

Altos *news*

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PINHEIROS ALTOS
GOLF, SPA & HOTELS



Introduction from the Captain Mr Andy Georges

We have now reached our second month report and although the situation has improved with Portugal being excluded from the list of quarantined countries it has been put back on by Wales and Scotland which is leading to a lot of uncertainty about the English situation.

However, the good news is that many regular members, who would have been here earlier in the year, have said they will be here in September «regardless of the situation» and they will be most welcome.

We had a very enjoyable fun day at San Lorenzo on 30th August followed by a meal at the Bella Rosa Restaurant with the prize giving.

As it was a fun day, in addition to prizes for the best, we had prizes for the «less fortunate»!

The worst score, losing the most golf balls and being in the most bunkers were keenly contested by many players, more so than the prizes for being the best players.

The end result was a thoroughly good fun day, as was the intention, my thanks to everyone that participated.

We are also running a member's trip to Aroeira from 25 to 28 September.

We already have quite a lot of people booked but there is room for more, the details are available on the PA app.

Hope you are all keeping well and look forward to seeing you in September or October.

Andy Georges



The Dogs Bollocks Team, Club Captains Andy and Sue Georges and Ian and Peter Hepworth



Club Captains Andy and Sue Georges and Club President David Markey



python images

«Join the Georges» Prize Winners



«Join the Georges» festivities



«Join the Georges» festivities



Director of Golf - Monthly Report

August was a quiet month as far as the golf activities in the Club Are concerned and to be honest I took a good part of the month away from Pinheiros Altos which even we have not been busy was well needed.

Fortunately, September has brought some better news and the air bridge between Uk & Portugal has brought back to life many of the touristic locations in the Algarve which are desperately needing more people to come. Golf is no exceptions and it is nice to see many members coming to Portugal and more due to come during this month.

September will be one of the busiest months this year for the calendar as we start with the Club Matchplay from 10th to 13th followed by the President's Day on 20th and the Corona Cup from 25th until 28th in Aroeira. You can see all the details of the Corona cup on the Members App under recent info & Newsletters.

It is nice to see the Club getting back in action and hopefully it will gradually get better as we go however always keeping in the mind the safety of our customers. I would like to ask all the members and guests to respect the measures in place to insure we can continue to gradually soften the rules if the regulations allow for it.

The August Stableford was won by Jordan Markey at San Lorenzo with a fantastic score of 40 points beating on a count back Paul Orchard and both have been respectively cut to 9,5 & 7,7 and we will keep them in the radar. The August medal was won by David Dixon with a 71 beating Neil Sutton & James Porter on a count back.

I look forward to see many of you playing in the coming week's events!

Competition Results for August

| Date | Competition | Winner | Score | Runner Up | Score |
|----------------------|--|---|------------------|---|------------------|
| Wed 5 th | Ladies Day Monthly Medal | 1st Division Chie Crowdey | 74 Nett (bb9) | 1st Division Amanda Stretton | 74 Nett |
| | | 2nd Division Jill Miller-Cheevers | 75 Nett (bb9) | 2nd Division Marna Edwards | 75 Nett |
| Sun 9 th | August Stableford at San Lorenzo | Jordan Markey | 40 Pts | Paul Orchard | 40 Pts |
| Wed 12 th | Ladies Day Sixes Comp | Zoe Pirret Sandra Little Adrienne Buth Pat Murrish | 83 pts | Amanda Stretton Debbie Madgett Majida Lester Chie Crowdey | 81 pts |
| Sun 16 th | August Medal | David Dixon | 71 Nett (bb9) | Neil Sutton | 71 Nett (bb9) |
| Wed 19 th | Ladies Day Monthly Stableford | 1st Division Chris Soden | 38 Pts | 1st Division Chris Sutton | 35 Pts |
| | | 2nd Division Debbie Madgett | 36 Pts | 2nd Division Majida Lester | 28 Pts |
| Wed 26 th | Ladies Day Away Day Palmares Team Event | Paula Burke Rosie Agnew Chris Sutton Angela Williams | 90 pts | Chris Soden Cathy Harper Adrienne Buth Barbara Fletcher | 87 pts |
| Sun 30 th | «Join the Georges» | Best Team Steven Crowdey Chie Crowdey Neil Sutton Chris Sutton | 87 pts | Worst Team Cyril Griffith Kristina Griffith Udo Berg Ilse Berg | 62 pts |

Ladies Section - by Sue Georges

In case no one noticed, we didn't have a July newsletter this year, yet another thing cancelled by Corona! Normally July is a buzzing month with all our «family» arriving to enjoy the summer and Gala Week as a finale. The reality was the skies were clear and blue but noticeably lacking aeroplanes.

Our Ladies competitions were well supported through July and August despite the high temperatures...

The August medal was a small, quality field, well done to Chie and who beat Amanda on the back 9, and to Jill Miller Cheevers who beat Marna on the back 9.

The sixes fun comp on 12th produced some good and close scores. On 19th we played our stableford at San Lorenzo and it was a «keep it in the family day», with Chris Soden winning Division 1 and Debbie Madgett winning Division 2.

Wednesday 26th August was our annual away day trip to Palmares. The weather was perfect, not «too» hot and no wind! The team captains had some thinking to do regarding where and who should use the two mulligans per team... do you save them? there were only two scores to count on each hole It was a gambling game! However, the scores were very good with only 6 points between the first and last, so I believe the mulligans were used well.

Friday 28th August was a very special day on 2nd Pines when Chie Crowdey had a «Hole in One»!!

The penultimate day of August was «Join the Georges» Fun day at San Lorenzo. This will have been spoken about by The Captain and Christophe, but I should add that Chie followed her fame from 28th by being part of the winning team and duly received her Gold Medal. It was wonderful to have a mixed fun event again after so many months.

«Sneaking into September» the Ladies Social Committee organised a lunch at Palhagueira on 3rd September, which was simply superb. Thank you to Marijke on the day whose arrangements were 1st class. I had nothing to do except chat to our lovely ladies and meet all those new to me. The next ladies' social event will be advised to you by e mail soon! Spaces will be limited so sign up quickly.

Sorry that some of you are not able to be with us on Lady Captains Day, we will miss you, be thinking of you and you will see all the photos in the next newsletter!

We have had a lot of birthdays during the last few months, some we were able to sing to and others not, so.... if you had a birthday or are due to have one, just be grateful that you don't have to listen to the singing!

Take Care, Stay Safe and See You Soon,
Sue



Ladies Away day at Palmares



Chie Crowdey received a certificate for doing a hole-in-one on the 2nd Hole Pines on 28th August. She played from the Blue Tees and used a Utility 4.

Report from the Greens Committee

The whole committee met on Monday the 31st of August. In order to respond to what we believe are members' main concerns and the plan for the future maintenance of the course we will set out what we consider are our view of the course and hopes for the future.

Presentation

The committee complimented Marco on the presentation of the course which bearing in mind both the lock down and in particular the absence of financial support until very recently was «remarkable».

Tees

With a few exceptions the tees are much improved, in particular visitors starting on the first of Pines see good growth and few divots. There are still some «grumbles» from the ladies that the repositioning of the tee on Pines 2 is too short a hole for its handicap. We have not done a survey on ladies scores but we are «watching the position».

Fairways

All the committee are surprised at the improvement of the surfaces in particular Olives and several holes on both Pines and Corks where there was poor growth now show new grasses and «stripes» from cutting. Marco advises that this is a reflection of the kikuyu grasses which STRI said we should develop has indeed spread better than expected! Correct cutting of this grass is challenging but we hope to maintain the improvement subject to investment. The two months plus when the course was free of buggies and foot fall has been a major contributing factor.

We do however need to quickly maintain the STRI schedule of sanding feeding and scarifying as soon as possible.

Greens

The greens are a major challenge and the burning off of surfaces and the growth of seasonal weeds has been a real concern!

Watering of the greens was maintained during lockdown but the absence of sand and both fertilizer and the chemical which prevents irrigation water from «running off» some

greens has been the cause of the «burning».

Marco explained that during the very hot weather night time temperatures and strong winds burnt the fine grass on as many as 30% of the greens. The funding for the chemicals to stop running off of water and sand and fertilizer should we are advised provide a full recovery by the end of this month.

The greens are not fast! We would prefer more speed but recovery must take priority and the dying off of the seasonal weeds will allow better speeds.

Concern has been addressed as to whether the holes are slightly «crowned». Marco is investigating to ensure the «plate» is used when cutting new holes.

There is no doubt that putting has become more difficult with balls constantly «jumping» out from the shallow holes now demanded from the government to prevent touching the flag!

Bunkers

Apart from daily raking nothing has been done to improve some inconsistencies in our bunkers. Some members have invested in carrying small portable rakes and the committee applaud them and wonder whether we can make these available within the club?

Future Maintenance

This is the most contentious issue and depends entirely on future funding and in maintaining a skilled course work force. All our staff are vital but none more so than the course staff who we must support!

The committee believe that our old and quickly becoming redundant machinery must be replaced! Sufficient funding for this and for all the sand and fertilizers now required are becoming vital for our future success. Members have thankfully in the main been both patient and loyal.

The greens committee are doing all we can but these are challenging times!

We are happy to answer issues the members raise about the course but we are of course restrained by budget issues. We remain optimistic but realistic!

Stewart Harper Chairman, David Ford, Duncan Evans.



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