

THE SUNSHINE BOYS

(The amazing saga of South Africa's Sunshine Tour professional golf circuit)

Written by Dan Retief with contributions from many journalists who have chronicled the game, this beautiful large-format, coffee-table book presents a broad compilation recording the amazing achievements of the golfers of South African, a country with fewer golfers than some American states, indeed fewer golf courses than some American states.

Southern African players have captured 27 Major championships, 16 Senior Majors, won the World Cup five times and the Dunhill Cup twice. Golfers from the southern tip of Africa have won 125 US PGA Tour titles, 184 European Tour titles and five; Bobby Locke, Gary Player, Nick Price, Ernie Els and Retief Goosen have been inducted in the World Golf Hall of Fame.

This official history of The Sunshine Tour, which provided the springboard for not only the exceptional international success of South African golfers but also many Europeans and Americans who took important steps in Africa.

For all, South Africans and foreigners alike, it was a venture into the unknown, harking back to the ancient explorers who criss-crossed the Dark Continent.

Akin to a great travelling circus the Tour became a model of logistic efficiency, setting up camp in every corner of the country to provide a setting and competitive arena for the itinerant golfers before striking the tent and moving the show to the next site.

Along the way excellent golfing deeds were recorded; notwithstanding many hair-raising travel and accommodation experiences and on-course incidents only found in Africa. There are tales of lions, snakes and warthog as the bright, colourful, vibrant and sometimes wild surroundings made The Sunshine Tour a melting pot in which personalities and characters of the game flourished.

Some foreigners came and saw and conquered while local players were encouraged to strike out into the great unknown territories of golf in the United Kingdom, America and the rest of the world.

Untold anecdotes and humorous incidents, photographs of South African golf pros sourced from golfing archives, family albums, scrapbooks and private

collections and unique artworks from renowned artist Harold Riley make this striking book a must-have for South African and foreign golfers and sports fans who love the history of the game – a classic treasure trove to be returned to time and again.

Chronicled here is the history of the Sunshine Tour interwoven with tales of Major winners, foreign explorers, colourful characters, compelling moments, revealing interactions and crazy adventures that made South Africa arguably the world's most successful golfing nation given its relative lack of numbers and remote location on the globe.

There are two versions of the book – a handsome Limited Edition hard cover of which just 200 copies were printed and a soft cover for the book trade. All funds raised by the sale of the limited deluxe edition of “The Sunshine Boys” will go to the National Youth Development Centre NPC, the facility established by Johann Rupert to assist youth and sports development.

This limited edition is likely to become a rare collector's item, as it comes with a Certificate of Authentication (signed by the author), is beautifully presented in a unique African drawstring shoe bag, in support of Township Bags and the women who manufacture them, a solid gold-foiled box opening up to the striking gold-foiled cover in South African green-and-gold.

Numbers are awarded on a first-come basis and 131, plus No 200, have already been reserved. It is priced at R2, 500.00 and is an opportunity to secure a historic item or as a special gift while supporting a worthwhile cause.

* “The Sunshine Boys” is an official publication of the Sunshine Tour.



To Buy:

Limited Edition: Contact Dan Retief personally – danr@netactive.co.za or call 082 853 4840.

Soft Cover:

Overseas orders: Contact Blue Weaver for a quotation on the cost plus shipping. Email: orders@blueweaver.co.za . Tel No: (021) 701-4477

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