

Nº 185 . SEPTEMBER 2019

Altos news



PINHEIROS ALTOS
GOLF, SPA & HOTELS

Introduction from the Captain - Mr Alan Bentley

August as I said in last month's introduction to the news-letter is always a slow month at the club and this year was no exception as the temperature rose and the majority headed for the beach rather than the golf course.

I was away in the UK for three weeks avoiding the worst of the heat and upon my return I have to say that the fairways at the club have taken on a much-improved appearance and while our head of Greens Stewart Harper maintains that we still have improvements to make in other areas, the greens committee should be congratulated along with our staff for the progress

I am cheating a little as Presidents day actually fell on the 1st September but I could not resist including it in my introduction this month

The Presidents day competition this year also included the seniors Championship won by Stephen Quail. So very well-done Stephen and many congratulations on becoming our seniors champion

In the Presidents Day competition, it was Gordon Davidson who won the day and many thanks go to him for filling the

trophy with Champagne and offering us all a celebratory drink, great gesture and great fun. Hope you like your new putter

79 of us for dinner, a great turnout a great band and great food, it's becoming a habit and I have to say this is what our club is all about. Like-minded people enjoying both their chosen sport and the following celebrations together.

Also, at Presidents day David Markey held an auction of two blocks of time very generously donated by Nigel and Tracy Spokes at their villa in Mauritius. I have to say that the bidding was very enthusiastic and, in the end, both John Carver and our Lady Captain Debbie Madgett found themselves preparing for holidays in the Indian Ocean. Our charity coffers meanwhile were also swelled by a very healthy total of € 13,000. Many thanks to all of you involved.

Finally, one cancellation due to circumstances beyond our control the Hillbillies vs Sand-dancers has been postponed and will now be held on 30th November

Hope you all have a great month of golf.





Gala Week 2019 – Gala Dinner



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Gala Week 2019 – Gala Dinner



Gala Week 2019 – Gala Dinner



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Gala Week 2019 – Gala Dinner

Director of Golf - Monthly Report

August as usual is a quiet month as many holiday makers will look for the beach more often than the golf course. August showed some great improvement on the quality of the course which has been commented by many members & visitors especially in the growing of the fairways making the course play longer with a lot less run of the ball.

I managed to take quite a bit of time off in August with the family away from the Fairways and after having played last week I can say it did not improve my golf. I will be looking for shots back very soon.

Tom Copp won the August Medal with a score of 71 while Neil Bamber won the August Stableford with 37 points. Congratulations to both of them. We will keep an eye on Tom's handicap as he has been improving every day and if he continues like that will be soon into single figure.

On 1st September we had our usual President's Day & Senior Championship which this year was played in the afternoon followed by a dinner which even with some moaners because of the change of timings was a great turn-out of 64 players & 79 for the dinner. There was a great atmosphere at the dinner and all who took part really enjoyed the night. Thank you to the President Mr. David Markey for his very generous contribution to the day. The President was exceptional at auctioning 4 weeks in Mauritius for the value of €13.000 to go to the charities of ACCA & Salvation Army. The big winner of the President's Day was Gordon Davidson with 40 points and the Senior Champion with a gross score of 26 points was Stephen Quail. Congratulations to both of them and I know the celebration went on all night!

We thought of changing the president Day format by having another day for the Seniors but after the success of 1st of September we have decided not to change it as the turn out and atmosphere was one of the best in the last few years.

Early this month The Pinheiros Altos Member's APP was lounged and I hope that most members are now being connected. If not please following the instruction which are in this newsletter to install the APP. It is still early days and a lot of work must still go into the APP so please be patient as everything is geared to improve the operation and aspect of the APP. The committee is

looking forward to have a toll which keeps us nearer to a very transient membership and will allow members which are not as often in Portugal to follow what is the Club doing. I would like members to give me as much feed back as possible so that we can improve the APP.

The Hillbillies V Sandancers tournament which was schedule for 28th September has been changed to 30th November as there was quite a few not available for this month event.

In early October also make sure you sign in for the Pink day on 2nd October and the wooden spoon on 4th October 2019 which both sign ups are on the board. At the moment you can only enter for Stableford & Medals competitions on the APP but in the future you will be able to enter for any of the events.

I would like to remind all the members that we are now entering the busiest season of the year and that the pace of play on the golf course will be affected therefore whenever possible members should always try to play in 4 balls. We are very fortunate to have the Members times which allow us having a better pace on the course for our Members.

I look forward to see as many of you around for the forthcoming events and wish you all good golfing!



Seniors Championship winner Stephen Quail and wife Lorraine.



President's Day Incorporating Seniors Championship Dinner

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President's Day Incorporating Seniors Championship Dinner



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President's Day Incorporating Seniors Championship Dinner

Competition Results for August

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Sun 1st	President's Day Incorporating Seniors Championship	<i>Presidents Putter Winner</i>		<i>Best Nett Ladies</i>	
		Gordon Davidson	40 Pts	Amanda Stretton	35 Pts
				<i>Best Nett Men</i>	
				Kieran Nagle	35 Pts
		<i>Senior Champion</i>		<i>Best Nett Senior</i>	
		Stephen Quail	26 Pts Gross	Noel Kelly	34 Pts
				<i>Best over 70's</i>	
				Diana Collins	34 Pts
Sun 4th	August Stableford	Neil Bamber	37 Pts	Colin Glennon	35 Pts
Wed 7th	Ladies Day Monthly Medal	<i>1st Division</i>			
		Dawn Warnock	75 Nett		
		<i>2nd Division</i>		<i>2nd Division</i>	
		Diana Collins	75 Nett	Vera Watkins	76 Nett (bb9)
Sun 11th	August Medal	Thomas Copp	71 Nett	Zoë Pirret	72 Nett
Wed 14th	Ladies Day Fun Competition Seattle Scramble	Amanda Stretton	92 Pts	Zoë Pirret	86 Pts
		Kay Ford		Adrienne Buth	
		Stella Jeffrey		Melody Cotterill	
		Wendy Collins		Diana Collins	
Wed 21st	Ladies Day Monthly Stableford	<i>1st Division</i>		<i>1st Division</i>	
		Molly Lodge	34 Pts	Zoë Pirret	33 Pts
		<i>2nd Division</i>		<i>2nd Division</i>	
		Debbie Madgett	33 Pts (bb9)	Stella Jeffrey	33 Pts

Ladies Section - by Debbie Madgett

August was a quiet month with a few die hard golfers still competing in the Medal and Stableford and fun game – well done ladies!

At the end of the month was the annual trip to Palmares which was great fun with 20 ladies taking part and a few along for the ride and lunch. The golf course was beautiful and weather perfect and yet again the Beach House Hotel did a superb lunch with wine – slightly strange wine that seemed to have everyone singing on the coach on the way home!

Some dates for your diary

Monday 30th September Vila Sol Match at Pinheiros
Wednesday 2nd October Pink Day Golf Competition (Club Competition)
Friday 4th October Wooden Spoon (Club Competition)

Thursday 10th October Olive Farm Trip – all welcome – Lisa will provide details nearer the time. Please email Lisa if you wish to attend lisaburns21@googlemail.com

Thursday 10th October 5-7 pm launch of the Pinheiros Altos Charity Cookery book with wine tasting from Wines and Co – please join us.

Friday 11th October Ladies golf Competition and Annual Dinner – list will be put up and menu choices – social ladies welcome to come for dinner – it will be at Alambique due to large numbers which they cope very well with. Food choice will be different to previous event. (LC Day)

Monday 21st October Levante Friendly Match (home)

All notices will be posted in the Ladies Locker room but if you have any queries please e-mail me at debbiemadgett@gmail.com

We look forward to welcoming back more members now the cooler weather is here and hopefully we will see you all at golf or a social event.

Happy Days
Debbie x

Social Golf - by Andy Georges

Who Needs Par 4's!!

On a hot and steamy Sunday 25th August, 17 social golfers enjoyed the challenge of a course with no par 4's. The men played these 10 holes from the white tees and ladies from the yellow tees, as par 5's. This competition was originally introduced by Zoe Pirret and the feedback for the second time from social golfers was very positive.

I was told by some of my "friends" that the reason there were only 17 players was because I was organizing the day, as usual I chose to ignore these well intentioned comments, and put it down to people being away.

We were joined by Marieke for supper and Renato and the kitchen staff presented a very nice cold buffet, accompanied by

sweet potato chips. (This was at the request of Molly Wainwright, who due to an injury wasn't able to play nor enjoy the chips!)

The results:

Olives /Pines

1st - 94 points

Andy Wheeler, David Pirret, Sue Georges, Diana Collins

2nd - 92 points

Matt Venker, Kieran Nagle, Adrienne Buth, Sue Georges

3rd - 86 points

Tom Copp, Liam Edwards, Diana Collins, Stella Jeffrey

The next social golf, which will be a "foxtrot" is on 22nd September and will be run by Knut Pedersen & Cathy Harper

Report from the Greens Committee

September is often a difficult month for our course as it follows hopefully the last hot month of the year and also a period when many staff take their holidays and of course Gala week at the end of July was a week of extensive activity on and off the course.

The writer was therefore reasonably pleased in having been away in wet Cheshire for most of August to find the course to be generally in good “shape” and with improved fairways and good presentation.

There remain as always, issues which we would highlight as follows:-

Tees.

Generally better but more changes to positioning tee blocks might reduce wear and allow better recovery to some worn looking tees. We have still to move the ladies tee on 2 of Pines and to enlarge the tee on 8 of Corks. This work will we believe be started over the winter months.

Fairways.

The two applications of fertilizer in July is still showing improved grass growth but there are some “dry patches” which spoils an otherwise much improved presentation and satisfactory playing conditions.

We are due to meet with the course superintendent, Marco, this week and anticipate the dry patches may be a maintenance problem. There is no doubt that improved growth has made “striking” easier but also made the course play slightly longer with less run on greener fairways!

Greens.

We have some seasonal grasses which have invaded the finer bent grasses. They are unsightly.

The actual nature of these grasses is not entirely certain although we have seen them over many years and we hope to see them disappear in October.

They are particularly offensive on the practice putting green and some greens on pines and corks. The committee would like to have them identified by either the STRI or the local University agricultural department (where Ina, our environmentalist has recently been studying). They are probably Digitaria which we often see in the form of “Crab” grasses in domestic lawns, the writer thinks maybe Poa?.

Either way we need to see what can be done to prevent their appearance next year!

Bunkers.

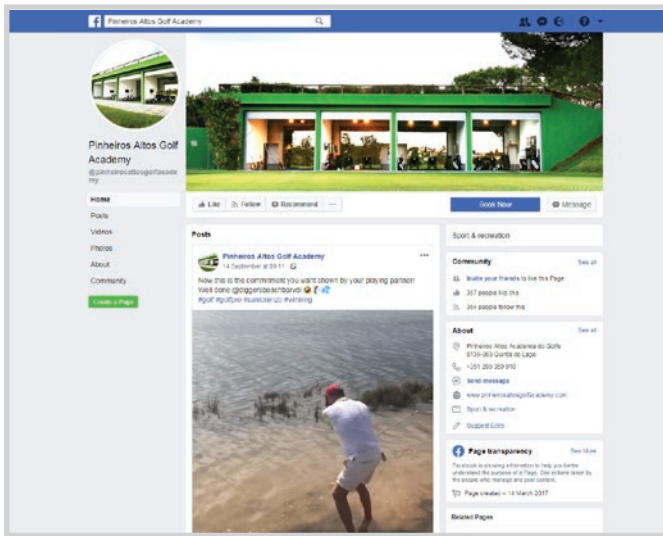
Excessive sand is now a rarity but we still have inconsistent sand with some very compacted sand beneath a top layer of 1-2 cm of softer sand. This is a very labour intensive problem and members can help by raking well after playing bunker shots. Visitors often fail to do so!

The committee believe we are making progress and still remain optimistic that we are in sight of the course we hope for. This was never going to be an easy challenge and although we have support from the owners and added investment this must be consistent as golf courses can so quickly deteriorate if left untreated!

Members’ views are always welcome to either the committee or to Christophe!

Stewart Harper Chairman,
David Ford,
Duncan Evans.

Academy News



The new Golf Academy Facebook page is now online so please like & 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 September & October 2019

Sun 1st September	President 's Day & Seniors Championship
Wed 4th September	Ladies Day
Wed 4th September	Matchplay Championship
Thurs 5th September	Matchplay Championship
Fri 6th September	Matchplay Championship
Sat 7th September	Matchplay Championship
Sun 8th September	Matchplay Championship & Stableford
Wed 11th September	Lady Captain 's Day
Thurs 12th September	Interclub Palmares (Home)
Sat 14th September	Mens Roll Up
Sun 15th September	September Medal
Wed 18th September	Ladies Day
Sat 21st September	Mens Roll Up
Sun 22nd September	18 Holes Social Golf
Wed 25th September	Ladies Day
Sat 28th September	Hillbillies V Sanddancers
Wed 2nd October	Pink Day
Thurs 3rd October	Interclub Parque da Floresta (Home)
Fri 4th October	Wooden Spoon Men Vs Ladies
Sat 5th October	Mens Roll Up
Sun 6th October	Autumn Medal Rosebowl
Wed 9th October	Ladies Day
Fri 11th October	Ladies Competition & Ladies Annual Dinner
Sat 12th October	Mens Roll Up
Sun 13th October	October Stableford
Wed 16th October	Ladies Day
Sat 19th October	Mens Roll Up
Sun 20th October	18 Hole Social Golf
Wed 23rd October	Ladies Day
Sat 26th October	Mens Roll Up
Wed 30th October	Ladies Day



Pinheiros Altos Club
Member's APP
Please download the
APP and follow
activities of your club

Dear Members,

I wrote to you some months ago regarding the launch of our new App.

We are now ready to go live, however to comply with data protection, we need you to do the following:

- A. Please supply us with a unique email address for title holders and associate members attached to your title. Most of you have already supplied this information. However we are looking at having all Pinheiros members registered, so please come back to me if you have not done it yet.
- B. Download the App by typing the internet address "pagc.eryr.club".
- C. Go to my profile and set up your profile. Please use the access code 1234, and enter your name and email address.

If you are happy to have your name, email & Telephone number visible in the members list, press YES and if not press NO.

If you wish to only display your name or email, please contact Cristina to set your profile with the details you only want to show.

Once you have sign up, you will have access to the club diary, competitions and other useful information.

In the coming weeks, we will be offering tuition in the management and operation of the app.

In the meantime, if you have any issues you wish to raise, please don't hesitate to contact Cristina or myself.

Christophe Rindlisbacher

Director of Golf