



**ADDRESS BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR DURING UNISA
WATERBERG DISTRICT MAYORAL GOLF CHALLENGE**

EUPHORIA GOLF ESTATE

02 SEPTEMBER 2022

11H00

Programme Director,

Mayor of Modimolle Mookgophong Local Municipality,

Mayors present,

The Speaker Cllr. Molokomme,

District Chief Whip Cllr Monare,

Management of UNISA,

Special Project Portfolio Councillors led by MMC Taueatsoala,

Management of Euphoria Golf Estate,

Business Community,

Sponsors,

Players from various parts of the country,

Sector Departments and Agencies,

The Media Fraternity,

Officials from the WDM led by the Municipal Manager,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and gentlemen.

Good Evening!

Ladies and gentlemen, let me start by expressing my sincere appreciation and gratitude for your participation in this golf day. I am deeply heartened that about players who were able to set aside this day to come in numbers for participation in this honourable golf event.

This is a very important calendar entry for both the Waterberg District and UNISA because through this event we created a platform through which we use the power of sport to make a significant contribution to our society.

We are justifiably proud to host you in this mountainous region of South Africa. The beauty of the landscape, the culture of the people, the abundance of wildlife and the ancient history make this area one of South Africa`s prime tourism and adventure destination.

This occasion serves as a partnership building event to chart a way forward in providing quality services to our people.

Tonight is yet another symbolic event and an important landmark in the history of our mushrooming and progressing democracy which promotes rapid growth, fundamental movement towards national unity, social cohesion and all round development.

Golf in South Africa is perceived as the sport of affluent people, who are predominantly male and this does not represent the overwhelming majority of South Africans. The changing face of golf in South Africa from professional competition to golf development should be a welcomed opportunity to transform golf in particular.

We must therefore hold hands as Golf Development Administrators, to make golf accessible to all South Africans by providing and facilitating practice and playing opportunities for learners and talented players from all communities including the underprivileged and previously disadvantaged communities.

Through our collective engagement, we must continue to attain a concrete plan that outlines in explicit terms, the strategic activities that are aimed at vulnerable groups in our society.

It is indeed correct to say that through these efforts, we want to produce our own Tiger Woods and Seve Ballesteros of South Africa. We in the same vain we want to groom our youngsters to follow the footsteps of South Africans like Ernie Els and Nick Price.

Waterberg District Municipality in partnership with UNISA, host the Annual Executive Mayoral Golf Challenge on a yearly basis which is an activity which brings together communities, government, business and private sectors with the aim of networking, building partnerships, unearthing talent and promoting golf in general.

The relationship between Waterberg District Municipality and UNISA dates back to 2013. The relationship started with the collection of old books which were donated by UNISA and distributed to school libraries within the vicinity of Waterberg District.

A year after, the relationship then culminated into the joint hosting of the Golf Day used as a networking session for the municipality and the business fraternity.

Not only does sport engagement keep the mind active but it is also through sport that we making lasting friendships and grow stronger networks for future successes.

It is against this background, that we were able to register three students with UNISA and paid tuition fees for the duration of their studies through proceeds collected from this event.

We are still aiming to expand this initiative; however it will always be possible with your support.

Ladies and Gentlemen, your participation in this Waterberg UNISA Mayoral Golf Challenge demonstrates the resolve of people in this district to strive towards creating a more caring society. We are encouraged by the fact that the business community takes a far more positive and optimistic view of the Waterberg District's future and that of our citizens.

The Golf Challenge itself serves as a vehicle of promoting the District Development Model because it is through this initiative that we are able to enjoy a platform to engage on matters of mutual interest with our business partners, plan and implement together.

Programme Director, I need to emphasise that this event has become a premier golf event that aims to promote cooperation between business community and municipalities.

Municipalities can only create a conducive environment for business attraction and retention. A strong emerging investment opportunity is through public-private partnerships. Our initiatives therefore require the contribution of the private sector because government cannot finance them alone.

Let me express our gratitude as the Waterberg District Municipality for all the efforts that are being made by various sectors in this district to respond to the three pillars of poverty, unemployment, inequality.

Our special thanks to all our sponsors who contributed towards the success of this event.

We hope to see more companies and institutions availing themselves in the next financial year contributing in kind to this magnificent Annual event.

Your contributions will go a long way in making sure that we fight against some of the backlogs confronting the district especially around the area of educational development.

Let us make this Golf Challenge a playground of the battle of ideas in shaping the economic growth path of the District.

Ladies and gentlemen, let me take this opportunity to once more thank all those who made this event a success and looking forward to your pleasurable return. Without your generosity events such as this will not be successful.

Congratulations to those who will be receiving prizes this evening. To those who did not make it, you also contributed a great deal by just partaking, we greatly value your presence.

I wish you all a memorable stay in Waterberg.

Working together we can do more to forge partnerships between government and the private sector for economic growth of our communities.

I THANK YOU!!