*), Dr Karen Zammit Southernwood (*AIMS Director Regulatory Affairs*), and Mr Richard Waterhouse.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 13th Annual General Meeting held on 6th March 2024 and of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 26th September 2024 [both circulated in advance] were taken as read and approved.

2. Resolutions

The 14 resolutions to amend the Statute and the 3 resolutions to adopt the bylaws were approved unanimously.

3. Treasurer's Report

Mr Kenneth Micallef, *MGA Treasurer*, presented and explained the accounts for the financial year ended December 2024.

VCA were thanked for their professional audit and were approved as the appointed auditors for the year ending 2025 should the income of the Association exceed an amount which would require the pertinent audit.



MALTA GOLF ASSOCIATION

4. Tournament's Report

The Tournament's Report for the year 2024 (distributed in advance) was tabled.

5. President's Statement

The President's Statement for the year 2024 (distributed in advance) was tabled.

6. Other Matters

Mr Kenneth Micallef initiated a discussion to request the Club Captain and his committee to consider allowing the members to play Club's competitions off different tees according to their handicap.

There being no further matters, the meeting was called to an end at 19:30 hours.

William Beck
President

Nicholas Beck
Secretary

These are draft minutes which need to be approved at the next Annual General Meeting.



MALTA GOLF ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 27th March 2025 starting at 18.00 hours
Alex Mangion Suite - Royal Malta Golf Club – Marsa

4th March 2025

The Executive Council Members of the MGA are proposing the following resolutions to amend the MGA's Statute. The reason for these resolutions is so that the Statute conforms more to the requirements of the Authority for Integrity in Maltese Sports (AIMS) and are according to their recommendations.

RESOLUTION #1:

Under article # 1.4 change the registered address of the Association to read as that being of its incumbent President to read:

The registered address of the Association shall be of its incumbent President as declared in bylaw #1. The Association's corresponding address shall be Malta Golf Association c/o Royal Malta Golf Club, Aldo Moro Street, Marsa MRS 9064, Malta.

RESOLUTION #2:

Under article #2.4 add Malta Paralympic Committee and Special Olympics Malta to read:

To develop and nurture relationships between the Association and the Maltese Olympic Committee, Sport Malta, Malta Paralympic Committee, Special Olympics Malta and any other relevant national entities.

RESOLUTION #3:

Under article #2.7 add according to the provisions of bylaw #3 to read:

To establish and be responsible for the maintenance of an anti-doping policy according to Legal Notice 281 of the Malta Sports Act and according to the provisions of bylaw #3.

RESOLUTION #4:

Add new article #2.9 as follows:

To maintain child protection policies and procedures so as to promote good practice to create a safe sporting environment for children and young people and safeguard them from harm (bylaw #4).



RESOLUTION #5:

Under article #3.3 add the sentence Professional golfers will only be permitted to compete in exceptional circumstances where the terms of the competition allow to read

The Association shall ensure that only amateur golfers as defined by the R&A Rules Limited may compete in any of its events. Professional golfers will only be permitted to compete in exceptional circumstances where the terms of the competition allow.

RESOLUTION #6:

Under article #3.4 add the sentence Any supporting persons shall be similarly recognised provided they go through the proper safeguarding measures to read:

The Association shall ensure that golf coaching to its members is being offered only by certified coaches affiliated with the PGA of Malta and recognised by the Association. Any supporting persons shall be similarly recognised provided they go through the proper safeguarding measures.

RESOLUTION #7:

Add new article #3.5 as follows:

The Association shall ensure that it meets its obligations towards the Authority for Integrity in Maltese Sports (AIMS), the Office of the Commissioner for Voluntary Organisations (OCVO) and the Registry of Beneficial Owners (RBO).

RESOLUTION #8:

Under article #4.1.3 replace the word Club with golf facility to read:

Associate members - being Maltese nationals who are members of an overseas golf facility.

RESOLUTION #9:

Under article #4.3 replace the words golf handicaps with category by gender and age to read:

To allow the Association to meet its obligations, the Club will provide to the Association, at least once annually, a list of members and their category by gender and age.

RESOLUTION #10:

Under article #5.1 add sub-article #5.1.1 as follows:

The roles of the Executive Council members are provided in bylaw #5.

RESOLUTION #11:

Under article #8.7 add the word judicial to read:

Legal and judicial representation of the Association shall be vested in the President, or the person or persons so appointed for the particular business by the Executive Council.

RESOLUTION #12:

Under article #8.9 add sub-article #8.9.1 as follows:

The Association's disciplinary process is defined by bylaw #2 which also encompasses the Association's grievance procedure, code of ethics and code of conduct.



RESOLUTION #13:

Replace the words under article #10 with the following:

The dissolution of the Association may take place by a voluntary decision of its members (after a majority decision at a General Meeting) or by the decision of the Courts of Malta. In the event of the voluntary dissolution of the Association, all assets of the Association shall be applied in favour of another non-profit organisation with similar purpose as the Association as directed by the General Meeting. The provisions of Chapter 626 of the Laws of Malta shall prevail.

RESOLUTION #14:

Under article #11 add new sub-article #11.4 as follows:

The Association commits to publish this Statute, bylaws, policies and other pertinent governance and administrative documents on its media platforms.

RESOLUTION #15:

To adopt bylaw #1 – registered address of the Association.

RESOLUTION #16:

To adopt bylaw #2 – roles of the executive council members.

RESOLUTION #17:

To adopt bylaw #3 – anti-doping policy.

~~RESOLUTION #18:~~

~~To adopt bylaw #5 – disciplinary process.~~

The bylaws can be viewed/downloaded by linking to <http://www.maltagolf.org/documents>.

Bylaw #4 – Children in Golf – was adopted at the meeting held on 22nd April 2010.

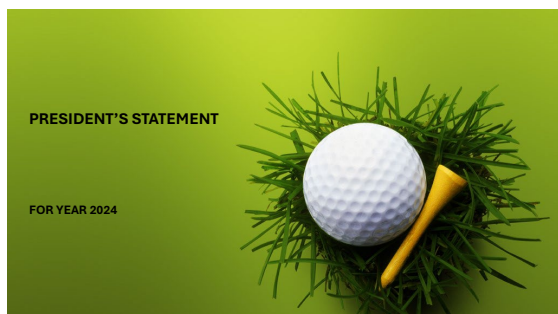
Any counter amendments to these resolutions should reach us by not later than 13th March 2025.

Yours in golf

William Beck
President

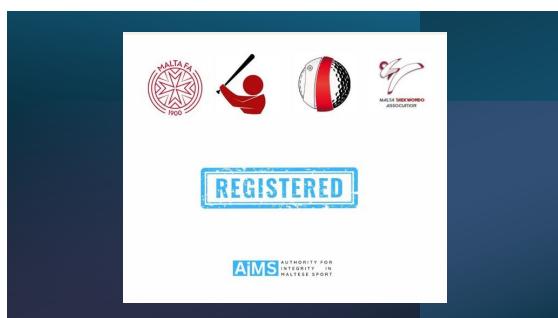
Nicholas Beck
General Secretary

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT (2024)



In 2024, the MGA Executive met four times with no major issues needing our attention.

The main topics for discussion were international and national competitions, development programmes and completion of the registration process with the Authority for Integrity in Maltese Sports. The latter required an amendment to our Statute which was carried out in September 2024.



Earlier this month, our Association was one of the first four Associations that was registered under the requirements of the new sports law. Your endorsements of the resolutions to amend our statute earlier this evening has paved the way to address the recommendation forwarded to us by AIMS to further improve our standing with the law.

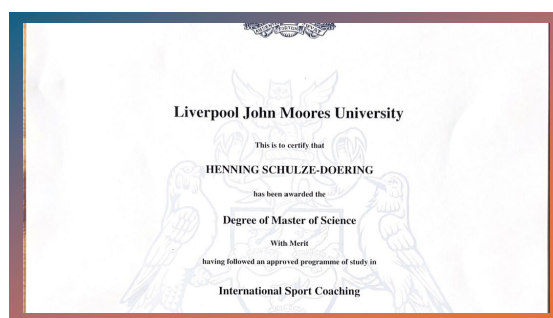
In November we attended the Annual General Meeting of the European Golf Association which was held in Estoril where Malta once again facilitated the meeting of the Emerging Golf Nations. We also took this opportunity to seek clarification on the use of General Play cards.



In autumn, we handed over the administration of the Junior Academy to Dorien Mece – one of the parents whose son frequents the Academy. Parents' interest is paramount to the success of the academy, and we are convinced that Dorien's input will continue to take the academy forward.



At the same time, we asked Ms Kate Currie to help Dorien by owning the running of a GOLFSIXES competition format in the Academy's scheduled monthly Sunday's competitions. We understand that this experimental format for our juniors has been embraced, and we look forward to extending it so that, from next season, our juniors can enter a league with other juniors overseas.



PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT (2024)

Remaining in the natural environment of the Junior Academy, we were delighted that Henning managed to obtain his Master of Science in International Sport Coaching to further his knowledge in coaching. We also acknowledge the steps taken so that his regular assistants receive their first PGA qualifications.



In October, the Women in Sports Commission, within the Maltese Olympic Committee, hosted the "Women in Sport Leadership Forum". Doreen was one of 30 female participants, representing 20 federations and associations including the MOC and the Malta Paralympic Committee. As a follow up meeting, a few weeks later, a number of these ladies then met again at Royal Malta and enjoyed a golf taster session with Henning.



The Maltese Olympic Committee together with The R&A have been instrumental with their financial assistance towards our development programmes. The MOC approved funding through the GSSE's Legacy Funds towards our golf to schools' programme which was topped up by The R&A. This enabled us to re-start the

programme earlier this year. But more on this at next year's AGM.

The MOC and SportMalta also assisted us financially towards international participation costs. These are a substantial amount of our budget, and we continue to ensure that we do not spend much more than the funds that we receive.

Our national team players continue to perform relatively well given the limited support we can offer them. We are looking forward to welcoming Noah (Gratil) to our national team as soon as his application for citizenship is approved and we are happy for Laurens and Filippa who continue to perform at their respective colleges in the States.



Laurens is in his fourth year there and from "freshman of the year" in 2022 at his first college, he is now transferred to the highest level of collegiate golf at the University of South Carolina.

Filippa is finishing her second year at Adelphi University where she has earned the title of team captain and was awarded the North Eastern player of the week.

Serena (Falzon Sant Manduca) will be the third Maltese that travels to the USA. She has been accepted at Yale University for entry in September 2026 to be part of their golf team – a whole two years in advance.

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT (2024)

Danijel Bogdanovic has also appeared on the scene. Danijel resides in Gozo – our sister island which is one of the islands that can participate in the International Island Games. Danijel will fly the national flag in the golf competition that will be held in Orkney.

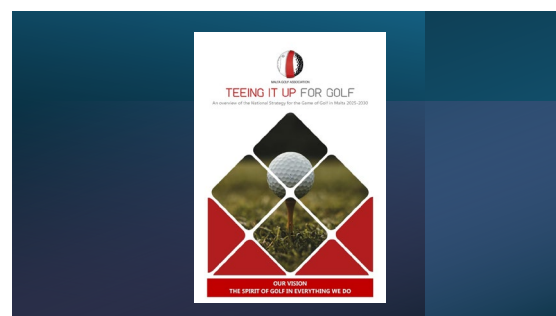


As announced last year, with Royal Malta completing its transformation of the full 18 greens, it is now necessary to have the course physically re-rated. Mr Richard Cau, visited the RMGC in early December for a preparatory visit. Richard is the immediate past chairman of the EGA's Handicap and Course Rating Committee and, despite his young age, a very experienced gentleman on the subject matter. Together with two of his colleagues from the Italian Federation, he returns this May to evaluate the course allowing the members of the RMGC the summer months to get used to their revised course handicap.

We acknowledge the extraordinary efforts that have been ongoing at the RMGC to improve its facilities. This goes a long way to raise the standards of the game in Malta and to attract visitors to the island. Without wishing to count the chickens before they hatch, we look forward to a time when, apart from the Malta Junior Open, the RMGC can host other renowned European tournaments.

With a final look at the future, tomorrow we launch our revised strategic plan for the next five years. This second publication of **“TEEING IT UP FOR GOLF”** covers the next few years

during which the MGA will celebrate twenty years of its existence.



Our vision, our purpose statement and our strategic values remain the core in everything we do going forward as is our focus towards a more proficient and sustainable governing body. We have understood that it would be wiser for us to work on a fewer number of goals and make sure that these are fully achievable. The benefits and risks also remain practically the same.



Paramount initiatives remain those to attract more Maltese to the game, to digital engage with the market, to promote the benefits of golf towards a healthier lifestyle and engaging family members especially the female gender.

Next year's annual general meeting is also one during which elections will be held to put in place a committee for the next quadrennial. Succession planning also remains a challenge and we welcome those who can help the Association overcome this.

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT (2024)



*Thank
you!*

As always, I end by offering our thanks to our sponsors, to the Chairman, Board of Management, Captain, Lady Captain and the committees at the RMGC, to the MOC, SportMalta, the EGA and The R&A for their unyielding support towards everything that we do.

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TOURNAMENTS' REPORT (2024)



The summer competition schedule was quite intense, and we remain grateful to the MOC and SportMalta for their funding assistance which made the participation in these international tournaments possible.



The 10th edition of the European Team Shield Championships, organised by the European Golf Association and hosted by the Liechtenstein Federation, was played at the end of July at Golfclub Gams Werdenberg.



The Men's team, composed of Andy Borg, Laurens Schulze Doering, Oliver Stuart and Trent Vella, finished in 6th place – a huge disappointment for the team who had secured a podium place in all the previous eight tournaments. In the stroke play qualifier, the team placed overall 6th with Andy carding the best individual score for the team with a score of one under par for the course.

This meant that Malta faced Andorra in the quarter final match. Andorra was new to the competition, but they were zealous to perform and perform they did by ousting Malta and removing the chance for our players to gain a medal. In the next round, Malta triumphed over Serbia and then lost to Albania in the final match play round to finish overall 6th out of twelve countries.

The full placings of the competition were Turkey, Luxembourg, Andorra, Bulgaria, Albania, Malta, Liechtenstein, Serbia, Cyprus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Ukraine and Georgia.

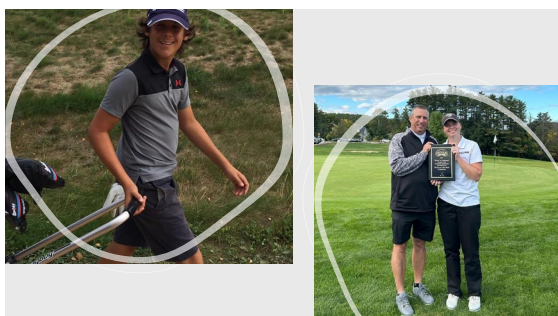


At the same event the women's team, composed of Elliana Buhagiar, Laya Cristina, Serena Falzon Sant Manduca and Filippa Schulze Doering, made history by being the first ever women's golf team that represented Malta in an international tournament. With an average age of 14 years and despite not playing enough golf together as a team, the girls performed outstandingly well.

In the stroke play qualifier, the team placed overall sixth with Serena posting the best score of three over par. In the match play rounds the girls then lost against Bulgaria but then won successively against Ukraine and Hungary to place overall 5th.

The final placings for the competition were Turkey, Bulgaria, Estonia, Luxembourg, Malta, Hungary, Ukraine, Liechtenstein, Greece. Croatia and Latvia.

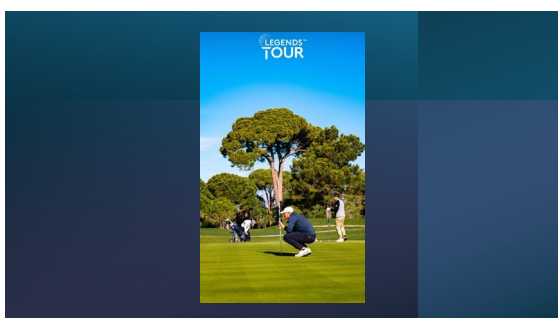
TOURNAMENTS' REPORT (2024)



Oliver Stuart and **Filippa Schulze Doering** participated in the Hungarian Amateur Open. With scores of 73, 72 and 77 for an aggregate score of +6 Oliver placed 11th out of 67 players. The third-round score hurt the player's overall standing in the tournament.

Filippa – part of the MOC's youth development scheme – despite her experience at an American golf college, had not played competitive golf for a whole year and this showed at the Hungarian. With scores of 85, 75, 80 for an aggregate of 24 over par, she finished 8th place out of 23 in the women's list.

Oliver also participated in the Cyprus Men's Amateur and finished 14th out of 58 players. His scores were 75, 83 and 70 for an aggregate of +15 – yet again one bad round to push him down the leaderboard.



Andrew Borg started the year by participating in the Legends Tour Qualifying School – a stepping stone to be able to play in the Tour's Professional game. Played at Gloria Golf Club, Belek, Turkey, the field was made up of 72 players. The first stage was a 36-hole aggregate with 41 advancing into the final stage of another 72 holes play with a cut applied after 54 holes. With only the top five after 72 holes able to secure their playing rights for the year

on the Legends Tour the competition was tough.

Andy shot +3 in the first round followed by +2 in the second round in the first stage which placed him in 17th place and guaranteed a place in the final stage. His first two rounds in this stage saw him with two over par for the course after 36 holes of play. The third round was characterised by bad weather which saw delay in play. Andy handled this well and finished the round with one under par to bring his aggregate score after 54 holes to one over par. This placed him in 19th position to miss the cut to the final 18 holes by one shot – a much-improved result from his same experience last year.

Andrew was then set to play in the Cyprus Men's Amateur and in the prestigious European Amateur, but he had to withdraw from both events due to the ill-health and eventual demise of his father.



His next experience was to try and qualify for the British Seniors (Professional) Open. This took place in Scotland about 5 minutes' drive from Carnoustie – the venue of the Senior Open. Andy got off to a poor start but managed to hold a good putt on the third hole to be 1 under through 3 holes. A missed fairway on 4 cost him a bogey and a pulled 9 iron on 5 another bogey. From 6 onwards he played very well making birdie on 9, 13, 14 and 16 and bogey on 11 and 15. He managed to get in the clubhouse at -1 (69) which was a great score by all standards. With only the first five places afforded the opportunity to play the prestigious Senior Open later that week, Andy missed out by 1 shot... a very positive result

TOURNAMENTS' REPORT (2024)

given that most of the other players were professional also vying to make it to The Open.

Andy was simply 1 shot away to be the first Maltese to be seen in a professional tournament.



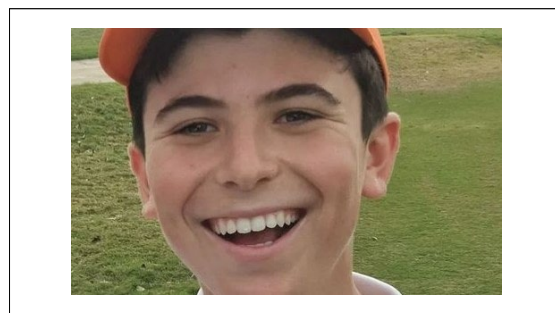
Laurens Schulze Doering participated in the European Amateur, Hungarian Amateur, The Brabazon Trophy and the Scottish Open. In the European Laurens placed 74th out of 145 of the best amateur players in Europe. His first two rounds were to an aggregate of one under for the course but a seven over on the third day saw him drop heavily down the leaderboard.

In the Hungarian Laurens shot six under on the second day which equalled the course record. A four-over par and a three-over par on either side of this meant an aggregate score of one over par for the course after three rounds which placed him 6th out of 67 players.

His scores of 76 and 70 for an aggregate of 2 over par in the Brabazon placed him in 56th place out of 144 players and to miss the cut for the third day by two shots. This would have normally been a more than sufficient score for Laurens to proceed to the final day play but the very bad weather conditions during the tournament forced the organisers to curtail the field to the best 36 for the last day.

In the qualifying round for the Scottish Open, Laurens showed what he is capable of by shooting a three under par for the course in bad weather conditions. He continued his good form into the Open itself and was just one over par for the course after three rounds of golf. His last round did not match any expectations

with Laurens shooting 14 over par to finish 44th place out of 138 players.



Mark Ganado started his summer experience by participating in the Cyprus Junior Open. At 14 he was the youngest player in his category. His three-day aggregate score of +54 placed him in 14th place out of 15 players well behind the winner of the competition who had a handicap of +4 and demolished the course with a seven under par.

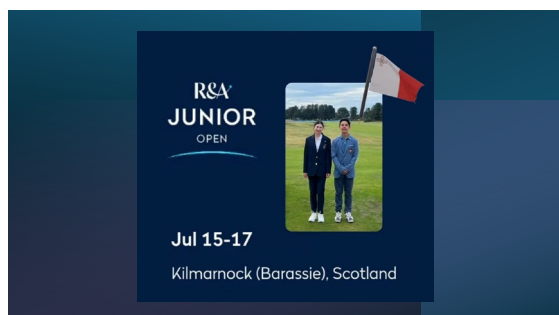
The Bulgarian Junior Open was Mark's 4th tournament overseas over these last two years. This was an event held over 3 days at the Pravets Golf Club. Mark was supposed to play in the Under 14 category but was "upgraded" to the Under 18 once he registered at the golf club since he had just turned 15. On day one Mark had a very good start with back-to-back birdies and ended up shooting level par for the front nine holes and made 4 bogeys on the back nine holes to conclude day one at four over par.

On the second day of the tournament, he struggled early as he had some shoulder pain which required on-course treatment. He ended up shooting a score of 16 over par. On the third day he got off to a rough start, however he closed his round to end up shooting 12 over for the day, with 7 pars on the last 7 holes. In the end, he ended up winning the first prize for the U18 category based on nett score and placed 7th place out of 9 players based on gross score.

Serena Falzon Sant Manduca was our chosen girl ambassador for the R&A Junior Open which invites the best under 16-year-olds from each

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country (irrelevant of nationality) to this biennial event.



The boy was Noah Gratil. Noah and Serena had similar scores of +3 on the first day score of which placed them in the top dozen places. They both then succumbed to the playing conditions on the second day returning scores of +9 and +14 respectively. With most players struggling on this day and the scores reflecting this, both Noah and Serena made the cut which allowed them to proceed to the third day's play. Noah bounced back and played just one over par for the course whilst Serena also improved and recorded a +4 for the day.



In mid-February, Serena managed to put herself in the World Amateur Golf Rankings by winning the girls under-18 category at the European Masters that was held in Spain. In June and July, she then entered to play in three prestigious UK tournaments which attract very high competition.

The English under-18 Amateur Championships was a three-day event with a cut after the second day to allow only the 40 top players to proceed to the third round. The competition attracted 132 boys and girls. With an aggregate score of +13 over the first two days, Serena missed the cut to proceed to the final round.

The Scottish Girls under-18 Amateur Championships was a similar a three-day event with a cut after the second day to allow only the 60 top players to proceed to the third round. The competition attracted 144 girls. With an aggregate score of +4 Serena placed overall third.

144 girls entered the English Girls under-18 Amateur Championships. Each had to play 18 holes on the first two days before the top 40 players play a further 36 holes on the final day. Serena made the cut after two days of play and managed to place overall 19th with an aggregate score of 17 over par for the course over four rounds of golf.

Serena also competed in the Italian Federation's Under 18 girls' Open championship. Played over four rounds in September, this competition attracted 124 girls – all with very low handicap – and stipulated a tight cut of the best forty girls and ties to go forward after the second round. With scores of 76, 72, 75 and 73 (an aggregate of 12 over par) Serena placed 32nd.



Kindly sponsored for the third year running by Crosscraft, the 18th edition of the MGA Shield attracted a record number of 103 men and 20 women participants.

Maria Woodward's two identical scores of 32 points for an aggregate of 64 managed to secure her third win of the Shield on countback from Laine Tutane's who had led the competition after the first day with 34 points. Karen Black's 60 points placed her third.

Danijel Bogdanovic led the men on the first day with 39 points. Another thirteen trailed him by

TOURNAMENTS' REPORT (2024)

two to five shots. Danijel could only manage 34 points on the second day, but this was sufficient for him to claim the Shield with a one-point margin from Tony Kjaldstrom who leapfrogged all other players with a stunning 40 pointer on the second day. Zach Pisani claimed third place on countback from Bryan Peterkin.



Yet another participation record was achieved in the 6th edition of the Malta Junior Open when 93 young travelled from 22 different countries to join another 6 local members in the 6th edition of the Malta Junior Open.

The under-21 girls' category was won by Laura Mizlerova from the Czech Republic whilst compatriot Timotej Formanek the won the under-21 boys.

Elenea Duduleanu from Austria whilst our very own Noah Gratil won their respective groups in the under-16's.

Katharina Schroll's from Austria and Yves Koller from Switzerland both in their respective under-18's categories were declared joint winners according to the terms of the competition.

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FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

**TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 2024**



INCOME

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Sponsorships	5,811	4,221
Affiliation Membership Fee	4,948	3,555
Maltese Olympic Committee	19,621	21,131
Sport Malta	18,200	10,000
MGA Shield net income from members	1,694	1,110
R&A – National Body Development Grant	5,835	5,526
R&A – ETSC Subsidy through the EGA	2,219	1,141
Malta Council for Voluntary Sector	2,924	3,000
Donations	20,035	0
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Total Income	81,287	49,684



INCOME

Explanation of main deviations from 2023:

- Increase in Sport Malta Funding towards international participation and bed nights.
- Double ETSC Subsidy due to the inclusion of a girls' team in tournament.
- Receipt of 2 donations through the IIP.





<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Subsidies for overseas competitions	36,039	30,635
Affiliation Fees	5,015	4,322
Prizes and Trophies	384	5,196
Development Programmes		
Golf to Schools	7,785	3,511
Special Olympics	2,100	2,500
Women in Golf	953	1,181
Junior Pathways	2,186	436
Postage, printing & stationery	972	639
Bank Charges	38	22
Miscellaneous	917	88
RMGC Course Rating	768	0
Website	184	335
MGA Sponsorships	0	1,957
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Total Expenditure	57,341	50,832

EXPENDITURE

Explanation of main deviations from 2023:

- Increase in overseas competitions due to extra funding from Sport Malta.
- Purchase of golf equipment for the Golf to Schools programme.



INCOME STATEMENT

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Total Income	81,287	49,684
Total Expenditure	57,341	50,832
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Surplus (Deficit) of Income over Expenditure	* 23,946	(1,148)

* 3,911 if not considering the 20,035 from 2 special donations



BALANCE SHEET

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Assets		
Receivables	0	10,000
Cash in hand and at bank	<u>48,769</u>	<u>14,823</u>
Total Assets	<u>48,769</u>	<u>24,823</u>
Equity and Liabilities		
Accumulated Fund	<u>48,769</u>	<u>24,823</u>
Total Equity and Liabilities	<u>48,769</u>	<u>24,823</u>



APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS FOR YEAR ENDED 2025

