

Nº 151 . NOVEMBER 2016

Altos *ews*



PINHEIROS ALTOS
GOLF, SPA & HOTELS

Introduction from the Captain - Mr Knut Pedersen

Firstly, it is with great regret that I have to report that Linda Bentley sadly passed away on the 15th of November. The news was devastating and unbelievable. We knew that she had taken ill, and was in the hospital, but this outcome was unthinkable for us all.

She was a firework of a person, with a strong will and a huge heart. Nobody was more Easter at Easter Scramble, nobody was more Pink at Pink Day and nobody was more Gala in Gala Week. Every event we had, she was first in line to help to support the Club and the charities. The loss of Linda is like tempered glass that has exploded and left a splint in all our hearts. It will be healed, but always leaves a mark that will follow us for the rest of our lives.

Linda - the sun has gone down, but you will always be a sparkling star.

My deepest condolences go to you Alan.

October started with the Ryder Cup on the 1st and 2nd. It is hard to divide all the members into two teams. This year's team captains, Melaura Parker (US) and me (Europa), did not play a part in dividing the teams. Some people had chosen sides and the rest were divided by Christophe. We had a good game and after two days, Europa had won over the US. The team that wins at PA tends to end up losing in the official game. This year was no different, which can only mean that a spell must be cast over the Ryder Cup results from PA.

Next game out was Pink Day on the 5th. We had a good turnout with 80 players, and we managed to raise a total of 5,550€; which was more than last year. Well done Shirley and David for organizing the event. Congratulations to the winners, Ladies - Chie Crowdey and Stella Jeffrey, Men – Stewart Harper and Orlando Hill. Well played and thanks to everyone that participated.

Then came the game that I was warned about. Wooden Spoon on the 7th, which is when the men compete against the ladies of PA. At first I thought that if we win, we would get the Spoon... but no, that was not the way it worked. The Spoon is for the loser. I have seen the results over the year, and I am happy that some events have separate prizes for men and ladies,

as sometimes that's the only way we men will win something. Mai did not take it easy on us during the game. I offered her a draw, but no, that did not work. The teams were divided and the game was on. I will not go deep into the story of the game, since everyone knows the result... yes, we lost, or won the Wooden Spoon. I was not the first to win it; neither will I be the last. Mai came well prepared for the game, because she already had a miniature Spoon made for me - thanks for that. Knut Ellingsen and I won our game against Rie and Mai, which was a small victory, but not enough. I did not help either - a man in the club had moved some of the tees back (Yellow) and forward (Red).

The rest of October offered its regular games, which were well attended. We have more golfers in the Cloggies than normal, and I think that goes for the other groups too. It is good that we can keep up the social side of the club.

There have been complaints about the state of the course and the clubhouse during the month. Emails have been sent around and opinions have been exchanged between the different groups. We take this seriously, and as you know, we have had a meeting with Dr. Ruben Paula. Christophe, David Ford, David Markey and I sat down and explained all the problems that have been sent in from the members. He understood the problems and has sent a letter that you all have received, to highlight the future and the solutions. In my opinion, I think this letter is answering our issues, and it looks like JJW is taking actions on the problems that have been raised.

The course is in a better condition than a month ago, so we are on the right track. We are looking forward to the new Green Buggy fleet coming next year and the member's swipe-card for speeding up the service in the bar/restaurant.

If you have any issues or comments that you want to share, positive or negative, please send an email or come and talk. It's better that we get it first, than it circulating the net.

For New Year's Eve, we are planning a party and will offer more information soon. The price this year will be 85€ and there will be a smart casual dress code - sorry, but I do not like Black Tie. Hope as many of you can come and celebrate a great evening in PA.

So until next time, have fun - and play well.



Club Captain and Captain for the European Team Knut Pedersen with the Captain for the USA Team Melaura Parker



Jim Cranwell, Melaura Parker and Chris Parker



Shirley Griffiths, Lady Captain Mai Markey, Director of Golf Christophe Rindlisbacher and Club President David Markey Holding the Cheque for the Value of 5,550€ that will be Presented to Maria Lurdes from the Algarve Oncology Association



Club Captains Presenting the Pink Day Men Winners Orlando Hill and Stewart Harper with Their Prizes



Club Captains Presenting the Pink Day Ladies Winners Chie Crowdey and Stella Jeffrey with Their Prizes



Lady Captain Mai Markey Presents Club Captain Knut Pedersen with the Wooden Spoon



Director of Golf - Monthly Report

I would like to thank the Club Captain, Knut Pedersen, for his kind words on the massive loss that Linda Bentley is to our Club. She was the spirit of any party we held at the Club and we will miss her dearly. Linda, wherever you are, I am sure the dance floor will be all yours.

On behalf of all the staff at Pinheiros Altos, our most sincere condolences to Alan.

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 zone and managed to avoid the five hour rounds on most days!

On 5th October we had Pink Day, which was run not only for the ladies, but also the men; the same as last year. It raised a very good amount of €5,550. Thank you to all the sponsors, Shirley Griffiths for her important input and all the members who supported the event and the charity.

The Wooden Spoon has been handed to the men for the fourth year in a row. I think our Captain Knut was expecting it for some reason, as with Mai Markey as the Lady Captain and Zoe as the Lady Vice Captain, he was fighting a very competitive pair who would do anything to win!

The October Stableford was won by Steven Crowdey and the Autumn Rosebowl saw Melody Cotterill winning the trophy.

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. A lot of work is planned for the next few weeks and the 2nd Tee on Pines is being rebuilt, while the work on the paths is due to start soon.

There has been various issues regarding the state of the course and we now have an advisor coming to give us his opinion on how to best move forward and improve all areas of the golf course. I am sure his feedback will help us to present the course in a better condition and time our maintenance operations in better manners.

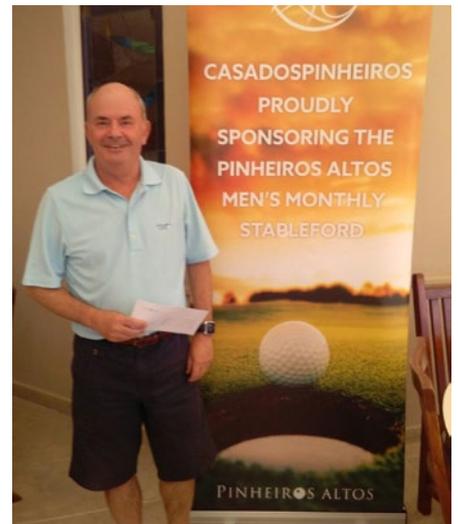
Keep an eye open for the Christmas board, which will soon be up in the Clubhouse, and sign up for the many tournaments during the festive period. Also, do not miss our New Year's Eve party at the Clubhouse, with Pedro Mariani, who will be travelling back from Miami especially to host the music for Pinheiros Altos once again - which I am sure will be yet another success!



Works being Carried Out on 2nd Tee Pines (Quinta do Lago staff). We Need All the Help we Can Find!



Duncan and the Maintenance Staff Working on the 2nd Tee Pines



Mens Roll Up October Winner Nick Baird Receives his Voucher for Casa dos Pinheiros

NEW YEARS EVE AT PINHEIROS ALTOS

In the Pinheiros Altos Clubhouse
at 8.00 p.m.

Starters

Grilled Tiger Prawn with Seafood and Coconut Coulis
or
Beef Carpaccio with Grilled Artichokes Salad

Main Course options

Roasted Stone Bass with Tomato and Vegetable Ragout, and Sautéed Potatoes
or
Venison Fillet, Red Wine Macerated Pear, Cèpes and Potato Gratin

Dessert

Passion Fruit Cheesecake with Raspberry Coulis

1 x Cheese Platter Per Table to be Served During Coffee
Welcome Cocktail with Champagne and Wine (Esporão White and Red)
During Dinner we will Serve Red and White Wine (Esporão), Mineral Water and Soft Drinks
Champagne will be Served at Midnight (Piper Heidsiek)

Dress Code: Smart Casual

Price Per Person: **€85**

Live Entertainment From Pedro Mariani

Please Book at the Golf Office

Competition Results for October

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Fri 30th Sat 1st Sun 2nd	Ryder Cup	Europe	44	USA	37
Wed 5th	Pink Day	Men Stewart Harper Orlando Hill	44 Pts (B9 22)	Men Robert Lester Tim Moores	44 Pts (B9 20)
		Ladies Chie Crowdey Stella Jeffrey	43 Pts	Ladies Susie Hardwick Diana Collins	42 Pts
Fri 7th	Wooden Spoon	Ladies	11 ½	Men	7 ½
Sun 9th	October Stableford	Steven Crowdey	39 Pts	Tony Hickey	35 Pts
Wed 12th	Ladies Day Monthly Medal	1st Division Helen Mills	73 Nett	1st Division Leigh Anderson	75 Nett
		2nd Division Lisa Burns	76 Nett	2nd Division Marian Hill	78 Nett
			9 HOLES – Team Event 37		
		Vera Watkins Ingrid Hollier Shirley Lamb			
Sun 16th	Autumn Medal Rosebowl	Melody Cotterill	64 Nett	Orlando Hill	71 Nett
Wed 19th	Ladies Day Monthly Stableford	1st Division Rosie Agnew	34 Pts (B9 17)	1st Division Kay Ford	33 Pts (B9 17)
		2nd Division Diana Collins	34 Pts (B9 11)	2nd Division Marian Hill	33 Pts
			9 HOLES 17 Pts	Vera Watkins	16 Pts
		Casa da Quinta Stableford voucher – Rosie Agnew			
Wed 26th	Ladies Day Team Event Traffic Lights	Pines to Corks Amanda Stretton Sabine Schlegel Marianna Wirén Wendy Evans	WINNERS 77	Olives to Pines Chie Crowdey Kay Ford Jan Kirk Janet Leffler	85

Ladies Section - by Mai Markey

The Ryder Cup weekend at PA was a great success and having a win for Europe made the Sunday a celebration for all on the team. Many thanks to Melaura for all her work and signage throughout the course (even in the toilets).

Our first Wednesday was Pink Day. Surprisingly, we had more men playing than women, but as usual, everyone supported the event. Over 5,500€ was raised for the oncology department in Faro during the day, including the auctions and raffle. Well done everyone for your support. Many thanks to the organising committee of Shirley, our Director Christophe and Mr President DM.

The Wooden Spoon on the following Friday was one of the highlights of my captaincy, as it gave me great pleasure to hand over the spoon to Knut. The two Knut's beat Rie and I in our match, thankfully not a dog license (they both dovetailed very well together), but we still had fun. Knut came back down to earth very quickly, as the ladies worked hard to get the right result. Everyone stayed on the terrace supporting the teams coming in and great atmosphere followed in the dining room.

The following Wednesday we played our monthly Medal.

Friday 14th October was our fun game in the morning, followed by our annual dinner at Casa dos Pinheiros. Zoe presented the eclectic prizes - well done to all the winners on the night. Over 65 ladies attended and music followed a superb meal served by Alvaro, Dominic and their team. Thank you to Nigel and Diana for their sponsorship of the drinks reception.

As we go to press, I have lost a true friend. Linda Bentley has passed away after a short illness. She will be sadly missed by us all at Pinheiros Altos. She is now dancing with the angels in Heaven. Rest in peace Linda, hugs and kisses.

Many congratulations to Melody Cotterill for winning the Rose Bowl.

Our monthly Stableford followed on the 19th and the Casa da Quinta voucher was won by Rosie Agnew... well done Rosie. Ladies trip away. 16 ladies headed to El Rompido for two rounds of golf on Thursday 20th and Friday 21st. A big thank you to Sue for organising the trip. We finished up at the Ria in La Patera for a super luncheon on the Saturday, before we headed home... but as the saying goes what happens on tour stays on tour... I've included some photos though!

Zoe kindly ran the team game on the final Wednesday, which was traffic lights... as I headed home to Ireland for my holidays and Halloween.



Lady Captain Mai Markey Presenting the Voucher for Casa da Quinta to the October Winner Rosie Agnew







Ladies Trip Away to El Rompido



Report from the Greens Committee

In our October report we highlighted three areas of concern.

We believe that work has started on the tees and we have received three new greens mowers. These should provide the greens staff with much greater flexibility for both tining the greens (the tinners are built into the new mowers) and the ability to do a second cut on the greens. We believe that work on the other areas we mentioned is also been enacted.

For many reasons, this report will be short as the letter sent to members by Ruben Paula, the COO of JJW, has set out the owner's plans for the course and club over the coming months.

The introduction of advice from both the company's other course green keepers and the Irish consultancy company (to be appointed), will need to be carefully considered. In our opinion, the issues that have prevented the course reaching the standards we seek arise from a failure to manage sufficient resources and having a skill base to carry out our plans.

Therefore, we need to closely monitor progress over the next few months and to report to members on whether we are entering a period of real change or something rather different.

We remain optimistic and the present position has not been reached without a lot of work by the clubs main officers, to whom we give our thanks.

As ever we are happy to hear member's views and we continue to be the main critics of the course. Having said that, whether due to the recent rainfall, or just better working methods, the course is looking better and the fungus on the greens seems to be under control. Fingers are well and truly crossed!

Stewart Harper Chairman, David Ford Vice Captain, Knut Pederson Captain.

Interclub League Report - by David Pirret

At the end of the season we were promoted to Division 1 and next year we will play against Levante, Alto, Palmares, Serra de Monchique, Boavista and Parque da Floresta. Analysing our results over the year, it is clear that we need more players in the 12-18 handicap range, as we lost a number of matches where we were giving up to five strokes per game. I would encourage more players to come forward and play in a 'friendly' competitive

environment – you do not need to be available for a minimum number of matches, just let the Team Captain know when you are available.

I would like to thank all those who played this year and delivered success for PA. I'd also like to wish every success to Geoff Stott, who is taking over the Team Captancy in the New Year.

Social Golf - by Iain Callaghan

On a dull, cloudy, overcast October Sunday, 32 players set off on a Waltz, with fingers crossed that it would remain dry long enough to complete their rounds. Thankfully, the rain gods were distracted for most of time, allowing the majority to complete their match in dry conditions, save for the last groups who weren't quite so lucky when the heavens opened at the second to last hole.

We sat down to dine a little early for the kitchen, and so we broke with tradition to fill the gap, and announced the winners and presented the prizes to the victors below, before rather than after supper. *Alas, we misread one of the scorecards, failing to double check the score and mistakenly announced the second and third places in the wrong order – the above is correct, with apologies to those concerned and a lesson learned.

<i>Corks to Olives</i>			<i>Olives to Pines</i>		
1st Place	Wallace Forde Mike Collins Paula B Hickey Janet Leffler	77 Pts (<i>bb3</i>)	1st Place	Bertil Wirén Helmut Schawe Lisa Burns Deirdre Forde	84 Pts
2nd Place	Tony Hickey Andy Watkins Amanda Stretton Stella Jeffrey	77 Pts	2nd Place	Orlando Hill Chris Stretton Wendy Collins Adrienne Buth	67 Pts
3rd Place	Paul Black Andy Georges Marianne Wirén Zoe Pirret	73 Pts			

The next Social Golf outing will be held on Sunday 20th November, organised by Paula B Hickey and Sue Georges. The

format, Better 2 Scores with “Hidden” Nine Holes - sounds mysterious and intriguing!



Academy News

We are now able to offer you custom fitting on the new Titleist SM6 wedge range; the number one range on the European and PGA Tours. They come in three colour types: Tour Chrome, Steel Grey and Jet Black, with a selection of sole grind to suit your swing type (L, S, K, M and F). With a loft range from 46 degrees up to 62 degrees, combined with a progressive centre of gravity (low/mid/high), we can surely find the right wedge for you.

Book a fitting with Ross or Kenny at the Academy, and if you purchase, there is a 10% discount to our members on any wedge bought on the run up to Christmas.



Titleist Vokey SM6 wedges

Jessica Hall has practiced at Pinheiros Altos during past winters and has recently been Captain for the English squad in the match of England schools Vs Scotland schools. She led her team to a 5 - 4 victory

Jessica is now a 0 handicap player and will be practicing at Pinheiros Altos over Christmas and New Year.



Congratulations to Jessica!

Forthcoming Events November and December

Tues 1st November	Club Roll Up
Wed 2nd November	Ladies Day
Sat 5th November	Foursomes Championship (No Roll Up)
Sun 6th November	Foursomes Championship
Tues 8th November	Club Roll Up
Wed 9th November	Ladies Day
Sat 12th November	Mens Roll Up
Sun 13th November	November Medal
Tues 15th November	Club Roll Up
Wed 16th November	Ladies Day
Sat 19th November	Mens Roll Up
Sun 20th November	18 Hole Social Golf
Tues 22nd November	Club Roll Up
Wed 23rd November	Ladies Day
Sat 26th November	Mens Roll Up
Sun 27th November	St Andrews Stableford
Tues 29th November	Club Roll Up
Wed 30th November	Ladies Day
Sat 3rd December	Mens Roll Up
Sun 4th December	December Stableford
Tues 6th December	Club Roll Up
Wed 7th December	Ladies Day
Sat 10th December	Mens Roll Up
Sun 11th December	18 Holes Social Golf
Tues 13th December	Club Roll Up
Wed 14th December	Ladies Day
Sat 17th December	Mens Roll Up
Sun 18th December	December Medal
Tues 20th December	Club Roll Up
Wed 21st December	Ladies Day
Thurs 22nd December	Christmas Turkey Flutter
Sat 24th December	Mens Roll Up
Mon 26th December	Boxing Day American Foursomes
Tues 27th December	Club Roll Up
Wed 28th December	Ladies Day
Sat 31st December	Mens Roll Up