

Nº 135. JULY 2015

Altos news



PINHEIROS ALTOS
GOLF, SPA & HOTELS

Introduction from the Captain - Mr Stewart Harper

June was a month of much activity, both on and off the course... not least with the host of strange weather that ranged from cool to roasting hot (including a 40c heatwave for the annual Sand Dancers and Hillbillies match)!

My Captain's Day was played in cool and rather "English" summer conditions with light winds and sunshine. I had asked Christophe to have the course set up with fast greens and testing pins... and I gather the members universally found a speed of 12 on the greens very challenging but exciting!

The gentlemen seemed more challenged than the ladies, and a terrific score of 43 points by Diana Collins took the top prize from Wendy Collins, who also had a great score of 42 points.

Christophe will be giving the details, but a terrific turnout of 88 players – all of whom enjoyed the course refreshments and drinks from Vice-Captain Knut – helped make the competition even more special.

I must commend all the staff for working exceptionally hard, not only the green staff, but all the catering staff managed by Rui who served an exceptional dinner to 108 members and guests – the universal praise was most deserved. The inside location was dressed in a very attractive black and yellow and Leandro our entertainer did not disappoint as he kept us all dancing until gone midnight. You will be seeing more of Leandro during the year at both Gala Week and on the President's Day.



Club Captain Stewart Harper and his wife Lady Captain Cathy Harper



Stewart Harper, Gordon Todd and Christophe Rindlisbacher



Adrienne Buth, Cathy Harper and Sabine Schlegel



Mike Shepherd with Wendy and Michael Collins



David and Angela Davies with Diana Collins



Gordon and Anne Davidson with Ken Irving



Fiona Thomson, Bernadette Hardie and Linda Bentley



Janet Leffler and Alex Kirk



Thèrèse and Michiel van Doorn



Melaura Parker and Nancy Schofield



Angela Roberts and Marian Hill



Ken Irving and Vera Watkins



Josie Waddington and Pat Murrish



David Markey and Cathy Harper



Sergey Naumov and Victoria Shevchuk



Knut Pedersen, Shirley Griffiths, Carlos and Mai Markey



Denise Reed with Iain and Lubna Cater



Nearest the Pin Winners

The annual Sand Dancers and Hillbillies match was played with the usual competitive PA spirit. I would rather keep the results secret, but as Sand Dancers, Iain Cater and I managed to win the match against Captain of the Hillbillies Knut Pederson and Andy Georges. Unfortunately, our team only won one more match and halved two others leaving our team with a crushing defeat! I am unsure what is happening, but that is the fourth year on the run that the Hillbillies have won.

I did discover that the prize flags in the competition should be used far more optimistically as I won nearest the pin on 17 with a flag just off the green!

I can report that the clock is now safely in place. Many thanks to my co-sponsors Blevins Franks, and to Tim Moores who has safely installed it. I believe members can now check their times both whilst practising and from the first tee! So far it seems to be keeping very accurate time.

Two small items of news; firstly the number of visitors at PA has been steadily increasing over the last few years, despite the

recession, and hit 22000 last year. I see no reason why, with the course improving, that this number should not go up!

Lastly, the Lady Captain and I have started the challenge matches. I must remind members that whilst you obviously want to beat us... it is for charity! Gosh, two really hard games have resulted in one loss and one win; we just hope we can keep up the pace!



Director of Golf - Monthly Report

June is normally a quiet month on the Golf Course, however this year was an exception and we have been really busy with members events, as well as visitors playing the Golf course.

Of course the major event was Captain's Day on 13th June and I would like to congratulate the Club Captain Stewart Harper & Lady Captain Cathy Harper on a great day. The support from our Vice Captain was very much appreciated on the Golf Course as well. The catering staff, as well as the green staff & all the golf staff, worked very hard to make it an extremely memorable day for all. Congratulations to Diana Collins on taking the 2015 Captain's Prize with 43 points, while Wendy Collins took the best Nett Lady, Nigel Collins best Nett Men. Dan Henderson & Melaura Parker took the best gross score of the day for men & ladies respectively.

A big thank you on behalf of the Club and all the members to our Club Captain Stewart Harper and Blevins Franks for their donation of the Pinheiros Altos clock which is now located on the academy roof visible from the driving range and the 1st tee on Pines.

The Hillbillies V Sanddancers took place on 27th June and was played in what was the hottest day of the year so far. Temperatures of over 40° made it pretty tough, but the Hillbillies are obviously well used to such heat in the hills and won the trophy with a very fair margin. It goes without saying that since I was Captain of the Hillbillies 5 years ago - for 2 years running - the Hillbillies have managed to win every subsequent year! Congratulations to all Hillbillies and keep the good form going!

Congratulations to Rod Brown on winning the June Medal while Barbara Kyne won yet another Stableford in June.

On 15th June we had the Joe the Pro Challenge, and it was great to see Joe Hardwick in such good form, as much on the Golf Course as on the dance floor at a very enjoyable evening at Aquarelle restaurant. A couple of bandits managed to win the trophy with 47 Points! I would not like to name them but Philip Hardie & Alan Bentley were not too ashamed to pick up the trophy and would not even accept a handicap reduction. We will be keeping a close eye on their future scores ! Congratulations to both!

Straight after the Captain's Day some heavier works were carried out on the Golf course fairways, greens & tees in order to have the best possible conditions for the Gala Week... which I hope to see many of you signing in for. It's set to be another fantastic week.

For any members around on 19th July 2015 we have a charity tournament in aid of the Homeless in Faro and all your support will be welcome.

Gala Week this year has a new format, keeping the team event being played over 3 days, but also opening the opportunity for members to play on single days... which will hopefully attract more of you to take part in the Members Week.

I look forward to seeing as many of you around for another very competitive week but also a great social event!



Knut Pedersen Captain of the Hillbillies being presented the Hillbillies Vs Sanddancers Trophy by Martin Murrish the founder of the tournament.



Joe Hardwick presenting the Joe the Pro Challenge Trophy to the winners Alan Bentley and Philip Hardie.



Doug Golding back in the winning scene.



The bandits!

Competition Results for June

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Wed 3rd	Ladies Day Monthly Medal	1st Division Denise Reed	75 Nett (<i>bb9</i>)	1st Division Leigh Anderson	75 Nett
		2nd Division Diana Collins	73 Nett	2nd Division Jan Kirk	75 Nett
Sun 7th	June Medal	Rod Brown	72 Nett (<i>bb9</i>)	Brian Evans	72 Nett
Wed 10th	Ladies Day Three Team Competition	Corks to Olives Janine van de Ree Jan Kirk Fiona Hanby	72 Pts	Corks to Olives Margo Fletcher Janet Leffler Shona Callaghan	68 Pts
		Olives to Pines Cathy Harper Lisa Burns Floater	69 Pts	Olives to Pines Denise Reed Susie Hardwick Ilse Berg	64 Pts
Sat 13th	Captain's Day	Overall Winner Diana Collins	43 Pts	Best Nett Men Nigel Collins	35 Pts
				Best Nett Ladies Wendy Collins	42 Pts
				Best Gross Men Dan Henderson	35 Pts
				Best Gross Ladies Melaura Parker	36 Pts
Wed 17th	Ladies Day Monthly Stableford	1st Division Rosie Agnew	42 Pts	1st Division Helen Mills	36 Pts
		2nd Division Vera Watkins	36 Pts	2nd Division Pat Murrish	34 Pts
Sun 21st	June Stableford	Barbara Kyne	38 Pts (<i>bb9</i>)	Alan Bentley	38 Pts
Wed 24th	Ladies Day Hidden Partners	Ineke Goossens Sue Georges	63 Pts	Barbara Black Adrienne Buth	61 Pts
Sat 27th	Hillbillies Vs Sanddancers	Hillbillies	8 ½	Sanddancers	3 ½

Ladies Section - by Cathy Harper

June was yet another busy month and with the Captain's report and Jenny Harrison's, I apologise if some items are reported twice!

On June 1st the ladies played a friendly match against Quinta da Ria (Levante) and we managed to win the match. This was followed by a very amicable lunch and we are looking forward to the return match at Quinta da Ria on July 16th. Unfortunately our game against Benamor had to be postponed as they could not raise a team, but we are hoping to rearrange the match for some time in September.

Many of our ladies played some excellent golf in June. The First Division Medal was won by Denise Reed from Leigh Anderson who both finished with a nett 75, with Denise taking first prize with a better back 9. Division 2 was won by Diana Collins with a nett 73 from Jan Kirk, nett75.

The June Stableford division 1 was won by Rosie Agnew with the fantastic score of 42 points. She also had a hole in one during her round and kindly treated us all to drinks afterwards. Helen Mills was second with 36 points. Division 2 was won by

Vera Watkins on 36 points followed closely by Pat Murrish on 34 points. Well done ladies.

On the Friday following the medal Adrienne Buth holed in one on the 2nd of Corks, well done Adrienne. I think it was the first time both ladies have had a hole in one so it was a good excuse for celebrations.

Stewart and I have started our mixed challenges with mixed results. We lost to Nancy and Philip Schofield (revenge for them as we beat them in the Matchplay competition), but we were victorious against Chris Hales and Barbara Kyne.

In July, we are looking forward to more success in our matches and to Gala week. It should be interesting to see how Myths and Legends have been interpreted!

On June 18th Alan and Linda Bentley very kindly welcomed 40 ladies into their home for an Ascot Day. Everyone entered the spirit of the day wearing fancy hats and posh frocks. Paula Hickey won the best hat competition and deserved a prize as it looked very heavy. Linda had made every effort to make the day perfect and she certainly succeeded in that. Over 2000 euros was raised for the two Children's homes which are supporting this year, and I cannot thank Linda and Alan enough for their generosity and superb hospitality.



On behalf of all the Team at ACCA I would like to thank Linda and Alan Bentley for hosting the amazing Pinheiros Altos Ascot Ladies Day. I would also like to thank the members of Pinheiros Altos for their very generous donations.

From the moment everyone arrived at Linda and Alan's home, which had been named for the day 'The Royal Enclosure', it felt like being at the real thing.

The attention to detail was remarkable, Alan and Ken were dressed as Turf Accountants and were responsible for the TV coverage of the races as well as the lucky dip from which horses were picked for each race. There was no actual betting but there were small prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, all of which were given back as donations to the charity.

The champagne and wine flowed throughout the afternoon, food was served on the poolside terrace in 'English High Tea style' and all the ladies attending had made their own special contributions in finger sized portions, so there was endless choice for everyone.

All the Pinheiros Ladies really entered into the spirit of the day, arriving suitably attired for the occasion and, of course, everyone wore an Ascot style hat. It was a wonderful afternoon. Everyone from the ACCA team thoroughly enjoyed themselves as I am sure all the other ladies did.

The event has raised almost €2000 for ACCA, which is absolutely fantastic. These funds will be used to help the two children's homes that Pinheiros Altos have chosen to support this year. Bom Samaritano based in Alvor, and Candeias based in Olhão.

May I extend my sincere thanks to everyone involved in making this event such a success and once again to Linda and Alan and all the Pinheiros Altos members for their generosity, it is really appreciated and will make a real difference in improving the lives of the children supported by ACCA.

Kindest regards
Jenny Harrison
On behalf of ACCA

ACCA, Apartado 3862, 8136-907, Almancil



Report from the Greens Committee

In our June dispatch we commented upon the report from our consultant agronomist Carlos Guerreiro and that good progress was being made on all areas.

The course set up for Captain's Day was excellent with the fairways looking as good as it has for many a year, with the greens running true and fast. The surfaces were firm, but still took spin for a well hit shot. The tees were showing a huge improvement over last year. The writer obviously had an interest for that particular day!

Things became more complicated thereafter. It was agreed that the course would be tined on all three nines which meant a planned closure of each nine. This is not the best time to do this job but it is not uncommon on the Algarve for reasons of seasonal demand. We did not want the verticutting or scarifying (which took place last late June/ July) to take place, in order to give the fairways further time to recover.

The programme filed by Sisenando for June was misinterpreted as he wished to do a light verticutting, as well as the tining of the fairways. In addition he wanted to hollow tine the tees and micro tine the greens all to be followed by fertilising and watering.

The latter has taken place and the fairways are therefore in a state of recovery, which we believe will last approximately 4

weeks. Many other courses in the Algarve follow this plan eg. Quinta and some other well-known courses. The reality is that to split the process costs the courses money due to closures, and we therefore have a process which is not 100% ideal, but does take us forward.

A recent visit by our agronomist has identified some of the issues affecting Olives. The good news is that there does not appear to be any escape of water from the lakes! Nor are there any underlying faults in the sub soil, which tining and aeration will not put right. The real issue is the quality of the water which is drawn from a bore hole used for Olives and is now affected by salt content. This can be seen with careful inspection on some soil surfaces!

It is agreed that we will need to lay approximately 600 metres of piping to a bore hole near the seventh of Corks to supply better water to Olives. Christophe has agreed to manage this over the summer months and we are lucky to have another bore hole available.

The committee is also considering issues relating to presentation and tree pruning, as well as addressing other issues raised by members. We meet with Sisenando later this month.

The course is improving but we still have more work to do!

Stewart Harper (Captain) Gordon Todd Tony Hickey

Interclub by Christian Holst

We played our last match before the summer break on 11th June, away against Boavista. We lost 3-2 having narrowly lost a couple of matches.

We are currently 4th in our division but with matches in hand we should be able to improve this when matches re-commence in September. The top four teams remain in Division 1, so there is everything to play for. At this stage it looks like Alto and Vila Sol are the two favourites. The programme after the summer is quite tight, with one match every week from 8th September. Apart from the away match against Parque da Floresta we have a slightly more attractive schedule with both home and away matches against Vila Sol and Levante (Quinta da Ria).

I have struggled a bit recently having enough players available and hopefully more of you are around in September and early October for the remaining matches.

I wish everyone a good summer and look forward to catching up again in September.

PRO TIP - Kenny Fairbairn

50 yards in to the green

From this distance in approaching the green, golfers tend to keep their arms very stiff to play shots that require feel.

To help your wrist action from this distance, soften your right elbow early in the backswing so it creates a more fluid takeaway and helps the hands to create natural speed in the follow through.

Next time you are on the course or range, try it!!

Forthcoming Events July – August 2015

Wed 1st July	Ladies Day
Sat 4th July	Mens Roll-Up
Sun 5th July	July Stableford
Tues 7th July	Club Roll-Up
Wed 8th July	Ladies Day
Sat 11th July	Mens Roll-Up
Sun 12th July	18 Holes Social Golf
Tues 14th July	Club Roll-Up
Wed 15th July	Ladies Day
Sat 18th July	Mens Roll-Up
Tues 21st July	Club Roll-Up
Wed 22nd July	Ladies Day
Sat 25th July	Summer Medal (No Roll-Up)
Sun 26th July	Gala Week
Mon 27th July	Gala Week
Tues 28th July	Gala Week
Wed 29th July	Gala Week
Thurs 30th July	Gala Week
Fri 31st July	Gala Week
Sat 1st August	Gala Week
Tues 4th August	Junior Open and Club Roll Up
Wed 5th August	Ladies Day
Sat 8th August	Mens Roll Up
Sun 9th August	August Medal
Tues 11th August	Club Roll Up
Wed 12th August	Ladies Day
Sat 15th August	Mens Roll Up
Sun 16th August	August Stableford
Tues 18th August	Club Roll Up
Wed 19th August	Ladies Day
Sat 22nd August	Mens Roll Up
Tues 25th August	Club Roll Up
Wed 26th August	Ladies Day
Sat 29th August	Mens Roll Up
Sun 30th August	18 Holes Social Golf

