

Altos

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PINHEIROS ALTOS
GOLF, SPA & HOTELS

Introduction from the Captain - Mr Stewart Harper

In my last report I mentioned two important future events in the October calendar, which were completed successfully. Firstly there was the Pink Day organised by Shirley Griffiths with help from Christophe and secondly, the Wooden Spoon, which the Lady Captain thought was very successful! My gentlemen's team must get into training for next year as we have now lost this event for what I think is the third year on the run! I am leaving it to Knut to "rally the troops next year". I must, however, congratulate the ladies who played remarkably well and the Lady Captain seemed pleased despite letting Knut Ellingsen and myself win our match against her and Zoe Pirret.

I also mentioned the tight finish to our Interclub season, which required a win at Levant (Quinta Do Ria) to remain in the top division. Sadly we lost just one game too many and were relegated but not without some controversy concerning the Levant team.

The details are complicated but I must complement our team Captain Christian Holst; not only for the way he dealt with some sensitive issues but also for running the team for three years. Under his Captancy we gained promotion to the first division.

I know how difficult it is to maintain both a successful team and at the same time make all the members feel they have a chance to take part; over thirty members played in the team over the year! His retirement will give him more time to work on his own game and we all owe him a debt of gratitude for taking on a job that is really "thankless".

Such is the burden of running the "Interclub" that finding his replacement is proving difficult. Christophe and I hope to report on the new arrangements next month. I can say that we hope to have both a Captain and a Deputy Captain, and a selection group with a lady member to cast a wider net over players who not just show form but who both relish match play and are committed to play both home and away matches!

The Lady Captain and I are recovering from two rounds of the Foursomes Championship and I think we finished fifth; not too bad with four sevens and an eight in round one, and three sevens

in round two when we improved our first score by four shots! It is the most challenging competition and many congratulations to all the winners; in particular to Declan Quilligan and Rie Cherubini who just sneaked past the Russell's by one shot on the last hole. They were the outstanding two foursome pairings playing golf on a lovely November weekend of Algarve sunshine. Their scores were so good that I thought they must have played a different course! I should also add congratulations to Melody Cotterill and Meg Black, who off a combined handicap of 30 shots managed a net 73 on day two, wow!

Hopefully we will get the Rose Bowl that will be played this coming Sunday. The wet weather over the first November weekend produced flooding over much of the Algarve with serious damage to Albufeira and Quarteira. I hope not too many members had flooding problems in their homes?

I hope to report next month on the plans for Christmas and the New Year. There is a lot happening in the Algarve, both in relation to development and golf clubs changing hands...or not as the case may be. I will let you know how or if this may affect PA, as and when we know for sure!

Let us hope the good weather continues and good golfing to all.



*Club Captain Stewart Harper, Lady Captain Cathy Harper
and Shirley Griffiths who organised the event*



Pink Day Winners Linda Bentley and Stella Jeffrey



Pink Day Runners-Up Tony Hickey and Jamie O'Doherty



Pink Day 3rd Place Ross Sutherland and Martin Jessup



Pink Day 5th Place Molly Wainwright and Meg Black



Pink Day 6th Place Mai Markey and Zoë Pirret



Cheque for the value of 4,576 euros being presented to Maria Lurdes from Algarve Oncology Association by Shirley Griffiths, Director of Golf Christophe Rindlisbacher and Club President David Markey

Director of Golf - Monthly Report

October has been the busiest month we have had for many years on the golf course, and unfortunately pace of play was an issue on some occasions as the course exceeded 300 players on some days. Fortunately for the membership, the six hours of exclusive starting times allowed for some buffer zones and managed to avoid the five hour rounds on most days!

October saw the Wooden Spoon being handed to the men for the third year in a row. I think it was probably due to the politically correct within the Harpers household! Congratulations to the Ladies, who will probably see their handicap allocation reduced to ¾ for next year!

On the 7th of October we had the Pink Day, which was run not only for ladies but also men. It raised the very good amount of €5,136, which was higher than what was announced on the day as fortunately we received some further donations after the tournament. A big thank you to all participants and especially Shirley Griffiths for organising the day.

The October Stableford was won by Knut Ellingsen, who seems to be in very good form lately. On two occasions we tried to play the Autumn Medal Rosebowl but unfortunately the weather would not allow it; it has been re-scheduled for the 15th of November, which I hope will be a better day for it.

The golf course condition has suffered a lot over the last few months for various reasons, including high occupation and drastic changes in the weather conditions. However, I am confident that the hard work of the maintenance staff will start to show clear results and the conditions will improve over the next few weeks. The commitment of the company to upgrade the conditions of the course is very important and many meetings are geared to lead to improve the product we can offer to members and visitors altogether.

A few events are now confirmed, starting with the Algarvian Charity Pro Am from the 10th of January 2016, which is four competitive rounds on both Quinta do Lago courses, San Lorenzo and Pinheiros Altos. Entries for Pinheiros Altos members is €300 and includes two dinners during the week. It will be followed by the fourth Algarvian Invitational for

Seniors, which will take place in January 2016 and will be open to Pinheiros Altos and Quinta do Lago Members, as well as visitors. The tournament will be played over four medal rounds, two at Pinheiros Altos and two at Quinta do Lago North. We expect up to 70 of the top senior pros and an additional 50 amateurs. The entry for PA members is €170, which will include four rounds of golf from the back tees and a dinner at Casa do Lago.

The other confirmed event is our two day St Valentine's Tournament, which will be played over San Lorenzo and Pinheiros Altos, with a gala dinner at Pinheiros Altos on the 13th of February 2016. More information is already available in the Golf Office.

Keep an eye open for the Christmas board, which will soon be up in the Clubhouse, to sign up for the many tournaments during the festive period. Also do not miss our New Year's Eve party at the Clubhouse, which I am sure will be yet another success!



Congratulations to Rie Cherubini on her hole-in-one while playing an Interclub Match at Quinta da Ria on October the 8th.

Competition Results for October

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Wed 7th	Pink Day	Linda Bentley Stella Jeffrey	46 Pts	Tony Hickey James O'Doherty	45 Pts
Fri 9th	Wooden Spoon	Ladies	10	Men	6
Sun 11th	October Stableford	Knut Ellingsen	37 Pts	Sergey Naumov	36 Pts
Wed 14th	Ladies Day Monthly Medal	<i>1st Division</i> Dee Garvin <i>2nd Division</i> Vera Watkins	73 Nett 77 Nett (<i>bb9</i>)	<i>1st Division</i> Paula Burke <i>2nd Division</i> Pat Murrish	74 Nett 77 Nett
Sun 18th	Autumn Medal Rosebowl	Cancelled due to bad weather			
Wed 21st	Ladies Day Monthly Stableford	<i>1st Division</i> Helen Mills <i>2nd Division</i> Melody Cotterill	35 Pts 30 Pts	<i>1st Division</i> Susan Russell <i>2nd Division</i> Lisa Burns	32 Pts 29 Pts
Wed 28th	Ladies Day	Full Match Play Competition			

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

AT
PINHEIROS ALTOS

Bring in the New Year in Portugal
Join us for Dinner and Live Entertainment
€120 Per Person

Dress code: Black Tie

Ladies Section - by Cathy Harper

October was a month of mixed fortunes weather-wise; we experienced some glorious days but also some gloriously wet days too.

The first competition of the month was 'Pink Day'. Shirley Griffiths, as ever, had worked extremely hard to make the day a success and it was. There were more players than in previous years and more money was raised – well done Shirley and thank you.

The Wooden Spoon competition took place on the 9th of October. I was not looking forward to receiving the spoon from my husband, and fortunately I didn't have to. My team played really well and defeated the men 10 - 6. Well done ladies. We enjoyed a pleasant evening after the match and Stewart received the spoon, as he said himself, with no great surprise!

Our October Medal was won by Dee Garvin in Division 1 with a nett 73 and by Vera Watkins in Division 2 with a nett 77.

On Friday the 16th of October, we held a morning fun competition followed by the Annual Dinner in the evening. The competition was played over two different courses and was won by Sue Georges and Fiona Hanby, and Janet Leffler and Paula Burke Hickey. On arriving in the evening, we were served bucks fizz or wine before going into the dining room, where dinner was preceded by the prize giving and eclectic results. There were over 16 prizes to present and Mai read out the results in record time, ensuring that dinner was served promptly at 8 o'clock! We had a very good meal and the evening was enjoyed by all who attended.



Mariëd Kooijmans and Adrienne Buth



Susie Hardwick and Zoë Pirret



Denise Reed and Josie Waddington



Lady Captain Cathy Harper presenting Fiona Hanby and Sue Georges with their prizes



Pat Murrish, Janice Paterson and Lubna Cater



Vera Watkins, Thérèse van Doorn and Lisa Burns



Paula Burke Hickey, Janet Leffler and Helen Mills

The following Monday, the ladies friendly team had a match at Benamor. The weather over the weekend had been dreadful but we were assured that it would be fine for the game. On arriving there we weren't hopeful but at 10 am, our start time, there was no rain. Adrienne and I teed off first but the heavens opened and we were soaked before we reached the first green. Match abandoned! Thanks to all who turned up to play and hopefully we will have better luck with them next year.

Our monthly Stableford was played on October the 21st. Congratulations to Helen Mills on her 35 points and Melody Cotterill on 30 points. The rest of the field didn't fare so well.

Stewart and I played Diana and Nigel Collins, and Rie Cherubini and Christian Holst in our Captain's Charity Challenge. We

enjoyed both games, but not the result as we lost them both. However, the charity pot benefitted from our contributions.

Due to poor weather the Autumn Rosebowl had been cancelled twice. On November 1st, the rain was torrential and sadly some parts of the Algarve, especially Albufeira, were devastated by flooding. A cancelled game of golf was insignificant compared to what some people had to cope with.

In November we will be playing some of our competitions at a slightly later time. Some ladies, especially those who live further afield, requested this. The sun, when out, should be higher in the sky and the dew should have disappeared from the greens. I will report next month as to whether it was a success or not!

In the meantime good and dry golfing to you all.

PRO TIP - Ross Sutherland

Rotate on Short Shots

Let Your Body Move Fluidly to Produce a Natural Stroke

Many players try to bring the club back straight along the target line, with an arms-only move.

Instead, let the clubhead travel on its natural plane, on a curve around the body. Rotate the forearms, fold the right elbow and make a very small pivot.



Having this lower-body movement is more natural and fluid. The arms aren't swinging, the club back is a slight pivot of the knees and hips, and with forearm rotation.

Eclectic Prizes 2015

	1ST DIVISION	SCORE	2ND DIVISION	SCORE
1st Gross	Sally Evans	67	Wendy Collins	74
2nd Gross	Thérèse van Doorn	69 (bb936)	Molly Wainwright	80 (bb939)
3rd Gross	Susan Russell	69 (37)	Jenny Harrison	80 (41)
1st Nett	Leigh Anderson	57 (bb936)	Stella Jeffrey	54
2nd Nett	Zoë Pirret	57 (bb937)	Linda Bentley	57 (bb942)
3rd Nett	Cathy Harper	57 (39)	Vera Watkins	57 (44)
Best Front 9	Melaura Parker	34	Marian Hill	38
Best Back 9	Nancy Schofield	36	Joanna Young	40



*Lady Captain Cathy Harper presenting
Sally Evans with her Eclectic Competition
1st Prize Gross 1st Division*



Thérèse van Doorn Runner-Up Gross 1st Division



Molly Wainwright Runner-Up Gross 2nd Division



Leigh Anderson 1st Prize Nett 1st Division



Stella Jeffrey 1st Prize Nett 2nd Division

Report from the Greens Committee

In our last report we expressed our disappointment in the condition of the course. We try to remain optimistic but it is important that mistakes that have occurred over the last two months are not repeated and we move forward as quickly as possible.

It is also important that members understand that the committee cannot make policy, only recommend certain practices. After most meetings between the Greens Committee and management, we have agreed a course of action going forward over the next two months, and we are needless to say disappointed when for whatever reason it is not enacted.

The greens have been attacked by dollar spot, a well-known fungicide that comes in late spring and early autumn. Healthy soil conditions resist it, so better use of nitrogen's and organic material after tining is good. Because of pressure on the course, there is little organic material added as it slows down surfaces more than sand, which is normally applied and we are told the visitors do not like it?

That being the case, we should apply chemicals to prevent dollar spot. The timing is not easy but it is the same chemical that is used to kill dollar spot. Killing the dollar spot takes double the amount required to prevent it, leaves bare patches and is unsightly. We understand that the chemical was ordered but not available in time. The greens will take several more weeks to recover but they remain reasonably true and are quick.

The autumn programme that was agreed with management was for over seeding of greens and tees. We also wanted to tine the fairways in late October but that is not now going to happen due to the bad weather and lack of time and manpower.

The tining of the greens (which may have prevented some dollar spot) and an application of organic material only took place on two greens and these showed some resistance to the fungus.

The tees were tined and scarified in readiness for over seeding, but severe damage was caused because, in our opinion, the tees had deteriorated and were over watered, as was most of the course during September. It should be remembered that the hand cutting of tees and treating them as the greens had produced a huge improvement. Very wet grass tears when tined and scarified, leaving tees well below our normal standard...and they are only now just recovering. The over seeding has been delayed by the very heavy recent rain but improvement should become noticeable very soon.

Lastly, the rain has made it difficult to keep the rough in check! Those who played in the Foursomes Competition will know a shot in the rough was a shot lost! It should be under control very soon.

The good news (on which we try to finish) is that the fairways show real growth and improvement. Only excessive water and recent wet conditions have caused worm casts to make them look unsightly. The recent dry weather should be beneficial to improved growth and appearance.

We are all disappointed by the appearance of the course but there is still light at the end of the tunnel, and hopefully we will see real improvement before years end.

Stewart Harper Captain, Gordon Todd, Tony Hickey.

Social Golf by Zoë Pirret

October has seen some heavy rain but fortunately Sunday turned out to be a dry sunny day for the Social Golf. We played a new format of Sixes with three scores counting on holes 1-6, two scores on holes 7-12 and one score on holes 13-18. It was a nice easy format and seemed to be enjoyed by everyone.

Our new social committee member Sue Georges was helping for the first time and she did an excellent job. We had a good turn out of 34 players, but it did mean we had to have a couple of floaters scoring for two groups.

	<i>Corks / Olives</i>		<i>Olives / Pines</i>
1st Place	Tony Hickey	1st Place	Zoë Pirret
86 Pts	Peter Mills	76 Pts	Andy Georges
	Malcolm Hollier		Andy Watkins
	Melody Cotterill		Anne Tucker Brown*
2nd Place	David Pirret	2nd Place	Iain Callaghan
79 Pts	Sue Georges	73 Pts	Paul Cotterill
	John Wainwright		Anne Tucker Brown*
	Sylvia Mullins		Lise Kristiansen
			* floater

Our next competition is on the 22nd of November and will be the 'Yellow Ball' organised by Molly Wainwright and Sue Georges. For the first time, we sent out the start sheet by e-mail on the Saturday and this proved popular, we will try to continue with this approach.

Please remember the list has to close on Wednesday the 18th at 12 noon. If you are unable to sign-up in person and wish to play, telephone or email any committee member or the office to be included. Doing the start sheet is never easy and we would appreciate as few changes as possible, so please try to sign-up on time.

Forthcoming Events August – September 2015

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
Tues 1st December	Club Roll Up
Wed 2nd December	Ladies Day
Sat 5th December	Mens Roll Up
Sun 6th December	December Stableford
Tues 8th December	Club Roll Up
Wed 9th December	Ladies Day
Sat 12th December	Mens Roll Up
Sun 13th December	18 Holes Social Golf
Tues 15th December	Club Roll Up
Wed 16th December	Ladies Day
Sat 19th December	Mens Roll Up
Sun 20th December	Christmas Turkey Flutter
Tues 22nd December	Club Roll Up
Wed 23rd December	Ladies Day
Sat 26th December	Boxing Day American Foursomes
Sun 27th December	December Medal
Tues 29th December	Club Roll Up
Wed 30th December	Ladies Day



PINHEIROS ALTOS GOLF COURSE VALENTINES GOLF TOURNAMENT

Guarantee your presence at our III Valentine's Day Mixed Golf Tournament
on the 12th and 13th February 2016,
at Pinheiros Altos GC and San Lorenzo GC.
Accommodation packages available for
Dona Filipa Hotel and Formosa Park Apartment Hotel.

PINHEIROS ALTOS
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