

Altos

Nº 96 . APRIL 2012

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PINHEIROS ALTOS
GOLF, SPA & HOTELS

Introduction from the Captain

- Mr. David Markey

Irish eyes are smiling at Captains drive in!

Hitting my first straight shot in years in a pair of shorts that Rodney Dangerfield would be proud of my first few days as your Captain have been hectic.



The Markey family enjoyed the drive in.

I was delighted to have so many family and friends present for what I believe will be one of my highlights of the year; the drive-in was followed by a 9 hole competition, played over both the Pines and Corks courses.

Over 100 golfers participated in the fun event, whilst George and Rui did us proud with lunch afterwards. The Pines nine scramble was won by Iain and Lubna Cater, Christine Soden, Debbie Madgett and Gordon Brand and the Corks nine was won by Majida and Robert Lester, Chris and Melaura Parker and Gordon Todd.

The Easter Scramble saw 175 members and guests play the Pinheiros course (it was in great condition), the weather returned to its brilliant best and the introduction of the bunny ears by Mai Markey and Margo Fletcher set the tone for the day.

The icing on the cake was our team taking a prize on 15 under, considering the amount of drink consumed over the few days... it was a miracle!!! I would like to thank Brian, Christophe and all the staff of Pinheiros for the organisation of the Easter weekend.



The winners of the 9 Hole Scramble on the Corks, Gordon Todd (he can't believe it!) Majida and Robert Lester, Melaura and Chris Parker and the Captain.

As I said at the AGM, Pinheiros Altos is the envy of our neighbours. We currently have groups and friends playing golf every week, and long may that continue. I mentioned that Brian has agreed to allow a Wednesday competition across all groups with the best nett score on the day winning the monthly prize. The winners over the 12 months will play in a competition next March and the overall winner will receive a weekend at the K Club in Ireland.

I would like to thank John Linley and Shona Callaghan for their hard work over the past year. They both did the Club proud and represented us very well. It was a difficult year with much uncertainty, however that did not affect how they approached their jobs, and their contribution is very much appreciated.



David Markey with Outgoing Captain John Linley at the AGM



Lady Captain Thérèse van Doorn with Outgoing Lady Captain Shona Callaghan.

I would also like to wish our new Lady Captain Theresa Van Doorn the best of luck for her year and also to Graeme Thomson for accepting the role as my Vice-Captain.

Finally, I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible over the summer months.



Mai and David enjoy a quite moment (one of the few!)

Director of Golf - Monthly Report

Easter has been and gone in a flurry of golf events, social gatherings and meetings upon meetings and it's the time of year when the most members are here together.

I would like to reiterate the Captains sentiments by congratulating John Linley and Shona Callaghan on their respective years in office as Club and lady Captains. It was my pleasure to work with them... and I managed to learn the art of delegating from Mr. Linley!

The new Lady Captain Thérèse van Doorn drove in at the Ladies AGM a few days before Club Captain David Markey had his try.

Thérèse hit her usual straight drive and while David hit a career best, he was no match in distance.

The flags, guessing where Thérèse's drive would finish, were all placed in a very small area very close to where the actual ball finished. In the case of David the flags covered half of Quinta do Lago, with very few in the fairway. Knut Pedersen who guessed correctly obviously did not know David's golfing pedigree while Vice captain Graeme Thomson who attached his flag to a floating shark in the lake was very disappointed with his friend's straightest drive in years!



An explosive start to the Captain's year in office.



Knut Pedersen one of the few people who thought the Captain could hit the fairway!



Vice Captain Graeme Thomson with the new Captain.

The Captains 9 Hole Scramble which followed his drive-in had 105 players and 115 for the lunch that followed. It made for a fun start to what will undoubtedly be a very eventful year!

The AGM which preceded the drive in was the most uneventful for many years and if any member requires a copy of the minutes please contact Cristina in the Golf Office.

175 competitors celebrated Easter Sunday with a 9am Shotgun start and the 5 person teams enjoyed glorious weather and a BBQ well presented by Jorge, Rui and Nuno in the Clubhouse.

The prizes, drinks and music flowed and the team of Tim and Susan Russell, Paul and Melody Cotterill and Philip Goodman took won it with a superb 17 under par total which owed everything to 36 handicap Melody who, having to take the last drive, hit her 3 wood to within 5 cms from the hole at the 2nd Corks, giving her team a tap in birdie 2 to secure victory.

At the Easter Scramble prize presentation all the medal and stableford winners received their medals for the last 12 months



The Easter Scramble winners, Philip Goodman, Paul and Melody Cotterill, Tim and Susan Russell with the Club and Lady Captains.

and Peter Harrison took the trophy for the most improved player, dropping his handicap by 30% from 5.4 to 3.6.

The Spring Medal was won by ever growing Daniel Waters with a superb 76 gross 67 nett to win from a very strong field of 45 players.

We are trying to put together a photographic history of the first 20 years of Pinheiros Altos (the course opened in 1992), and if any members have any photographs from past events at Pinheiros Altos - or the original course and clubhouse - we would be most grateful if you would let us take copies of them. We will put everything together after this year's Gala Week. Should be very interesting!!

Work is continuing in the renovation, rejuvenation of the Clubhouse with painting and recovery of furniture. The exterior of the Clubhouse will also be painted and in the end we have decided to play it safe rather than go for the chocolate brown which was one of the suggestions. Whatever we do won't please everyone but it is starting to look better (not difficult!).

The golf course is really starting to grow now that we have had some rain and the dormant bermuda grass has bounced back into life. The treatments carried out by Sesinando and his staff in the prolonged dry spell will now start to reap rewards and the upcoming Stropkeplay Championship should have great conditions and provide no excuse to the competitors for any high scoring (its always high scoring!).

I would like to wish David and Thérèse every success in their coming year in office and also thank Christophe, Sesinando, Cristina and all the golf staff for their tremendous contribution to the organisation and operation of our busy Easter programme.

Finally, a big thank you to all the members and guests who have taken part in the Easter events which can only be successful with your participation.

Competition Results for March

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Fri 2nd - Sun 4th	Men Pairs Matchplay	Hamish Rumball Chris Hales		Tim Moores Alan Pugh	
Wed 7th	Ladies Day Medal	1st Division Susan Russell 2nd Division Ineke Goossens	74 Nett 72 Nett	1st Division Pat Galloway 2nd Division Shirley Griffiths	86 Nett 77 Nett
Wed 14th	Madrinha Greensomes Trophy	Jenny Harrison Adrienne Buth	38 Pts	Florence M D'Algue Stella Jeffrey	36 Pts
Sun 18th	St. Patrick's Day Medal	Tony Hickey	71 Nett	Gordon Todd	73 Nett (BB9)
Wed 21st	Ladies Day Qualifying Stableford	1st Division Nine V Drogenbroeck 2nd Division Jan Kirk	33 Pts 40 Pts	1st Division Barbara Black 2nd Division Marian Jenkins	31 Pts 36 Pts
Wed 21st	Wainwright Trophy Final	Rie Cherubini		Shirley Griffiths	
Wed 21st	Plate Final	Nancy Schofield		Diana Collins	
Sun 25th	March Stableford	Peter Beal	34 Pts (BB6 10 Pts)	Rie Cherubini	34 Pts (BB6 9 Pts)
Wed 28th	Ladies Day Team Stableford	Corks to Olives: Nancy Schofield, Shona Callaghan and Sylvia Mullins Olives to Pines: Linda Bentley, Pat Wright and Janet Leffler			

Ladies Section by Shona Callaghan

The final medal in my year of office was won by Susan Russell in the 1st division with a score of 74 nett (three less than her previous win in October) and Ineke Goossens in 2nd division with a 72 nett. Well played ladies.

The Madrinha Trophy was held on the 14th March in its new format, a Greensomes competition. It proved to be a very enjoyable game pairing high and low handicappers together. The trophy was won by Jenny Harrison and Adrienne Buth who recorded 38pts, closely followed by Florence Morgue D'Algue

and Stella Jeffrey with 36pts. Many thanks to all the ladies who took part and helped make a success of the inaugural match.

Playing ahead of the ladies competing in this month's Qualifying Stableford, were the finalists of the Wainwright Trophy (Rie Cherubini v Shirley Griffiths) and the Plate competition, (Nancy Schofield v Diana Collins). These two hard fought battles resulted in Rie winning the Wainwright Trophy and Nancy, the Plate. Congratulations Rie & Nancy. The trophy & prizes will be presented at the Ladies AGM.

The winners of the Stableford were Nine Van Droogenbroeck in 1st division with 33pts and Jan Kirk in 2nd division with an excellent score (and a handicap cut!) of 40pts. Very well played.

The last game of the month was a Team Stableford played on Corks/Olives and Olives / Pines. By selecting a good partner, Nancy Schofield and a pre selected hidden partner, Sylvia Mullins, I managed to be in the winning team on Cork / Olives. Nancy's excellent play and Sylvia's scores helped to boost our points to 70. Linda Bentley, Pat Wright and Janet Leffler won the 1st prize on the Olives / Pines course, having a better back 9 than Rie Cherubini, Yvonne White and Sandra Little – both teams also recorded 70pts.

We were joined in the clubhouse by several ladies who had not taken part and we were all treated to samples of delicious cakes and jams created and baked by Vera Martins. We wish her well in her new business venture.

I would like to end this, my final report, with a huge and very sincere thank you to all of you for the support that I have received throughout my year as Lady Captain. Special mention must go to Cristina Fernandes who has given me so much help behind the scenes, always with a smile on her face no matter how busy



Rosa and Cristina receive a little something for their hard work

she was with her other tasks; to Brian, Christophe, Rosa and all the reception staff; to Jorge and his team for help with all the catering arrangements at the various events, and finally to the ladies committee members who have always been there to give me guidance and help to bring my plans to fruition.



Christophe and Brian happy it's all over!

I would also like to thank everyone who has supported my fund raising activities. Notwithstanding the €3600 raised from advertising in the Diary, (thank you David Markey for the idea and help) the ladies section raised a further €4436, and outgoing Captain John Linley presented me with a further €3200 at the AGM, to bring our total to €11236. My two main charities are extremely grateful for your generosity.

And last, but certainly not least, I must thank my husband, Iain. Without his support, I would not have been able to take up the role of Lady Captain.

Finally (do I hear sighs of relief!) the thought for the month:

Thought for the month

It's amazing how a golfer who never helps out around the house will replace his divots, repair his ball marks, and rake his footprints in the bunkers!!!

Social Golf

by Iain Callaghan

Just as we've experienced throughout the Winter months, the weather was fair, the temperature warm and we had an excellent turnout of 44 players for the March Social Golf event held on the 11th.

It was a team competition, 1x to count on the par 3s; 2x to count on the par 4s and 3x to count on the par 5s which threw up quite a wide spread of scores against a par of 72. There was only one point separating the winning teams on the two courses - on Pines/Corks, the team of Joel Collins, Nigel Collins, Helen Mills and Meg Black scored a magnificent 14 under par 86, followed closely by 85 points (13 under par) returned by the team of Bertil Wiren, his guest Torgny Brenton, Lisa Burns and Adrienne Buth on Corks/Olives. The runners up were

Stewart Harper, Brian Scott, Diana Collins and Sylvia Mullins with 79 points on Pines/Corks and on Corks/Olives, Kelvin White, Peter Mills, Zoe Pirret and Shona Callaghan on par with 72 points.

For supper we were treated to the North of England delicacy, Fish'n Chips and (Mushy) Peas à la Portuguesa, followed by a simple Apple Crumble and Ice Cream dessert.

The next Social Golf event, on the 29th of April, will be another team competition - 2 to count on par 4s & par 5s but 3 to count on par 3s and will be organised by Thérèse Van Doorn and Dirk Blaasing.

Interclub

by Christian Holst

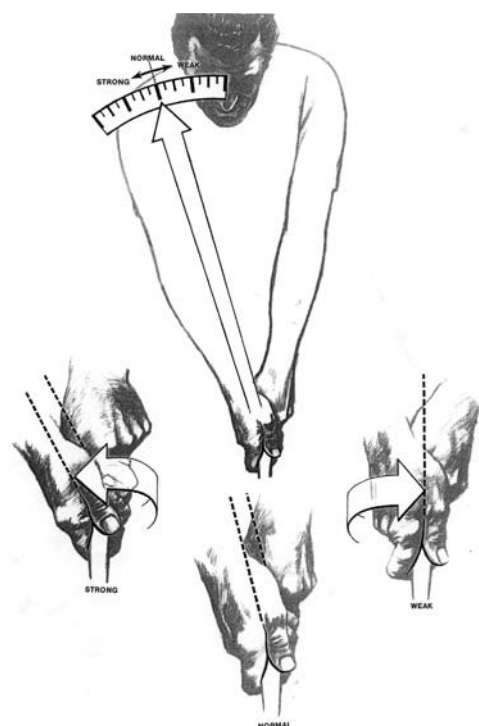
Our first match was played at home against Vilamoura with a somewhat disappointing draw. However, this was more than rectified by winning the following two away matches against Morgado and Palmares respectively giving us valuable bonus points.

The last win was particularly satisfying against what I expect to be one of the best teams this year. In addition we had other factors against us like a 7.54 first tee off time with an hour's drive first and men playing off the white tees in very windy conditions. Well done team!! As a result of this we are currently leading our division. Although the number of matches played differ among the teams our scoring average is very good.

There are three more matches this month, Levante (Quinta da Ria) away on the 12th, Salgados at home on the 17th and Vilamoura away on the 24th. The team has been selected for the Levante match, but sheets for the other two matches are now up. If you are not around and would like to be considered, feel free to contact me by other means or through the golf reception.

For those of you interested to follow the league there is a quite informative website: www.interclubalgarve.com.

PRO TIP – Peter Ashdown



The way you grip the club will start a whole sequence of events, not only in the way you set up to the ball but also to the way you will swing the club.

The way you grip will dictate the natural alignment of your shoulders, the position of your head in relation to the ball and even the ball position. In turn the grip will dictate the way you take the club away from the ball to initiate the back swing and therefore the potential of the whole swing.

The general rule is that the more physically strong the player is the WEAKER the grip can afford to be. So if you study the pictures I would always like to see a lady grip the club in a slightly STRONGER position than a strong man who should be positioned to the WEAKER side of NORMAL.

Juniors normally start with STRONG position and gradually move to NORMAL as they physically become stronger.

How are you gripping it?!

Forthcoming Events February and March 2012

Mon 2nd April	Ladies AGM
Wed 4th April	Ladies Day
Thurs 5th April	Golf AGM
Sat 7th April	Spring Medal
Sun 8th April	Easter Scramble
Tues 10th April	APPA AGM and APPA Competition
Wed 11th April	Ladies Day
Sat 14th April	Strokeplay Championship
Sun 15th April	Strokeplay Championship
Wed 18th April	Ladies Day
Sat 21st April	Mens Roll Up
Sun 22nd April	St. George April Stableford
Wed 25th April	Ladies Day
Sat 28th April	Mens Roll Up
Sun 29th April	18 Holes Social Golf
Wed 2nd May	Ladies Day
Sat 5th May	Mens Roll Up
Sun 6th May	May Medal
Wed 9th May	Ladies Day
Fri 11th May	The Ben Hogan Trophy PA V QDL
Sat 12th May	The Ben Hogan Trophy PA V QDL
Wed 16th May	Ladies Day
Fri 18th May	Ladies Past Captain day
Sat 19th May	Mens Roll Up
Sun 20th May	May Stableford
Wed 23rd May	Ladies Day
Fri 25th May	Mixed Pairs Matchplay
Sat 26th May	Mixed Pairs Matchplay
Sun 27th May	18 Holes Social Golf and Final of the Mixed Pairs Matchplay
Wed 30th May	Ladies Day