

Altos News

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PINHEIROS ALTOS
GOLF, SPA & HOTELS

Introduction from the Captain - Mr Knut Pedersen

First of all I would like to thank Mr. Stewart Harper for a great year as Captain of the club.

The AGM was held on the 24th March and 110 people attended. I would also like to thank David Ford for taking over as Vice-Captain this year. With Mai Markey as Lady Captain, we will work hard to keep up the reputation that PA is the hotspot for social golfing in Algarve.

My drive in was as short and humorous as my speech. So it was great fun for everyone.

Keith Hirst won the prize for guessing where my ball would go, so congratulations.

The 9 hole Scramble that followed was a great success with 84 people playing and 110 people staying for the lunch after.

The food was great, and a special thanks to Rui and his staff for making the day perfect. I would also like to thank Christophe, Cristina and the staff for making a perfect frame for the whole event.

Easter is a busy time at PA, with a lot happening. That means a lot of golf and social gatherings. This year we had Spring Medal on the Saturday with the Past Captains Lunch. Stewart Harper won the Past Captains Tournament with 35 points.

On Sunday, the Easter Scramble started at 10am. It turned out to be another day of sunshine and golf. There were 105 playing and 130 for the BBQ after. Again, the kitchen did a great job and served great food.

On Tuesday, we were back on the golf course again for the APPA Golf with dinner. For me, this provided a great opportunity to meet new people that may not normally attend all the golf days. Thanks to APPA for a great day.

Sadly I have to say that we lost a friend and a long time Cloggie, Joop Carp on the 29th March. He was a great contribution to the Cloggies and PA with his personality and humour - Joop, thanks for the time we had together and Rest in Peace.

On the 2nd and 3rd of April, we had our Strokeplay Championship. For the first time I had to play from the white tees. As John Wainwright once said, "That's longer than I go on vacation". However, after some holes you start to get used to it. So it will not be my last time from the white tees. 17 men and 13 ladies entered and the winners this year were Duncan Evans and Rie Cherubini; well played. I would also like to thank all the players and special thanks to all other members who attended the prize ceremony.

So as you see, these first two weeks have been busy. I would also like to join in and play with as many groups as possible during my year, so please feel free to ask me to play with you. But most of all, thanks to the members and staff at PA, it has been a fun-filled two weeks. I am looking forward to the year and hope to see you all on the course. Remember also - humour lasts longer than a good drive.

See you all out on the course.



Club Captain Knut Pedersen and Immediate Past Captain Stewart Harper

Joop Carp 1932 - 2016

It is with the deepest regret that I announce the passing of Joop Carp.

He had been a property owner and member of Pinheiros Altos since the early days of the club.

I am sure you will join with me in sending condolences to widow Dorris and the rest of his family.



Club Captain and Vice-Captain David Ford



Club Captain and Lady Captain



Club President David Markey and Lady Captain Mai Markey



Immediate Past Captains Stewart and Cathy Harper



Immediate Past Captain and Cristina



Club Captain with his Mother and Wife



Explosive Start at the Captains Drive In



Club Captain and Family



Club Captain and Vice-Captain



Dee Hirst, Amanda Stretton and Ingrid Hollier



Roger, Christophe and Fernando



Bente Meldgaard, Michael van Doorn, Knut Pedersen and Dirk Blaesing



Captain's Drive In Prize Winners

Director of Golf - Monthly Report

It is hard to believe that we are already in April, and that we have just had another Members AGM and I survived!

March was a very busy month leading to the Easter break and the AGM. I would like to congratulate Stewart Harper, the outgoing Club Captain, and Cathy Harper, the out-going Lady Captain, on a very successful year.

I would like to welcome Knut Pedersen and Mai Markey as the in-coming Captains and wish them a very good year in office. Knut did say his speech would be short and funny, however I did not realize that he also meant his drive would be short and funny. As my first language is not English I did learn a lot about the English language at the AGM, thanks to Knut Pedersen's speech.

Now I know what some members meant to tell me over the years. If in any doubt, just ask our Club Captain as he will translate for you.

I am very happy to welcome Susan Russell on the Golf Committee. She will be taking the new position of the APPA representative and I am sure her input will be very important to the future development of the club.

A big thank you to David Pirret, Adrienne Buth and Gordon Todd, who are leaving the Golf Committee this year. Their input and knowledge have been very welcome in the various committees. I am sure I can continue to count on them for their advice in the future.

March was a very busy month and started with the Men's Pairs Matchplay, which was briefed in the previous newsletter. It was followed by St Patrick's Day, which was a great event at Pinheiros Altos and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Even after a very long St Patrick's Day, Mai Markey, our new Lady Captain, managed to have a great drive-in straight down the fairway... which was much further than our Club Captain Mr. Knut Pedersen managed on the following Thursday.

The Golf AGM was very well attended with over 110 people present and very much to my surprise no questions were asked apart from the previous written one. We had the pleasure to inaugurate a renewed BBQ area for the AGM lunch, which

will still be further decorated and turned into a proper function room. Also, as announced at the AGM, the academy building will now have a hardware shop with a fitting facility, for Titleist Clubs mainly but other brands as well. We envisage an opening soon and we will publish the official opening details when planned.

I would like to thank Shirley Griffiths for taking the minutes of the Golf AGM as she has done over the past years and also take this opportunity to thank her for all the photos taken over the years at the various events that make the newsletter so much more colourful.



Lady Captain presents Shirley Griffiths with a thank you gift

The Easter Scramble was well attended with 105 players and 130 for lunch, and the noisiest team won. The Markey's Klan, with our new Vice-Captain David Ford. Of course they were delighted until I broke the news to them that both Karl and Jordan Markey were under the radar for a considerable handicap reduction.

The spring medal was won by Slaney Mullen, while on the same day, Stewart Harper won the Past Captain's Challenge. Congratulations to both.

Also, Nils Leffler won the St Patrick's Day Stableford as well as the APPA day, which saw his handicap go from 23,0 to 19,4. He is already well in contention to be the most improved player over the next 12 months as I am sure he will still score very well with his new handicap.

It remains for me to say that some very exciting projects are being discussed and that myself and my staff will do everything we can to make the members feel part of such a special club.

I wish you all great golfing!



Club Captain and Easter Scramble winners David Ford and David, Karl, Mai and Jordan Markey



Easter Scramble Runners-Up Chris Norman, Yarida Kabinpong, Yvonne White, Sergey Naumov and Kelvin White



Easter Scramble 3rd Place - Stewart Harper, Diana and Nigel Collins and Vera Watkins



Easter Scramble 4th Place - Melaura and Chris Parker and Robert and Majida Lester



Easter Scramble 5th Place - Lynn Brand, Sue Whitten, Sumbaline and Daniel Waters



Eclectic 2015 Nett Winners Linda Bentley and Nils Leffler



Immediate Past Captain Stewart Harper being Presented with the Past Captains Trophy



Stableford Winners



Medal Winners



Men's Most Improved Player Sergey Naumov



Outgoing APPA President Roger Kitson and Director of Golf Christophe Rindlisbacher Presenting Nils Leffler with the APPA Trophy



Non APPA Member Winner Denise Reed



Junior Member Winner James Cotterill



APPA Member Runner-Up Alberto Nicoletti



APPA Member 3rd Place - Gordon Davidson



APPA Dinner



Dear Stewart and Cathy,

As your year as Captains draws to a close, I would like to extend my sincere thanks on behalf of ACCA for your support.

We are extremely grateful for all of your help and the very generous donations that we have received from Pinheiros Altos, totalling €12604.

This money has enabled us to improve the lives of the 70 children at the two children's homes which you chose to support, Bom Samaritano in Alvor and Candeias in Olhão.

We have also purchased the desperately needed equipment for Simão, the little boy that was brought to our attention by you in July 2015; he now has his special wheelchair, a seat for use in the bath, an activity chair and a car seat.

I would like to thank you and all the members of Pinheiros Altos for the incredibly generous support given to ACCA throughout the year. The money you have raised has made a tremendous difference to the lives of so many children.

Kindest regards
Jenny Harrison
On behalf of ACCA

ACCA, Apartado 3862, 8136-907, Almancil



Before and After with the Artist
Uwe Bindseil



Competition Results for March

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Wed 2nd	Ladies Day Monthly Medal	1st Division Zoë Pirret	78 Nett	1st Division Helen Mills	79 Nett
		2nd Division Melody Cotterill	78 Nett	2nd Division Linda Bentley	82 Nett
Thur 3rd – Sun 6th	Men's Pairs Matchplay	Tony Hickey Kelvin White		Phil Schofield Rainer Grimm	
Sun 6th	Individual Stableford	Paul Cotterill	32 Pts	Stuart Anderson	31 Pts
Wed 9th	Lady Captain vs Lady Vice-Captain	Lady Captain Team	5	Lady Vice-Captain Team	1
Wed 16th	Ladies Day Madrinha Trophy	Mai Markey Rie Cherubini	38 Pts		
Sun 20th	St Patrick's Day Stableford	Nils Leffler	37 Pts (<i>bb9</i>)	Paul Cotterill	37 Pts
Mon 21st	Lady Captains Drive In	Leigh Anderson Margo Fletcher Ingrid Hollier	38 Pts	Sue Georges Lisa Burns Sally Evans	36 Pts
Wed 23rd	Ladies Day Monthly Stableford	1st Division Susan Russell	37 Pts	1st Division Rie Cherubini	35 Pts (<i>B9 18</i>)
		2nd Division Linda Bentley	39 Pts	2nd Division Melody Cotterill	38 Pts
Thurs 24th	Captains Drive In	Pines Course winners Roger Calico Mary Ward Gordon Davidson Anne Davidson	25 Pts	Corks Course winners Rie Cherubini Christian Holst Steven Crowdey Margo Wheatley	24 Pts
Sat 26th	Spring Medal	Slaney Mullen	71 Nett	Tim Moores	73 Nett (<i>bb9</i>)
Sat 26th	Past Captain's Day	Stewart Harper	35 Pts	Tim Russell	31 Pts
Sun 27th	Easter Scramble	David Markey Mai Markey Karl Markey David Ford Jordan Markey	61	Kelvin White Yvonne White Chris Norman Yarida Kabinpong Sergey Naumov	65 (<i>B9 32</i>)
Tues 29th	APPA Competition	Nils Leffler	40 Pts	Alberto Nicoletti	38 Pts (<i>bb9</i>)
Wed 30th	Ladies Day Monthly Medal	1st Division Susan Russell	74 Nett	1st Division Sue Georges	76 Nett (<i>bb9</i>)
		2nd Division Linda Dixon	73 Nett	2nd Division Fiona Thomson	80 Nett

Ladies Section - by Mai Markey

Well they say the sun shines on the righteous and thank God it did.....just!

After my drive in, straight down the middle (even though certain people tried to put me off!!), we all headed out to play nine holes with a black cloud overhead. Well done Margo for winning the champagne. Thankfully it was only a few drops and

everyone remained dry. I would like to thank Bernadette, Fiona and Linda for preparing the nibbles at the tee and Mr. President for the bubbles.

Good fun was had by all followed by a lovely lunch - thank you Rui and his staff.



Karl, Mai and David Markey



*Director of Golf Christophe Rindlisbacher
and Lady Captain Mai Markey*



Lady Captain's Drive In



*Immediate Past Lady Captain Cathy
Harper, Lady Captain Mai Markey and
Lady Vice-Captain Zoë Pirret*



The Catering Staff Alan and Linda Bentley



*Janet Leffler, Melody Cotterill, Bernadette
Hardie and Anne Davidson*



The Staff



Lady Captain Presents Margo Wheatley with Champagne for Winning the Closest Guess of Her Drive In



Molly Wainwright, Leigh Anderson and Margo Wheatley



Drive In Competition Winners Leigh Anderson, Margo Wheatley and Ingrid Hollier



Drive In Competition Runners Up Sue Georges, Lisa Burns and Sally Evans



Drive In Competition 3rd Place Melody Cotterill, Ineke Goossens and Barbara Black

Easter is always a busy time for all the staff at PA, but particularly this year with St Patrick's Day so close to Easter.

My first Wednesday Stableford was a fun event. The ladies made a massive effort with their Easter bonnets but there was a clear winner - Paula Burke's bonnet was made with a real nest and decorated with Easter egg lights. A massive congrats Paula! I would also like to say well done to Susie for wearing her bonnet while playing golf and pass on many thanks to Eva Harper for all her help judging.

Starting in April we will have a monthly Stableford €100 voucher from Casa do Quinta to be won (hope you haven't peaked too soon Linda!)

The Easter Sunday Scramble always brings members and their guests out to play. What could have been an extra early start with the clocks changing, our Director kindly gave us a shot gun for 10am.

What a wonderful day for my first week in my new job as the dream team won (aka David Ford, David Markey, Karl Markey,

Jordan Markey and moi). A few bubbles followed and a great day was had by all. Thank you to all at PA for a great day.

APPA day followed on Tuesday with a superb meal served in the dining room. Many congratulations to David Pirret who has come in as President of APPA.

My first Wednesday was a Medal. We all had a fun day and I promise next time I'll put both divisions out on Pines/Corks. Lisa will keep all of you updated to our busy diary going forward.

I would like to welcome Knut our Club Captain for 2016. We all enjoyed a super day after the AGM with a delightful meal in our new refurbished tent. I am looking forward to working with him, on your behalf, and we promise you all a fun golfing year ahead!

It has been a busy two weeks but an incredible start to my term in office. I thank you all for your support and good wishes.



PRO TIP - Kenny Fairbairn

Turn Your Belt for More Power

One of the most common pieces of advice golfers hear these days is “turn your upper half against resistance from your lower body”! The idea is to create a spring like affect for downswing speed.

If you struggle with this, try initiating the backswing by turning your belt buckle first. This then triggers the shoulder turn. Use one of your alignment sticks through your front belt loops to gauge the hip movement and help your progress.

Good luck!

Report from the Greens Committee

Dear fellow members, the committee is now made up of myself, Stewart Harper (sorry no-one else wanted to do it), Tony Hickey and a new member, David Ford; the club Vice-Captain.

Many thanks to Gordon Todd, who has retired, and for his robust comments and sensible approach, we will miss him.

His replacement, the Vice-Captain David Ford is currently at the "Masters" and no doubt will return with descriptions of the course and what we need to do to compete to that level! David is a single figure golfer with a golfing family and we welcome his appointment.

There is still much to be done to bring the course back to the standard we wish and to make it the envy of our competitors. The course presents quite well on the whole, but we know we can do more.

We believe it can be achieved and the owners are committed through the new COO Ruben Paula to restore all aspects of PA. The work within the Club House, the new golf shop and the calcada repairs are testament to a good start.

We have decided that the committee (now working with the formal appointment of the agronomist Carlos Guerreiro) will have designated responsibilities on the course.

As a previous golf club owner, Tony Hickey has a wealth of experience and I will be reporting shortly how he and David will be taking responsibility and overseeing specific aspects of the course maintenance.

Our priorities are to improve the quality of the grass on the greens whilst maintaining a firm and fast surface. This may cause some disruption to members with tining, over seeding and organic dressing becoming a regular feature, as will rolling the surface to maintain speed.

The fairways are still showing too much weed with poor grasses. The ban on certain herbicides is an issue but we believe we can still do more. We need good colour and a covering of grass for the fairways. Better quality water and improved cutting should all contribute to this recovery.

The tees are much improved but we want them to be hand cut and properly maintained, with divots repaired and tee boxes moved on a daily basis.

Finally, we hope to complete the work on the bunkers. The edging has improved but there are still bunkers where there is either too much soft sand or none at all! Our course is not alone in this respect but we need to get better!

The recent cutting and lobbing of the pines is letting more light onto the course and giving improved sight of the greens from fairways. I would like to see some changes to some of the recent "pot" bunkers, which look unnatural within our course.

I and my committee are grateful for the support from Christophe and for the enthusiasm shown by our new COO for improvement.

We welcome comments from members who we appreciate are always impatient for change. PA still offers the best golfing challenge in the Algarve, as the recent scores in the Club Championship played from the white tees have proved! It is not easy out there!

Good golfing to all.

Stewart Harper, Tony Hickey, David Ford.

Social Golf

by Nils Leffler

In glorious weather, with the wind just barely moving the leaves, 40 players set off to play a team event with a twist. The teams were formed in such a way that the average handicap per team would be 18±1 stroke. Five teams competed on each course combination i.e. Corks/Olives and Olives/Pines. The format was two best Stableford scores to be counted on par fours and fives, while on par threes the scoring was four, three, two, one i.e. four scores on the first par three, then three, etc. Both course combinations had a par score equal to 76. Each team leader was carefully selected based on enthusiasm and golfing ability!

After four and a half hours, the teams returned to the Club House more tanned than when they started and with some remarkable scores. Here are the winning teams:

	<i>Corks to Olives</i>		<i>Olives to Pines</i>	
1st Place	Zoë Pirret	88	Sue Georges	88
	John Wainwright		Dirk Blaesing	
	Bertil Wirén		Paul Cotterill	
	Melody Cotterill		Peter Mills	
2nd Place	Nigel Collins	86	Knut Ellingsen	85
	Susie Hardwick		Vera Watkins	
	Malcolm Hollier		Heinz Kura	
	Molly Wainwright		Dee Garvin	

All the members of the winning teams left after supper with a nice bottle of wine. 43 meals were served in the Club House, including to some guests, in an amicable atmosphere of golf discourse and analysis! The supper this time consisted of either Chicken Caesar Salad or Chilli Con Carne, with a nice almond cake and ice cream as dessert. The service was appreciated by all and the meals were an improvement over previous suppers but further enhancements are possible.

Next Social Golf event to be organised by Paula Burke and Zoe Pirret will take place on 17th April with a format called Foxtrot i.e. one, two, three, four scores and then repeat. All members and guests are of course welcome to participate.

Forthcoming Events April and May

Sat 2nd April	Strokeplay Championship (NO ROLL UP)
Sun 3rd April	Strokeplay Championship
Tues 5th April	Club Roll Up
Wed 6th April	Ladies Day
Sat 9th April	Mens Roll Up
Sun 10th April	April Medal
Tues 12th April	Club Roll Up
Wed 13th April	Ladies Day
Sat 16th April	Mens Roll Up
Sun 17th April	18 Holes Social Golf
Tues 19th April	Club Roll Up
Wed 20th April	Ladies Day
Sat 23rd April	Mens Roll Up
Sun 24th April	St Georges Stableford
Tues 26th April	Club Roll Up
Wed 27th April	Ladies Day
Sat 30th April	Mens Roll Up
Sun 1st May	May Medal
Tues 3rd May	Club Roll Up
Wed 4th May	Ladies Day
Fri 6th May	Past Lady Captain 's Day
Sat 7th May	Mens Roll Up
Tues 10th May	Club Roll Up
Wed 11th May	Ladies Day
Fri 13th May	The Ben Hogan Trophy QDL V PA
Sat 14th May	The Ben Hogan Trophy QDL V PA (NO ROLL UP)
Sun 15th May	May Stableford
Tues 17th May	Club Roll Up
Wed 18th May	Ladies Day
Thurs 19th May	Mixed Pairs Matchplay
Fri 20th May	Mixed Pairs Matchplay
Sat 21st May	Mixed Pairs Matchplay and Mens Roll Up
Sun 22nd May	Mixed Pairs Matchplay
Tues 24th May	Club Roll Up
Wed 25th May	Ladies Invitation Day
Sat 28th May	Mens Roll Up
Sun 29th May	18 Holes Social Golf
Tues 31st May	Club Roll Up