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Altos news



PINHEIROS ALTOS
GOLF, SPA & HOTELS

Introduction from the Captain - Mr Stewart Harper

September was a quiet month for myself and the Lady Captain as we were away for nearly two weeks; more about that later.

The beginning of the month was marked by excellent wins in the Match Play by two members who had not previously enjoyed such success. In two days, new member David Light managed to see off myself, Tim Moores (last year's winner) and Hamish Rumball (now a serial runner-up)? This was no mean

feat! He played excellent golf - do I see a lowering of handicap on the horizon?

In the ladies, Sue Georges, who has of late been showing excellent form, surprised no one when she succeeded against many strong players and defeated no less a competitor than Sally Evans in the final. Congratulations to them both.



Club Captain, Lady Captain Stewart and Cathy Harper with Match Play Winner David Light



Match Play winner Sue Georges



Match Play Runner Up Hamish Rumball



Match Play Runner Up Sally Evans

Despite the dismal weather, Lady Captains Day was a great success for Cathy, and I cannot congratulate the ladies enough for their “get up and go” attitude and, guess what? Sue Georges won again, she is on a roll!

The Pink Day Charity takes places on the 7th of October, and Shirley Griffiths, who inaugurated the competition, has, as ever, played a major role in making this such a success. Men are now allowed to play and even more money will be raised for her charity. The weather looks fine and a large turnout is promised.

On Friday, the Wooden Spoon has a rather exciting prospect at least for the Lady Captain who believes the ladies are favourites? Time will tell but I hope for a strong response from the gentlemen and not too many distractions on the course from the ladies!

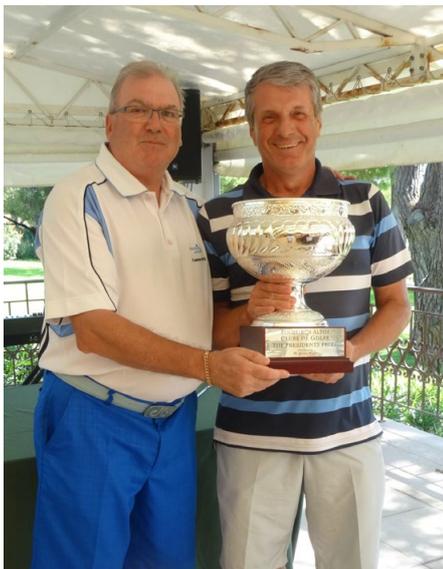
It is only right that I correct a mistake that was made in my last report regarding the position of the young boy, who the President in particular, and other members had collected large

sums of money to enable him to have a lifesaving operation. Jenny Harrison who administers with others, ACCA, says that this is incorrect and whilst I do not want to go into details, the money will be used to improve his life but not for an operation, at least at this stage as we understand it.

The club now has a charity committee consisting of the Director, Captain and President who will look into requests for donations, as we are conscious of the many good competing causes. I should add that we are very happy with supporting ACCA, particularly with Jenny looking after the administration.

Members who read the PA members bulletin will know that there are still many areas where I and the committee would like to see further investment and I hope in the near future to report on real progress.

Lastly, Cathy and I have just returned from cruising and seeing much of the eastern Mediterranean in only 10 days, and in my case with a considerable weight gain!



Club President David Markey presenting the Presidents Day Trophy to the winner Sergey Naumov



Best Nett Ladies Rosie Agnew



Best Nett Men Stuart Anderson



2nd Nett Ladies Wendy Collins receiving her prize from the President and Director of Golf Christophe Rindlisbacher



2nd Nett Men Remo Cherubini



Kelvin White receiving the Seniors Championship Trophy from the Club President David Markey



Best Nett Senior Colin Fisher



2nd Nett Senior Nevin Prakash



3rd Nett Senior John Bayston



Best Over 70's Nils Leffler



September Stableford winner Zoë Pirret



September Stableford 2nd Place Kay Ford



September Stableford 3rd Place Club Captain Stewart Harper



Peter Young, Wilma van Oudenhoven and Hans Aberson



Rosie Agnew, Frank Ward and Michael Collins



Debbie Madgett and David Ford



Mai Markey with Graeme and Fiona Thomson



Valerie and Graham Lee



Club Captain Stewart Harper, Paula Burke Hickey and Robert Lester



Lady Captain Cathy Harper and Rie Cherubini



Alex and Jan Kirk

Director of Golf - Monthly Report

September saw the usual Match Play Championship, with an entry of 16 men and eight ladies. Congratulations to David Light and Sue Georges; both new Champions of the Match Play, and we will keep an eye on them for future events as both had great wins to reach their titles.

On the 6th of September, we had President's Day and Senior Championship, which were the best supported events to-date with 80 players. Not too sure if this is because our President David Markey is so popular, or that we just have more senior players in the club!

It was a very enjoyable day followed by a lunch in the Clubhouse. Sergey Naumov was the big champion on the day by winning the President's Prize while Kelvin White is the new Pinheiros Altos Senior Champion 2015. Congratulations to both of them!

Both the Monthly Stableford and the September Medal were won by Zoë Pirret. I hope this is not a sign that the men are

going to retain the Wooden Spoon again against the ladies when it is played on the 9th of October.

October is the busiest month of the year on the golf course. I would therefore recommend that all members playing this month to play in four balls as much as possible, as the pace of the golf course will be slower and will be more enjoyable as four balls groups.

Autumn Medal Rosebowl and the highly anticipated Wooden Spoon are coming up; I am sure our Club Captain Stewart Harper is not willing to win the Spoon but will find a tough battle against our Lady Captain, his wife Cathy Harper, and her very strong ladies team.

I wish all of you a very good October on the golf course!

Competition Results for September

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Wed 2nd	Ladies Day Monthly Medal	1st Division Thérèse v Doorn	71 Nett	1st Division Zoë Pirret	73 Nett
		2nd Division Josie Waddington	75 Nett	2nd Division May Markey	76 Nett
Sun 6th	Presidents Day Incorporating Seniors Championship	Presidents Putter Winner Sergey Naumov	37 Pts	Best Nett Ladies Rosie Agnew	36 Pts
		Senior Champion Kelvin White	25 Pts Gross	Best Nett Men Stuart Anderson	36 Pts (BB919)
		Best Over 70's Nils Leffler	34 Pts	Best Nett Senior Colin Fisher	35 Pts
Sun 6th	September Stableford	Zoë Pirret	33 Pts (BB918)	Kay Ford	33 Pts (BB917)
Wed 9th	Ladies Day		Fun Event		
Fri 11th - Sun 13th	Match Play Championship	Men David Light Ladies Sue Georges		Men Hamish Rumball Ladies Sally Evans	

Overall Winner – Sue Georges – 39 Pts

Competition Results for September (cont.)

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Wed 16th	Lady Captains Day	1st Division Denise Reed	37 Pts	1st Division Hilary Jessup	36 Pts
		2nd Division Melody Cotterill	33 Pts	2nd Division Pat Murrish	32 Pts
Wed 23rd	Ladies Day Best 2 Scores out of 3	Helen Mills Sally Ward Marian Hill * <i>*Floater</i>	79 Pts	Denise Reed Mai Markey Marian Hill * <i>*Floater</i>	78 Pts
Sun 27th	September Medal	Zoë Pirret	69 Nett	Wendy Collins	71 Nett
Wed 30th	Ladies Day Waltz	Corks to Olives Rosie Agnew Sally Ward Angela Roberts	74 Pts	Corks to Olives Leigh Anderson Marian Hill Fiona Hanby	73 Pts
		Olives to Pines Helen Mills Diana Collins Vera Watkins	72 Pts	Olives to Pines Hilary Jessup Liz Carver Stella Jeffrey	70 Pts

Ladies Section - by Cathy Harper

For me, September was going to be mainly about my Captains Day. We had seen no rain for five months but when the day dawned, I was awoken to grey skies and a very serious possibility of showers. However well you plan something, you can never rely on the weather, as I found out!

My disappointment was overcome by the attitude of all the ladies, none of whom cancelled and were all cheerful in spite of the soaking, which they got at around 10am. My husband Stewart and Iain Cater were on-hand to offer Bucks Fizz and Pastéis de Nata at the half way points, and this seemed to spur on those who were doing well and offered comfort to those who weren't. Thanks to Iain and Stewart for giving up their time. After the golf we all went to Alambique Restaurant, where we were given an excellent meal and my disappointment that we could not dine in the garden made no difference to everyone's high spirits. The restaurant staff looked after us royally. I was pleased to invite Jan Dickson as my guest and that Sandra Little was able to join us, despite having broken her wrist the previous week.

I was surprised by the scores on such a dismal day. The overall winner being Sue Georges with 39 points, well done Sue. In

Division 1, Denise Reed was first with 37 points and Hilary Jessup second with 36, Melody Cotterill took first prize in Division 2 and Pat Murrish second prize. The Nearest the Pin prizes were won by Mai Markey and Marian Hill. Well done to all our ladies for playing and for helping to make my day so memorable.



Lady Captain Cathy Harper presenting the Lady Captain's Bowl to Sue Georges





The August medal was won by Therese van Doorn in Division 1 and by Josie Waddinton in Division 2. A special well done goes to Josie, who won her first ever Champagne flute!

On September the 21st, we hosted a friendly match against Vila Sol. Unfortunately they won 3/2 but we look forward to challenging them again next year and hopefully we can reverse the fortunes.

The Wainwright Trophy competition began on October the 1st, so hopefully all those who have entered will be able to play their rounds in the allocated time and we will have no requests for walk overs.

The Wooden Spoon in on Friday the 9th of October, so I hope to report a win for us over the men.

The Ladies Dinner is on October the 16th; I look forward to seeing many of you there and finding out who our summer eclectic winners are. We decided not to work out the results until nearer the dinner so there may be some surprises.

Finally, as I have just returned from a short seafaring holiday, I would like to thank Adrienne and Mai for looking after everything so well in my absence. I knew I could rely on them both to keep things running smoothly.

Report from the Greens Committee

In our last report, there was good reason to feel progress was being made and the course was looking as if we had 'turned the corner'. Such optimism may have been misplaced as we fear that there has been a 'slippage' in the overall presentation and condition of the course.

The main problem has been caused by unusual weather conditions, and insufficient preparation. Humid nights and water left on the greens has caused a fungus and weed contagion. This is most evident on the greens where 'dollar spot' has invaded many of the greens surfaces. It looks unsightly and will be eradicated, but it takes time. Those greens that were tined and top dressed have resisted the fungus far better. We need more equipment and perhaps more men at these crucial times to prevent these problems.

I have felt it necessary to write indicating our concerns to the Director, Christophe, so he can pass on these issues to the owners.

It is doubly annoying as, in the interclub matches, Vila Sol and other teams have commented on the excellence and

presentation of both our greens and fairways, and the great improvement achieved at PA.

I know that certain members are only too quick to criticise when there is reason to do so and as always there is a learning curve and we knew it would take two years to see lasting improvements. Patience is not something golfers are very good at and the Greens Committee include themselves in that category!

The planned work for both September and October is extensive and we hope there will be grounds for renewed optimism when we next report. As ever, investment to deal with watering problems and the heavy work load the course experiences would help.

We hope to reach 80% achievement by year end! No one is relaxing.

Stewart Harper Captain, Gordon Todd, Tony Hickey.

Interclub - by Christian Holst

We played our last match for the season on the 8th of October and lost 4-1 away at Quinta da Ria (Levante). We needed to score at least two points to go ahead of Levante in the League so this was obviously disappointing. A consolation for the team was that Rie Cherubini had a hole-in-one, so at least we had some free Champagne!

The other results in September were somewhat disappointing inasmuch as we only managed to draw at home against both Levante and Vila Sol. Despite decent results away at Vila Sol (2-3) and Parque da Floresta (1.5-3-5) we ended up in 5th place in Division 1 and must therefore play in Division 2 next year.

The final standing of Division 1 is set out below:

	<i>Home Points</i>	<i>Away Points</i>	<i>Bonus Points</i>	<i>Total Points</i>
Vila Sol	44	34	3	81
Alto	43	32	2	77
PdF	50	19	0	59
Levante	35	19	1	55
PA	34	19	0	53
Boavista	37	14	0	51
QdV	36	14	0	50

Congratulations to Vila Sol for winning the overall championship.

It is worth pointing out that we have gone from having the best home record in the league to the worst, which alone explains why we will play in Division 2 next year. Two wins, three draws and one loss at home is simply not good enough even if the opposition is tougher with the new league structure.

As in previous years we have used more than 30 players this year. However, I think it is fair to say it has been more of a challenge getting a team together than I have experienced earlier and consistency in pairings has therefore been less than desirable.

I have now done four seasons as Captain of the team and it is time for a change. Despite some frustrations and disappointments I have thoroughly enjoyed it but all good things come to an end.

PRO TIP - Kenny Fairbairn

Keep Putting Simple

To hole putts, you have to get two things right – distance and direction.

Trying to think about both at once can cause confusion or overemphasis on one element at the expense of the other.

First, make up your mind once and for all about direction as you read the lie of the surrounding land, the grain of the grass and the slopes between the ball and the cup.



As you begin to walk up to the ball, switch your mind away from direction and onto distance. Then execute!

Social Golf by Molly Wainwright

We had a really good number of players - 54 - for our September event, which was a three man team competition with the best two scores to count on each hole.

There are changes to our committee; Dirk Blaesing has retired after eight years of sterling service – thank you Dirk.

Ken Irving and Sue Georges have joined the committee. I am sure they will both be very valuable members of our team. Ken was a great help to Paula and myself on the 20th of September.

We also tried a new menu, which I think was well received, though we are still working on it! It made a good talking point!

As ever, the results were excellent.

	<i>Corks / Olives</i>		<i>Olives / Pines</i>
1st Place	Stewart Harper	1st Place	David Light
80 Pts	Diana Collins	77 Pts	Helen Mills
	Nils Leffler		Angela Roberts
2nd Place	Tony Hickey	2nd Place	Knut Ellingsen
79 Pts	Melody Cotterill	76 Pts	Isabel Clark
	John Wainwright		Mai Markey
3rd Place	Molly Wainwright	3rd Place	Nigel Collins
78 Pts	Andy Georges	75 Pts	Linda Bentley
	Alan Bentley		Brian Scott

Our next competition is ‘Sixes’ on the 25th of October, to be organised by Zoë and Sue. As always, everyone is very welcome. If anyone feels they would just like nine holes, they can also join us.



Forthcoming Events August – September 2015

Sat 3rd October	Mens Roll Up
Tues 6th October	Club Roll Up
Wed 7th October	Ladies Charity Pink Day
Fri 9th October	Wooden Spoon Men Vs Ladies
Sat 10th October	Mens Roll Up
Sun 11th October	October Stableford
Tues 13th October	Club Roll Up
Wed 14th October	Ladies Day
Fri 16th October	Ladies Competition (morning) and Ladies Annual Dinner
Sat 17th October	Mens Roll Up
Sun 18th October	Autumn Medal Rosebowl
Tues 20th October	Club Roll Up
Wed 21st October	Ladies Day
Sat 24th October	Mens Roll Up
Sun 25th October	18 Hole Social Golf
Tues 27th October	Club Roll Up
Wed 28th October	Ladies Day
Sat 31st October	Mens Roll Up
Tues 3rd November	Club Roll Up
Wed 4th November	Ladies Day
Sat 7th November	Foursomes Championship
Sun 8th November	Foursomes Championship
Tues 10th November	Club Roll Up
Wed 11th November	Ladies Day
Sat 14th November	Mens Roll Up
Sun 15th November	November Medal
Tues 17th November	Club Roll Up
Wed 18th November	Ladies Day
Sat 21st November	Mens Roll Up
Sun 22nd November	18 Hole Social Golf at PA with QDL
Tues 24th November	Club Roll Up
Wed 25th November	Ladies Day
Sat 28th November	Mens Roll Up
Sun 29th November	St Andrews Stableford