

PINHEIROS ALTOS

GOLF, SPA & HOTELS

GOLF CLUB NEWSLETTER

Nº 81 . JANUARY 2011

Introduction from the Captain – Mr. Vernon Reed

HAPPY NEW YEAR !

December for the most part was a very quiet golfing month and then the Christmas Turkey Flutter, the Boxing Day American Foursomes and the New Year's Scramble finished the old year and started off the New Year with a bang.

Denise and I saw in the New Year in at the Pinheiros Altos Party. Seventy members and their guests enjoyed what was, in my opinion, one of the best parties at the Club. Congratulations to Jorge and his staff for the food, wine and service and Pedro for his entertainment.

The Christmas Turkeys were won by Melaura Parker, Gerry Higginson and Tim Moores who finished 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively although by the narrowest of margins since their positions were only decided by their back 9 scores.

The Boxing Day American Foursomes won by Tim Moores and Alan Pugh with Chris and Rene Hales in runner up spot and Rie Cherubini and Nancy Schofield in third place saw the largest ever field for this event with 66 players and rounded off Christmas perfectly!

The 11.00 a.m. Shotgun start on New Year's Day for the five player team Scramble helped all 180 players to make it to the tee. Congratulations to all the members and their guests for another record turn out for this event and to Brian, Christophe and the rest of the golf staff for the organisation of such a successful start to the New Year.



Two teams tied on 17 under par but Ian Hepworths team of guest bandits including the infamous Darrell Quirk pipped the team of Andy and Vera Watkins, John and Val Bayston and Adrienne Buth with a better back 9 score.

Happy New Year to all and Great Golfing!

Director of Golf – Monthly Report

It was so sad to receive the unfortunate but inevitable news that Trevor Griffiths had passed away after putting up a typically brave fight against his terrible illness. I would like to add my condolences to Shirley who has been nothing short of magnificent throughout Trevor's illness. I will be discussing with the President, Captain and Golf Committee on arranging a memorial service for Trevor in the Algarve.

I would like to reiterate the Captains comments on the turnout for the competitions over Christmas and in particular on New Years Day. 180 players and apart from a light shower the weather was perfect when you consider what is going on in the rest of Europe!

All those who have managed to play the golf course over the festive season would, I think, agree that it is in great condition. Particularly the greens which with less players in December had a chance to recover from the pitch mark abuse that seems to be the norm and yet again demonstrates that members and visitors alike must take time out to repair their PITCH MARKS and help the green staff to maintain the greens to their present high standard.

There are still several teeing areas which are poor but we have plans to improve these starting at Easter time. Work on the Calçada paths has continued throughout December although there is still work to do on the 1st and 9th on Olives. At the time of writing over 70% of the membership have paid their Annual subscriptions for 2011 and I would like to thank them for their support and prompt payment and remind the remainder of the membership that they will be receiving a reminder very shortly!

On behalf of myself and the golf staff I would like to wish all at Pinheiros Altos a very Healthy and Prosperous 2011 and of course Good Golfing!

MR. TREVOR GRIFFITHS 1943 – 2010

It is with the deepest regret that I announce the passing of Mr. Trevor Griffiths.

Trevor was Captain of the Pinheiros Altos Golf Club in 2002.

He will be sadly missed by all who knew him and on behalf of the membership and staff I extend our deepest sympathy to his widow Shirley and his sons Gareth and Neil.

The Funeral will be held at St Peters Church Hale at 12:30 on Friday 14th January.

FLOWERS (a message from Shirley)

"As most of you will be aware Trevor spent his final days in St Ann's Hospice. The care he received was the best I could have wished for. I will never be able to repay them for all that they did for us but as a thank you, should anyone wish, donations to St Ann's will be gratefully received."

<http://www.sah.org.uk/how-to-help/make-a-donation>

Competition Results for December

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Wed 1st	Ladies Day December Medal	<i>1st Division</i>			
		Thérèse van Doorn	70 nett		
		<i>2nd Division</i>			
		Shona Callaghan	80 nett		
Wed 8th	Ladies Day Christmas Golf		Rained Off		

Competition Results for December cont.

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Wed 15th	Ladies Day Team Stableford 4 clubs and a putter	Helen Mills Jan Kirk Barbara Fletcher		Vernon Reed Majidas Lester Stella Jeffrey	
Sun 19th	Christmas Turkey Flutter	Melaura Parker	36 Pts (bb9)	Gerry Higginson	36 Pts
Wed 22nd	Ladies Day Captains Choice		Rained Off		
Sun 26th	Boxing Day	Tim Moores Alan Pugh	39 Pts	Chris Hales Rene Hales	36 Pts
Wed 29th	Ladies Day Matchplay Betterball	Rie Cherubini and Sharon Henderson vs Helen Mills and Edyta Proctor - A/S Lisa Burns and Anne Copestake vs Slaney Mullen and Dapne Higginson - A/S			
Sat 1st	New Year's Scramble	Ian Hepworth Guest Paul Caddick Simon Stewart Darrell Quirk	-17 (-10 back 9)	Andy Watkins Vera Watkins John Bayston Val Bayston Adrienne Buth	-17 (-8 back 9)

Ladies Section

- by Helen Mills

Wishing you all a very happy and healthy New Year.

The weather dominated the beginning of December and our monthly Medal ended up with more than 50% of the entrants going in for early drinks. Of the remaining players only two finished the round for the 1st Division, yours truly came in second (obviously I just needed to finish) and my playing partner Thérèse van Doorn returned a fantastic score of 70 nett even in these bad conditions. Well done Therese – it was a pleasure to watch. In the 2nd Division, we had three ladies complete the course with Shona Callaghan winning with a 79 nett.

Congratulations to our Interclub Team Captain, Neil Bamber for orchestrating a great overall win for Pinheiros Altos in the league to take the title over Clube de Golf do Levante. Also well done to all the ladies who played in these matches, I believe that it couldn't have been won without us. Team members celebrated with a long lunch at A Quinta on 9th December which meant we were well into the 'spirit' of the season by then!

The remainder of December was notable for the number of occasions we had to cancel our Ladies Day golf including our

'Christmas' golf day on the 8th. Not to be defeated we all made the effort and gathered together at the clubhouse for mulled wine, mince pies and other goodies including a seasonal drink or two, a timely opportunity for Christmas greetings before many people left for the holidays in various parts of the world.

The Turkey Flutter on 19th December was enjoyed by a great many players. It was my first ever 'turkey' experience since I am usually away in colder climes at this time of year, I made the right decision to stay put this year and had a great time and a lot of fun. We were all winners since there were prizes for bad scores as well as good (I fell into the former category unfortunately) but many congratulations Melaura Parker the overall winner on the day with a great score despite her new swing, and to everyone who went home with a hamper and other goodies from the prize table. Thanks to Brian and his staff for their great organising and to Rui and Jorge who fed us so well on – yes – turkey and all the trimmings.

The numbers were dwindling by December 15th when we had 9 of us playing a team stableford with 4 clubs and a putter, we all had a lot of fun but the scores were less than admirable

(even when added together!!). We were rained off again on the 22nd but again we managed to get to the club for a glass of seasonal cheer before we all headed off for the celebrations. Following Christmas we again had a small field on the 29th with a welcome return of Slaney and Edyta joining us for a hard fought matchplay competition - only for it all to end in a draw for both 4 balls!

The celebrations were well and truly done justice to with the fantastic turnout on New Year's Day for the annual scramble. A great fun day was had by all with some impressive scores despite it being the 'morning after the night before'. Congratulations to the winners and the runners up all of whom are mentioned elsewhere I am sure.

I am looking forward to the rest of my captaincy with the Madrinha and Wainwright Trophy competitions to be finished, the Foursomes (date to be advised) and the matchplay between Lady Captain vs Lady Vice Captain which we hope, weather permitting, to happen sometime in January. Also since this match could not be played last year we will try and fit in a match of Lady Captain vs Past Lady Captain as well.

I would like to invite all our lady members to think about joining the Committee, or nominating



someone else, this year. We will have two vacancies when Hilary and Josie leave on the 18th April. If you think you would like to make a contribution to the Ladies Section in this way, please speak to me or Shona or indeed any member of the Committee to discuss what it entails, we will be delighted to hear from you.

Happy Golfing and may all your wishes come true in 2011!

On behalf of the lady members, I would like to offer my sincere sympathy to Shirley and her family and friends on their sad loss. Trevor will be remembered by many of us with great fondness for his work within the Club, his gentle humour not to mention his culinary skills which were enjoyed by us on so many occasions.



Pro Tip - Kenny Fairbairn

As we start off a new year we find ourselves playing from really wet fairways. Next thing you know we tighten up release the club too early and hit far behind the ball with a face full of mud. For a quick fix and clean strike drop the position of your left shoulder at address, grip slightly shorter

on the club and position the ball a little further back in the stance. Be sure to commit the lower body to the shot and you should nip the ball nicely off the wet ground followed by the divot.

Social Golf - Thérèse van Doorn

On the 12th December we had another social golf competition. The weather was warm and cloudy and luckily we had no rain.

There were 35 people on the list and a few came in for the meal afterwards.

The competition was a 4 club and a putter best ball stableford. It is always amazing what good scores are made in such a "fun" competition. Perhaps we do not have to think too much???

The winners on Olives/Pines were with an incredible 46 points Valerie Rennie and Nigel Collins on Pines/Corks were with 39 points (b.b.n) Michiel van Doorn and Valerie Lee.

After the match we all enjoyed the nice meal that George and his staff were serving us.

At the end of the year we can look back on a year where the social competitions were again well supported. For the committee it is nice to feel that everybody is enjoying the atmosphere and the camaraderie to meet play and talk to different people you wouldn't usually socialize with.

We are wishing you a very happy and healthy New Year and hope to see you on the 16th January 2011 for the next social golf competition.

Academy News

SPECIAL OFFER FOR THE NEW YEAR!!!

For the month of January our resident PGA Professional Ross is offering a package of 6 lessons for the price of 5. The usual cost for 6 lessons is 180 Euros, this offer costs just 150 Euros for 6 lessons which is a saving of over 15% on normal members price. So come and get your game in shape this New Year at the Pinheiros Altos Golf Academy.

Forthcoming Events - January and February 2011

Sat 1st January	New Year's Scramble
Wed 5th January	Ladies Day
Sat 8th January	Mens Roll Up
Sun 9th January	Winter Medal
Mon 10th January	White Hot Pro Am
Wed 12th January	Ladies Day
Sat 15th January	Mens Roll Up
Sun 16th January	18 Holes Social Golf
Wed 19th January	Ladies Day
Sat 22nd January	Mens Roll Up
Sun 23rd January	January Stableford
Wed 26th January	Ladies Day
Sat 29th January	Mens Roll Up
Wed 2nd February	Ladies Day
Sat 5th February	Mens Roll Up
Sun 6th February	February Medal
Wed 9th February	Ladies Day
Fri 11th February	Charity Day
Sat 12th February	Mens Roll Up
Sun 13th February	St. Valentine's Day Scramble
Mon 14th February	Jimmy Tarbuck Classic
Wed 16th February	Ladies Day
Sat 19th February	Mens Roll Up
Sun 20th February	18 Holes Social Golf
Mon 21st February	White Hot Pro Am
Wed 23rd February	Ladies Day
Thurs 24th February	Past Captains Day
Sat 26th February	Mens Roll Up
Sun 27th February	St. David's Stableford