

R&A

ANNUAL REVIEW

2023



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FOREWORD.

Having recently started my second year as Chairman, I look back with pride at our collective achievements in 2023 as The R&A continued to work closely with national associations, partners and other stakeholders to ensure the sport continues to thrive.

The organisation was at the heart of establishing and supporting a number of key initiatives on a global scale.

The International Golf Conference, staged by The R&A in April, highlighted 'Golf's Golden Opportunity' to build on the growth in golf participation in recent years, with over 60 keynote speakers sharing valuable insight from within the sport and other industries. The St Andrews event was attended by more than 200 delegates from over 100 organisations with 71 countries represented, demonstrating the scale of global collaboration.

The opening in August of Golf It!, the community-based facility in Glasgow, was significant as part of our endeavours to make golf more accessible and inclusive across all ages, abilities, backgrounds, genders and ethnicities. I look forward to seeing the indoor and outdoor attraction continuing to flourish. The development of the online platform Golf.Golf and our investment with Golf New Zealand in DotGolf, with its technology expertise, will also help attract more people into the sport.

The expansion of The R&A Sustainable Agronomy Service also progressed well in 2023, with growing demand for our expertise in providing best practice advice at all levels of golf facilities.

The importance of ensuring the long-term sustainability of golf was an important theme during the year. Our lengthy consultation with the United States Golf Association (USGA) led to the decision to reduce the impact that increased hitting distances have on the sport while minimising the impact on the recreational game.

Of our major championships, The Open, the Senior Open presented by Rolex and the AIG Women's Open were staged to a world class standard. Notably, the enhanced spectator experience at Walton Heath for the AIG Women's Open proved extremely popular, with the Festival Fan Village offering mini-golf, fun challenges, lessons, big screens and an array of stage interviews and panel discussions.

I was also pleased to witness in person a full season of overseas amateur events – including men's and women's championships in Latin America and Asia-Pacific. The standard of golf continues to improve in all championships and their respective importance and impact in each region is significant.

The Walker Cup in St Andrews provided a superb weekend of golf, with the contest preceded by several special occasions. A putting match between Great Britain and Ireland and the United States of America over The Himalayas was hosted by the St Andrews Ladies' Putting Club. It caught the imagination of players from both teams who were seen playing long after the competition finished. The reception given to Sir Michael Bonallack by former players and spectators at the Opening Ceremony will also live long in the memory. Sadly, it was only a matter of weeks later when Michael died.

Unfortunately, it was a year when a number of other notable figures in golf passed away. Respected referee John Paramor and the official starter at The Open for more than 40 years, Ivor Robson, both sadly left us. Alison White, a talented golfer in her own right who played an influential role in golf development at The R&A, also died. It was Alison's father, Gregor McIntosh, who taught me how to play golf many years ago at Nairn.

The year saw Neil Donaldson take over as Captain of The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews and, like his predecessor Clive Brown, he is working hard in an ambassadorial role to represent the Club around the world. The Club continued to adapt as the redevelopment of the Clubhouse progressed with the reopening taking place on 29 April 2024.

As we look to the future, the successful launch of a global philanthropy programme through The R&A Foundation enhances our ability to develop golf. In conjunction with contributions from The Open, this additional funding can help inspire current and future generations to take up our wonderful sport.

In summary, it was a very successful year for The R&A and I look forward to building on our achievements in 2024.



Niall A Farquharson
Chairman, The R&A



“I look back with pride at our collective achievements in 2023 as The R&A continued to work closely with national associations, partners and stakeholders to ensure the sport continues to thrive.”



CEO REVIEW.

As I reflect on our achievements in 2023, I am proud of The R&A's team work to enhance the profile and reputation of the sport and make it more accessible, appealing and inclusive across the world.

In a challenging economic climate, we achieved revenue of £152 million during the year and a strong balance sheet with net assets of £177 million. We remain on course to fulfil our ambitious programme of investing £200 million in golf over a ten-year period (2017-2026) to support the growth of the sport.

As part of the five-year strategy we embarked upon in 2021, our vision is to ensure that golf is open to all and enjoyed by people of all ages, backgrounds, genders and ethnicities. Through the collective work of our development activity, the support of national associations and the wider golf industry I am pleased to see the sport continuing to thrive, especially at grassroots level. Golf has retained most of the people gained during the Covid-19 pandemic participation surge – and in some markets grown further – and not many sports can lay claim to that.

For the first time there are now more than 100 million adults who are engaged in playing golf in some format around the world and that makes me incredibly proud. We want to continue to inspire more people in more places to enjoy the many physical, mental and social benefits golf offers.

In 2023, we helped the sport to continue to flourish with a range of new projects. Notably, the groundbreaking new facility, Golf It!, opened in Glasgow. I am hugely passionate about the family-focused community venue and believe it can be transformational for the sport. It is not only creating an opportunity for more people to enjoy golf but also for local people to gain work, volunteering and training opportunities. Within the first eight weeks

after opening in August, more than 60,000 people visited with 2.2 million golf balls struck on the range. This shows the huge potential we have to bring people into the sport.

Last year also saw the launch of The G4D Open at Woburn for the world's most talented golfers with disabilities. We worked with the DP World Tour and EDGA to stage the Championship and it was a truly inspiring week as a field of talented players showcased their skills. Brendan Lawlor was a worthy winner and we look forward to The G4D Open growing and encouraging more people with a disability to take up the sport.

We also announced the launch of the first Africa Amateur Championship and the Africa Amateur Women's Invitational, which were staged by The R&A at Leopard Creek in South Africa in February 2024. The introduction of the new championship complements the existing amateur championships – including those jointly organised by The R&A in Asia-Pacific and Latin America – and will enable players from Africa to compete at the highest level as well as creating a platform for African golfers to develop and become an inspiration for others.

Maintaining long-term financial stability is critical to ensuring there are strong pathways for development. The R&A Foundation's global philanthropy programme, launched in September, will assist in that goal. With additional funds raised through philanthropy, the Foundation will be able to substantially increase the amount of support it provides to individuals and communities worldwide through golf.

We have been delighted by the enthusiasm and generosity of individuals and organisations at the very outset of the project as the Foundation supports various projects around the world and we are extremely grateful.

The long-term sustainability of the sport is very important to me. The Distance Insights project with the United States Golf Association (USGA) culminated in our decision to revise golf ball testing conditions, taking effect at the elite level from January 2028 and then with full implementation across the game from January 2030. Change is often difficult but this is a necessary step if we are to preserve the unique challenge of golf and ensure it has a sustainable long-term future.

We are convinced that reducing the impact of increased hitting distances on golf, with minimal impact on the recreational game, is one of the key ways to protecting the integrity of golf while meeting our environmental responsibilities. Our decision at the end of the year was carefully considered and calibrated while maintaining the 'one game' ethos.

On the course, there were a number of special moments in 2023. Witnessing a Walker Cup at the home of golf in St Andrews was wonderful, helped by the glorious weather and more than 14,000 spectators in attendance. It was a captivating match featuring incredibly talented players, with the United States of America edging a close contest against Great Britain and Ireland.

I look forward to seeing Catriona Matthew OBE usher in a new era for the GB&I women's team as Captain at the Curtis Cup, taking place at Sunningdale from 30 August to 1 September 2024.

In challenging weather conditions, the USA's Brian Harman played perhaps the best golf of his career to emerge as Champion Golfer of the Year at Royal Liverpool. The 151st Open generated a record 261,180 crowd for the Championship in England, continuing a trend of record attendances at every venue since 2017 and all Championship days being sold out since 2019.

The total prize money at Hoylake was \$16.5 million (USD), meaning The R&A has almost doubled the total prize fund at The Open since 2016 as we maintain our commitment to golf's original championship whilst at the same time continuing to invest into the long-term future of our sport.

“Witnessing a Walker Cup at the home of golf in St Andrews was wonderful, helped by the glorious weather and more than 14,000 spectators in attendance.”



“For the first time there are now more than 100 million adults who are engaged in playing golf in some format around the world and that makes me incredibly proud.”



While we are seeing substantial increases in prize money across the men's professional game, we continue to fulfil our wider obligation to the sport by elevating the AIG Women's Open, strengthening pathways in the elite amateur game and encouraging more people to play golf. We are very conscious of the broader role of The R&A to develop golf around the world and I believe getting this balance right is vital to the long-term future of the sport.

The AIG Women's Open continued to grow in stature with more than 50,000 fans enjoying an enhanced spectator experience at Walton Heath and seeing Lilia Vu from the United States of America securing her second major title after being run close by Charley Hull.

The prize money for the AIG Women's Open has increased significantly since AIG became the title sponsor in 2019. The \$9 million (USD) prize fund that was on offer at Walton Heath is three times more than it was just seven years ago.

As we work together to continue to focus on advancing women's golf, and the AIG Women's Open in particular, we are delighted that AIG reaffirmed its commitment to the Championship by extending its partnership with The R&A as title sponsor of the AIG Women's Open through 2030. Growing women's and girls' golf at all levels remains integral to our strategy and the Women in Golf Charter now has more than 1,300 signatories worldwide.

A number of new R&A ambassadors were brought on board in 2023 – namely major champion Michelle Wie West, Hollywood actress Kathryn Newton and Argentine rugby legend Juan Martín Hernández – to help us by using their appeal and reach on social media to encourage more people to take up the sport.

Embracing technological solutions has also helped us drive participation and enhance our services to golfers. In June, with the help of another R&A ambassador, Niall Horan, we launched the digital platform Golf.Golf as an easy-to-use way

of introducing people to golf at a host of venues and help to change the perception of the sport. After a pilot initiative in Scotland, the ambition is to roll it out on a global scale. Working with Golf New Zealand, our strategic partnership with the international golf technology solutions provider DotGolf also has huge potential to deliver cutting edge platforms and solutions to the industry.

As we look to the future, the planning application for our new staff headquarters in St Andrews was submitted in November. The new building will bring greater collaboration and operational efficiency across the organisation. In his role as Chief of Staff, David Rickman has led the planning of the new building. After a 37-year career with The R&A, mainly in governance, including as Chief Referee at The Open and all our major championships, David will retire in October 2024. We wish him well after such a distinguished career.

I am also now in my last year with the organisation and am extremely grateful to have had the honour, for nearly a decade, of being the custodian of all that The R&A and the game of golf more broadly represents. I look forward to continuing our work in 2024 by increasing our global leadership among our affiliated national associations, business partners and key political and media stakeholders. In doing so, we will maintain our vision to make golf open, accessible and inclusive and ensure it is thriving 50 years from now.

M. Slumbers

Martin Slumbers
CEO, The R&A

“Growing women's and girls' golf at all levels remains integral to our strategy and the Women in Golf Charter now has more than 1,300 signatories worldwide.”



Ashleigh Buhai, the 2022 AIG Women's Open Champion, with young fans in the new-look Festival Village at Walton Heath.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY.

Overview

During 2023, The R&A provided grants totaling £2.4 million to various projects and initiatives around the world, as well as making charitable donations of £3.5 million to The R&A Foundation in support of the charity's work in developing the sport.

The R&A continued to make significant investment in the staging of world class amateur championships including The Amateur, The Women's Amateur, the Girls' and Boys' Amateur, the Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific championship and the Women's Amateur Latin America Championship, together with the staging of the 49th Walker Cup match at St Andrews.

The R&A Group generated strong operating profits of £2.6 million during 2023. The fair value of the group's investments increased by £2.5 million during 2023 and together with gains from the sale of investments of £4.7 million, this helped to contribute towards a profit before tax of £9.9 million for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The group's net assets at the end of the year were valued at £177 million.

The R&A remains on track to achieve its aim of investing over £200 million in golf over a ten-year period, with an investment of £24.1 million made during 2023. This includes its golf development activities, governance of the sport and staging world class championships.

The cumulative investment in the sport since 2017 is now £138 million. This investment is supported by the proceeds of The Open. The 151st Open at Royal Liverpool was a very successful Championship from a commercial point of view, with income being generated from the sale of media rights to broadcasters around the world, sponsorship, hospitality, retail and other commercial activities.

Group Financial Results

The parent company of The R&A's Group of Companies is R&A Trust Company (No. 1) Limited. The consolidated financial results of the group are recoded in this entity. The figures set out on the following page are not the statutory accounts but a summary of information extracted from the group's financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The R&A's two charitable entities are The R&A Foundation and The R&A World Golf Museum. They both prepare standalone financial statements which do not form part of the consolidated financial results of The R&A Group of Companies. The R&A Foundation and The R&A World Golf Museum are both registered Scottish charities.

The proceeds generated by The Open enabled the organisation to invest £24.1m in golf in 2023



AIG WOMEN'S OPEN

17

160 YARDS 146 METRES PAR 3

AIG WOMEN'S OPEN

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS.

£152m

The highest turnover
The R&A Group has
generated in its history

£2.6m

The operating profits of
The R&A Group in 2023

£24.1m

Investment in the sport in 2023

£166m

The market value of the
group's investment portfolio
at the end of 2023

£177m

The group's net assets
at the end of 2023

The financial results for R&A Trust Company (No. 1) Limited for the year ended 31 December 2023 are summarised as follows:

Group Income Statement


	31.12.2023 £000's	31.12.2022 £000's
Turnover	151,599	150,729
Cost of sales	(108,937)	(109,561)
Gross profit	42,662	41,168
Administration expenses	(37,925)	(28,110)
Grants payable	(2,383)	(2,211)
Other operating income	205	1,868
Operating profit	2,559	12,715
Charitable donation	(3,542)	(6,801)
Investment gains / (losses)	7,384	(12,122)
Net interest income	3,511	1,783
Profit / (Loss) before tax	9,912	(4,425)

Balance Sheet

	31.12.2023 £000's	31.12.2022 £000's
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	26,356	17,861
Intangible assets	1,010	1,279
Investments	165,839	158,688
Associated Undertakings	2,570	-
Negative goodwill	(477)	(508)
Sub-total	195,298	177,320
Current assets		
Stocks	56	454
Debtors	45,229	28,245
Cash and deposits	10,105	32,138
Creditors less than one year	(64,723)	(55,365)
Net current assets	(9,333)	5,472
Creditors more than one year	(9,312)	(8,529)
Net assets	176,653	174,263
Capital and reserves		
Called up share capital	5,000	5,000
Profit and loss reserves	171,653	169,263
Net assets	176,653	174,263

2023 INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS.

In 2023, The R&A invested £24.1 million in golf. Since launching this initiative in 2017, the cumulative investment in the sport by the end of 2023 was £138 million.


£4.5m
invested in staging world class amateur championships










£4.4m
invested in governance of the sport, including Rules of Golf, Equipment Standards and the World Handicap System



£4.0m
in support of professional golf

£6.1m
made in grants to support golf development and golf sustainability around the world including...

-  **£2.8m** provided to national associations affiliated to The R&A
-  **£570k** in support of Women in Golf initiatives
-  **£500k** on junior golf and equipment
£500k to the Golf Foundation
-  **£410k** on GolfSixes programmes
-  **£196k** on sustainability grants
£470k on Golf Course 2030 sustainability initiatives
-  **£410k** in support of university golf, including scholarships
-  **£100k** on greenkeeping scholarships



PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.



Brian Harman claimed his first major title at The 151st Open.

The 151st Open

Brilliant Brian Harman mastered the conditions of The 151st Open at Royal Liverpool to become the Champion Golfer of the Year in impressive fashion.

The left-hander from Savannah, Georgia, hit the front at Hoylake early in round two and just never let anyone else back in on the way to lifting the Claret Jug with a six-stroke victory.

A 65 in the second round put Harman into a five-shot lead at halfway, while equalling the Royal Liverpool record at an Open on ten-under-par. From there, the 36-year-old had to deal with early bogeys on Saturday and Sunday, major champions like Jon Rahm, Rory McIlroy and Jason Day making their move and the deteriorating weekend weather.

But over the Wirral links, which featured a dramatic new par-3 17th hole, Harman held firm to triumph on 13-under, six ahead of Rahm, Day, Tom Kim and Sepp Straka.

In total, 261,180 spectators attended The 151st Open at Royal Liverpool – the highest ever in England and a 30% increase on 2014 when the venue last hosted the Championship.

Harman received a record winner's cheque of \$3 million (USD) – the highest in the history of the Championship. Total prize money was \$16.5 million (USD), an 18% increase over 2022, after Cameron Smith received \$2.5 million for his win at St Andrews.

The Championship also achieves significant income and exposure for the regions in which it is held each year, with The 151st Open generating more than £187 million in overall economic benefit for the Wirral and the wider Liverpool City Region, underlining its value as a major global sporting event to the country.

The week began when celebrity names and prominent influencers from the world of sport and entertainment gathered to compete in The Open Invitational.

The event, streamed live to a global audience via YouTube, TikTok and TheOpen.com, featured a number of sporting stars such as England footballer Jordan Pickford, NFL champion Victor Cruz and world-title winning boxer Tony Bellew, as well as Hollywood actress and R&A ambassador Kathryn Newton. The Open returns to Royal Troon in 2024, where Henrik Stenson triumphed in 2016.

AIG Women's Open

Lilia Vu produced a Sunday masterclass at Walton Heath to claim the AIG Women's Open and end the year as she started it – with a major victory.

The American kept her composure at the Surrey venue as fellow challengers faltered, compiling a near-faultless five-under-par 67 to finish on 14-under-par, six shots clear of home favourite Charley Hull.

A chip-in from the bunker for an eagle on the 11th highlighted Hull's final day, but Vu was in clinical mood throughout on her way to securing a second career major following her Chevron Championship success in April. The 25-year-old Californian never looked like letting it slip on the closing stretch and finished in fitting fashion with a birdie on the 18th.

Vu earned \$1.35m (USD) for her victory from the \$9m Championship purse, a 23% increase on the 2022 prize fund of \$7.3m at Muirfield.

A total of 51,000 fans were in attendance during the week, up from 33,303 the previous year, showing a 53% increase. The spectator experience at the Championship was enhanced by the launch of a new fan village and the staging of a music concert by global superstar, Ellie Goulding.

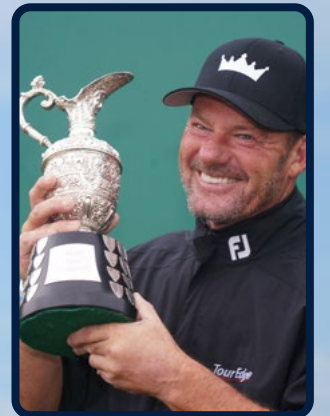
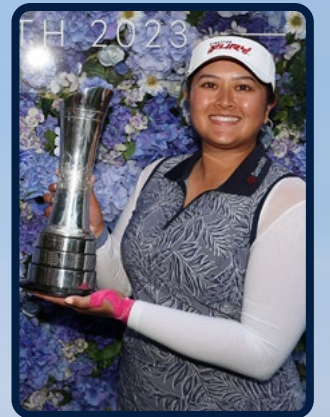
The 2024 AIG Women's Open will be played over the Old Course in St Andrews, with Royal Porthcawl and Royal Lytham & St Annes to host in 2025 and 2026 respectively.

Senior Open presented by Rolex

Alex Čejka defeated Pádraig Harrington at the second play-off hole to win the Senior Open presented by Rolex, at Royal Porthcawl, his third senior major title.

The German closed with a five-over-par 76 in dreadful conditions in Wales, with Harrington posting a final-round 75 to join him on a five-over total after missing an eagle attempt for outright victory on the final hole.

Čejka was able to two-putt for birdie from 25 feet at the second extra hole to become the second German winner of the Senior Claret Jug after Bernhard Langer. The 2024 Championship heads to Carnoustie, where it was last held in 2016.



Lilia Vu triumphed in style at the AIG Women's Open at Walton Heath; Alex Čejka won the Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex at Royal Porthcawl.



Brian Harman admires the Claret Jug after his victory in The 151st Open at Royal Liverpool.

AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIPS.



The R&A staged an exciting schedule of amateur championships and matches in 2023, including a wonderful **Walker Cup** in St Andrews.

In glorious September conditions, 14,320 fans attended the 49th staging of the historic match – marking 100 years since the Walker Cup was first held at the home of golf. An entertaining [promotional video](#) to announce the Great Britain and Ireland line-up on R&A social media channels helped boost ticket sales.



Mike McCoy's United States of America team trailed by three points going into day two over the Old Course, but handled the windy conditions superbly to shine in the singles and triumph 14½-11½ against Stuart Wilson's GB&I side. Connor Graham, 16, featured for the hosts, becoming the youngest player in match history.



Pictured from top: The USA won the Walker Cup in St Andrews; Christo Lamprecht claimed glory in The Amateur Championship; Chiara Horder triumphed in The Women's Amateur Championship.

TV coverage of the Walker Cup was aired on Sky Sports Golf and www.randa.org, while The R&A's commitment to raising awareness at other amateur championships continued.

Building on the success of the previous two years, live broadcasts were again aired at **The 128th Amateur Championship** at Hillside and **The 120th Women's Amateur Championship** at Prince's, won by Christo Lamprecht from South Africa and Germany's Chiara Horder respectively.

At The Amateur, free-to-air coverage on The R&A's digital channels of the quarter-finals, semi-finals and 36-hole Final generated more than 135,000 YouTube views (compared to 116,500 in 2022).

The live stream for The Women's Amateur across the same rounds achieved almost 58,000 views.

Furthermore, 7,299 spectators attended The Amateur at Hillside and Southport & Ainsdale, with almost 2,000 fans on-site at Prince's.

Highlighting The R&A's commitment to sustainability, each of the live broadcasts also achieved Albert Certification for carbon neutral sustainable production.

Lamprecht, the third South African winner of The Amateur in the last six years, went on to win the Silver Medal as leading amateur at The 151st Open at Royal Liverpool, with Alex Maguire also one of the six amateurs competing having won the first-ever Open Amateur Series.

Giving another amateur the chance to compete in golf's original championship, the Irishman topped a mini-order of merit across The Amateur, the St Andrews Links Trophy and the European Amateur Championship.

History was also made at Woburn as Brendan Lawlor edged out Kipp Popert in a close contest for victory at the inaugural **G4D Open** – one of the most inclusive championships ever staged as 80 players representing 17 countries with various disabilities competed. The two leading players in the World Ranking for Golfers with Disability (WR4GD) excelled, before Lawlor won by two shots.

Mateo Fernandez de Oliveira swept to a record-breaking victory in the **Latin America Amateur Championship** at Grand Reserve Golf Club in Puerto Rico.

The Argentine posted a winning 23-under-par total of 265, eight strokes better than that set by Joaquin Niemann in 2018.

Thailand's Eila Galitsky won the fifth **Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific championship** in commanding fashion at Singapore Island Country Club, becoming the second player from her country to triumph.

Germany's Antonia Steiner defeated Annika Kohoutek with a birdie on the first hole of a sudden death play-off to win the **R&A Girls' U16 Amateur Championship** at Enville, while her countrywoman Helen Briem became the first German to win the **R&A Girls' Amateur Championship** in its 104-year history at Ganton. Kris Kim claimed the **R&A Boys' Amateur** title as both championships were again played alongside each other.

New Zealander Brent Paterson and England's Jackie Foster claimed success in the **R&A Senior Amateur and Women's Senior Amateur championships** at Woodhall Spa.

Australian Jasper Stubbs won at the second play-off hole over Chinese pair Sampson Zheng and Ding Wenyi to claim the **Asia-Pacific Amateur Championship** at Royal Melbourne. There was also a home triumph in Argentina, as Ela Anacona secured a 12-shot victory in the **Women's Amateur Latin America Championship** presented by The R&A and the ANNIKA Foundation at Pilar Golf.

At team level, the Continent of Europe won the **Vagliano Trophy** and retained the **Junior Vagliano Trophy** at Royal Dornoch, before also winning the **Jacques Léglise Trophy** at Golf de Chantilly in France.

In the **Home Internationals**, England enjoyed similar dominance. They claimed the Boys' and Girls' crown at Lindrick and then also won the Men's and Women's at Machynys Peninsula. More glory followed at West Kilbride in the Women's & Men's Senior internationals.

In the **Student Tour Series**, the University of Stirling's Lorna McClymont and Ryan Griffin from Maynooth University achieved Order of Merit triumphs, while a number of students featured in The R&A's 'Making the Grade' documentaries.

The Lindrick pair of Dawn Farnell-Pennington and Mia Eales-Smith sealed success to win the rescheduled **Coronation Foursomes**, before the 2023 staging in St Andrews was won by the Moyola Park duo Josie McGuckin and 15-year-old Kayleigh Mulholland. The popular event attracted 20,000 women and girls from just over 1,000 clubs in GB&I.

Ingrid Lindblad of Sweden won the **Mark H McCormack Medal** as the leading woman in the 2023 World Amateur Golf Ranking® (WAGR®), with Gordon Sargent – a star for the United States of America at the Walker Cup – the leading men's player.

In April, before turning professional, American Rose Zhang claimed the record for the total number of weeks (136) as the number one golfer on the women's WAGR®.

It was a record-breaking year for WAGR®, supported by Rolex, with over 6,300 counting events worldwide representing a 10% increase on 2022.

Ranked women players increased to 3,033 (up by 104), with ranked men rising to 4,660 (up by 71). On the WR4GD, the number of players rose by 350 to 1,650 players and events increasing from 88 to 112.



Pictured from top: Helen Briem and Kris Kim with the silverware at the Girls' and Boys' Amateur Championships; the sport class winners at The G4D Open; Eila Galitsky won the Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific championship.



GOVERNANCE.

The Rules of Golf App has enjoyed **1.46 million downloads** and is available in **23 languages**

The R&A's governance of the sport worldwide, together with the United States Golf Association (USGA), continued to place a focus on golf's long-term sustainability.

In March 2023, the global governing bodies proposed a Model Local Rule (MLR) to give competition organisers the option to require use of golf balls that are tested under modified launch conditions to address the impacts of hitting distance in golf. If adopted, the MLR was intended for use only in elite competitions.

Following feedback from manufacturers and golf stakeholders, The R&A and USGA announced in December a modification to the March proposal. They will update the testing conditions used for golf ball conformance under the Overall Distance Standard, taking effect from January 2028 at the elite level and then with full implementation across the game from January 2030.

The decision aims to reduce the impact of increased hitting distances while minimising the impact on the recreational game. The

Longest hitters are expected to see a reduction of as much as 13-15 yards in drive distance, with a minimal distance impact, five yards or less, for most recreational golfers.

Existing balls approved for conformance prior to 2027 may continue to be used by recreational golfers until January 2030. More than 30% of all golf ball models on the current List of Conforming Golf Balls would be expected to conform to the updated testing conditions.

Making the Rules of Golf easier to understand and apply for players was also a key objective in 2023.

In March, a new 'Quick Guide to the Rules of Golf' video was released to help beginners become familiar with the basics of the rules. Voiced by commentators Iona Stephen and Kit Alexander, the video covers 16 key themes including: what to do before starting your round, understanding different areas of the course and how to proceed when you can't play the ball as it lies.

It features short animations and footage from The Open and the AIG Women's Open to provide visual explanations. Produced to make it easier for national associations to translate the voiceover, subtitles are available in 15 languages. The video has had over 50,000 views on The R&A YouTube Channel and is also available to view in the Official R&A Rules App.

The App, which has received 1.46 million downloads and is available in 23 languages, is now the principal way of accessing the Rules of Golf. It has an excellent search function, provides easy to understand explanations of commonly occurring rules and contains diagrams, animations, quizzes and videos for visual learners. Following feedback, a number of new features were introduced for 2023, for example, the Player's Rule Finder.

Acknowledging the extensive experience required to referee and administer all aspects of a tournament at the top level, a team of European Tour Group referees were the first officials to complete The R&A's new Advanced Referee Qualification in January.

Both DP World and Challenge Tour referees came through the Level 4 qualification,

having been assessed across a number of competencies.

The qualification is part of a four-level Rules Education programme run by The R&A in collaboration with national governing bodies. A group of Ladies' European Tour Referees and Tournament Directors achieved the same Level 4 qualification in May.

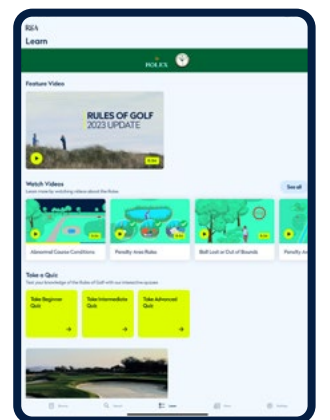
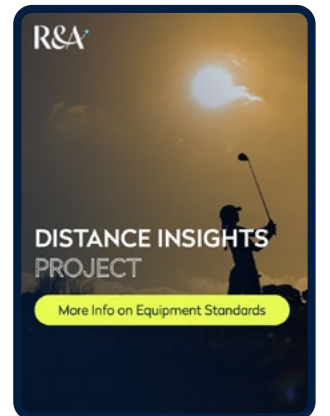
During that same month, Le Golf National near Paris – which will welcome the Olympics in 2024 – was the venue for a European Course Rating Education and Calibration Seminar, supporting the World Handicap System™ (WHS™).

The seminar, organised by the European Golf Association in close collaboration with the French Golf Federation, The R&A and the USGA, brought an end to a five-year absence due to Covid-19 with 84 representatives from 26 federations in attendance.

The Course Rating System™ forms the foundation of the WHS and a new digital Education and Certification Programme aimed at all those who participate with Course Rating was launched in pilot form in July. When officially launched in early 2024, the programme will provide intermediate and advanced level education via a Learning Management System, helping to achieve consistency of system application and a means of assessing rating ability.

Towards the end of the year, The R&A and the USGA announced the first update to the WHS as part of an ongoing review of the Rules of Handicapping™ and Course Rating System with a continued emphasis on accuracy, consistency and equity (taking effect from 1 January 2024).

Many countries have seen significant increases in the number of scores being submitted for handicapping purposes since the WHS was introduced. More than 100 million scores have been posted each year, unifying millions of golfers through a standard measure of playing ability. The latest update leverages the performance data gathered from around the world, in addition to feedback received from many of the 125 countries now using the system.



Read more about the Distance Insights project and the Official R&A Rules App on The R&A's website.

SUSTAINABLE GOLF.

The R&A is dedicated to ensuring a thriving, sustainable future both for the sport and the planet.



Free water refill stations at The 151st Open at Royal Liverpool.

Golf has a unique relationship with the natural environment and The R&A's Sustainable Golf team focuses on its key priorities of sustainable agronomy, bio-diversity, research, education and championships.

GreenLinks is The R&A's sustainable championship programme designed to drive leadership and innovation in sustainability across The Open, the AIG Women's Open and The R&A's portfolio of amateur championships.

In partnership with Patrons and supported by other partners, a broad range of innovations aiming to raise awareness, reduce impact and stimulate wider action were delivered at The 151st Open at Royal Liverpool. From solar and biofuel power and free water refill stations to carbon labeling

on menus, sustainable sourced food, zero waste to landfill and a community reuse programme, GreenLinks was integral to activity at Hoylake. The Open Water Initiative, in partnership with Mastercard and the Priceless Planet Coalition, provides free on-site water refill points.

Spectators could visit The R&A's Sustainable Golf Hub or speak to a GreenLinks Sustainability Volunteer to find out more about what The Open is doing, and how they can play their part for a sustainable world too.

Furthermore, The R&A's 'Golf and Nature' programme aims to realise the biodiversity value that courses have and to support venues to play their role in biodiversity net gain.

Well managed courses can provide a safe haven for all manner of wildlife and can connect with nature in a way very few sports have the opportunity to do so.

The year one results of The R&A's five-year Biodiversity Study were published, which aims to increase understanding of biodiversity and its value at R&A championship host venues. In all, 150 different species of principal importance, amber or red-listed, of conservation concern, rare or threatened, have been identified at championship courses, alongside 14 habitats of principal importance.

Working with clubs, expert ecologists and local wildlife bodies, The R&A work hard to ensure championship venues continue to protect and nurture key species and enhance their habitats.

At Royal Liverpool, for example, while spectators and players enjoyed a familiarity with the links for the week, hundreds of plant and animal species call the course their home throughout the year. These include many endangered and threatened species such as the natterjack toad, sky lark and the small heath butterfly.

The R&A also has a partnership with the RSPB, the UK's largest conservation charity, to highlight how golf can be good for nature. The partnership supports projects that help species of conservation concern and are managing and restoring habitats of principle importance.

At Walton Heath for the AIG Women's Open, RSPB guided nature walks for spectators explained how golf and nature are working together.

The Sustainable Championship Agronomy team continue to provide guidance and advice to all venues hosting R&A championships in Great Britain and Ireland, visiting 65 courses in 2023 to ensure that sustainable, environmentally-positive, world class playing conditions are presented.

The year was also notable for an expansion of The R&A's Sustainable Agronomy Service, providing expertise and best practice advice to all levels of golf facilities in GB&I and continental Europe to aid in the effective management of courses.

First launched in the Asia-Pacific market, the service now offers facility operators worldwide with support in the delivery of sustainable agronomy, golf course auditing and benchmarking, management planning and strategic advice, annual maintenance programme planning, and project management support and drainage design.

The service actively supports and guides clubs to become more resilient and sustainable in the face of changing legislation on pesticides, climate change and access to resources.

Clubs such as Haydock Park, West Sussex and Blackwell are among over 100 facilities in Great Britain and Ireland and continental Europe being encouraged to use more resilient grass mixes and improve growing environments for grass, in addition to making the turf less reliant on pesticides.

In 2023 the team assisted with more than 175 facilities with in excess of 250 site visits made.

The year also saw The R&A award over £100,000 to programmes and scholarships supporting greenkeeper education around the world, as well as £470,000 in Golf Course 2030 (GC2030) grant funding to golf organisations in Europe undertaking sustainability research projects until 2025.

Since the introduction of GC2030, £1 million has been awarded to research projects by The R&A. This funding commitment significantly broadens the organisation's research agenda to include projects also based in Europe.

National and regional federations were invited to submit proposals for projects aligned with one or more GC2030 priority themes, which are sustainable agronomy, resources, biodiversity and climate.

Nine projects have been selected for funding and will deliver practical outputs in the form of publications, events and other information resources. Their focus is on issues relevant to the golf industry globally including disease and pest control, management of resources, and supporting biodiversity and climate impact of golf courses.



Read more about Sustainable Agronomy and GC2030 on The R&A's website.

GOLF DEVELOPMENT.

Exciting development initiatives from The R&A continued to encourage people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds to experience the sport throughout the year.



Golf It! opened in style in Glasgow.

The eagerly-anticipated opening of Golf It! in August quickly made the sport more accessible and inclusive to golfers and non-golfers alike. The new community-based golf and entertainment facility on the south bank of Hogganfield Loch in Glasgow boasts an extensive range of introductory golf formats, including pitch and putt, three adventure golf courses, community putting greens and a 52-bay double decker floodlit driving range.

A new-look nine-hole course incorporates five sets of tees to encourage people at all levels and features alongside nature trails, bike hire and street food-style dining, with Glasgow's Big Feed making the venue its new permanent home. Partnership working has also seen 7,000 children playing golf in local schools.

Earlier in the summer, an ambitious pilot initiative was launched to encourage people to learn to play at a diverse range of golf facilities across Scotland.

Golf.Golf has been developed using extensive research into how to attract new people to the sport. The Golf.Golf digital platform provides an easy-to-use searchable list of all participating venues – from driving ranges to simulators to municipal courses – and is targeted specifically at those who already had or have an active interest in sporting activity but not necessarily in golf.

Backed by a global social media strategy, which includes a fun film starring R&A ambassador Niall Horan and a host of Scottish sporting stars, The R&A's ambition is to build on the pilot and then roll it

out globally to continue the growth in worldwide participation.

Indeed, new research undertaken by The R&A highlighted an additional ten million adult golfers playing the sport worldwide since 2016. There are 39.6 million on-course golfers (9 and 18 hole) in R&A affiliated markets, with the growth trend beginning before the onset of Covid-19 and continuing after the pandemic (up 15% from 34.5 million on-course players in 2020).

The new Global Golf Participation Report also highlighted that 61.2 million adults (outside the USA and Mexico) engage with the sport in some format, the first time an estimate has been made beyond on-course activity to include alternative-only formats, such as par-3 golf, indoor simulator golf and driving range use.

Aided by participation initiatives and increased awareness of golf's mental and physical health benefits, Great Britain and Ireland enjoyed notable growth. In total, 5.6 million on-course adult golfers –

the second-highest number since monitoring began over 30 years ago – enjoyed playing on full-length courses.

Golf bodies across GB&I collaborated on a pioneering Community Golf Instructor Programme to create a dedicated more diverse workforce to help develop the sport. Backed by The R&A and designed in collaboration with all home national associations, the Golf Foundation and support from the PGA, the programme will help to deliver more introductory group golf sessions particularly in local communities.

The shorter GolfSixes format continued to expand and introduce even more children following a successful pilot season in continental Europe, Morocco and South Africa. There are now 20 nations delivering GolfSixes League and GolfSixes Mini League, a marked increase from ten nations in 2022. More than 7,800 players took part at 660 participating clubs/facilities in 2023. Notably, 43% of players became junior members in GB&I whilst being part of Golf Sixes League.



Golf participation continued to prosper according to new research.





In nine-hole golf, over 100,000 golfers from all over the world entered qualifying events for the opportunity to play Royal Liverpool before The 151st Open. The Irish pairing of Olivia Byrne and John Murphy went on to triumph in The R&A 9 Hole Challenge Final.

Elsewhere, a pioneering health initiative was piloted in Fife with golf 'prescribed' for individuals to encourage a more active lifestyle – also featuring on The One Show on the BBC. The R&A and the University of St Andrews School of Medicine collaborated with partner organisations to develop 'Golf for Health' – a pilot social prescribing project that aims to connect eligible primary care patients with appropriate golf activities in Scotland. Dr Andrew Murray, Chief Medical and Scientific Officer at the DP World Tour and R&A Adviser, has also been involved.

Furthermore, after the success of the pilot 'Golf is Good' health campaign in Wales with R&A ambassador Gareth Bale in 2022, Argentina, Australia, Colombia, Denmark, England, Finland, Ireland, New Zealand, Serbia, Singapore and South Africa have all received digital assets from The R&A to activate promotion of the health and wellbeing benefits of the sport in their respective countries.

The R&A was also at the forefront of developing the inaugural G4D Open at Woburn in May, held in partnership with the DP World Tour and supported by EDGA.

On the course, the Championship featured nine sport classes across multiple impairment groups and took golfers with a disability to new audiences. Juan Postigo Arce's tee shot (this Review's front cover) was one of BBC Sport's images of the year.

Off the course, a Symposium on Golf for the Disabled was staged, as delegates from national federations from as far afield as Canada, South Africa and Australia gathered. EDGA also agreed a new three-year strategic relationship to become The R&A's service provider in the area of golf for the disabled, providing expertise and guidance to affiliates via the EDGA/R&A 8 Stage Pathway.

A focus on growing women's and girls' golf at all levels continued. More than 100 current and future women leaders in golf gathered from across the world in St Andrews to celebrate the success and sustained impact of The R&A Women in Golf Leadership Development Programme (WIGLDP).

The 'Rise and Aspire' conference was held to mark the fifth anniversary of the WIGLDP, which has increased the number of women working at mid-to-senior levels in golf organisations. It is run and funded by The R&A as a key part of its commitment to the Women in Golf Charter. In total, 140 women from 34 countries have completed the Leadership Development and Foundation programmes.

Leading figures in sport, business and entertainment – including Annika Sörenstam – also met to share their expertise and experiences at a Women In Sport Summit at the AIG Women's Open.

All 22 golf clubs in the United Arab Emirates have signed the Charter to demonstrate their collective commitment to growing golf amongst women and girls in the region, with The R&A launching the 'Unleash Your Drive' initiative to introduce golf into local primary schools in the Middle East in collaboration with the Golf Foundation.

Key industry and non-industry stakeholders also came together in Dubai for the Middle East Golf Leadership Forum hosted by The R&A, discussing the collective drive golf is making globally and regionally to promote health, sustainability and inclusion.

The R&A's new online magazine for affiliates, *Developing Golf*, highlights such features and best practice for the golf industry.

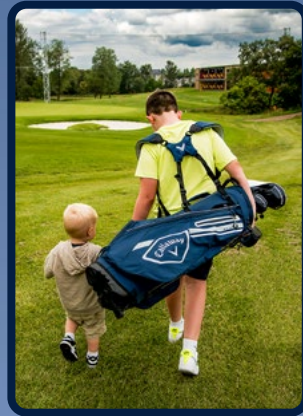


Pictured from top: Hollywood actress Kathryn Newton joined The R&A's ambassador line-up; Women at the 'Rise and Aspire' Conference in St Andrews; The Middle East Golf Leadership Forum featured various speakers, including Jackie Davidson, Director – Golf Education.



Kris Aves, who was injured in the terrorist attack on Westminster Bridge in 2017, competed in the inaugural G4D Open at Woburn in his Paragolfer.

THE R&A FOUNDATION.



Golf It! in Glasgow articulates the Foundation's values.

The year saw a new phase in the evolution of The R&A Foundation. Since 2003, The R&A Foundation has provided funding from the proceeds of The Open, golf's original championship, in developing the sport globally and supporting projects from grassroots to the elite level.

To increase its reach and impact, 2023 saw the Foundation launch a global philanthropy programme, inviting donors to join and provide additional funding through philanthropy to enable greater investment into worldwide initiatives that transform lives and communities through golf.

During the pre-launch stage to September more than £5 million was pledged by generous donors, with another £1 million received by year end. Supporters include Rolex, The Arnold & Winnie Palmer Foundation and an international group of individuals.

Combining funding from The R&A with philanthropic investment, The R&A Foundation supports programmes that deliver impact across five key areas:

- **Accessibility** – developing facilities and programmes that enable people to get into golf.
- **Sustainability** – increasing understanding of the environmental impact of golf.
- **Health** – investing in research and programming which use golf to improve people's health.
- **Heritage** – expanding the reach of The R&A World Golf Museum.
- **Talent** – supporting the pathways that enable people to reach their potential through golf.



Golf It! in Glasgow exemplifies the Foundation's values. With the support of AIG and The Arnold & Winnie Palmer Foundation, 42,000 children across Glasgow will receive in-school golf tuition over the next five years as part of its education programme. Apprenticeship opportunities are also available within the community golf and facility teams at Golf It!.

The year saw further examples of the Foundation's support for projects that encourage accessibility and opportunity through golf.

The Golf Foundation receives £500,000 each year from The R&A to support its aim of inspiring more young people to play golf in Great Britain and to increase the retention of juniors in the sport. Funding is also provided to organisations such as the Ladies' European Tour and The PGA of Great Britain and Ireland.

Project Ukraine, an initiative created by nine women from The R&A's Women in Golf Leadership Development Programme, featured a second coaching camp. Building upon the success of the 2022 camp, the project aims to support young Ukrainian golfers affected by the continuing war.

The R&A Foundation also supports the inaugural Royal and Ancient Golf Club Scholarship, which launched in 2024. Aimed at 18-25 year olds who have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to the game and potential to contribute significantly to its future, this global programme will nurture golf's next generation of leaders through educational and vocational support, mentorship from members of The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews, the creation of a peer-to-peer network and a leadership conference in St Andrews.

The R&A Foundation continues to fund golf education and participation projects. The R&A Foundation Scholarship Programme supports the performance development of student golfers of international standard to become future champions.

Former scholars include Catriona Matthew (University of Stirling), who will captain the Great Britain and Ireland side at the Curtis Cup in 2024. Each year, The R&A invests almost £500,000 in student and university golf currently supporting programmes at 17 universities.

R&A Foundation support is provided to The R&A Greenkeeping Scholarship and the Africa Turf Academy, which provides in person and online career development for greenkeepers to work globally.

Health projects supported in 2023 included the Ladies' European Tour's Performance Institute, the 'Golf on Prescription' pilot project in Scotland and Golf Memories – a community health project to help people affected by memory loss or loneliness.

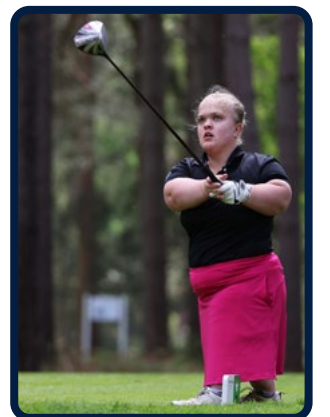
Several disability golf events were backed in addition to annual support of EDGA, an organisation which promotes opportunities for golfers with disabilities, and who were involved in the development of the inaugural G4D Open at Woburn.

The R&A Foundation also works with professional golfers to support and further the aims of their charitable foundations by providing funding to support their activities in golf. The Foundation is a long-standing supporter of the Faldo Series, led by three-time Champion Golfer Sir Nick Faldo. Over 45,000 golfers aged 12-21 have participated in its events around the world over the last 25 years.

Support is also provided to the ANNIKA Foundation, run by ten-time major champion Annika Sörenstam, to help organise several events each year in Europe, Asia, Australia and South America.

Other golfers and organisations who received support included the Paul Lawrie Foundation, which runs activities and competitions for junior golfers, Lawrie's Tartan Pro Tour developmental Scottish circuit and the Rose Ladies Series, which has provided playing opportunities through the endeavor of Justin Rose and his wife, Kate.

This is an exciting time for The R&A Foundation as the increased funds from philanthropic donors make more possible. Find out more by contacting the Philanthropy team at foundation@randa.org



An initiative was piloted in Fife with golf 'prescribed' for individuals to encourage a more active lifestyle; several disability golf events were backed in addition to annual support of EDGA.



An aerial view of The R&A's new facility at Golf It! in Glasgow.

PEOPLE.

The R&A is committed to creating and fostering an inclusive culture in golf and the year saw notable work across Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) from both an employment and participation perspective.

At the AIG Women's Open at Walton Heath, The R&A entered a partnership with the Black Collective of Media in Sport (BCOMS) for a media training opportunity.

Working with BCOMS – a black-led organisation that aims to diversify the UK's sports media – aspiring media professionals from diverse backgrounds gained invaluable experience working alongside R&A staff across areas such as photography, social media and media relations. They contributed to content output for The R&A and AIG Women's Open channels and gained experience and advice to help support their professional development.

The R&A provided support to the Muslim Golf Association on projects in London and the Midlands to encourage participation and assisted the Club Management Association of Europe with bursaries for individuals from ethnically diverse backgrounds.

The R&A World Golf Museum has been part of The Neurodiverse Museum Project and taken on board recommendations on how to engage with a neurodiverse audience. It has hosted workshops for families, including a Little Niblicks baby and toddler group.

The HR team partnered with EDGA to deliver staff training ahead of The G4D Open, providing participants with the skills and knowledge to best support the golfers, including practical ways to engage such as appropriate language and gestures.

We are currently working in collaboration with the leading golf organisations from across Great Britain and Ireland to deliver the 'Careers in Golf' Programme. It is designed to educate and inspire individuals from a range of backgrounds, at all stages of their career, highlight the plethora of opportunities that come from the full eco-system of golf and the wide range of careers within the sport.

This includes attending schools, universities and careers fairs, as well as providing behind the scenes tours across various championships and extending volunteer opportunities to the participants of the programme.

BCOMS contributed to content output for The R&A and AIG Women's Open channels

TECHNOLOGY.

Technology continued a programme of transformation and the associated changes in their operating model.

Throughout the year there was a focus on establishing the governance of projects and the technology via dedicated project management and business analysis resource. This has included the development of the portfolio, which gives an enterprise wide view of technology projects across the organisation, and mechanisms to prioritise these aligned to the strategic priorities.

The Technology and Data framework has continued to evolve, including establishing principles for the delivery and ongoing support of The R&A Technology solutions and products. The data team are working on the approach to data governance and management across the organisation, including understanding risks and opportunities.

Technology have been working on establishing their processes and procedures, including standardisation of their operational and support aspects in order to best support the organisation. There has been a continued review of Cyber Security and enhancements in this.

In August, The R&A and Golf New Zealand formed a strategic partnership with international golf technology solutions provider DotGolf.

The New Zealand-based company was formed in 1999 and is a leading provider of technology solutions for golf clubs and organisations.

The joint investment by the two organisations in DotGolf aims to help the company enhance the suite of technology products it offers and develop new technology platforms that can help attract more people into golf.

The partnership will also develop multi-lingual solutions along with other tools for the utilisation of data and monitoring. The DotGolf technology is already used by national associations in New Zealand, England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, with Australia taking it up from 2024.

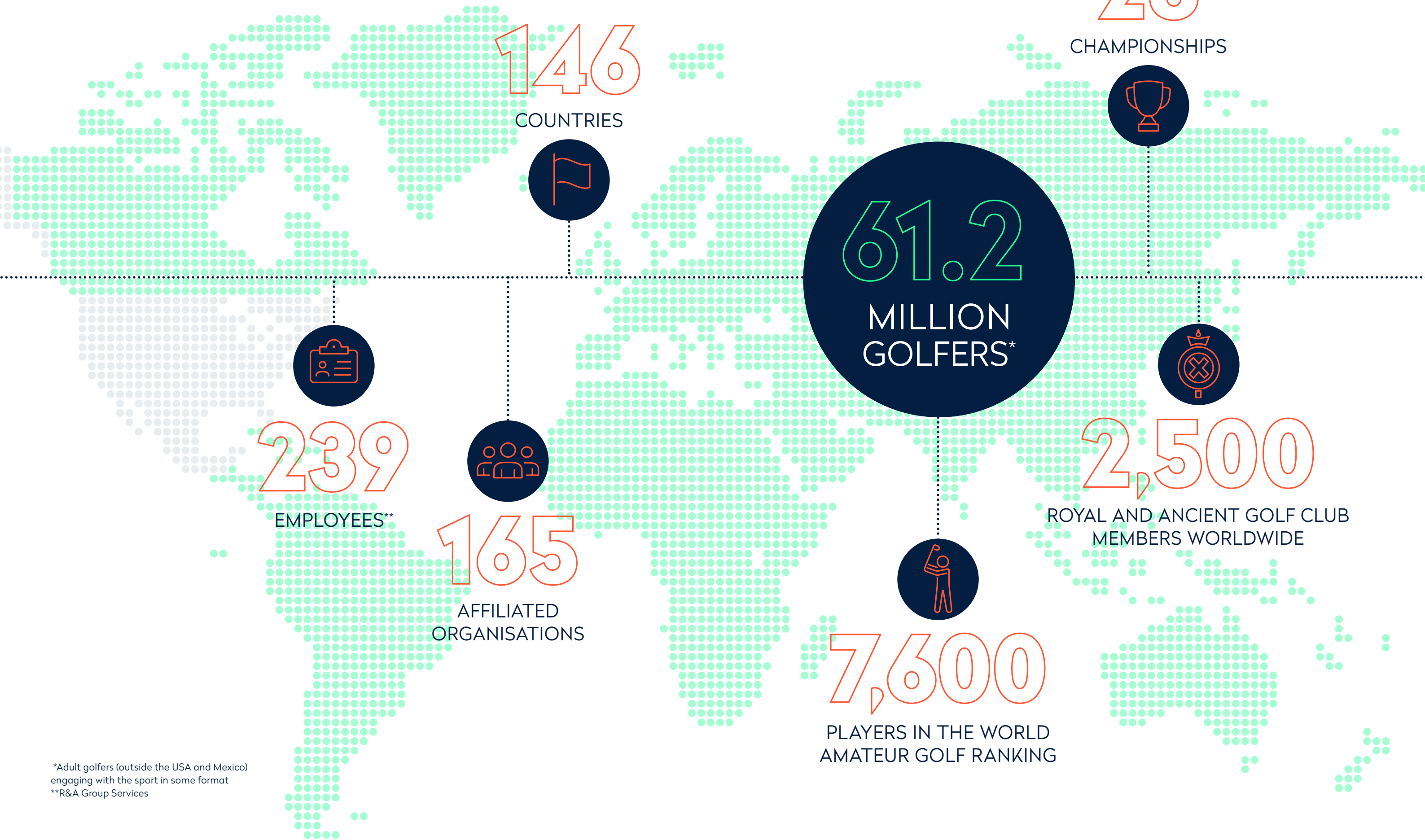
Key projects within the year included work on the Global Affiliate Portal, an interactive CRM to support the Golf Development team in their engagement and management of affiliated national federations, as well as continued work in building a CRM for Equipment Standards.

There was continued improvements on websites and apps, including enhancing the Shot View offering for The Open, launch of an updated app for the Rules of Golf and improving the scoring for amateur championships on The R&A website.

The R&A and Golf New Zealand formed a strategic partnership with international golf technology solutions provider DotGolf



OUR WORLD OF GOLF.



*Adult golfers (outside the USA and Mexico) engaging with the sport in some format
 **R&A Group Services

AFFILIATED ORGANISATIONS.

The R&A, through R&A Rules Ltd, governs the sport worldwide, outside of the United States and Mexico, on behalf of over 61 million golfers in 146 countries and with the consent of 165 organisations from amateur and professional golf.

Europe

Albanian Golf Federation
Andorra Golf Federation
National Golf Association of Armenia
Austrian Golf Association
Azerbaijan Golf Federation
Royal Belgian Golf Federation
Belarus Golf Association
Bulgarian Golf Association
Croatian Golf Association
Cyprus Golf Federation
Czech Golf Federation
Danish Golf Union
England Golf
Estonian Golf Association
Finnish Golf Union
French Golf Federation
Georgian Golf Federation
German Golf Association
Hellenic Golf Federation (Greece)
Hungarian Golf Federation
Golf Union of Iceland
Golf Ireland
Israel Golf Federation
Italian Golf Federation
Kazakhstan Golf Federation
Latvian Golf Federation
Liechtenstein Golf Association
Lithuanian Golf Federation
Luxembourg Golf Federation
Macedonian Golf Federation
Malta Golf Association
Netherlands Golf Federation
Norwegian Golf Federation
Polish Golf Union
Portuguese Golf Federation
Romanian Golf Federation
Russian Golf Association
San Marino Golf Federation
Scottish Golf
Golf Association of Serbia
Slovak Golf Association
Slovenia Golf Association
Royal Spanish Golf Federation
Swedish Golf Federation
Swiss Golf
Turkish Golf Federation
Ukrainian Golf Federation
Wales Golf

The Americas

Argentine Golf Association
Bahamas Golf Federation
Barbados Golf Association
Belize Amateur Golf Association
Bermuda Golf Association
Bolivian Golf Federation
Brazilian Golf Confederation
Golf Canada
Cayman Islands Golf Association
Chilean Golf Federation

Colombian Golf Federation
Costa Rican Golf Federation
Curacao Golf Association
Dominican Republic Golf Association
Ecuador Golf Federation
El Salvador Golf Federation
Falkland Islands Golf Association
Guatemala National Golf Association
Guyana Golf Union
Golf Federation of Haiti
Honduras Golf Association
Jamaica Golf Association
Nicaraguan Golf Federation
Panama Golf Association
Paraguay Golf Association
Golf Peru
St Lucia Golf Association
St Maarten Golf Association (Kingdom of the Netherlands)
Trinidad & Tobago Golf Association
Turks & Caicos Islands Golf Association
Uruguay Golf Association
Venezuela Golf Federation
Virgin Islands Golf Federation

Asia

Afghanistan Golf Federation
Bahrain Golf Association
Bangladesh Golf Federation
Royal Bhutan Golf Federation
Cambodian Golf Federation
China Golf Association
Chinese Taipei Golf Association
Emirates Golf Federation
Hong Kong Golf Association
Indian Golf Union
Indonesian Golf Association
Islamic Republic of Iran Golf Federation
Japan Golf Association
Jordan Golf Association
Korea Golf Association
Golf Federation in Kyrgyzstan
Lao National Golf Federation
Lebanese Golf Federation
Malaysian Golf Association
Mongolian Golf Association
Myanmar Golf Federation
Nepal Golf Association
Oman Golf Committee
Pakistan Golf Federation
National Golf Association of the Philippines
Qatar Golf Association
Saudi Arabian Golf Federation
Singapore Golf Association
Sri Lanka Golf Union
Thailand Golf Association
Vietnam Golf Association

Africa

Algerian Golf Federation
Angolan Golf Federation
Botswana Golf Union
Cameroon Golf Federation
Democratic Republic of Congo Golf Federation
Egyptian Golf Federation
Eswatini Golf Union
Ethiopia Golf Association
Gabonese Golf Federation
Gambia Golf Association
Ghana Golf Association
Ivory Coast Golf Federation
Kenya Golf Union
Liberia Golf Association
Libyan Golf Federation
Madagascar Golf Federation
Golf Union of Malawi
Mauritius Golf Federation
Royal Moroccan Golf Federation
Namibia Golf Federation
Nigeria Golf Federation
Ladies Golf Association of Nigeria
Rwanda Golf Union
Seychelles Golf Federation
Senegalese Golf Federation
Sierra Leone Golf Federation
Golf RSA
Tanzania Golf Union
Tunisian Golf Federation
Uganda Golf Union
Zambia Golf Union
Zimbabwe Golf Association

Oceania

Golf Australia
Cook Islands Golf Association
Golf Fiji
Golf NZ
Papua New Guinea Golf Association
Samoa Golf Incorporated
Vanuatu Golf Association

Transnational Affiliated Organisations

Africa Golf Confederation
Asia-Pacific Golf Confederation
Asian Tour
Caribbean Golf Association
Confederation of Professional Golf
Council of National Golf Unions
EDGA
European Golf Association
Ladies European Tour
Oceania Golf Union
European Tour Group
Professional Golfers' Association
South American Golf Federation
Sunshine Tour



Lilia Yu celebrates holing her birdie putt on the 18th to seal victory in the ALG Women's Open at Walton Heath.



The R&A group of companies was formed in 2004 to take on The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews' responsibilities for governing the Rules of Golf, staging The Open, golf's original championship, and developing the sport. The R&A World Golf Museum in St Andrews is part of The R&A group.

Together The R&A and the USGA govern the sport of golf worldwide, operating in separate jurisdictions with a commitment to a single code for the Rules of Golf, Rules of Amateur Status and Equipment Standards. The R&A, through R&A Rules Ltd, governs the sport worldwide, outside of the United States and Mexico, on behalf of over 61 million golfers in 146 countries and with the consent of 165 organisations from amateur and professional golf.

The R&A has responsibility for running a series of world class amateur events and international matches in women's and girls' as well as men's and boys' golf. The R&A stages the AIG Women's Open and works with the DP World Tour to stage the Senior Open presented by Rolex.

The R&A is committed to investing £200 million over ten years in developing golf and supports the growth of the sport internationally, including the development and management of sustainable golf facilities. For more information, visit www.randa.org.



randa.org
