

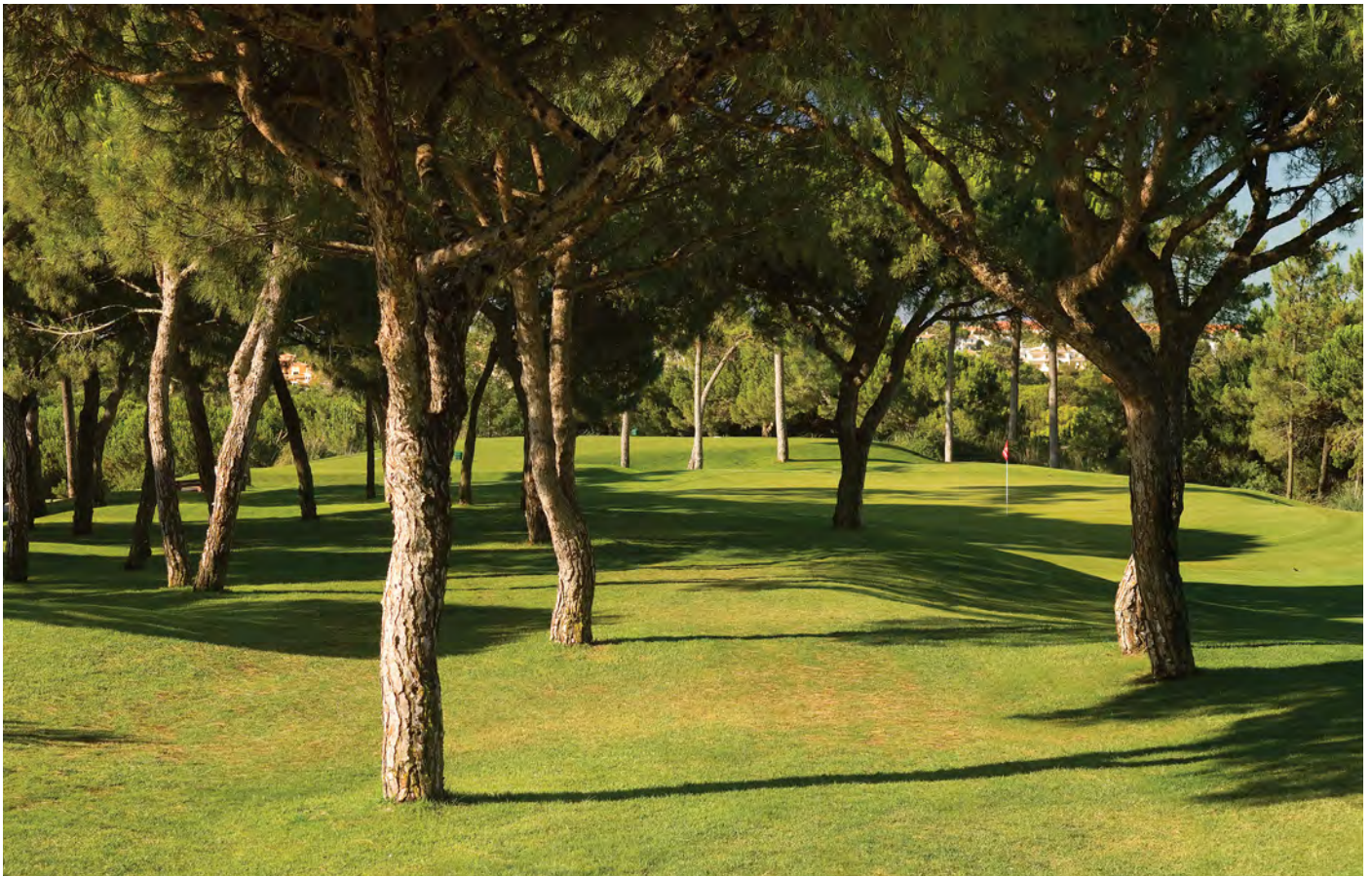
Altos *news*

nº 222 . August 2023



PINHEIROS ALTOS
GOLF CLUB

Introduction from the Captain — Mr Steve Coull



And so, here we are in July, already halfway through the year. So far, everything has been simply fabulous fun. It's interesting how things are so different here in the Algarve compared to our previous country of origins. Back "home", we don't play as much due to the cold and rain, but here we find ourselves hesitating to play because... well, the weather.....it's too hot !

We kicked off this month with a hot start on July 1st, celebrating Captains Day. And I would express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to everyone who participated and to those who couldn't attend but sent kind words, thank you. It was a fantastic day, and congratulations to all the winners. Special recognition goes to Sergey, who puts in so much effort and practice along with his competitive spirit, it's no wonder he emerges victorious.

Well done, Sergey! Thank you to Ross for helping up at the temporary "Cheeky Pup bar" on the 10th (1st of Corks), and for those that joined us up there after their round, we could have done a roaring trade, if Ross hadn't drunk the profits!!

Once again, the PA team did an outstanding job, thank you to Christophe, Cristina, Roger and Tatiana, for their fabulous efforts and support. With a special shout-out to the surprise piper arranged by Tatiana and Sue. He said he could only play for half an hour, which was probably just enough for those of you who aren't Scots!

Serving freshly prepared hot food to the grass area is always a challenge due to the distance the staff had to cover, but they handled it

well, although we can still improve things, we know. The band was a tad lively, but the general opinion was that we should use them again. The festivities continued late into the night and early morning, and hopefully most of you felt “okay” the next day.

A good day is a combination of good food, attentive service, a nice venue, great music, and fine wines. But what truly makes it a GREAT day is the people. So, congratulations to all of you for making the day truly amazing, thank you.

The course is currently facing some challenges. It is crucial to understand that applying chemicals without sufficient water doesn't offer any advantage.

Unfortunately, the delay in obtaining replacement pumps, regardless of the reasons, has exacerbated the situation. Nevertheless, we remain hopeful that the course will recover soon, as the pumps have now finally been delivered, and treatments can now have a positive impact.

Follow us on social media.



Gala week was truly remarkable! A big thank you to all the participants, especially the guests, family, and friends who joined in the festivities. It was an absolute marathon of a week, and having seen first-hand how everything comes together, I'm amazed at the tremendous effort required to host such a spectacular event. Congratulations and heartfelt appreciation to everyone involved. While winning golf competitions is essential to some, for most of us, the camaraderie and fun are the primary focus. There was plenty of laughter and banter, and though it proved extremely challenging for those who participated all week, it was an unforgettable experience. The gala dinner was superb, and it continued well into the early hours of Sunday morning, with some of us making it home just before daylight.

Next years theme was announced as the 60's so get your thinking heads on regarding the Wednesday fancy dress day.

We have now commenced preparations for the charity event scheduled on 4th October. Last year's efforts set an extremely high bar that will be challenging to surpass, but we are determined to give our very best. Personally, this is one of the main reasons I took on the role of Club Captain - the hard work involved is extremely rewarding when we can make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate. Remember, this charity event is not just about the Captain; it belongs to all of us, so please help where you can.

If anyone wants to participate, whether by playing in the event, offering unique experiences for auction, or suggesting potential sponsors for individual holes, please contact either Christophe or myself. Full details will be available next month.

Additionally, I'd like to draw your attention to the App, where you will find regular updates on exciting upcoming events such as the Presidents day, Ryder Cup, and match play competitions. Let's actively involve and inspire new members to participate in these enjoyable activities, helping them to get the best from the App.

As August settles into a slightly quieter period, the heat continues to soar, creating the perfect environment for family gatherings in the warm sunshine. We'll keep pursuing that mischievous little white ball, relishing the camaraderie and joy it brings.

To all those who are currently away, we send our best wishes for a fantastic time and eagerly anticipate your fast and secure return.



Captain's Day Prize Winners





Director of Golf — Montly Report



We kicked off July with the Captain's Day which was a great success and I must congratulate our Club Captain for a fantastic day. Captain provided the goody bags, the band in the evening and of course his Captain's prize. Once again, we had a tee sheet start which allowed everyone or almost everyone to play within a time that suited them. Also thank you to the Vice-Captain who provided the breakfast and the drinks on the course which went on much longer after the game was over! We had a fantastic turn out of 103 players and 130 for the dinner which had a great atmosphere. The popular winner of the day was Sergey Naumov who had abdicated from his group the previous week so he could practice and it worked as he scored 40 points on the day and broke the curse of having a lady winner for the Captain's Day! Congratulations Sergey!

Oliver Scriven took the best gross on the day by shooting 3 under par gross while Susan Russell took the best gross for the ladies and she went on to win the Summer Medal with a score of 68. Congratulations to both.

The July Stableford at San Lorenzo was won by John Conroy with a score of 34 points.

The other highlight of the month was obviously the Outer Space Sunshine Classic Members Gala Week which as usual was played on the last week of July. We ended up with 56 different team playing during the week which again was an improvement on last year.

The big winner of the week with 3 scores of 42 points were Gary & Jill Miller Cheevers which had to change their Anniversary celebration plans to become the 2023 Gala Week Champion. When I asked Gary if it was worth it, he replied it was every little bit of it (in his own words).

We had over 140 people at the BBQ and 110 for the gala dinner. The efforts made by all on the Wednesday was simply amazing as everyone were dressed up for the shoot-out. Big Congratulations to the Pirret's Family who I am sure must have worked on their costumes and buggies for weeks. They were by far the winners of the best dressed group but many others deserved a mention such as Iain & Lubna Cater Buggy or the Tucker Brown Family, and your best dressed man John Bondoc who took the place of the Cranwell trophy and of course Jane Robinson as the best dressed Lady.

This year, we decided to go back on playing the final of the shoot out over 2 holes so we played the Island green 8th Olives with 7 teams and 3 qualified to play on the last hole up the 9th on Olives. It was great atmosphere and many waiting for the finalists on the last green.

The 3 teams which made it to the final were the Lady Captain Melody Cotterill and her partner Tracey Hayes, Hugh Campbell & Max Parker and finally Iain & Lubna Cater. The last 2 tied on a bogey and had to put from the back of the 9th Olives green into a hole right at the front of the green. The experience of Iain Cater

was worthwhile as he left is putt an inch shot of holding it Iain & Lubna Cater were crowned as the winners of the Outer Space shout out.

The fun day on the Thursday was won by John Conroy, Jim Hanglow, Jean Marc Thibonnier & Rebecca Markey and yes it was a blind draw! We will never see the end now of having another Markey (female) winning competitions! Congratulations to all.

The best gross price was John & Alex Conroy with a total score of 93 points so congratulations to them.

The Gala week was a great success on the course & off the course but I would specially like to thank our main sponsor for the week EnQuinta which have not had the easiest of time lately and I would like to ask our members & owners to support EnQuinta as they supported the Club during difficult times over Covid-19 and after continuously supporting our Club. A big thank you for them and making this week possible. Big Thank you to my staff who did very well during the week and we are already looking forward to organize the "back to the 60's" next year!

The Brian Evans Mens Roll Up Trophy was played this year on the Saturday of Gala week!

The winners this year were Harry Nordström & Graham Burgess. Brian was there to present the trophy and adjust handicaps!!





Brian Evans presenting the Brian Evans Mens Roll Up Trophy to the winners Harry Nordström and Graham Burgess

All the efforts are being geared to recover the greens and the heat that we are witnessing is unfortunately not helping. We do think that when the weather settles into milder temperature we will see a substantial improvement of the greens & fairways. Staff levels has been the biggest problem and affecting many works we were intending to do such as repair of buggy paths, improvements of bunker quality and other jobs such as trimming and fence repairing. With the end of the summer and local apartment rents coming to a lower level we expect being able to employ new staff and recover the numbers needed to fulfill the maintenance program.

August is normally quiet as far as golf is concerned and we are already looking at many activities for September and the main event being President day on 16th September and info will be out soon. Of course, our usual Pinheiros Altos Ryder cup will also take place at the end of September where we will have shot gun starts in the morning and watch the real thing on TV in the afternoons.

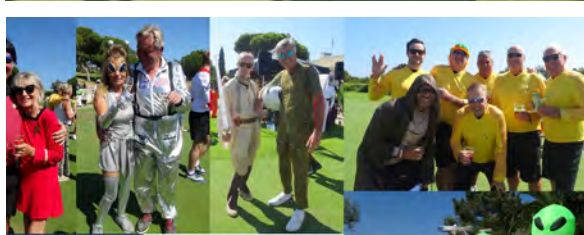
I hope to see many of you coming back to the club after the month of August and look forward to the many coming up activities within the club!

TOURNAMENT RESULTS
PLEASE CHECK THE APP!



Eventos de Golfe *Golf Events* by **JJW HOTELS**

HOTEL	EVENTO / TORNEIO EVENT / TOURNAMENT	DATAS DATES
Dona Filipa Hotel	International Amateur Tournament	25/11/2023 – 02/12/2023
Dona Filipa Hotel	Amateur Senior Tour	18/02/2024 – 25/02/2024
Dona Filipa Hotel	Spring Amateur Tournament	23/03/2024 – 30/03/2024
Penina Hotel & Golf Resort	Penina Golf Week	05/05/2024 – 11/05/2024





Ladies Section by Melody Cotterill

Oh what a month we have had!

Thanks so much to Captain Steve for a fabulous month - Captains day and a great Gala week. Lots of fun had by all. For those not able to participate am sure you will all enjoy the photos- thank you Shirley!

On both Captains day and during Gala week the Ladies were only too happy to participate and bring in some fabulous scores - it makes me very proud to be Lady Captain when I see so many of us in the prizes.

We have also been having great turnouts on a Wednesday both for our monthly medals and Stablefords and for our fun games. Thank you for your support ladies!

This month we also were fortunate to have 'Lucky in Love' sponsor our Stableford competition - their representative Nicole Pinter generously gave a € 100 voucher to the winners in both First and Second division and a prize too for nearest the pin. The winners were Sally Evans and Diana Collins and Joanna Young was nearest the pin.

The prize winners and all the ladies had a great time trying on all the fabulous outfits many of which were offered at Discount prices. I should also mention that Sales generated income for the club too. So winners all around! Nicole also extended the generosity to offer a 20% discount for online purchases - so many of our members unable to attend took advantage of this. This was communicated through our Ladies WhatsApp group - do contact me if you want to be added.



We also used this opportunity to have lunch together and give out prizes won in our weekly competitions. It was great too that the event was also supported by some of our non golfing members. Age is catching up with many of us but if golf is difficult it certainly doesn't prevent participation in social events and we have so many of these.

Finally, we enjoyed a friendly at home game against Vila Sol - a great group and pleased that we managed to half the match. The lunch afterwards was excellent and many of the ladies praised our catering staff. Thanks to Heather for organising and we look forward to our return match at Vila Sol.

Enjoy the rest of the summer - I am escaping the August heat and spending the month at our home in Scotland but members of my great committee will be around and golf competitions available every Wednesday.

We are all lucky to belong to a club whose staff really do put the members first. Thank you Christophe and your team.

My best wishes to all.

Melody



Lady Captain Melody Cotterill and Monthly Stableford First Division Winner Sally Evans

Lady Captain Melody Cotterill and Monthly Stableford Second Division Winner Diana Collins

Lady Captain Melody Cotterill and Nearest the Pin Competition Winner Joanna Young



**XXIII INTERNATIONAL
AMATEUR GOLF TOURNAMENT
25TH NOV. - 02ND DEC. 2023**

1st PRIZE

Free Entry to the XXIV Dona Filipa International Amateur
Golf Tournament

2nd PRIZE

4 Night Stay at Penina Hotel & Golf Resort
Valid for 2 Guests in a Twin/Double Room with Daily Breakfast

3rd PRIZE

4 Night Stay at Dona Filipa Hotel
Valid for 2 Guests in a Twin/Double Room with Daily Breakfast



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Report from the Greens Committee

Report from Greens Committee

The committee met with Antonio and Christophe on the 9th of August. Only Duncan Evans being unavailable.

We will attempt to report to members both the improvements which have been achieved and the difficulties working in the driest and hottest summer for many years.

Course condition

Despite a serious shortage of man power (15 against 23!) the holes in Corks and Pines show a much improved sward of grass in all fairways, greens put well despite serious scorching on some greens. We believe when both rains return and the water irrigation is working at full capacity there will be a quick restoration to burnt surfaces. The presentation of hole 1 of Pines is as good as we can remember for many years. We need all our holes to be as good!

Resources

The shortage of manpower is having an effect on Antonio's ability to deal with the cosmetic detail we want to see in our course.

The calcada is despite a large investment in repair still unacceptable on many holes! Christophe is aware of the problem but we are unable to say when the work will be completed.

The course relies on bore holes for its water when there is a drought. We have quite a few but the license to use them is costly! We are at risk of a potential high fine for over use!

The cost of maintaining the bore holes has become more difficult because of historic neglect. Money is now better controlled and budgets are agreed which underlines the need for a large investment in new equipment and improved irrigation. We are promised a satellite system which has been installed in San Lorenzo. It is expensive but essential to be able to irrigate both rough, fairways and

greens from a central control.

The course owner has been staying at PA recently and we hope he will see the challenges ahead if we are to challenge Quinta as the best course in the Algarve! We believe that is his ambition!

Course problems

There are obvious areas which need attention. In no particular order these are: -

Tree roots - Work has started but when manpower is restored much work is still to be done!

Tree removal - We are hoping to start a large tree removal as soon as weather conditions make this safe! David Ford has correctly pointed to the trees on corks 9 being so large that the approach to this difficult hole is limited to the left of the fairway! Tree will be reduced as soon as possible! We are "over occupied with trees".

Bunkers - Our sand is not the best! It becomes hard and impossible for our ladies (and men) if not deep raked and frequently. It is impossible with the present man shortage. We would like to see better sand in the long term!

The fairways are much improved but we have held back from lifting the placing concession whilst the dry conditions make some fairways very difficult to execute a wooded club when the ball lies on bare ground! We hope to lift this very soon!

We believe our new course manager is very well qualified to take the course to a new high level. We just have to hope that the funding which is required will be forthcoming and we believe the investment will give exceptional rewards to our owner.

Stewart Harper Chairman, David Ford, Duncan Evans.

Social Golf Report

by Stella Jeffrey and Knut Pedersen

Quite a few members cancelled social golf on Sunday 16th July as they were concerned about the excessive heat we had been experiencing early July. In the event, the temperature was, cooler and quite pleasant. We had 24 players and 26 for supper. The format was an easy 2 Stableford points to count from teams of 4. We played Pines to Corks, with half the field starting on Corks. Interestingly the winning teams all started on Pines, with fantastic scores, so very well done to all the winners.

The winners were:

1st 92 points BB9

Charlotte Parker
Knut Pedersen
Nils Leffler
Heather Conroy

2nd 92 points

John Carver
Kieran Nagle
Amanda Stretton
Helen Curran

3rd 91 points

Noel Curran
Philip Hardie
Anne Walsh
Mai Markey

It was good to see lots of new members, of all levels, joining in and playing social golf. We all enjoyed a supper of roast chicken with salad and chips followed by a desert of fresh fruit salad topped with a delicious vanilla ice-cream.

Next Social Golf will be organised by Cathy and Adrienne and played at San Lorenzo, on 27 August, with supper back at PA.

All members welcome, please sign up on the App.

Knut Pedersen, Stella Jeffrey



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