**Sali’s Story: Dreams Meeting Reality in Uganda**

**MASTER SCRIPT**

**Show opens**

**Intro**

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Nats: Are we going to see water?

ROGER SALI: Water? You want to see water? Yeah, you are going

to see everything -- water, balls, grass.

Nats: Walking

ROGER: Wait, wait. Don’t go yet. Don't get enough speed. Go inside.

**Like a New World**

Lake Victoria Serena Golf Resort

[MUSIC PLAYING]

THEO VAN ROOYEN: Andrew, he started here --first time on the golf course, first time holding

a golf club in 2017.By 2020, he was playing off scratch.

[CHEERING]

ANNOUNCER: It is as sweet as it comes for Andrew Ssekibejja. Ssekibejja leads by 1 now.

THEO: 2022, he was winning the Uganda Open right over there.

ANNOUNCER: The local boy from Serena, giving everybody something to cheer about. He sinks the final putt.

[CHEERING]

ANNOUNCER: He seals the victory. A championship for everyone,

every outstanding member, every caddie, every staff

here of this beautiful course.

THEO: It was amazing. Everybody had goose bumps. All the staff came running down. I don't know

where they picked flags from. All of them were out there supporting him because he was really

one of our own.

ANNOUNCER: He brought it home. Yes, it was home, but he's brought it home. You can hear the

chants from the clubhouse, from the patrons, saying, 'Yes, is our time to shine.' And they've done it.

THEO: They picked him up on their shoulders. I was just so worried that they'll drop him

in the water because he can't swim. He even told me before.

[CHEERING]

ANNOUNCER: Ssekibejja, giving everybody a sweet success story.

ANNOUNCER: Yes, Ssekibejja. The unknown has become the known.

ANNOUNCER: He's a champion. He's worked hard, and he's put on

the right shirt for the final day, red. It's a color that says fire.

[CHEERING]

ANNOUNCER: I tell you, his mother, his father, especially Serena,

are very proud of Andrew, what he's done for them.

THEO: He's one of those great examples of talent can take you only so far. Right now, he's still trying to get money together to go play in two events in Kenya. And he doesn't want to go over there just to compete.

He actually wants to go out there and win. And so through the support of the PGA TOUR and what you have brought here, hopefully, we can help guys like him as well.

Nats: Car door opens

ROGER: Hello, guys. Morning.

Nats: Motorcycles

ROGER: We are going to the school. We are going to give 10 kids first time golf course experience.

I hope they will love it because it would be like, like a new world to them.

KENNETH: Good morning.

Nats: Gate opens

ROGER: Come, come, close.

Nats: Background noise

ROGER: Hello. Come here. How many of you are ready to see a golf course? Raise your hand like this.

So we are going to take you to Serena Golf Course and you will ask me all the questions that you have been

thinking to ask. You'll see the water. You'll see everything that is golf related. What happens there?

Mm-hmm.

[LAUGHS]

ROGER: Yeah, that is it. That's what we are going to do.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Nats: Car driving down dirt road

ROGER: So this is Serena. On the left is the golf course. You see this thing?

CHILDREN: Yes.

ROGER: The black thing.

CHILDREN: Yes.

ROGER: It's called a range. That is where we practice from. So down there, all of it

is called a golf course. And it's where we are going.

Nats: Car down opens

ROGER: You can come now.

[LAUGHS]

ROGER: All of you, come out, come out. Uh-huh. This one is called what?

CHILDREN: A clubhouse.

ROGER: It's for golfers. This is where our golfers come and have fun. You come inside here.

This one is called a pro shop. This is where golfers buy things. You can come and

meet our pro, Bonny.

Nats: Hi, kids.

BONNY: How are you?

Nats: Welcome. So this is our golf pro. He's the golf teacher.

BONNY: Who wants to become a good golfer?

CHILDREN: Me. Me too.

BONNY: Who's the best golfer in the world?

CHILDREN: Me.

[LAUGHS]

BONNY: Ah, good, good. You? Ah-hah. Young man is the best.

And you? Ah, good. Now, Roger—

ROGER: Yes.

BONNY: these two

ROGER: Yeah.

BONNY: I'll give them a complementary lesson,

ROGER: Yes.

BONNY: one of the weekends.

ROGER: Thank you so much.

BONNY: OK, guys, you have fun. And I’m looking forward to seeing you again.

ROGER: Let's continue. These are the clubs. The ones that you see me

coming with, these are them. This is the one I play with here. You put here,

and you get inside.

Nats: School kids running around and walking

ROGER: This is the green. I want you to all touch it and feel it.

This is not a carpet. This is grass. So, you have to protect it with your life

because it's very delicate.

Nats: Putting

ROGER: Yeah, that's good. You can go and see some water. I'll bring the clubs.

SCHOOL GIRL: There is a fish.

Nats: Native language

ROGER: Have you ever heard of Tiger Woods?

CHILDREN: No.

ROGER: No? He's a very famous player.

[ SHOUTS]

ROGER: But you don't have to shout. When you are on the golf

course, silence, until I hit. You can shout after.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Nats: golf swing

ROGER: Have you seen it?

CHILDREN: Yes.

ROGER: She's saying the way it went was very fast, like a bullet.

SCHOOL GIRL: I see the ball.

ROGER: Yeah. They're going to pick it. I knew.

[LAUGHS]

ROGER: No, don't pick it. You leave it where you found it. You just leave it there. You can put it where it was.

OK. I'm going to take a shot.

Nats: Approach shot

ROGER: Before you go, you see this?This is called a divot. Sometimes, when you--

you can bring that grass. Yeah. Yeah, you bring it and put it back.

It's called a divot, yeah? You have to repair it. A golf course is a community,

so you have to take care of it, like the same way like you look after your class,

your home. Everything that you do, you have to-- it's like the same community you live in.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Nats: Putting into hole

ROGER: They are doing maintenance, so they have to keep the course clean.

SCHOOL GIRL: What is that one?

ROGER: It's called a marabou stork.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

ROGER: This is what I've been dreaming of. to give the kids out there the experience of the

golf course. To everyone, whether rich or poor. At times, it's challenging because I need some help.

It's not like I can do it alone. So, if there is anybody out there who can help, please, we are ready for it.

So, will you come back the next time

CHILDREN: Yes.

ROGER: when we invite you?

CHILDREN: Yes.

ROGER: OK.

THEO: I think the next step for Roger is to become, ideally, a PGA-certified

professional. He would then be the first and only PGA-certified professional in Uganda.

ROGER: That's basically my dream, to be a teaching pro and keep introducing golf to many people.

ROGER: And another thing is an extended back at the back swing.

NICK SCHIAVI: If he becomes a certified teacher, and it really grows-- like, the accessibility

to golf in Uganda--I think that would be a great best-case scenario. If this really does happen,

him becoming a PGA pro and maybe coming and visiting America, it's like all of his

dreams coming true.

ROGER: I'm working on this swing guide drill. I want to perfect my target.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Nats: swing

THEO: Roger, you can have a seat actually.

ROGER: All right.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

JOHN LINDERT: Hi, Roger.

ROGER: Hi.

JOHN: Hi. My name's John Lindert. I'm the PGA of America President.

How are you today?

ROGER: I'm very good. How are you doing?

JOHN: I'm doing great. I'm one of your Instagram followers,

and I've been watching you. You've got a beautiful golf swing.

Are you self-taught?

ROGER: Yeah, basically, from YouTube, and also a friend of mine who

lives in Chicago. He's called Nick. So he used to give me a few tips

of how we-- like, you look in the mirror and copy what is Tiger doing.

So things like that.

JOHN: So what are your goals? What are your aspirations?

What do you want to do?

ROGER: I want to keep introducing golf to communities, schools.

But I also want to study to be a trainer, a professional trainer of

PGA or what. So that is my dream.

JOHN: Well, we're here at the PGA of America are here to help you with that.

We'd like to help you with your journey to become a PGA professional, give you access

to the tools of our world-class education, to help you become a trainer and

a promoter of the game of golf. What do you think about that?

ROGER: I don't know how to express it, but it's like a dream come true.

It used to be like dreams, but now it's happening.

JOHN: We're going to have some people from the PGA of America

reach out to you, and we're going to begin your journey

to become a PGA professional. Sound good?

ROGER: That would be very, very nice. It's like-- I don't know what to

say now, but it's really nice. Thank you so much.

JOHN: I'm impressed with your ability and your enthusiasm and your passion for the game.

I look forward to meeting you soon.

ROGER: All right.

[APPLAUSE]

Nats: Yeah.

ROGER: Goodbye.

[LAUGHS]

THEO: Well, first PGA-certified

coach in Uganda history.

ROGER: Uganda.

THEO: You going to work hard?

ROGER: Of course, man.

THEO: It's not easy.

ROGER: For sure, I'll do it.

[LAUGHS]

THEO: I know you can do it.

ROGER: Even if it means, like reading the

whole night, it's fine. Ah!

[CRIES]

ROGER: For sure, I don't know the person I talked to,

but he seems like a--

[LAUGHS]

OFF CAMERA: Big man.

ROGER: Yes. And I'm very happy for that. Yeah. I can't wait to meet everybody,

like, play golf in USA. Start my journey to learn golf, like become like,

a certified coach. Where, with all the papers, it's going to be a big milestone

not only to me but to my country, to my friends. I will be able to

help a lot of friends to develop their swings. My family as well, my boss, Mr. Theo, please

come and talk to the people.

[LAUGHS]

ROGER: You really helped me a lot, and you also believed in

my whatever I was doing. It looked like shit. It looked like, because-

THEO: Glad you used my name.

ROGER: people who are seeing me hitting balls in the dirt, and they're like, ah,

what is this guy doing? But you really believed in me, and you were like, oh, I'm surprised

this is moving very quick. So, I don't have very many words to say. But, yeah, it's

really inspiring. And I like to keep calm. I don't have to be very excited.

I have to stay humble because that is-- I want to be exemplary to my

friends and my other people from Compassion. And one other friend I

will never forget in life is my friend Nick from @slomoswinglibrary.

He always tells you, I believe in you. Keep doing what you're doing.

ROGER: Hi, Nick.

NICK: How's it going?

[LAUGHS]

ROGER: You look fresh.

NICK: I'm good.

ROGER: Yeah. Everything fine?

NICK: Yeah. How's the week going down there?

ROGER: It's good. I have some exciting news for you. Maybe we'll be linking up very soon.

NICK: Oh, yeah?

ROGER: Yeah. I just got a call from PGA President John Lindert. He says he's going to

give me a full sponsorship to study as a certified PGA coach.

NICK: Man, that's so cool.

ROGER: Yeah.

NICK: That's like everything we have been talking about all along--

ROGER: Yeah.

NICK: you to be able to come here. And congratulations. You've earned everything.

ROGER: Yeah. Thank you, bro. You are the first person who inspired me to do everything.

You told me, keep doing what you're doing. The world is watching. And you are the person who

taught me how to play golf. So, I felt like you're the one person I should tell first.

NICK: Nice. Well, I'm excited to meet you in person.

ROGER: Thank you for everything.

NICK: All right, goodbye.

CAMERAMAN: Awesome. Cut? Cut it.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

ROGER: Thank you so much. I'm very grateful. I can't wait to meet you, everyone in America and PGA,

PGA TOUR. Everyone out there, please, I love you, guys. Thank you. Yeah.

[APPLAUSE]

ROGER: Sorry. The words were very many.

[LAUGHTER]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

**OUTTRO**