

Altos

Nº 167 . MARCH 2018

news



PINHEIROS ALTOS
GOLF, SPA & HOTELS

Introduction from the Captain - Mr David Ford

Hi everyone

At the time of writing, the rain that the Portuguese nation has been crying out for has arrived in biblical proportions! Good for farmers and wine producers, but bad for golfers. Despite the deluge, St David's Day turned out to be one of the great days of my captaincy. With over 80 players, we managed to dodge the rain for 9 holes and produce a competition, but more importantly, any day where lunch commences at 1.30 and the vast majority of people are still present at 7.30, has to be viewed as a success. Great food, great wine and great music (via Leandro) certainly helped. Everyone entered into the spirit, with a sea of red being in evidence, together with a plethora of daffodils, leaks, dragons and the occasional sheep. Thanks to Christophe and all of his staff; the Clubhouse looked terrific. Thanks also to all who participated in the day and congratulations to Duncan, Sergei, Dave and Andy for winning the Trevor Griffiths Trophy. Incidentally, it was the first time, in my experience, that a thank you speech was delivered in Russian.

March has seen the return of the Interclub Competition; we wish Geoff Stott and the squad all the best for the forthcoming matches.

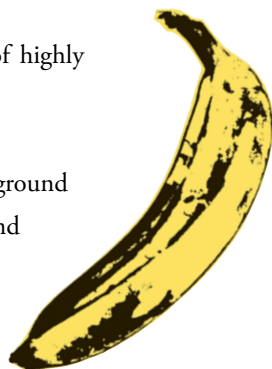
As the AGM looms, this will be my last Newsletter. It's remarkable how many times I've been asked questions about subjects that are fully covered within Altos News, so I would urge everyone to read it. I've thoroughly enjoyed my year and would like to thank everyone for the tremendous support that I've received. I wish my friend, Michael Collins, an equally enjoyable year; I'm sure that it will be a great success.

POP QUIZ

Your last chance to win a sleeve of highly desirable Fordy Balls.

Who did The Velvet Underground record their first album with and which band member was Welsh.

The first two correct answers to d@vidford.com will win.



Shirley Griffiths presenting the St David's Day Trophy to the Winners Dave Eddy, Andy Wheeler, Sergey Naumov and Duncan Evans with Director of Golf Christophe and Club Captain David Ford



St David Day Runners Up Iain Cater, Brian Evans, David Markey and David Ford



St David Day 3rd Place Rainer Grimm, Neil Bamber and Phil Schofield with Club Captain David Ford and Golf Professional Ross Sutherland

Happy golfing during 2018!!



St Valentine's Competition Prize Winners



St Valentine's Day celebrations



St Valentine's Day celebrations



St David's Day celebrations



St David's Day celebrations



St David's Day celebrations

Director of Golf - Monthly Report

February has been relatively quiet on the course and tournaments in Pinheiros Altos. We did of course have our St Valentine day which this year managed to play it over 36 holes. The big winners with a score of 55 points in an eclectic format over both were Ken Irving & Lisa Burns. 40 members attended a very enjoyable evening.

Congratulations to Stella Jeffrey who won the February Medal with a score of 72 and the February Stableford best score of 38 points was junior Joey Miller Cheevers who won the Junior prize as he is not yet single figure but is going the right way to get there. The Stableford was won by Peter Seabrook with a score 36 points. Nice to see Ladies, Juniors and Men taking prizes!

On 1st March 2018 the Captain organized and subsidized St David Day which even though the golf was only 9 holes, the tournament took a full day as the atmosphere in the Clubhouse was the best we had for a long time and everyone there seem to enjoy a very good day despite the bad weather ! The Captain & lady Captain also managed to raise €1.000 with the help of our auctioneer & President Mr. David Markey and all the generous donations from our Members.

The rain has finally arrived and the course will only benefit from it as the levels of the borrow holes were very low and of poor quality. Even though the rain has delayed some planned

maintenance on the course it will only be beneficial to improve our fairways.

The pop bunkers on 3rd Corks are being removed as we speak and will become grass hazard but do not think it means the course is getting easier as it will remain a very tricky chip to the green if you leave it short.

The next 3 months are looking very busy on the golf course and I would recommend members to play as much as possible in 4 balls as the pace of the golf course will be slower over the next few months.

Coming up is of course is the AGM on 29th March, Spring Medal & Past Captain's Day on the 31st March, Easter Sunday Scramble on 1st April and the APPA Tournament on 3rd April so make sure you sign for all the golf and social activities coming up.

A memorial cocktail will be held on 30th March 2018 at 6pm in the Members Lounge in Memory of the Pinheiros Captain 2002-2003 Mr. Michael Hegarty who sadly passed away last month.

I look forward to see many of you over the Easter break and enjoy all the golf and activities.



AGM

The A.G.M. of the Pinheiros Altos Golf Club will take place on Thursday 29th March 2018 at 10 a.m. in the Clubhouse.

Questions for the Director of Golf at the A.G.M. should be made in writing and presented at the Golf Office on or before Thursday 15th March 2018.

Only questions made in writing and presented by the due date will be answered by the Director of Golf at the A.G.M.

If any principal member would like to stand for election as Incoming Vice-Captain they should notify the Golf Office, proposed and seconded by four principal members in writing on or before Thursday 15th March 2018.

It is my pleasure to present a photo gallery of the present Captains and incoming Captains, Lady Vice-Captain and proposed Incoming Club Vice-Captain.

Agenda

1. 10:00 a.m. Meeting is opened by the Chairman of the AGM
2. The Chairman will introduce the outgoing Captain Mr. David Ford
3. Mr. David Ford summarizes his year and introduces the Captain for the coming year Mr. Michael Collins.
4. The Captains acceptance speech.
5. Report from the Director of Golf including the response to written questions.
6. The Chairman closes the meeting.



David Ford – Club Captain



Michael Collins – Incoming Club Captain



Alan Bentley – Proposed Incoming Club Vice-Captain



Zoë Pirret – Lady Captain



Lisa Burns – Incoming Lady Captain



Debbie Madgett – Incoming Lady Vice-Captain

Competition Results for February

| Date | Competition | Winner | Score | Runner Up | Score |
|---------------------|--|--|-------------------|---|---------|
| Wed 7th | Ladies Day Monthly Medal | 1st Division | | 1st Division | |
| | | Amanda Stretton | 76 Nett | Hilary Jessup | 84 Nett |
| | | 2nd Division | | | |
| | | Molly Wainwright | 82 Nett | | |
| | 9 Hole Comp | Diana Collins | 16 Pts | Sandra Seddon | 15 Pts |
| Fri 9th Sat 10th | St Valentine's Day | Ken Irving Lisa Burns | 55 Pts | Paul Cotterill Melody Cotterill | 52 Pts |
| | Best Gross | Stephen Leach Christine Soden | 38 Pts | | |
| Wed 14th | Ladies Foursomes Trophy | Hilary Jessup Sue Georges | 33 Pts <i>clb</i> | Chie Crowdey Lorraine Dunabin | 33 Pts |
| | 9 Hole Comp | Sandra Seddon Ingrid Hollier | 13 Pts | | |
| Sun 18th | February Medal | Stella Jeffrey | 73 Nett | Sue Georges | 74 Nett |
| Wed 21st | Ladies Day Monthly Stableford | 1st Division | | 1st Division | |
| | | Sally Evans | 30 Pts <i>clb</i> | Helen Mills | 30 Pts |
| | | 2nd Division | | 2nd Division | |
| | | Molly Wainwright | 33 Pts <i>clb</i> | Wendy Evans | 33 Pts |
| | 9 Hole Comp | Sandra Seddon | 15 Pts | Ingrid Hollier | 14 Pts |
| Sun 25th | February Stableford | Peter Seabrook | 36 Pts | Steven Crowdey | 33 Pts |
| | Junior Prize | Joey M Cheevers | 38 Pts | | |
| Wed 28th | Ladies' Captain VS Ladies' Vice Captain | Match cancelled due to rain | | | |
| Thurs 1st March | St David's Day 9 Holes | Duncan Evans Sergey Naumov Dave Eddy Andy Wheeler | 42 Pts | David Ford Iain Cater Brian Evans David Markey | 39 Pts |

Ladies Section - by Zoë Pirret

February may be a short month but it has been a busy one. We started the month with the Club competitions, the Quinta/ Pinheiros Social and then the Valentines Competition. I would like to congratulate our playing partners on the final day of the Valentines, Lisa Burns and Ken Irving, what a fantastic two days of golf, well done.

This month our Social event was at the Four Seasons Fairways and we had a presentation on the new clubhouse followed by a nice lunch. The next event is a visit to a Cork Factory in Sao Bras on the 6th March. As mentioned in the last newsletter Melody Cotterill is our contact and organiser for these events and we hope these will grow in popularity and attendance. Thank you Melody for the work you are putting into all the organising.

The Ladies' Section had our Foursomes Trophy competition which was won by Sue Georges and Hilary Jessup and presented by Shirley Griffiths who donated the trophy in 2006. Well done to our other prize winners, Chie Crowdey and Lorraine Dunabin, Kay Ford and Lubna Cater, Sandra Seddon and Ingrid Hollier. The Ladies' Section provided after golf drinks and nibbles.



The end of the month we finally saw the rain, which we desperately need, but is not appreciated for golfing! Sadly our Ladies' Captain vs Ladies' Vice Captain match did not take place, instead we were treated to bubbles and pizza kindly provided by our LVC, who also organised a fun golf quiz – so a big thank you to Lisa Burns.

Although this took place in March, I would like to thank Fordy for a great St. David's day, even if the rain did mean only a 9 hole competition. Some of the ladies really went to town with their daffodil outfits!



We did our final Jar on the Bar which raised €173.20 in the jar and €315 with guesses, the happy winner of the voucher was Nils Leffler who guessed €172. I am delighted to announce that the total the Jar has raised is €3728.26 and provided much needed medical care for many children. Thank you for your generosity with this project.



Report from the Greens Committee

The writer apologies for no report last month but the January report was later than normal and there was little of consequence to report upon in February.

It may be helpful to remind members that we are embarking on a two year plan based upon professional advice from STRI one of the world's leading sport turf consultants.

The main points which Marco our course manager has confirmed for work to be done in March are as follows:-

1. The greens (which all agree are excellent) will receive a top dressing of sand (as advised by STRI). The monitoring of moisture levels and sanding has developed a strong root growth and the spread of the bent grasses surfaces are both more resilient to disease and give excellent putting surfaces.
2. The course is to be fertilised to include tees, fairways and rough.
3. The pot bunkers on hole 3 of corks are to be eliminated, (hopefully before the Captains year of office finishes!) These are the bunkers in front of the green.
4. The greens will be tined and this will start before March. This is in accordance with the STRI plan.
5. Fairways are to be sprayed for preparation for later sanding again to reflect STRI advice.
6. Tees, will time permitted, be verticut in March.

7. The buggy path on 7 of corks to the left of the green will be repaired subject to the contractors for the calcada being available.

Marco has advised me that Duncan Evans who has been involved in bunkers repairs and improvement on several courses in our area will be helping him with the work on 3 of corks. We are trying to bring all the bunkers up to a better standard.

The removal of both trees and excessive tree branches which shade the course will time permitting continue to be removed. We believe the course looks the better for it. The opening up of a route to the green to the right of the large pine on 8 of Corks by the removal of some ugly pines has been welcomed while still providing a challenging shot!

The committee hope that this year we will be able to make real progress on improving the quality of the fairways. STRI have provided a plan but it will take time to implement and has its challenges. The improvement of the greens shows what can be done in a relatively short time.

Warmer and hopefully wetter weather will begin to accelerate growth and general improvements on all the grasses.

As ever the committee welcome views from members but ideally not just as they are beginning a round!

Stewart Harper Chairman,
David Ford Captain,
Duncan Evans.

Social Golf - by Iain Callagahn

Social Golf with Quinta do Lago - Report for Sunday 4th February 2018

It's a new record, 87 players - 44 from P.A. and 43 from Quinta (joined by an additional 7 guests for supper) signed up for the annual combined Social Golf with our neighbours from Quinta do Lago. This year was our turn to host the event on, what happened to be, a bitterly cold Sunday (4th Feb) compliments of a biting chill from the North wind but thankfully it remained dry throughout.

It was a shotgun start at 12-15 on Pines /Corks: 22 teams made up, in the main, of a couple from Quinta and a pair from P.A. set out on a team competition of better two to count on par 4s and par 5s with the best three to count on par 3s. I think that the chill kept everyone moving along, and by the turn, the prospect of a drink at a warm bar followed by a hot meal became very inviting.

After supper Captain, David, expressed a warm welcome to our friends from Quinta followed by a "thank-you" from their Captain, Rod Sumner, also complimenting Renato and staff on the meal and service and taking the opportunity for some good natured sledging of David's colourful outfits - he only has to look at them twice in a year good reason to take pity on the P.A. regulars!

Given the windy conditions, there were some very good scores against a par of 80 with the following prize winners all scoring well over par:-

Altogether, a good fun event, lots of camaraderie and good humour, cementing the bond with our nearest golfing neighbours.

| | <i>Score</i> |
|--|------------------------|
| 1st Place: Stewart Harper & Dee Hirst with Robert Hunter & Tasmin Loke | 88 points. |
| 2nd Place: Brian Scott & Kay Ford with Mike & Marianne Pile | 86 points. |
| 3rd Place: Ken Irving & Helen Mills with David Haigh & Kath Kelly | 85 points. |
| 4th Place: Paul Cotterill & Lisa Burns with Peter & Jane Beale | 84 points. |
| 5th Place: Liam Edwards & Deidre Forde with Martin Wilson & Laura Nettleingham | 83points (bb9 of 44). |
| 6th Place: Remo Cherubini, Stephen Leach, Malcolm Hollier & Stella Jeffrey (floater) | 83 points (bb9 of 43). |
| 7th place: Andy Wheeler & Shona Callaghan with Derek & Aileen Hickey | 83 points (bb9 of 39). |



1st Place Robert Hunter, Dee Hirst, Tasmin Loke and Stewart Harper



2nd Place Brian Scott, Kay Ford, Mike Pile and Marianne Pile



3rd Place Ken Irving, Helen Mills, Kath Kelly and David Haigh

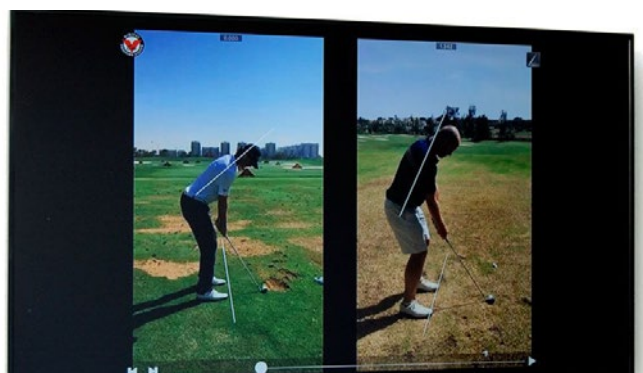
Academy News



The new Golf Academy Facebook page is now online so please live & follow Pinheiros Altos Golf Academy.



The page will give you access to the new website www.pinheirosaltosgolfacademy.com and also allow you to book your lessons online.



We look forward to seeing you in the Academy!

Kenny and Ross

Forthcoming Events

March & April 2018

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Thurs 1st March | St David's Day |
| Sat 3rd March | Mens Roll Up |
| Wed 7th March | Ladies Day |
| Thurs 8th March | Men Pairs Matchplay |
| Fri 9th March | Men Pairs Matchplay |
| Sat 10th March | Men Pairs Matchplay |
| Sun 11th March | Men Pairs Matchplay & March Stableford |
| Wed 14th March | Madrinha Trophy |
| Sat 17th March | Mens Roll Up |
| Sun 18th March | 18 Holes Social Golf |
| Wed 21st March | Ladies' Winner's Competition |
| Sat 24th March | Mens Roll Up |
| Mon 26th March | Ladies' AGM & Drive In |
| Wed 28th March | Ladies V Cloggies |
| Thurs 29th March | Golf AGM & Captain's Drive In |
| Sat 31st March | Spring Medal & Past Captain's Day (No Roll Up) |
| Sun 1st April | Easter Scramble |
| Tues 3rd April | APPA Competition |
| Wed 4th April | Ladies Day |
| Sat 7th April | Strokeplay Championship (No Roll Up) |
| Sun 8th April | Strokeplay Championship |
| Wed 11th April | Ladies Day |
| Sat 14th April | Mens Roll Up |
| Sun 15th April | April Stableford |
| Wed 18th April | Ladies Day |
| Sat 21st April | Mens Roll Up |
| Sun 22nd April | 18 Holes Social Golf |
| Wed 25th April | Ladies Day |
| Sat 28th April | Mens Roll Up |
| Sun 29th April | April Medal |