

Nº 127 . NOVEMBER 2014

# Altos *ews*



PINHEIROS ALTOS  
GOLF, SPA & HOTELS

## Introduction from the Captain - Mr. David Pirret

Despite the heavy rain at the beginning of the month, a great deal of work has been carried out on the course, which combined with the recent warmer weather has led to us starting to see its condition improving. There is still much to do and the work programme reflects this fact. I am sure this improvement will be welcomed by everyone and we all need to continue to repair our pitch marks as well as rake the bunkers as our contribution.

The rain at the beginning of the month encouraged some of our men to concede their matches in the Wooden Spoon, enhancing the ladies' win – we hope for better weather next year!

This month also saw the 10th anniversary of the Social Golf, which was strongly supported by a large proportion of members.

Our thanks go to all the current and past members of the social committee for their contribution to an important element of our club.

The Interclub team has been promoted to the new 1st Division of the Algarve league, which is quite an achievement. Our thanks go to Christian Holst for his captaincy and all the players during the year.

Finally, congratulations to Lisa Burns for a well-deserved win in the Autumn Rosebowl Medal.



*Rosebowl winner Lisa Burns receives the trophy from the captain*



*Cheque for the value of 4,565 euros being presented to Maria Lurdes (from Algarve Oncology Association)*

## Director of Golf - Monthly Report

October was the busiest month we have experienced for many years on the golf course, which unfortunately effected pace of play on some days when the number of players exceeded 300. Fortunately for the membership, the six hours of exclusive starting times allowed for some buffer zone, therefore managing to avoid the five hour rounds.

October saw the Wooden Spoon being handed to the men for the second year in a row. I did try to cancel the result based on weather conditions however the ladies were not very receptive, meaning I had to accept the result and congratulate them!

A couple of days later Lisa burns won the Autumn Medal Rosebowl with a fantastic score of 71, winning the competition with a four shots lead. Well done Lisa and congratulations on your new handicap!

The Social Golf tournament celebrated 10 years this month and as always was very well supported, which I am sure will continue for many more years to come. Thank you to all the members involved in organizing the event.

The golf course condition has suffered a lot during this year however the hard work of the maintenance staff is starting to



*Wooden Spoon celebrations*



show clear results that conditions are improving. There is still a long way to go but there is a big commitment from the company and staff to improve all areas over the next few months.

From the 1st of November, the catering of the main Clubhouse is being managed by Lusotel, which also run the Dona Filipa Hotel. I would like to thank Jorge and his team for running the restaurant over the past few years. I am very satisfied and glad that Jorge and almost all the team are staying on to work for Lusotel. The operation of the Clubhouse will continue to be run professionally with the quality we have been used to over the past few years, always keeping membership in mind and continuing to organize the many social events during the year.

The Golf Academy bar will also revert to Lusotel as from the 1st of January 2015 and both operations will be run as one - we will include further information in the next newsletter.

A couple of future events are now confirmed including the 3rd Algarvian Invitational for Seniors which will take place in

January 2015 and be open to Pinheiros Altos and Quinta do Lago members. The tournament will be played over four medal rounds, two at Pinheiros Altos and two at Quinta do Lago North. We expect 70 of the top senior pros and an additional 50 amateurs. The entry for PA members is €170, which includes four rounds of golf from the back tees and dinner at Casa do Lago.

The other confirmed event is our two day St Valentine tournament played over San Lorenzo and Pinheiros Altos, with a gala dinner at Pinheiros Altos on the 14th of February 2015. More information is available in the Golf Office.

Keep an eye open for the Christmas board, which will soon be up in the Clubhouse so that you can sign up for the many tournaments during the festive season. Also our New Year's Eve party at the Clubhouse is not to be missed and I'm sure will be yet another success!

# *New Year's Eve Party*

AT PINHEIROS ALTOS

BRING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH  
US IN PORTUGAL

DINNER AND MUSIC WITH DJ MIKE

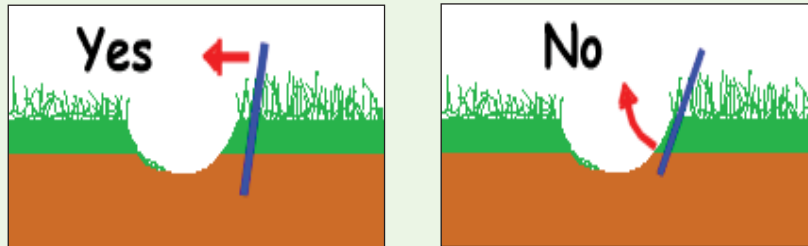
**120 € PER PERSON**

DRESS CODE: BLACK TIE

## **PLEASE repair pitchmarks on green!**

A pitchmark only takes a few seconds to fix correctly, however, a pitchmark repaired incorrectly takes over 3 weeks to heal.

Correct repair will help protect the grass root system and benefit all members and visitors who play the course.



### **Correct Method**

- ✓ Discard the loose piece of turf taken out by the ball
- ✓ Insert the pitchmark repairer tool just outside the back of the pitchmark
- ✓ Lever the turf towards the centre of the pitchmark
- ✓ Repeat this motion from all sides of the pitchmark

### **What NOT to do**

- × **DO NOT** replace the loose piece of turf taken out by the ball. It will die and delay the healing process
- × **DO NOT** pry up the centre of the depression with the repairer tool as it exposes the soil and will delay the healing process
- × **DO NOT** insert the pitchmark repairer and twist it. This only breaks more turf loose

**Remember please repair your pitchmark and one other!**

## Handicap Records from Abroad

All members of the club are required to bring their handicap records to the Golf Office when playing competitions in their clubs abroad, so that 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 and if in any doubt do not hesitate to contact the Golf Office.

# Competition Results for October

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Wed 8th	Ladies Day Monthly Medal	<b>1st Division</b> Helen Mills	71 Nett ( <i>bbn</i> )	<b>1st Division</b> Susan Russell	71 Nett
		<b>2nd Division</b> Fiona Thomson	73 Nett	<b>2nd Division</b> Adrienne Buth	75 Nett
Fri 10th	Wooden Spoon	Ladies	6 ½	Men	4 ½
Sun 12th	Autumn Medal Rosebowl	Lisa Burns	71 Nett	Susan Russell	75 Nett ( <i>bb9</i> )
Wed 15th	Ladies Day	Cancelled due to rain			
Fri 17th	Ladies Annual Dinner Competition	<b>Olives to Pines</b> Diana Collins	36 Pts	<b>Olives to Pines</b> Leigh Anderson	34 Pts
		<b>Corks to Olives</b> Zoë Pirret	35 Pts	<b>Corks to Olives</b> Paula Burke	30 Pts ( <i>bbn</i> )
Sun 19th	October Stableford	Chris Hales	40 Pts	Rod Brown	37 Pts
Wed 22nd	Ladies Day Monthly Stableford	<b>1st Division</b> Susan Russell	37 Pts	<b>1st Division</b> Cathy Harper	36 Pts
		<b>2nd Division</b> Molly Wainwright	29 Pts	<b>2nd Division</b> Yvonne White	28 Pts ( <i>bbn</i> )
Wed 29th	Ladies Day	Singles Matchplay			

## Ladies Section - by Adrienne Buth

Being beaten on the back nine is something that happens in almost every golf competition and quite often you can blame that birdie putt you missed. For the eclectic prizes, we had to check the rules to be sure that the prizes were given to the right person. In the medal competition on the 8th of October, Susan Russell got second prize though she had a superb back nine of 37 strokes with two birdies and four pars. Helen Mills had a better nett score of 32 (back nine) and won first prize. Susan persevered and won the first prize on the qualifying Stableford on the 22nd of October and with her eclectic prize, she can look back on good golf during the month.

In October we played two friendly matches. I had invited the ladies from Vila Sol to play on the 6th of October and to my great disappointment I couldn't motivate more than five ladies of Pinheiros Altos to play that day! Thank you Majida, Ineke, Dee, Sabine and Shirley! Vila Sol's lady captain agreed to have four of their ladies playing together and finally it was a lovely, sunny day with good golf and an excellent lunch.

The other friendly match went much better thanks to a group of ladies who postponed their own match to another day. The match was versus Carvoeiro and we won 3/2, which made up for our loss of 2/3 in May on their course. While I am writing this I am trying to get a team to play on Benamor on the 3rd of November, and again I am very surprised that most of the ladies haven't seen the sign-up sheet! Personally, I have always enjoyed friendly matches and I hope that the faithful ladies who have had health and family problems will be back next year.

Almost 40 ladies attended the annual dinner, photographs of which captured both the great atmosphere and how Jorge and his staff excelled in creating a beautiful, tasty dinner. The highlight was the presentation of the eclectic prizes - thank you to Cathy Harper and Zoe Pirret! Zoe has checked all the cards and coached the vice lady captains for the last three years and we are going to miss you in April when you will leave the committee.



*Susie Hobday and Sue Georges*



*Lisa Burns and Bernadette Hardie*



*Sabine Schlegel and Thérèse van Doorn*



*Anne Copestake and Shirley Lamb*



*Josie Waddington, Jeannette Sobier and Ineke Goossens*



*Diana Collins and Stella Jeffrey*



*Leigh Anderson and Paula Burke Hickey*



*Vera Watkins and Melody Cotterill*



*Rie Cherubini and Molly Wainwright*



*Pat Galloway and Heidi Ellingsen*



*Rosie Agnew and Sue Georges*



*Shona Callaghan and Lisa Burns*



*Margo Fletcher and Shirley Griffiths*



*Cathy Harper, Adrienne Butb and Liz Beal*



*Shirley Lamb, Pat Wright and Anne Copestake*



*Ineke Goossens, Pat Murrish, Leigh Anderson and Paula Burke Hickey*



*Anne Tucker Brown and Marian Hill*



*Shirley Griffiths and Linda Bentley*



*Bernadette Hardie and Mai Markey*



*Josie Waddington and Zoë Pirret*



*Shona Callaghan, Wendy Collins and Rosie Agnew*

## Wainwright Matchplay Competition Draw

The results of the blind draw for the Wainwright Trophy competition have been worked out and are on the board of the locker room. Please don't wait too long before you make an appointment with your co-player.

	1st Round	2nd Round	3rd Round
	Paula Burke vs Leigh Anderson		
Mai Markey vs Adrienne Buth	<b>Winner</b> vs Nancy Schofield		
Stella Jeffrey vs Pat Galloway	<b>Winner</b> vs Zoe Pirret		
Molly Wainwright vs Therese v Doorn	<b>Winner</b> vs Margo Fletcher		
Hilary Jessup vs Majida Lester	<b>Winner</b> vs Helen Mills		
Marian Jenkins vs Denise Reed	<b>Winner</b> vs Sue Georges		
	Shirley Griffiths vs Sally Evans		
	Christine Soden vs Cathy Harper		

1st round has to be played by Friday 28th November

2nd round has to be played by 23rd January

3rd round has to be played by 27th February



# Eclectic Prizes 2014

	1ST DIVISION	SCORE	2ND DIVISION	SCORE
1st Gross	Rie Cherubini	65 c/b	Josie Waddington	77
2nd Gross	Sally Evans	65	Fiona Thomson	78
3rd Gross	Nancy Schofield	66	Wendy Collins	79
1st Nett	Paula Burke	54	Melody Cotterill	50
2nd Nett	Denise Reed	55	Linda Dixon	57
3rd Nett	Christine Soden	57	Lisa Burns	58 c/b
Best Front 9	Susan Russell	33	Jenny Harrison	39 c/b
Best Back 9	Zoë Pirret	37 c/b	Shirley Griffiths	41



*Eclectic Prize Winners*

On the last Wednesday of October, we played singles Matchplay. Most ladies had an interesting and tough match, a few couldn't concentrate and it was obvious they hated the format. We also had a Waltz the 15th of October - it rained a little and some ladies preferred to have coffee or just played nine holes. To put it briefly, I wasn't very successful in the "fun games".

And, last but not least, the men retain the Wooden Spoon. I am very proud that despite heavy rain, ladies have won again. Rie set a good example last year, many ladies signed up and we won! The competition was first introduced by Therese van Doorn and Barbara Fletcher in 1998, with the ladies winning in 2001, 2010, 2013 and now 2014!



*Ladies from Pinheiros Altos celebrating Halloween.*

## Report from the Greens Committee

In our October report we expressed optimism that with the additional funds available from management, the Greens Manager Sisenando could obtain real visible improvements on the course. We believe that he has done so but we are not complacent and there is more to be done!

We also said we would publish the time table for the promised work over the next two months, which is difficult because the programme is extensive and covers two A4 sheets! We have decided that members who wish to see the programme can obtain a copy through the writer or Christophe's office.

The really good news is that Greens staff now have 24 compliments! This is four more than ever before, and up to 10 more than at some more difficult times this year! We also hope to report on the acquisition of more equipment shortly, which is needed to maintain the course to a greater degree of sophistication.

The rough still remains an issue as cutting was delayed by the very wet weather, followed by hot humid conditions. I hope it will be at a level acceptable to members within the next week.

The greens have been micro tined, over seeded and top dressed. The poa grass has just about gone and we hope the dollar spot will quickly disappear. The process of micro tining will continue with top dressing. Once the new seeds are germinated we hope to see a healthy sward, which will lend itself to improving not only appearance but increased speed. The tees are to receive similar treatment in November.

I have suggested that we advise members and visitors regarding any particular days of intensive work on the course by placing a notice on the reception desk e.g. tining and top dressing on greens or tining fairways. We would also like to try a new innovation of recording the stimp meter reading of the greens on any given day. Our aim is to achieve a speed of 10 but anything from 8 to 10 would be acceptable. This would confirm us in the leading cohort of course managers as well as saying to members and visitors alike where our ambitions lie!

We intend on using the agronomist expert from Faro University on a regular basis to assist in course management. The expert will also support us in deciding how to overcome the very restrictive use of chemicals and fertilizers, following EU legislation in the early part of this year (this in part has contributed to poor course conditions).

The turfing over the bunkers on hole 7 of Olives greens is temporary, as the banking and bunkers are to be restructured at the end of this year, with many being removed.

We believe that real progress is being made and we are grateful to Christophe for the support he has given our committee, as well as the strong backing of the Captain. Progress was never going to be easy but we are on our way! There is no complacency.

Stewart Harper, Rie Cherubini and Gordon Todd.

## Social Golf by Molly Wainwright (October 5th)

Ten years of Social Golf! How the years fly by!

It only seems a short time since Bill Copestake and I introduced it in our year of Captaincy. Since then it has become – dare I say it – the most popular competition in the club, which is very pleasing to all of us who help to run it.

We were able to present commemorative golf towels to all 52 players in the Texas Scramble on the 5th of October thanks to the generosity of the club.

As ever, we enjoyed the golf and the supper which followed. The table drinks, wine and water were given by the club and an extra thank you to Christophe and Jorge, who kindly gave each

of us a glass of bubbly for our toast to “Social Golf” - long may it continue.

Thérèse and Jeannette organised the Texas Scramble. Thank you to them and to the other Social Golf Committee members for their help during the year.

The winners on Pines/Corks were Tony Hickey, Sandra Seddon, Marian Hill and Mike Shepherd. Second place went to David Pirret, Shona Callaghan, Stephen Leach and Sabine Schlegel. On Olives/Pines the winners were Lise Kristiansen, Stephen Nobbs, Nils Leffler and Sue Georges. In second place were Stewart Harper, Yvonne White, Ineke Goossens and Remo Cherubini.



*Social Golf Committee*



*Mike Shepherd, Tony Hickey, Marian Hill and Sandra Seddon*



*Nils Leffer, Sue Georges, Lisa Kristiansen and Stephen Nobbs*



*David Pirret, Stephen Leach, Sabine Schlegel and Shona Callaghan*



*Stewart Harper, Ineke Goossens, Remo Cherubini and Yvonne White*



*Alan Bentley, Bob Seddon, Paula Burke Hickey and Andy Watkins*



*Iain Callaghan, Wendy Collins, Thérèse van Doorn and Jeff Fastré*

## Social Golf by Jeannette Sohier (October 26th)

In spite of the fact that we had two social golf days this month, the second was well attended also. 39 people took part and had a very nice afternoon of great weather, playing the Waltz and enjoying being with friends on the course or making new friends. As usual the Captain and Lady Captain attended which is always much appreciated.

Afterwards Jorge presented us with a very nice meal, and the bottles of wine or gin were taken home by the prize winners.

The winners were:

### *Pines/Corks*

1. Yvonne White, Brian Scott, Stella Jeffrey
2. Zoë Pirret, Eigil Koch, Udo Berg
3. Keith Hirst, John Bayston, Adrienne Buth

### *Olives/Pines*

1. Knut Ellingsen, Lise Kristiansen, Dirk Blaesing
2. Remo Cherubini, Vera Watkins, John Clark
3. Per Anton Kleppa, Ilse Berg, Mike Shepherd

## Interclub by Christian Holst

All regular matches in both divisions have now been completed. We finished 3rd in our division, which at the end was won by Parque da Floresta. They scraped past Alto with a two point better total after a 5-0 win in their last home match, giving them 10 out of 10 points. The play off matches between PdF and the other division winner, Vila Sol, will take place on the 23th and 18th of November.

The finals day will take place on the 25th of November, where each club will be represented by six players in a pairs better ball Stableford competition. As it looks now, PA will be represented by Stewart and Cathy Harper, David and Zoë Pirret, alongside Rie Cherubini and the undersigned. Selection was mainly based on matches played in total, as previously.

As I said last month, we did very well this year particularly after the summer, and finished only six points after the Divisional winners. Considering there are a total of 160 matches played for two points each, this is very close indeed. Our home performance is clearly amongst the best but there is room to improve our away statistics.

As stated previously, the structure of the league will be changing next year. Instead of two "equal" divisions there will now be three divisions and a relegation/promotion system; the main reason for this is that it seems we have exceeded

the limit of fixtures for some of the clubs. Having finished top three, we will be playing in Division 1. Unfortunately the selection criteria has been based on match results, rather than course ratings and proximity to PA. As you can see below there will be some challenging matches ahead and I should think the level of competitiveness may increase. The good news is that there will be four matches less than this year, which should make the logistics somewhat simpler for most of us.

Hope to see as many of you as possible next year.  
Christian

## 2015 League Structure

### *Division 1*

Alto, Boavista, Levante (Quinta da Ria), Parque da Floresta, Pinheiros Altos, Quinta do Vale and Vila Sol

### *Division 2*

Carvoeiro, Espiche, Palmares, Penina, Silves International, Vale do Lobo and Vilamoura

### *Division 3\**

Laranjal, Morgado, Quinta do Lago, Serra de Monchique and Tavira (Benamor)

\* Subject to approval at the 2015 AGM it is anticipated that Castro Marim will be admitted to membership and play in Division 3.

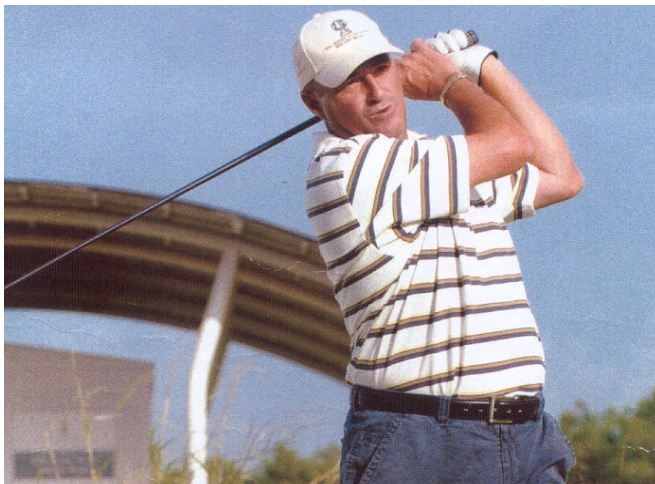
## A Round Of Golf With Gordon J Brand

Join Gordon, Ryder Cup player, European Tour winner and five times winner on European Senior Tour, in a round of golf at Pinheiros Altos in the sunny Algarve. Learn how the pros think and play their way around 18 holes of tournament golf.

Discover how to relax under pressure, learn when to attack or play safe, how to play to your handicap more often, as well as what course management is and how to improve it.

This is your chance to ask Gordon those burning questions you've always wanted to in order to help improve your game.

Open to individuals or to a group – maximum three.



### PRO TIP – Ross Sutherland

#### Flat Left Wrist Through Impact

**How to generate more power and encourage a straighter path**

Stop thinking about getting the clubhead to the ball and start thinking about getting the handle past the ball. For the average player, that means a fundamental change in the position of the hands at impact. If you flip the club, your trailing wrist flattens and the leading wrist bends through impact. A good player's leading wrist is flat and the trailing wrist is bent.

## Forthcoming Events November - December 2014

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
Wed 3rd December	Ladies Day
Sat 6th December	Mens Roll Up
Sun 7th December	December Medal
Wed 10th December	Ladies Day
Sat 13th December	Mens Roll Up
Sun 14th December	18 Holes Social Golf
Wed 17th December	Ladies Day
Sat 20th December	Mens Roll Up
Sun 21st December	Christmas Turkey Flutter
Fri 26th December	Boxing Day American Foursomes
Sat 27th December	Mens Roll Up
Sun 28th December	December Stableford
Wed 31st December	Ladies Day



PINHEIROS ALTOS GOLF COURSE  
VALENTINES GOLF TOURNAMENT

Guarantee your presence at our II Valentine's Day Mixed Golf Tournament,  
on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> February 2015,  
at Pinheiros Altos GC and San Lorenzo GC.  
Accommodation packages available for  
Dona Filipa Hotel and Formosa Park Apartment Hotel

PINHEIROS ALTOS  
GOLF, SPA & HOTELS

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