

Altos *news*

Nº 217 . JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2023



PINHEIROS ALTOS
GOLF CLUB



Introduction from the Captain

Mr Tony Hickey

Dear Members,

Welcome to the January newsletter.

January as normal is a very busy time at the club, the Algarvian Invitational draws fantastic numbers of players from all over and is now well established as a must play event.

Our own Calendar featured the Winter Medal at PA and the January Stableford at San Lorenzo. Congratulations to Stella Jeffrey winner of Medal and Anthony Staddon for his great score in the Stableford and well done to all for taking part. This year my own golf fortunes have been very much up and down with more downs than ups, and I am a bit lost in understanding the reason why, going from last in the January Medal (not unexpected) to topping the table in the February Medal, (very unexpected). That's Golf!!!

By now most will have received the notice of the AGM. The changes to the committee structure (if accepted at the AGM), will help with the continued progress which I have seen in PA, post Covid. Not everybody gets to go to the AGM so for those who cannot attend, I would like to say a little about the incoming Captain.

Steve Coull, a Scot, is the current Vice Captain and this year what a fantastic job this wonderful man has done. His selection and acceptance of the job has turned out to be a massive help to me in a year where we made several changes which needed a lot of hands-on work. Thankfully and unknown to me at the time, "marketing and sales" are a skill set he has in abundance. This was never more obvious than when applied during the Charity Day event. For sure in 2023 most members will get to meet and know him during his year as Captain. Not sure, where he lost his Scottish accent.

This week we have the Valentines 2 day event, one round in PA and the other in San Lorenzo. The Texas scramble with 7 drives from each player makes it a fun event. Play is back to two days this year, I will look forward to some fantastic scoring.

I cannot finish without mentioning our really fast greens and some very interesting pin positions, its like old times at PA.

Finally, our condolences go to Dirk Blaesing and Hilary Forde at this sad time for them and their families, on their recent loss.

Please stay safe and try and enjoy each day.

Tony



Christmas Turkey Flutter Prize Winners



Boxing Day Prize Winners



2022 Eclectic Competition Prize Winners



python images

New Year's Day Prize Winners

Spring 12th Amateur

TOURNAMENT

1ST – 8TH APRIL 2023

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	€1141
Supplement for a Single Room	€595
Supplement for a Premium Golf-View Room	€126
Extra round at San Lorenzo or Pinheiros Altos	€79

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

Call +351 289 357 222 or email vpiedade@jjwhotels.com

PROGRAMME

01.04.2023	Arrival day
02.04.2023	Texas scramble competition Welcome cocktail followed by buffet dinner
03.04.2023	Stableford Single competition day 1
04.04.2023	Free day
05.04.2023	Stableford Single competition day 2 Middle week Buffet dinner
06.04.2023	Free Day
07.04.2023	Four Ball better ball competition Cocktail followed by prize giving dinner
08.04.2023	Departure day

PRIZES

1st Prize	Free entrance for the XII Spring Amateur Golf Tournament
2nd Prize	4 night stay with golf at Penina Hotel & Golf resort
3rd Prize	3 night stay at Dona Filipa Hotel



Director of Golf – Monthly Report

It is quite sometimes since the last newsletter as we did not report on all the December activities. While I was away for Christmas and therefore Kenny, Ross, Roger & Cristina were in charge of the events which as I was away really went smoothly. The usual Christmas Turkey flutter was won by Jim Knight with 38 points. Thank you to Paulo in the Portico for arranging all the prizes for the Turkey Flutter.

The boxing day was won by Tim & Susan Russell with a great score of 39 points. The organizer Ross Sutherland tried to claim the win as he had 44 points with his son Ethan, but were made to take the Pro/Junior prize! Congratulations to all and thank you for taking part in the festive events!

Dan Henderson won yet another medal in December with a score of 71 while Stella Jeffrey won the December Stableford at San Lorenzo with 37 points. Congratulations to both!

We finally started the year with our New Year Day Scramble and it was 3 years ago when we played the last time. Brian Evans was there to present the Brian Evans' New Year 's Day Trophy which was won by Bjorn & Katalin Von Hofsten, Martin & Hilary Jessup and David Light with a fantastic score of 12,5 under par. Brian Evans team with both sons Max & Thom, Geoff Stott & Ed Foy managed to be the best pro team on the day! Again, a wonderful day with a great turn out of 135 players on the day.

As soon as the year started on 3rd January 2023 we had our usual Algarvian Invitational which saw 138 players which 80 were Golf Professionals and some very talented players present. Both course Pinheiros Altos & Laranjal were playing very tough this year as there was no run on the fairways due to all the growth we had through the month of December and all players found it very long to play. Matt Cort shot 70 on all 3 days of the tournament (6 under par) and took the €7.000 winning prize, and sneaked victory of Miguel



Apatris 21 receiving the donation cheque of €7.000,00

Angel Martin who was one shot behind him and took €4.000. Mark Wharton finished 2 shot behind to take of 3rd place and €3.000 prize money. All players were very complementary of the 2 courses and especially about the quality of the Pinheiros Altos greens. Congratulations to all involved and a big thank you to our continuous sponsor and member Mr. John Waters who make the Tournament possible.

The following day the Algarvian Charity Pro Am started and we can say it is the biggest pro-am in Europe with 304 players playing over 4 courses (Pinheiros Altos, San Lorenzo, Quinta do Lago North & South) Most players staying at the Dona Filipa

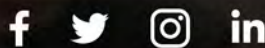
but this with also quite a few members teams from Pinheiros Altos but also Quinta do Lago & Laranjal. In total we had 76 teams playing for a total of 304 players.

The level of golf played over the 4 days was phenomenal. The winning team which had been taking part since the first Por Am in 2016 consisted of Archie Leather, Warren Bailey, Haaye de Jong and their Pro Gary Milne were 68 under par for the 4 days and they only won it by two shots from Ryan Brooks team.

Young pros Daniel Brown & Gavin Moynihan shared the winning prize at 22 under par for the 4 days sharing a €2.000 while David Coupland was 5 behind in 3rd place. We had a couple of 61 during the week from Daniel Brown at the North Course and Ryan Brooks at Pinheiros Altos which seemed unbelievable on the highest scoring course. Michael Watson was the best senior Pro at 12 under par and took the €1.200 reward.

Again, all participants in the Algarvian Charity Pro Am were so complementary on the tournament but also the 4 courses and again special mentions about the Pinheiros Altos greens which can only make us proud and I must congratulate our green-keeper António and his team for all the hard work put into improving the golf course. Most teams have already shown interest to come back next year and the 2024 Algarvian Charity Pro Am is already almost fully booked!

Follow us on social media.





Algarvian Charity Pro Am Prize Winners



Ethan Sutherland



Nathan O'Brien

Stella Jeffrey did 2 in a row after winning the Stableford in December and won the Winter Medal played on 8th January with a score of 71 in a medal dominated by ladies as Heather Conroy was Second and Chie Crowdey 3rd leaving favorite Dan Henderson out of the top 3! The January stableford played at San Lorenzo was on by Tony Staddon with a score of 37 points.

We had many hole in ones in the last few weeks but there is 2 which were not at Pinheiros Altos but deserve a mention as they were youngsters, the first one was at Penina on the 4th hole on 15th January 2023 at the Drive Challenge from Ethan Sutherland who is the son of our head pro Ross Sutherland. The second was at

Stepaside Golf Club on 18th January 2023 from Nathan O'Brien who is the grandson of our President David Markey. It is great to see that the youngsters will bring more talent to the club as neither Ross Sutherland or all of the Markey's family ever had a Hole in one in all those years playing golf!

Membership is healthy as we already have many 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 and the great atmosphere within the club, the membership will continue to grow and make the club the place to join!

High season starts on 16th February 2023 and as from that date the member guest green-fee which has been the same for the last 7 years will increase to €50 for 18 holes and €30 for 9 holes while the members buggy will go from €25 to €30.

Do not forget to put in your diary the Men's Pair Matchplay in early march and of course the Special St Patrick Day Wooden spoon on 17th March 2023.

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

**TOURNAMENT RESULTS, PLEASE
CHECK THE APP!**

A.G.M.

The A.G.M. of the Pinheiros Altos Golf Club will take place on Thursday 6th April 2023 at 10 a.m. in the Clubhouse.

Agenda

1. 10:00 a.m. Meeting is opened by the Chairman of the AGM
2. Approval by the Assembly of the new Committee Structure
3. Members Representatives Election
4. Club President Election
5. The Chairman will introduce the outgoing Captain Mr. Tony Hickey
6. Mr. Tony Hickey summarizes his year and introduces the Captain for the coming year Mr. Steve Coull.
7. The Captains acceptance speech.
8. Report from the Director of Golf including the response to written questions.
9. The Chairman closes the meeting.

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 23rd March 2023.

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

Any Principal in disagreement with the new proposed structure for the committee should express their concerns in writing before 23rd March 2023 in order to be discussed at the AGM.

If any principal member would like to stand for election as President or Incoming Vice-Captain they should notify the Golf Office, proposed and seconded by four principal members in writing on or before Thursday 23rd March 2023.

If any members would like to stand for election as one of the 2 members representative on the Golf Committee, they should notify the golf office, proposed & seconded by principal members in writing on or before Thursday 23rd March 2023.



Ladies Section – by Paula Burke

Dear Ladies,

The excitement of Christmas & New Year festivities is a dim & distant memory. When I think of all the planning & preparation which we pour so much energy into for these occasions, I wonder what our golf ability would be like if we attacked it with equal enthusiasm. Ah well, we can but dream!

January is a quiet month on many fronts, some well-intentioned plans are made and as time passes, many revert to old habits.

We had a most enjoyable day at our Christmas competition, made very festive with mulled wine, light snacks & of course our “Secret Santa’s” presents. Thanks to everyone for dressing up & helping make it a fabulous day.

Congratulations to all the competition winners during the month.

I would like to congratulate Rosie Agnew on her appointment as In-coming Vice-Captain, she will be a wonderful support to our In-coming Captain Melody. They will make a formidable team.

Upcoming events:

10th & 11th February – Valentine’s Competition

22nd February – Lady Captain v Lady Vice Captain

I would like to thank Melody for stepping in, in my absence in early January, to look after the competitions which are being well supported, assisted regularly by Chie Crowdey who has been checking the scorecards. This is always a pressurised task, post competition.

It seems that someone is doing a very effective rain dance prior to all our major competitions & what big ears Zeus has! We had to postpone our Foursomes Championship due to very heavy rain. Hopefully we can reschedule it to the following week.

On behalf of all the ladies I would like to send our sincere sympathies to Hilary Forde on Cyril’s recent passing & Dirk Blaesing on Monika’s passing also.

Best wishes

Paula

Report from the Greens Committee

The committee met on the 24th January in the absence of David Ford who is on holiday and Christophe who was unwell. Fortunately, Antonio (the course head green keeper) and Duncan Evans were present with the writer.

It is barely a few months since Antonio took over the maintenance of the golf course but the condition of the course is in our opinion and of both visitors and members the best it has been for 10 years or more. The senior and other profession golfers who played on our course this January, together with our neighbours courses were of a similar view and many said PA was the best and most demanding of all the courses!

Future plans.

Irrigation is important for the future health of all 27 holes. We believe a start will be made this year for the new satellite system but it could be another 2 years at least to complete. We will then have a sophisticated system which irrigates tees, greens and fairways in an accurate and least wasteful manner.

The tree root cutter is in operation! The challenge is in removing all the roots after the cutting is successful completed. We fear this is a challenge which will take longer than we would like. We will bring members up to date in later reports.

Antonio is still short of his agreed manpower. We believe there is a prospect of new workers but they will need to be trained!

Antonio has tracked a second hand rough cutter which is second hand but almost new compared to our 20 year old machine. The cost is less than a third of a new cutter which has an 18 month waiting period and costs 55000 euro!

We believe that the cost of this equipment and the extra manpower and other machinery is within the agreed budget and the manager in charge of funding has shown a willingness to keep and improve the golf course within that funding.

Antonio hopes to begin maintenance of bunkers and tees to start shortly.

Members will find tees going back as well as forwards and bringing tees and bunkers to a better standard will involve some inconvenience. The bunker to the left of Olives 6, green will have new sand shortly. Bunkers similarly need new sand and more raking.

Members will have noticed large crosses on many trees near to greens and tees. This is a sign they will be cut down or pruned to give extra light. We have some way to go with excessive trees!

The greens were running at 10+ on the stimp meter in the last few days and were truly challenging (we must be careful what we ask for)!

Members should wherever possible repair not only their own pitch marks but also any others on the greens. We are seeing if small bags of sand can be given to both members and visitors to repair divot holes both which they have made or others have not repaired!

Feeding the course will commence as soon as temperatures reach the correct level. This may take 2/3 months. Greens have already been fed with a light feed and appear very healthy. The bent grass percentage in the greens needs to improve.

Antonio is well aware of all issues including disease and fungus which occur at this time of the year and he is following the STRI recommendations wherever possible.

We remain optimistic that we have turned the corner and we are within reach of enjoying the course which we all deserve! There is much more to say but we hope to bring members further good news in the weeks ahead.

Stewart Harper Chairman, David Ford, Duncan Evans

VII PENINA GOLF WEEK

The Algarve's Best Amateur Golf Tournament
O MELHOR TORNEIO DE GOLFE AMADOR DO ALGARVE

> 23 - 29 ABRIL APRIL 2023 <

Includes Inclui

- **Six nights of accommodation with breakfast included**
Seis noites de alojamento com pequeno-almoço incluído
- **One practice round at**
Sir Henry Cotton Championship Golf Course
Uma volta de prática no campo
Sir Henry Cotton Championship Golf Course
Pull Trolley Included Trolley Manual Incluído
- **Three competition rounds at**
Sir Henry Cotton Championship Golf Course
Três voltas de competição no campo
Sir Henry Cotton Championship Golf Course
Pull Trolley Included Trolley Manual Incluído
- **Two cocktails**
Dois cocktails
- **Welcome dinner & gala dinner**
Jantar de boas-vindas e Jantar de Gala
Beverages Included Bebidas Incluídas
- **50 Driving range practice balls on golfing days**
50 Bolas de prática no driving range

TWIN ROOM
QUARTO TWIN
sharing partilhado



638€

per golfer por golfista

Accommodation Supplements Suplementos de Alojamento*

Single Room Quarto Single	279€	per package por pacote
Pool View Room Quarto Vista Piscina	53€	per package por pacote
Junior Suite	1229€	per package por pacote

* Extra nights available on request. Noites extra disponíveis a pedido.

Golf Equipment Supplements — Pre reservation is required

Suplementos de Equipamento de Golfe — Necessária reserva antecipada

Buggy	50€	per unit and round por unidade e volta
Trolley Elétrico Electric Trolley	20€	per unit and day por unidade e dia

No credits will be granted irrespective of whether or not the full package is used.
Não serão concedidos créditos caso o pacote não seja utilizado na totalidade.

Christmas Social Golf Report

by Sue and Andy Georges

Following an extremely wet spell of weather, Social Golf on Sunday 11th December was blessed with sunshine.

56 golfers and 7 non golfers enjoyed a truly festive start to the Christmas Season.

We played Texas Scramble, which as a four-man team with only 3 playing the next shot is certainly more challenging than our New Years' Day format, nevertheless, we had some very good team scores.

In the morning we had Christmas music in the bar, and with all the super festive outfits, there was no doubt that Christmas was beginning.

To welcome the golfers at check in, Knut made some wonderful Gluwein (there was also a non- alcoholic choice but I believe the majority opted for the former and with

ginger biscuits to wash it down, we were very well prepared for our golf.

The meal was turkey breast, roast potatoes and vegetables, served with gravy, stuffing and chestnut purée, followed by warm mince pies with ice cream. The staff did a superb job with both the quality of the meal and the service in the bar and restaurant.

A big thankyou to Debbie and Chris for arranging the music in the restaurant and to Knut for the music in the bar.

Thankyou to everyone for signing up, playing and coming to the meal. It's only the members that make the day so really "everyone was a winner".

The wine bottle collectors were...

Paula, Burke, Ken Irving, Nigel Baker & Janette Staddon
Mark Pye, Harri Nordstrom, Barbara Kyne & Barbara Fletcher
Dan Henderson, Paul Cotterill, Diana Collins & Adrienne Buth
Chris Soden, John Carver, Molly Wainwright & Kieran Kenny
Tony Staddon, David Warnock, Ineke Goosens & Debbie Carver
Nick Tranfield, Rosie Agnew, Ron Goosens & Louise Baker

The next social golf will be on **Sunday 29th January 2023**, run by Knut Pedersen and Adrienne Buth and the format will be a "Waltz". In the spirit of "Strictly Come Dancing" we hope everyone will **save the date** and sign up to "waltz" around Pinheiros Altos 😊



Best Christmas Dressed prizes were presented to Debbie Madgett & Kieran Kelly.

Social Golf

by Adrienne, Cathy and Knut

On the 29th of January, the Social golf had a great day with 60 golfers and “Waltz” as the format. The sun came out, it was chilly but we could not be more lucky being in the Algarve. 64 persons for dinner, and the chicken and chips were very tasty. The staff was serving with speed and joy.

We welcomed 3 couples of the new members and their guests as well as Carol Knight and Paul Hanby's guests.

The winners were:

Pines to Olives

1ST WITH 89 POINTS: CAROLINE JONES, STEVEN LEACH, STELLA JEFFREY AND PETER YOUNG

2ND WITH 80 POINTS: CHIE CROWDEY, GREGORY GRIFFIN, IAN MORGAN AND JANETTE STADDON

3RD WITH 75 POINTS: HELEN MILLS, GABRIELE GORGER-KOCH, MAI MARKEY AND JOANNA YOUNG

Corks to Olives

1ST WITH 79 POINTS: INGRID BLAIN, MARIANNE WIREN, CHARLOTTE PARKER AND JOSIE WADDINGTON

2ND WITH 77 POINTS: STEVEN CROWDEY, KEN IRVING, BARBARA KYNE AND TRACEY SPOKES

3RD WITH 76 POINTS LIAM EDWARDS, LISA BURNS, JOHN CARVER AND SUE COULL

Next Social will probably be held on Sunday 19th February
at Quinta do Lago with their members.

Sign up on the App by 17.00 Wednesday 15th February, Players of last year will have priority.

Adrienne Buth, Cathy Harper and Knut Pedersen



2023 Tournaments

To be held at
San Lorenzo



3rd December 2022	Mens Roll up
7th December 2022	Ladies Day
23rd December 2022	December Stableford
7th January 2023	Mens Roll up
22nd January 2023	January Stableford
25th January 2023	Ladies Day
10th February 2023	St Valentine
11th February 2023	St Valentine
26th February 2023	February Stableford
4th March 2023	Mens Roll up
17th June 2023	Mens Roll up
18th June 2023	June Stableford
9th July 2023	July Stableford
12th July 2023	Ladies Day
15th July 2023	Mens Roll up
25th July 2023	GALA Week
6th August 2023	August Stableford
17th August 2023	Ladies Day
26th August 2023	Mens Roll up
27th August 2023	Social Golf
2nd December 2023	Mens Roll up
14th December 2023	Ladies Day
17th December 2023	December Stableford



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