

Nº 156 OCTOBER 2014

Altos



PINHEIROS ALTOS
GOLF, SPA & HOTELS

Introduction from the Captain - Mr. David Pirret

It is six months since the AGM, where we agreed upon the new committee structure for the Club. All of the sub committees have made positive progress through a constructive relationship with the director of golf.

The House Committee has identified issues to be addressed and the response by the company has been positive (e.g. the stairs down from the terrace have been completed to the appropriate standard). There are still items outstanding - not least the tented area where actions have been identified. It is expected that these will be completed in the coming months.

The Competition & Handicap Committee has dealt with the various competitions which have been run successfully, but is also encouraging members to submit the appropriate number of qualifying cards before entering handicap competitions. There is still some way to go to increase the numbers of active handicaps, which require four qualifying cards per annum.

The Greens Committee has been busy identifying problem areas around the course in response to members' concerns, and again we have had a positive response from the company. The

usual chemicals used to control problems have been banned and appropriate replacements have now been identified and applied to the course. The focus of attention is to bring the greens back to the standard that PA has been historically famous for.

Last month's major activities were a very successful Match Play Championship. Congratulations to Tim Moores and Fiona Thomson on their victories. The Ryder Cup weekend had an outstanding participation, despite the lure of live coverage of the real event. The PA USA team had a solid win, and history suggested that therefore Europe would win the real Ryder Cup. My thanks go to Melaura Parker and Stewart Harper for captaining their teams.

This year's Pink Day was well supported by both the ladies and the men, and we raised €4565. Thanks to Shirley Griffiths for all her efforts to make this such a success.

Looking forward, the awarding of the dreaded Wooden Spoon approaches and I urge all of the men to sign up to defend our honour in the annual Needle Match.

Director of Golf - Monthly Report

September saw the usual Match Play Championship, which was very well supported with 29 men taking part. However, only 11 ladies took part. Tim Moores beat Hamish Rumball in the final and became Match Play champion for the second time, following his victory at the first edition back in 1995. Fiona Thomson managed to beat Rie Cherubini in a very tough match in the final to win her first Match Play Championship. Congratulations to both of them!

As usual we had our Pinheiros Altos Ryder Cup during the last weekend of September, which was very well attended with almost 250 rounds of golf played over the three days. Team USA won it again, mainly due to the very organised leadership of Melaura Parker with the help of her two vice captains Chris Parker and Jim Cranwell. USA won the weekend with over ten points more than Europe. Fortunately, the scenario in Gleneagles was very

different and as you all know, Europe was more successful. Many of the players stayed for the Sunday lunch to watch the real thing live on TV.

On the 1st October we had the Pink Day, which is now in its 10th year. For the first time it was opened to both the ladies and men, which made it a great turnout of 68 players on the day. Shirley Griffiths organised the day as well as she has done for the last ten years. As always, a big thank you for her input and hard work to make the day such a success. Also, a big thank you to all the men's afternoon groups who supported the event.

The monthly Stableford was won by Sergey Naumov, while Tony Hickey won the September Medal. I hope this is a sign that the men are well prepared this year to hand the Wooden Spoon back to the ladies when it is played on 10th October.



Ryder Cup Captains Stewart Harper and Melaura Parker



USA Captain Melaura and her Vice Captains Jim Cranwell and Chris Parker



Melaura and Chris Parker



Graeme Thomson, David Markey and Paul Jervis

October is the busiest month of the year on the golf course, therefore I would recommend all members playing during this month to play in fourballs where possible, as the pace of the golf course will be slower.

Coming up is the Autumn Medal Rosebowl and the highly anticipated Wooden Spoon. I am sure our Club Captain David Pirret will do his best to avoid winning the spoon, but he will find a tough battle against our Lady Captain Adrienne Buth and her very strong ladies team.

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

Handicap records from abroad

All members of the Club are required to bring their handicap records of playing competition in their clubs abroad to the Golf Office, so the Pinheiros Altos EGA handicap can be adjusted accordingly. Any member failing to do so will be in breach of the handicap rules.

Please make sure you do bring handicap records. If in any doubt do not hesitate to contact the Golf Office.

Competition Results for September

| Date | Competition | Winner | Score | Runner Up | Score |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|------------------------|
| Wed 3rd | Ladies Day Monthly Medal | 1st Division Nancy Schofield | 76 Nett | 1st Division Christine Soden | 77 Nett (<i>bbn</i>) |
| | | 2nd Division Diana Collins | 68 Nett | 2nd Division Stella Jeffrey | 70 Nett |
| Sun 7th | September Stableford | Sergey Naumov | 39 Pts | Nick Tucker Brown | 37 Pts |
| Wed 10th | Ladies Day | | Match Play | | |
| Fri 12th Sat 13th Sun 14th | Match Play Championship | Men Tim Moores Ladies Fiona Thomson | | Men Hamish Rumball Ladies Rie Cherubini | |
| Wed 17th | Ladies Invitation Day | Fiona Thomson Sandi Beatson | 47 Pts | Adrienne Buth Natalie Lisboa | 44 Pts (<i>bbn</i>) |
| Sun 21st | September Medal | Tony Hickey | 70 Nett | Sue Georges | 72 Nett |
| Wed 3rd | Ladies Day Monthly Stableford | 1st Division Rie Cherubini | 38 Pts | 1st Division Christine Soden | 35 Pts |
| | | 2nd Division Shirley Griffiths | 34 Pts (<i>bbn</i>) | 2nd Division Fiona Thomson | 34 Pts |
| Fri 26th Sat 27th Sun 28th | Ryder Cup at Pinheiros Altos | USA | 41 ½ | EUROPE | 32 ½ |

10th Pink Day

RESULTS

LADIES

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1st Place | Adrienne Buth / Sue Georges | 44 Pts |
| 2nd Place | Barbara Black / Josie Waddington | 43 Pts (<i>bb9</i>) |
| 3rd Place | Thérèse van Doorn / Linda Bentley | 43 Pts |
| 4th Place | Wendy Menzies / Stella Jeffrey | 41 Pts (<i>bb9</i>) |

MEN

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1st Place | Neil Bamber / Tim Moores | 42 Pts |
| 2nd Place | Chris Parker / Mark Dunn | 41 Pts (<i>bb9</i>) |
| 3rd Place | Gordon Todd / Christian Holst | 41 Pts |











10th Pink Day by Shirley Griffiths

The 10th Pink Day was held on Wednesday 1st October, and for the first time men also played in the competition. 42 men and 26 ladies played, there was a shotgun start and on returning to the Club we all had pink wine and “nibbles”

The ladies fared very well in the competition with high scores being returned, the men also played well their scores though were not quite so high! The theme this year for the golf prizes was cork, and I had had made necklaces and bracelets for the ladies, with wallets, key folders and key fobs for the men. Following the prize presentation was the raffle and there were some lovely prizes kindly donated by local businesses and friends.

We have raised the magnificent amount of 4,565 euros (still rising) for the Algarve Oncology Association (AOA). I am so thrilled, little did I think back in 2005 when I first sponsored and began Pink Day that in 2014 I would be sponsoring it still.

What a truly wonderful amount for the charity, all monies received go to the charity. **Congratulations to everyone.**

My specific thanks to all those members who supported and/or played in the competition, and to those who wore “pink”, the course was a sea of pink! Thank you to the Club and staff, and to Jorge and his staff for their support, assistance and donations.

Ladies Section by Adrienne Buth

If you have a high handicap and would like to play a quick medal round, just apply for the job of lady captain, or at least try to be her friend! My friend Stella Jeffrey and I played a medal on Wednesday the 3rd of September in three and a half hours! It was an unknown luxury. How many rounds have we played together and been happy if we got in the clubhouse within five hours? Stella played really well and her ball didn't see a single bunker. Unfortunately, she was beaten by two strokes by Diana Collins who had a nett score of 68! Well done to Diana!

On Saturday 6th September many PA members played in a charity competition at Laranjal. We certainly enjoyed their course, but were not really happy with the speed of the game. We enjoyed good scores, especially from Philip Schofield and his partner. Well done to you both. The wine and tapas tasting at the end of the day was a welcome treat.

In preparation for the Club Match Play Championship from the 12th to 14th September, the ladies had a fourball betterball competition from the blue tees on the previous Wednesday.

20 ladies were playing, but the winner of the weekend Fiona Thomson wasn't among them. Do you think that all that practice was too much?

Wednesday the 17th September was our annual Ladies Invitation Day. Rie was back in her captain chair and organised a super day. The lunch was very good and there were many prizes. Unfortunately, there weren't as many guests as usual because Laranjal, QDL, Vale do Lobo and Vila Sol had their own big tournaments taking place. Still, we were happy to welcome ladies from England, Quinta da Ria, Carvoeiro, Benamor and other places. €550 was raised for the charity. Thank you very much. This year, the winners were Fiona Thomson and Sandi Beatson with 47 points.

Wednesday the 24th September was the last chance to play a qualifying eclectic card and many ladies took that opportunity. Rie Cherubini, who had just lost the Club Match Play Championship to Fiona, won with 38 points, and that is very difficult when you have a playing handicap of nine.



Rie Cherubini and the Ladies Invitation Day Winners Sandi Beatson and Fiona Thomson



Ladies Invitation Day 2nd Place Natalie Lisboa and Adrienne Buth



Ladies Invitation Day 3rd Place Sue Georges and Graça Carter



Nearest the Pin Guests Winner Helena Sterner



Nearest the Pin Members Winner Helen Mills

On the last weekend of September Pinheiros Altos had its own Ryder Cup. Melaura and Stewart did very well as captains. There were many players and a very good atmosphere.

Next month I will tell about Pink Day which was on the 1st of October.

There is a lot taking place in October: the Wooden Spoon on the 10th, Ladies Annual Dinner with the eclectic results and the prizes, and one or two friendly matches. Don't forget to

sign up for the Wainwright Trophy (a knock-out match play competition for the ladies running from mid-October until mid-March). Again, we have changed the rules to allow more ladies to play in it. Both signup sheet and rules are on the board in the locker room. I can also mail them to you if you are not around.

Let's hope the summer weather goes on for a while and that we can enjoy the golf course as much as possible.



Interclub by Christian Holst

We played our last regular match for the season on the 3rd October and won 3-2 away at Quinta do Lago. Prior to that we had beaten Morgado 5-0 at home and 3½-1½ away and also beaten Boavista 5-0 at home. In addition, it transpired that Carvoeiro had used a pair with outdated handicaps in one of the matches so we got one match back there.

In other words, results after the summer have far exceeded expectations and we are currently second in our division, only four points behind Alto who have also finished all of their matches. PDF will most likely overtake us and indeed threaten Alto for the division win. Boavista could also overtake us, but based on current scoring averages, I am almost certain we will

end up at least the best fourth in the two divisions and hence play in the "Premier League" next year. The last matches are only played at the very end of October so we have to wait a bit for the final outcome.

We have every reason to be proud of our performance this year and I'd like to say a big thank you to all of you supporting the team, especially for the understanding you have shown if not selected. To date, we have used around 30 different players, which is similar to the last three years. However, for obvious reasons there is always a "hardcore" group of players playing more matches than others.

Report from Greens Committee By Stewart Harper, Rie Cherubini and Gordon Todd

In our last report we expressed optimism that, although it would take time, there were signs that improvements to the course were beginning to show. As of my inspection yesterday we still have some way to go. I was disappointed at the lack of progress as I know are many of the members.

Our committee had met with the Course Director Christophe and the Course Manager Sisenando just over a week ago. Sisenando accepted that the course was not in the condition that members should expect. We felt this was a helpful admission, as without it we were unlikely to see substantial improvements.

Christophe had received letters from many members expressing their concerns about the course. Some of you have written in varying degrees of intensity, which shows we are very passionate about our golf course!

Christophe has presented these letters to the management and he has been successful in obtaining a substantial increase in funding for the course. This will enable Sisenando to have additional manpower and equipment to manage the course better. Sisenando told us that he requires nothing further to enable him to put the course back to the condition which we all wish it to be.

He went even further and said we would see substantial improvement in the condition of the greens within a month,

and that the over-seeding and tining of the course as a whole and micro-tining of the greens would be taking place over the next few months.

The reality is that we will need time to fully rectify the course, but if we show a little patience I believe we will make considerable progress. As ever, actions speak louder than words, and I am sure the members will not hesitate to remind us of the promises which have now been made.

Pinheiros Altos is still the best club to be a member of, but our financial investments entitle the members to expect a course in excellent condition! That is our target.

Finally, the bunkers are being re-sanded at the rate of four per month and this will continue. The weed grasses will be treated and the greens are being carefully monitored for the Poa grasses and dollar spot fungus.

We are seeking a programme for the work over the next few months in order to monitor the improvements.

We always knew this would take time. In the short term the course may look worse before it gets better, but we hope for not too long!



Chris Waddington Trophy



WEDNESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER, 2014
Presented by Josie Waddington



John Waddington
John Wainwright
Vernon Reed
Alex Kirk
David Adamson
Paul Cotterill

Mike Wright
Dave Finneberg
Richard Moore
Mike Collins
Peter Chamberlain

*The Elite group of golfers have met today in honour of Chris and other past members.
This group over a long period have signified what Pinheiros Altos Golf Club is all about..*

PRO TIP – Kenny Fairbairn

Putter Fitting

“It’s not just for Professionals”

Here are 5 improvements steps to follow when buying a putter.

1. Putter length – based on your height and arm length (most players buy too long).
2. Lie angle – Do I like to hold my hands high or low? Incorrect lie angle compromises solid contact and direction.
3. Loft – Do I like my hands in line with the ball or in front? More loft is needed if your hands are in front.
4. Grip – Too thick, players tend to push putts too thin and the wrists become too involved.
5. Head weight – heavier lets the putter almost swing itself, creating better rhythm. Light weight is less predictable.

When buying your next putter, ask myself or Ross to help guide you to the best option.



Micaela jumping for joy

Forthcoming Events October - November 2014

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Wed 1st October | Ladies Charity Pink Day |
| Sat 4th October | Mens Roll Up |
| Sun 5th October | 18 Holes Social Golf |
| Wed 8th October | Ladies Day |
| Fri 10th October | Wooden Spoon |
| | Men Vs Ladies |
| Sat 11th October | Mens Roll Up |
| Sun 12th October | Autumn Medal Rosebowl |
| Wed 15th October | Ladies Day |
| Fri 17th October | Ladies Competition and Ladies Annual Dinner |
| Sat 18th October | Mens Roll Up |
| Sun 19th October | October Stableford |
| Wed 22nd October | Ladies Day |
| Sat 25th October | Mens Roll Up |
| Sun 26th October | 18 Holes Social Golf |
| Wed 29th October | Ladies Day |
| Sat 1st November | Men’s Roll Up |
| Sun 2nd November | November Medal |
| Wed 5th November | Ladies Day |
| Sat 8th November | Foursomes Championship |
| Sun 9th November | Foursomes Championship |
| Wed 12th November | Ladies Day |
| Sat 15th November | Men’s Roll Up |
| Wed 19th November | Ladies Day |
| Sat 22nd November | Men’s Roll Up |
| Sun 23rd November | 18-Hole Social Golf at PA with QDL |
| Wed 26th November | Ladies Day |
| Sat 29th November | Men’s Roll Up |
| Sun 30th November | St Andrew’s Day |



Mr David Pirret,
Captain,
Pinheiros Altos Clube de Golfe
Pinheiros Altos
Quinta Do Lago
Algarve

25th September 2014

Dear David,

When I wrote to you in May I promised to keep you informed as to how your donation of €2700 would be put to use, and I am now in a position to do so. You will be pleased to know that your very generous donation has been used to improve the lives of 15 children.

Seven children have now received their new glasses, and I am sure their teachers will be delighted that they can now read what is written on the blackboard.

It was through our contact with the local schools that we found out about three of these children. All of their families are receiving food support from ASCA, our local community centre, and would not have been able to meet the cost of glasses for their children, although they knew they were urgently needed.

The other 4 children live in an institution we support in Olhao, (you may recall meeting some of the children from this home at the end of last year).

We are also partially covering the cost of baby milk and nappies for 6 babies; once again these children came to our notice through our contacts with the food support programme. All of their families are in work, but their circumstances have changed since their babies were born, and they are finding it extremely difficult to cover their day to day living costs.

Thanks to you we have also been able to help Micaela, a 9 year old little girl. The Community Centre in Lagos and her family doctor informed us of her plight.

Following the onset of puberty it was noticed that her chest was expanding inwards rather than outwards, caused by her ribs being wrongly positioned. She needs a small vacuum bell which if used regularly would avoid the need for serious surgery.

The child's parents were known to the centre as they were in their food support programme.

There was no way they could afford to pay the €600 needed to provide this specialist medical equipment and Social Segurança would not help them.

From the picture I have attached you can see just how happy you have made Micaela. It is such a relief for her and her family to know she will no longer be undergoing the surgery. No wonder she is jumping for joy!

May I pass on our thanks from the ACCA team for your continued support and the generosity of yourself and the Membership of Pinheiros Altos. Your help is making a real difference and improving the lives of so many children throughout the Algarve.

Kindest regards

Jenny Harrison
On behalf of ACCA

[ACCA, Apartado 3862, 8136-907, Almancil](#)