



## Director of Golf - Monthly Report

November has been an eventful month even though the weather did not help matters.

The Foursomes Championship was won on the best first round performance by Phil and Nancy Schofield whose nett 73 was good enough by two shots from Stewart and Cathy Harper. Their consolation was taking the gross prize.

With torrential rain and a terrible forecast (which turned out to be very accurate) Sundays second round was cancelled and the presentation was done and dusted by 9.30 a.m.

The Mens Fourball and Mixed Fourball Matchplay Championship winners were also presented at the same early presentation with the pairs of Neil Bamber and Philip Schofield and Susan Russell and Mike Hassid winning these tournaments respectively.

This was also a celebration of the Pinheiros Altos Inter Club sides momentous victory over Clube de Golfe Levante (Quinta da Ria/Cima) in the playoffs for the Algarve Inter Club Championship. Having been down 3 ½ - 1 ½ after the away leg the side, Captained by Neil Bamber came storming back with a 4 ½ - ½ victory in the home leg to clinch a nail biting affair 6 matches to 4. This is the first time Pinheiros Altos has won this trophy in the Clubs 18 year history and now has the task of organizing the 2011 event.

During the last week of November Pinheiros Altos and the Dona Filipa Hotel hosted the "On Course Foundation" (www.oncoursefoundation.com). The Founder of the "On Course" and my long time friend John Simpson and Johns assistant, John Dodds accompanied eight servicemen who had been injured while serving in the military. These veterans of the conflicts as far back as the Falklands now had one thing in common, each channelling their incredible fighting spirit into golf.

The aim of the "On Course Foundation", only established since July 2010 is to provide injured servicemen with the opportunity to learn the history, etiquette and techniques of golf so that they might find a future career in the game. The foundation is already achieving its goal with two injured soldiers already finding new careers in greenkeeping!

This trip was a huge success and the support provided by the Dona Filipa Hotel, San Lorenzo, Pinheiros Altos and its members made me very proud to be associated with both the Company and the Pinheiros Altos Golf Club.

Work progresses on the calçada paths and in December repairing the calçada around the clubhouse will be the target.

The greens have almost completely recovered from the dollar spot which attacked them in September but the

treatment combined with the rainfall has left the greens quite soft and with plenty of grass which once again highlights the pitch mark problem.

Less and less of the new trees require support and while the stakes will probably remain until the spring of next year you should be working on your driving before the free drops disappear!

#### Handicap revision

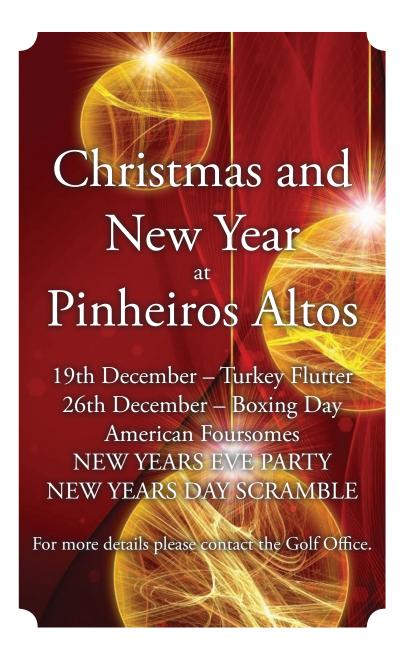
The Handicap Committee will hold a handicap review during the first two weeks of the New Year. Members wishing to have their handicap reviewed by the Committee should contact Brian, Christophe or Cristina during December.

#### **Annual Subscriptions**

There has been a delay to the distribution of the Annual Subscription request forms for 2011. There was a distinct possibility that the IVA would increase from 6% to 23% which would have increased the subscription for a Principal and Spouse combination by  $\epsilon$ 750.

Now for some good news and some bad news. The good news is that the IVA stayed at 6% and the bad news is that the subscription requests are winging their way to you as I write!

The APPA Autumn Newsletter has been sent to all owners by both email and surface mail. Any owners who have not received it are requested to contact Cristina Fernandes (tel. 289 359910, e-mail cfernandes@pinheirosaltos.pt).



## Competition Results for November

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Wed 3rd	Ladies Day November Medal	<i>1st Division</i> Susan Russell <i>2nd Division</i> Susie Hobday	70 nett 76 nett	<i>1st Division</i> Barbara Fletcher	72 nett
Sun 7th	November Medal	Vernon Reed	70 nett	Gerry Higginson	71 nett
Wed 10th	Ladies Day St. Andrews Greensome	Olives to Pines Zoë Pirret Linda Dixon Pines to Corks Sandra Little Meg Black	40 Pts 32 Pts	Olives to Pines Lubna Sands Suzanne Davis Pines to Corks Val Rennie Ingrid Hollier	32 Pts 30 Pts (bb6)

### Competition Results for November cont.

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Sat 13th Sun 14th	Foursomes Championship	Philip Schofield Nancy Schofield	73 nett	Vernon Reed Denise Reed	76 Pts
Wed 17th	Ladies Day		Cancelled due to rain		
Wed 24th	Ladies Day Qualifying Stableford	<i>Ist Division</i> Pat Galloway <i>2nd Division</i> Jenny Harrison	32 Pts 33 Pts	<i>Ist Division</i> Hilary Jessop	30 Pts
Sun 31st	St. Andrews Day Stableford	Philip Schofield	37 Pts	Neil Bamber	36 Pts

# Ladies Section - by Helen Mills

November was a quiet month on the Ladies golfing front due to inclement weather and not so many comings and goings. We started with the monthly medal on 3rd November with a good turnout of 21 players. Susan Russell won the 1st Division with a 70 nett and Susie Hobday won the 2nd Division with a 76 nett. I am delighted to report that it is the first time that both these ladies have won the Ladies Section Medal which is a big surprise given their good record for winning competitions at the club. Congratulations and well done to you both, I hope this is the first of many.

My thanks to Shona for organizing the competition on 10th in my absence, it was a St Andrew's Greensome (this is a bit like Scottish dancing – good to watch but hard to perform) and was won by Zoë Pirret and Linda Dixon on one course and Sandra Little and Meg Black on the other course.

The rain stopped play on 17th for the qualifying stableford so we played it on the 24th instead and was won by Pat Galloway and Jenny Harrison for the respective divisions. Well done ladies on winning and all the ladies for finishing despite the downpour half way round.

Congratulations to Nancy and Philip Schofield on winning the Club Foursomes Championship.

I was privileged and humbled to play in the Texas scramble with a young man called Greg, one of the group of eight from

the On Course Foundation that were hosted by Pinheiros Altos for a week. Greg has two prosthetic legs and started playing golf only this year following injuries sustained whilst serving in Afghanistan, I am certain that he will master the game in a very short time. He, and the other men, were an inspiration to all of us who met them and I hope this will become an annual event. The Ladies Committee decided to donate €200 to the charity and it was presented at the dinner held in their honour on their last evening in the Algarve.



### Ladies Interclub

Of the 7 matches played so far in the Ladies Interclub Friendlies, we have won 4, halved 2 and lost 1. Our home match against Benamor on 23rd November was postponed due to the rain; I will let you know in good time when we re-arrange the match.

Congratulations to our Interclub 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, it couldn't have been won without you!!

It is with great sadness that I report the death of Mary Hirst who passed away on 8th November following a short illness. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Keith and his family; Mary is remembered with fondness by everyone who knew her.

# Social Golf - by Molly Wainwright

We had some excellent scoring in our 2 ball better ball competition on 21st November.

Fortunately the weather was kind for our 42 players. On Corks and Olives Daphne Higginson and Roy Baddeley scored an amazing 47 points with Nigel Collins and Adrienne Buth hot on their heels with 46 points. Olives and Pines saw Peter Mills and Diana Collins have 44 points and a close second were Reinhard Schlegel and Gerry Higginson with 43 points.

There were 44 for supper – very noisy!

The next competition is on December 12th when you are only allowed 4 clubs and a putter. Should be fun.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Andy Watkins for all his help over the years and to welcome Iain Callaghan who has taken Andy's place on the Committee.

With my good wishes to everyone for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy healthy New Year.

## Interclub

## - by Neil Bamber

In my last newsletter I was proud to announce that we had won our division and were in the play off for the championship.

I am absolutely thrilled that we have just won the outright title of Algarve Interclub Championship for 2010! I understand from all concerned that this is the first time Pinheiros Altos has won this title and what more can I say but to once again thank everyone who has contributed so much. I have been privileged to play with some real competitors. Beating Levante at home 4.5-0.5 was brilliant, especially after losing the away match 3.5-1.5, they were shell-shocked!

To celebrate our success a team lunch has been arranged for Thursday 9th December and at that event I will be announcing the Inter Club "Player of the Year" and also showing everyone our new Team colours for 2011.

I could go on but will end by wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas and a healthy 2011.

## Forthcoming Events - January to June 2011

January		April	
Sat 1st	New Year's Scramble	Sun 10th	April Stableford
Sun 9th	Winter Medal	Sun 17th	18 Holes Social Golf
Mon 10th	White Hot Pro Am	Mon 18th	Ladies AGM
Sun 16th	18 Holes Social Golf	Thurs 21st	Golf AGM
Sun 23rd	January Stableford	Sat 23rd	St. George Spring Medal
		Sun 24th	Easter Scramble
February		Tue 26th	APPA Competition
Sun 6th	February Medal	Sat 30th	Strokeplay Championship
Fri 11th	Charity day		
Sun 13th	Valentines Day Scramble	May	
Mon 14th	Jimmy Tarbuck Classic	Sun 1st	Strokeplay Championship
Sun 20th	18 Holes Social Golf	Sun 8th	18 Holes Social Golf
Mon 21st	White Hot Pro Am	Fri 13th	The Ben Hogan trophy PA vs QDL
Thurs 24th	Past Captain Day	Sat 14th	The Ben Hogan trophy PA vs QDL
Sun 27th	St David Stableford		Presentation and Gala Dinner
		Sun 22nd	May Stableford
March		Mon 23rd	White Hot Pro Am
Sun 13th	18 Holes Social Golf	Sun 29th	May Medal
Sun 20th	St. Patrick's Day Medal		
Sun 27th	March Stableford	June	
Mon 28th	White Hot Pro Am	Fri 3rd	Ladies Past Captain Day
		Sun 5th	18 Holes Social Golf
		Wed 8th	Ladies Captains Day
		Sat 11th	Hillbillies vs Sanddancers
		Sun 12th	June Medal
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# Pro Tip

### - Ross Sutherland

With winter now upon us and the course a little wetter the simple chip has been made a little more difficult.

From a damp bare lie move the ball position further back and move your weight more onto your left side. This will also move the hands more ahead of the ball which should allow for a more steep angle of attack into the ball which should prevent the dreaded "thin" across the green!!

## Thurs 23rd White Hot Pro Am

Sat 18th

Sun 26th Seniors Championship & President

Captains Day

& June Stableford