

Altos

Nº 207 . JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2022

news





Introduction from the Captain Mr Andy Georges

Well the end of December and January has arrived and we seem to be over the worst spell of Covid. Even though a lot of people are catching it appears to be easier than the first strain to overcome.

Because of this nearly every competition scheduled has run with good numbers playing.

It has been nearly 2 years since everything was running without cancellations.

This weekend was a good example with nearly 50 members and guests took part and the atmosphere, thanks to Cathy harper

and Adrienne both was getting back to the old Pinheiros alto's atmosphere.

It is also noticeable how many members are returning and taking part in the comps. The course continue to improve although still some way to go.

I must mention unfortunately the death of Marion hill a well known member and friends of many members. Our deepest regards go to Orlando and may she RIP.

Andy Georges



Christmas Turkey Flutter Prize Winners





Christmas Turkey Flutter

17th Spring Amateur

TOURNAMENT

9TH – 16TH APRIL 2022

PACKAGE

- 7 nights in a Premium Twin Room
- 4 competition rounds on San Lorenzo Golf Course
- Welcome cocktail
- 2 buffet dinners with house wine
- Prize giving cocktail, and dinner with house wine
- Special tournament gift

RATES

Rates are per person and for full tournament package:

Golfer sharing a Premium Garden Twin Room	€1005
Supplement for a Single Room	€399
Supplement for a Premium Golf-View Room	€119
Extra round at San Lorenzo or Pinheiros Altos	€73

* No credits will be offered, regardless of whether full package is used.

Call +351 289 357 200 or email donafilipa-reservations@jjwhotels.com



Director of Golf - Monthly Report

December was a quite months and due to some restrictions, competitions like Boxing Day and the New Year Day were cancelled while the Winter Medal was postponed. This was mainly due to the need of players needing a negative test to enter tournament around Christmas & New Year.

We did manage to play the December Medal which was won by Robert Lester with a 69 and the December Stableford played at San Lorenzo won by Noel Kelly.

The Turkey flutter was also run on 19th December and thank you to Ross for running it as I was away on a family holiday. The Turkey flutter was won by Paul Cotterill with a score of 36 points closely followed by Stella Jeffrey with 35 points and Robert Lester & Adrienne Buth on 34 points. Thank you to Paulo in the Portico for arranging all the prizes for the Turkey Flutter.

January started very busy and I very quickly changed from a holiday mode into a totally stress mode as trying to organize the Algarvian Invitational with 90 pros in the middle of Covid-19 was not the easiest. The tournament was played on Pinheiros Altos & Laranjal courses. We had over 150 players signed but only 90 managed to travel to Portugal which was approximately our expectation. The 2005 US Open winner Michael Campbell

finished the tournament 12 under par to take the 2022 trophy and the €7.000 cheque. 6 shots clear of Richard O'Hanlon who came second and 9 shots clear of the last Invitational winner Philip Price. Amazingly Michael Campbell mentioned in his speech that the last time he had won a Stroke-play tournament was the US Open in 2005! A big thank you to all the quality players that made the trip to play but a special thank you to our member & on-going sponsor of the tournament John Waters. All the pros were as usual very complementary of the quality of the courses and have shown interest in being back in the Algarve next year.

Following the Algarvian Invitational and from 10th January we also run the Algarvian Charity Pro AM which is played over Quinta do Lago courses North & South, San Lorenzo & Pinheiros Altos. Most players staying at the Dona Filipa but this with also quite a few members teams from Pinheiros Altos but also Quinta do Lago & Laranjal. In total we had 51 teams playing for a total of 204 players. Again covid-19 restrictions affected the entries as we had a record entry of 65 teams a couple weeks before the tournament. In a way 51 was plenty of work and I do not know how we would have managed 65 teams if they had all turned up with the covid restrictions. The level of golf played

over the 4 days was phenomenal. The winning team Sponsored by Cheeky Pup consisted of Dermott Hennessy, Steve Leach & Richard Culhane with their Pro Pedro Lencart were 55 under par for the 4 days and they only won it by one shot from well known David Coupland team. Pedro Lencart who is attached to JJW was also the best Individual pro score with a result of 15 under par for the 4 days. Again most of the teams have shown interest to come back next year and 20 of them have already booked so maybe we will get the record of 65 teams next hopefully free from covid-19!

Club competitions restarted on 10th January as covid-19 restrictions stopped to ask for a negative covid test for tournaments. Regulations at the moment still require a covid vaccine certificate of a negative test for tournaments and to enter the clubhouse.

As we restored the competition, The January Stableford was played in San Lorenzo on 23rd January 2022 and the winner was John Farrell with 32 points in a very though windy day! Ladies dominated the Winter Medal with Susan Russell winning the board competition with a 69 and was followed by Chie Crowdey with a 71. Congratulations to all on some great Golf played in some difficult conditions!

This coming weeks & months should start getting busier and we already almost have a full house for the St Valentine day. Also,

a date to put in your calendar is 26th March 2022 as it is your Captains Birthday Bash and Cross- Country Crash and more information will be issued soon!

During the month of February, we will have the visit of STRI to guide us and give us some new direction to continue our program where it was left 2 years ago before the pandemic and I am sure we will see some results already this year.

The buggy path will restart this month as the work force was not available for over the New Year and January. It should now be on-going until all the damaged path is repaired.

There are many other issues we are looking at such as the planning of the Satellites installation for the irrigation and also maintenance of the lakes which has started at the entrance.

Membership is healthy as we already have more members than last year and many Golf Titles are changing hands and new ones being sold. I do believe that with the golf course improving the membership will also continue to grow and add to the atmosphere which is so unique of the Club.

I look forward to see many of you making our way back to Portugal in the next few weeks and enjoy your golf at Pinheiros Altos!



TOURNAMENT RESULTS, PLEASE CHECK THE APP!



Charity Pro Am Winners



Ladies Section - by Sue Georges

Lady Captains Report December 2021

The last month of 2021 seems to have passed rather quickly. On the first day of December the medals were won by Chris Sutton with 72 and Majida Lester with 76. We changed the fun comp on 8th from PA to San Lorenzo and enjoyed a sunny but unusually cold day of golf.

A few Christmas lunches were held by various groups before our Ladies Xmas Party and Competition on 15th December.

In 2020 we had to postpone our Christmas Comp to 30th December due to covid restrictions, so it was a bonus this year to hold this comp on 15th!

We played a Team Shambles with 2 Mulligans and 2 Metres of string per team, with everyone dressed in very impressive Christmas outfits.

Debbie Madgett won the Best Christmas dressed as a “Christmas Tree” 😊 We also ran a nine hole competition which was well supported and I believe enjoyed by everyone.

A Few Santas, Many Rudolphins and Eight Birdies waited patiently to be taken home by the golfers.



You can check out all the prize winners in the PA app, there were lots!

Chris Hepworth & Gill Schofield organised our Secret Santa Gifts. We enjoyed wonderful food, made by a number of very talented lady members, which was co-ordinated in advance and arranged on the day by Lubna Cater.

Afterwards a small number of Ladies stayed behind to entertain the Cloggies with singing from "The Sound of Music". I believe I may have heard them mutter that "next year they will switch to Tuesday when we have our party" 😊

On 16th December we had our last Ladies Friendly Match of the Year, away against Vilasol. We had a great day and our result was a very friendly 2,5 v 2,5. This was almost the same result we had at home against Vilasol in October (which was a 3 v 2 win for us). Thankyou to Adrienne and the matches Team for organising and running all of our matches so well.



On 19th we had the Club Turkey Flutter and in the following week the rains began to appear. The club stableford on Tuesday 21st at San Lorenzo was reduced from a fair- sized field down to 10, and Wednesday 22nd which was our stableford presented a grand total of 5 players, none of whom got wet 😊 Congratulations to Susan Russell with 39 pts and Wendy Evans with 36 pts.

I would like to thank Molly and her team for organising & running our 2021 competitions – I know that the ladies truly appreciate all the hard work that is involved.

Around 22nd December, YET MORE new Covid restrictions, resulted in the cancellation of Boxing Day Foursomes, our Ladies days on 29.12 & 05.01, and New Years Day Scramble.

The gov'n restrictions, meaning official comps cannot be run (currently until after 9th Jan) required the re- emergence of the Whats App group "SueGeorgesWedsGroup", which will be used to sign up to play on Wednesdays until we are back to normal. During this time, if you want to play golf and do not have access to this group, please let me know.

In January we were meant to be trialling a new idea of sign up for the Medal where you choose your partner and play in 2 balls (with some 3 balls where needed to make numbers work). The date for this was to be 05.01 but due to covid restrictions it will be postponed to 2nd February.

The next date for **Ladies Social is Thursday 13th January** which is a lunch at 13:00 at "Nougat Tea'N" in Almancil. Providing we are able to, Gill Schofield will be in touch soon with the menu to those who have signed up. If you haven't signed up and would like to be on the list please contact gilldevine@hotmail.com

On 9th February, we have the Ladies Foursomes Championships, so you may want to arrange your partners in advance for this.

On Christmas Eve, Andy and I had a chat & decided ... as no one really wanted him, and he had cancelled all our golf anyway (again!) we should invite Covid to stay with us over Christmas. So, after 20 months of stop start life and golf, finally we are true Covid Captains 😊

Many of our members were this year able to either travel to be with their families in other countries, or to have their families travel here for the Christmas and or New Year period. This was quite a difference to 2020 when it was very difficult for anyone to go anywhere.

I hope that all of you, enjoyed your Christmas and New Year, wherever you were...and...

Look Forward to Seeing you Soon

Sue



Ladies Christmas Competition



Ladies Christmas Competition

Lady Captains Report January 2021/22

At the end of the first month of 2022, who would have believed I would still be writing about Covid confusions and cancellations. I am now dreaming about writing a newsletter that reports a month not affected by covid either many rescheduled events which give us wall to wall golf or cancellations and constantly changing restrictions.

The Portuguese restrictions were brought in during and after the Christmas & New Year period, and in addition to cancelling Boxing Day and New Years Day events, we were unable to hold Ladies and club competitions until 12th January.

We began then, with Susan Russell, Cathy Harper and Melody Cotterill winning the Waltz on 12th January.

Melody, in fine form went on to win the Division 2 stableford with 33 points the following week along with Ingrid Blain who won First Division with a super score of 38 points.

This year the Pro Am was able to be played in its entirety. There were many teams, one of which was three of our ladies Zoe Pirret, Fiona Thomson & Mai Markey who with their lovely Pro did very well to finish in 7th place. Maybe next year we could have more ladies' teams 😊

We had a very special event at San Lorenzo during the Pro Am when Sam Waters had a "Hole In One" on 5th Hole 😊



On Thursday 13th January, 24 ladies enjoyed a lovely lunch at Nougat Tea'N in Almancil, arranged by our Social Ladies' section. The restaurant was nice, the atmosphere happy and the food very good.

Our last competition of January was a Team Shambles at San

Lorenzo, well done to Chris Soden, Dawn Warnock, Janette Staddon and Molly Wainwright with 88 points.

Congratulations to Susan Russell for a 69 nett in the "covid postponed" Club Winter Medal on Thursday 27th January. Another great win for the girls against the boys!

Late January and early February are one of the many times I consider how lucky we are to live in Algarve. I fall in love with the Almond Blossom Trees, taking different routes on the mountain just to see them all before the winds come. They have been there for many hundreds of years and seem to be one of the few things that have thrived in spite of covid.

As we are getting close to Valentines' Day, please see below an appropriate folk story from the Algarve which is nice to share with anyone that hasn't heard it before ...

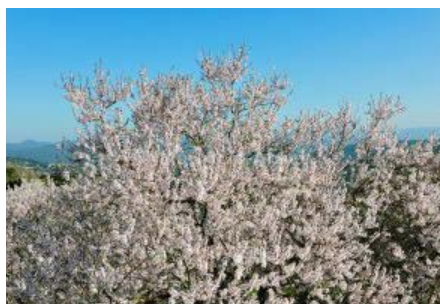


Once upon the time, when the Algarve was ruled by the Moors and still known as Al Garb, a young Prince by the name of Ibn-Almundim who ruled from the capital of Silves, fell for the irresistible charms of a Nordic Princess called Gilda. He stole her heart and took her to the warm lands of the South.

Although she was enchanted by the daily kiss of the sun on her fair skin when winter in the Algarve approached, her beautiful smile faded away and her golden hair lost its glow. The Prince grew so desperate seeing his delicate princess pine away, that when he heard she was longing for the white snow-covered landscape of her homeland.

He immediately ordered thousands of almond trees to be planted from the castle-door into the fields for as far as the eye could see.

When the almond trees Algarve would be blossoming, she would witness the white flowers covering the hills in a magic illusion of snow in the Algarve. The cure was instant, and they lived happily ever after...



Upcoming events which will have **presentations following** and we would like our social ladies to come along after golf if possible are:

09.02.22 Ladies Foursomes Championships – you need to arrange a partner if you haven't already done so!

23.02.22 Lady Captain v Lady Vice Captain Match Play

16.03.22 Madrinha Trophy – Still plenty time left to practice with your Madrinha 😊

We are all very much looking forward from April 2022 onwards to a golfing calendar with no cancellations.

One of the many events which has not been held for the last 2 years is the **Wainwright Trophy**.

The **Wainwright Trophy and Plate** were presented to the Ladies Section by Molly and John Wainwright in the year following Molly Captaincy.

This is a singles match play knockout tournament, played over a year. It begins in April and the final is played before the following AGM, at which the Trophy (and Plate) are presented.

The **Wainwright Plate** is a secondary match play event. In the first round of the trophy players that do not get through are entered into the draw for the Wainwright plate. This means that everyone who enters will play at least two matches.

This is a competition that I would encourage you all to enter. Those with higher handicaps need to understand that when a

lower handicap player is drawn in a match (betterball or singles), the **first thing** she looks at is how many shots she has to give. So... who is under pressure? 😊

Matchplay is a completely different game to any other. Think of it as a day where the weather looks "iffy" and the worst that can happen is you get wet. But ...playing in the rain occasionally prepares you for some day in the future where you need to continue to play when the rain comes.... you have done it before so know you can do it again.

We need to learn how to lose before we learn how to win, so give it a try 😊 Speak with one of the committee members to learn more about this event.

Christophe will soon be adding the sign up for Wainwright Trophy on the app. The entry fee of 10 euros will be collected at the AGM.

Paula will be advising us shortly about a **drive by collection of food, clothing, bedding etc. for The Salvation Army within the next few weeks**, so we all have a little time now to get anything that may be helpful to them ready to send.

In the December newsletter, I reported what a superb job Paula with the help of Chris Sutton and a number of other ladies did for the Childrens' Christmas appeal and promised I would report the final totals this month.

The total of **16,787 euros were raised for Christmas 2021**. This included 188 presents & 150 food hampers, some of the money left over was spent on glasses for some of the families most in need. Thankyou to all members for their gifts and donations and to everyone that worked so hard to make this happen.

Unfortunately, a few weeks ago I cancelled the Ladies Trip planned for 4th and 5th February, due to covid concerns. In retrospect, perhaps I should not have done but hindsight is a wonderful thing.

We will re arrange for a future date that will not be influenced by "that thing"!

See you all soon on the fairways with Sunshine 😊

Sue



Report from the Greens Committee

The committee has not been able to meet this month but as there are many activities planned in the next few months this is by way of a holding report.

The course

The seniors competition and the pro/ am competition this month showed all who played that PA has a course which can compete with the best of the competition.

There is still much to be done in the next few months and the warmer weather and better funding from the owners will quickly provide a better course particularly the fairways and tees.

The committee are very pleased that the Director has been able to renew visits from STRI and the first visit of inspection is promised for next month!

Issues for the future to be discussed

There is a feeling that the trees which were planted over 15 years ago may need to be looked at to see if they are now too invasive? If on advice we remove trees we will need to plant smaller trees to satisfy the need to retain tree numbers.

By way of example is the tree on 1 of Pines which protects the green now too invasive for all but a very few players? There are other areas which need consideration? Members should put forward their thoughts to the committee.

There is also a need to consider whether the access to the course from the calcada paths is realistic or are buggy users being forced to walk too often from path access which maybe over 100mts from greens! We must protect the front of the greens from damage from buggy tyres but we intend asking STRI for their advice and to discuss with Marco.

The course has held up very well over the last two months with no obvious damage to fairways or green approaches. We are aware that many courses in the UK have forced their members to fit special winter wheels for their trolleys as these are seen as more of problem than buggy use.

We hope that new development and funding for all the facilities of PA will give added value and satisfaction to PA members as we move forward.

Next month's report will we hope set out in more detail the course future investment.

Stewart Harper Chairman, David Ford, Duncan Evans.

Eventos de Golfe / *Golf Events by*

JJW HOTELS

2022



HOTEL	EVENTO / TORNEIO <i>EVENT & TOURNAMENT</i>	DATAS <i>DATES</i>
Penina Hotel & Golf Resort	Penina Golf Week (Penina Festival)	04/04/2022 – 10/04/2022
Dona Filipa Hotel	Spring Amateur Tournament	09/04/2022 – 16/04/2022
Penina Hotel & Golf Resort	Sir Henry Cotton Trophy	27/05/2022 – 28/05/2022
JJW Hotels	JJW Cup	<i>TBC</i>

Social Golf - by Andy, Sue and Knut



On the first Sunday in December we held our Christmas Sunday Social. The tradition for this event is 4 Clubs, a Putter and a Sand Wedge. People are usually pleasantly surprised how well they can score with less than half a set of clubs.

Christmas jumpers were compulsory, and background Christmas music set the scene for the festive meal of Turkey, Potatoes, vegetables, cranberry sauce and stuffing with gravy. Topped off with Apple Strudel and Ice Cream ...no one went home hungry.

The weather yet again was good, and we handed out many bottles of wine!

The winners were...

Pine Corks

1 st Knut Ellingsen, Stephen Nobbs, Simon Brundan & Libby Mullen	88 pts
2 nd David Markey, Andy Georges, Dee Hirst & their floater Paul Cotterill	83 pts
3 rd Sue Georges, Paula Cotterill, Fiona Hanby & Paul Hanby	74 pts

Olives Pines

1 st Kieran Nagle, Knut Pedersen, Kristina Griffith & Stella Jeffrey	79 pts
2 nd Per Anton Kleppa, Adrienne Buth, Nils Leffler & Dawn Warnock	78 pts
3 rd Matt Venker, Cyril Griffith, Mai Markey & Charlotte Parker	75 pts
4 th Bernd Gorger, Paula Murray, Denise Reed & Melody Cotterill	73 pts
5 th Vernon Reed, Gabriele Gorger-Koch, Molly Wainwright & Nicolaas de Ruiter	(bit less than 72 pts 😊)

The next social golf will be Sunday 30th January 2022, run by Cathy Harper and Adrienne Buth and the format will be "Who Stole the Par 4's".

We look forward to seeing everyone joining in on Sunday 30th January 2022.

Andy, Sue & Knut



Interclub News

The Interclub which will start from April 2022 as far as Pinheiros Altos concerned will be run by Neil Bamber with the assistance of David Ford & Chris Sutton

Any member who wishes to play for the team should email Neil Bamber, David or Christine and they will be considered or sign up on the APP until 30th March 2022.

The following guidance will be used to select the players for each of the matches:

1) Performance & Form

- Robust current handicap, proven in club competitions that demonstrates the ability to play under some pressure (ie not just rounds with your mates);
- Proven performance in actual matches and with partners;
- A bias to the lower handicap players as we are representing the club and typically lower handicap players are more consistent in their performance.

2) Team

- The team always comes first and this has to be reflected in the attitude of the individuals;
- A willingness to work with the captain and a flexibility to play in various pairings;

- If an individual knows their form is not where it needs to be for the team – the strength to stand down;
- As a member of the team to represent the club overall.

3) Availability & Reliability

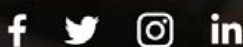
- Availability across a decent number of the match dates allowing the captain to build partnerships and a team;
- Reliability.

Calendar of PA matches

12.04.2022	Boavista V PA (AWAY)
06.09.2022	Palmares V PA (AWAY)
21.04.2022	Penina V PA (AWAY)
13.09.2022	Vilasol V PA (AWAY)
12.05.2022	PA V Boavista (HOME)
15.09.2022	PA V Tavira (HOME)
25.05.2022	Benamor V PA (AWAY)
29.09.2022	PA V Vale do Lobo (HOME)
15.06.2022	Vale do Lobo V PA (AWAY)
13.10.2022	PA V Vilasol (Home)
23.06.2022	PA V Penina (HOME)
20.10.2022	PA V Palmares (HOME)

Still missing Parque da Floresta dates.

Follow us on social media.





World handicap system

Dear Members,

To enable us to keep records up to date and reflect a player's demonstrated ability, in accordance with the handicapping system, we need up to the last 20 scores from outside Portugal that have not been sent or given to Cristina. The information required is, the date played, the slope rating and score differential.

Under the Handicapping Rules it is the player's responsibility to return all scores to both their home club and the golf club located in a different country. Whilst a player may have a different handicap index in different

countries, the rules discourage this hence the importance of returning all scores to all clubs.

Please check your Portuguese Federation handicap and if you feel the Committee should assess it at any time we would be grateful if you could let us know.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the club for the forthcoming competitions.

Kind regards Christophe

World handicap system - handicap review

Many members of Pinheiros Altos enjoy the privilege of being members of clubs in other countries. The rules state that it is the player's responsibility to return all acceptable scores to both their home club and any club located in a different country. To enter a competition without an up to date score return is in breach of the rules; this will result in disqualification from a competition.

The information necessary is - date, slope and score differential of the competition played.

With a complete a record, the more fair and reflective the handicap will be of a player's ability.



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.golfus.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

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