

# Big Birding Day, Metropolitan Golf Course 24 November 2012

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The golf course was divided into four sections as named in table 1a to 1d. Table 2 shows the overall total counts for the whole course and figure 1 presents a graphic representation of the relative numbers of each species. In each of these sections, counts were done for 30 minutes. The counts were inclusive of all foraging, flying and roosting birds. Counting started at 700AM and ended at 945AM.

A total of 22 species were spotted. The top-five most abundant species were Egyptian Geese (73 individuals) followed by Common Mynas (52), Hartlaub's Gulls (26), Red-knobbed Coots (26) and Cape Gulls (23).

**Table 1a. Bird counts, Canteen side facing the Stadium** (Start: 0655 – End 0725AM)

<b>Species</b>	<b>Adults</b>	<b>Juveniles</b>
Common Moorhen	5	
Cape Wagtail	3	
Common Myna	42	
Black Smith Plover	3	
Hadeda Ibis	8	
Common Swift	1	
Hartlaub's Gull	3	
Cape Gull	12	
Cape Turtle-dove	2	
Egyptian Goose	2	
White-throated Swallow	3	

**Table 1b. Bird counts, Canteen side facing the Sea** (Start: 0730 – End 0800AM)

<b>Species</b>	<b>Adults</b>	<b>Juveniles</b>
Common Fiscal	2	
White-throated Swallow	1	
Spotted Thick-knee	1	
Common Myna	7	
Red-winged Starling	5	
Cape Turtle-dove	3	

Hartlaub's Gull	1
Cape Gull	3
Hadedda Ibis	1
Egyptian Goose	4

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**Table 1c. Park side; facing the sea (Start: 0825 – End 0855AM)**

<b>Species</b>	<b>Adults</b>	<b>Juveniles</b>
Red-winged Starling	2	
Egyptian Goose	2	
European Starling	2	
Pigeons	3	
Hartlaub's Gull	2	
Cape Gull	3	
Cattle Egret	1	
Egyptian Goose	1	5
Common Myna	3	
Hadedda Ibis	7	
Red-knobbed Coot	2	
Common Moorhen	2	1
African Sacred Ibis	2	
Egyptian Goose	3	
Black Smith Plover	3	
Red-winged Starling	2	
Cape Wagtail	2	

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**Table 1d. Park side; close to the lake (Start: 0900 – End 0930AM)**

<b>Species</b>	<b>Adults</b>	<b>Juveniles</b>
Dead Hartlaub's Gull	1	
Helmetted Guinea Fowl	2	
Cape Wagtail	4	
Cape Gull	5	
Egyptian Goose	56	
Red-knobbed Coot	18	6
Hartlaub's Gull	20	
Cape Weaver	1	
Common Moorhen	2	

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**Table 2. Total Numbers for the whole golf course**

<b>Species</b>	<b>Adult</b>	<b>Juveniles</b>	<b>Total</b>
African Sacred Ibis	2		2
Black Smith Plover	6		6
Cape Gull	23		23
Cape Turtle-dove	5		5
Cape Wagtail	9		9
Cape Weaver	1		1
Cattle Egret	1		1
Common Fiscal	2		2
Common Moorhen	9	1	10
Common Myna	52		52
Common Swift	1		1
Dead Hartlaub's Gull	1		1
Egyptian Goose	68	5	73
European Starling	2		2
Hadedda Ibis	16		16
Hartlaub's Gull	26		26
Helmetted Guinea Fowl	2		2
Rock Pigeon	1		1
Red-knobbed Coot	20	6	26
Red-winged Starling	7		7
Spotted Thick-knee	1		1
White-throated Swallow	3		3

**Figure 1. Relative counts of 21 species found in the Metropolitan Golf Course**

