

Altos *news*

nº 227 . March 2024



PINHEIROS ALTOS
GOLF CLUB

Introduction from the Captain - Mr Steve Coull



Here we go again with the February report! These updates are coming thick and fast now. It feels like I'm more of a wannabe journalist than a golfer lately!

Early February witnessed me still in recovery mode, and under surgeons' instructions not to play golf so I missed the first few weeks, but figured I was going to die of boredom so decided to start and play once per week, and to hit wedges on the practice facilities. Probably spending more time down there in the last few weeks than in the last year!

The St. Valentine's Day Competition faced some challenges with the weather, as the first day was rained off due to horrid conditions. However, on day two, the weather improved, allowing the competition to go ahead. Despite the setbacks, there was a good turnout, and congratulations are in order to all participants and eventual winners.

Both being injured and unable to play, Nigel and I hatched a cunning plan to set up on the 8th hole and treat the field to chicken pies, pink valentines' cupcakes, champagne, and beer. (sorry we forgot the water and fruit !!) and despite his repeated claims and for the record, no Nigel did not bake or cook any of it.

While we weren't entirely convinced, we were the best fit for such a task, as placing us in front of large volumes of food and alcohol

with time on our hands was probably too much of a temptation, but nevertheless it was wonderful to see everyone enjoying themselves.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to Christophe and the team for their swift rearrangement of everything—it's certainly no easy task, and you all executed it brilliantly.

While I typically don't make a big fuss about the monthly medals or Stableford competitions (that's Christophe's domain), it would be remiss of me not to acknowledge Debbie Carver's remarkable success in winning the medal on the 25th. It's a testament to her perseverance, dedication, and hard work. Well done, Debbie, and congratulations on your achievement, in tough conditions.

So, that pretty much wraps up February, short and sweet this month, Sue and I are off for our first holiday in 2 years, but we will be back in time for the looming AGM's.

Hopefully the weather will cheer up soon and we can get back to wearing shorts, happy golfing and looking forward to seeing you all soon.

All the very best

Steve



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St Valentine's Day Prize Winners



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St Valentine's Day Prize Dinner



St Valentine's Day Prize Dinner



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St Valentine's Day Prize Dinner



Director of Golf – Monthly Report

February was a short month not only in days but also in the number of events carried out during the month. The main event was St Valentine which should have been played over 2 days San Lorenzo & Pinheiros Altos. Unfortunately, the first day was rained off and it was played over one day in Pinheiros Altos. The winners had a fantastic score of 46 points Jacqueline Griffin & Colin Glennon. The day ended up with a great dinner at Pinheiros Altos and everyone seemed to really enjoy the evening. The gross score was won by Tim & Susan Russell and Susan went on to win the Lady Captain day the following week.

The ladies also cleaned up on the Medal with Debbie Carver's 71 to win the tournament and Jannette Staddon took the stableford with 39 points in San Lorenzo. Congratulations to both.

The golf courses in the area have been much busier than normal and Pinheiros Altos & San Lorenzo are no exceptions. Most of the visitor's times are being sold and the importance of having

the members times is more and more crucial so that everyone can still get starting times of the course. The pace of play on the course may be affected over the next few weeks but the impact is not as great as it is on some courses and the 4 hours round is still the goal to achieve.

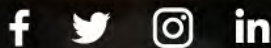
We have had a lot of rain but unfortunately the lack of water this summer will be a reality for all of us golf course but also homes and public establishments. We are being requested to reduce the consumption between 15% & 50% which obviously will mean serious change on the golf course with many more unirrigated areas and waste areas. Everyone should be made aware & responsible to make sure no water is wasted and a real effort are made so that the consumptions are being reduced. Pinheiros Altos is also in the process of getting the licenses to use recycled water such as San Lorenzo is already using. This will make sure we can save some of the water in the borrows holes.

Coming up of course is the busy season of Easter and its many activities. It all kick of with the Ladies AGM on 25th March followed by Club AGM & Captain's Drive in on 28th March. Spring medal & Past Captains day on 30th March and of course the usual Easter Scramble on the last day of the month and also the day we move on to the Summer hours and longer days! Early in April we Have the APPA tournament on the 2nd April and the first week-end will be the Club Championship. Not to forget either later in the month the St George's National Day Challenge on the 23rd April 2024.

As you can see there is plenty coming up and I look forward to seeing many of you at all the activities during the next few weeks. Enjoy your golf!



Follow us on social media.



A.G.M.

The A.G.M. of the Pinheiros Altos Golf Club will take place on Thursday 28th March 2024 at 10 a.m. in the Clubhouse.

Agenda

1. 10:00 a.m. Meeting is opened by the Chairman of the AGM
2. The Chairman will introduce the outgoing Captain Mr. Stephen Coull
3. Mr. Stephen Coull summarizes his year and introduces the Captain for the coming year Mr. Nigel Spokes
4. The Captains acceptance speech
5. Report from the Director of Golf including the response to written questions
6. 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 14th March 2024.

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

If any principal member would like to stand for election as Incoming Vice-Captain they should notify the Golf Office, proposed and seconded by four principal members in writing on or before Thursday 14th March 2024.

13th Spring Amateur

TOURNAMENT

23RD – 30TH MARCH 2024



DONA FILIPA
HOTEL

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

TOURNAMENT RESULTS
PLEASE CHECK THE APP!

Eventos de Golfe / *Golf Events by* **JJW HOTELS** 2024



HOTEL	EVENTO / TORNEIO <i>EVENT & TOURNAMENT</i>	DATAS <i>DATES</i>
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
Penina Hotel & Golf Resort	XXXIII Sir Henry Cotton Trophy	25/05/2024
Dona Filipa Hotel	XXIV International Amateur Tournament	23/11/2024 – 30/11/2024



Ladies Section – by Melody Cotterill

Another great month at PA, the sun shined and the courses are playing very well.

It was a special month for me as we had my Captains day on the 21st February, and what a great day it was. The weather couldn't have been better and we had a record number of participants, both guests and members.

Susan Russell, who always plays well, had a magnificent score of 42 points! To take the Lady Captains prize. She told me she thought her success was down to the Fizz served on the course and the delicious sandwiches and snacks provided by my husband Paul on the 5th of Corks Tee box. Whilst it was kind of her to say that, I know she works hard at her game, by practicing regularly and taking lessons with Ross. I must try and do the same - it's on my list when Heather takes over.

Back to my Captains day. The refreshment area proved to be so popular that many ladies visited several times! I believe it also helped Chie achieve nearest the pin! It was a fabulous shot and very nearly a hole in one.

Sally Evans was also very anxious to visit the refreshment area and did a magnificent drive on the 6th Pines, outdriving the previous spectacular drive by Chris Soden! Both made the hole look so short!

After golf we returned to the Club house, joined by many Ladies, either non golfers or injured members and enjoyed a great evening with music provided by Chris Stretton and Anna. The food and the service provided by the club was exceptional and much appreciated by all the ladies.

All the results on the App.

A great event at the club the best way to finish my year as Lady Captain, I hand over to Heather on the 25th March. I know that with our Director of Golf - Christophe, and his team she will do her very best to ensure that all our Lady members enjoy their golf and participate in the events that are organised. Lots of exciting things on the App.

So it's the end of the year for me as your Lady Captain, I have lots of travel planned in the next twelve months but home is where the heart is, and mine is definitely at Pinheiros.

I hope to see many of you over the next few weeks.

Best wishes



Ladies Foursomes Championship



Lady Captain's Day



Lady Captain's Day Prize Winners



python images

Lady Captain's Day Dinner



Lady Captain's Day Dinner



python images

Lady Captain's Day Dinner



Lady Captain's Day Dinner



XXIV INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR GOLF TOURNAMENT 23RD NOV. - 30RD NOV. 2024

Program

- 24th, Sun.** Practice Round – from 9:16 AM
Welcome Cocktail at 7:00 PM
- 25th, Mon.** *Aggregated Stableford* – 1st round – from 10:04 AM
- 26th, Tue.** *Aggregated Stableford* – 2nd round – from 10:04 AM
- 27th, Wed.** Rest Day
- 28th, Thu.** *Aggregated Stableford* – Final round – from 10:04 AM
- 29th, Fri.** *Four Ball Better Ball* – 2 player's Team – from 10:04 AM
Cocktail followed by Prize Presentation Dinner at 7:00 PM



Prizes:

For the 3rd day *Aggregated Stableford*:
– Overall 1st, 2nd and 3rd;
– *Nearest the Pin* in each day.

For the *Four Ball Better Ball*:
– 1st, 2nd, and *Nearest the Pin*.

*Maximum playing handicap 28 Men or 36 Ladies.
All handicaps shall be converted according to the
published tables of Course Rating.*

*Electronic measurement is permitted. Ties are decided by the best result on the Last Round, the Last Nine, Six, or Three holes of the course or the Last Hole. The Best Gross prize is not accumulative with the overall 1st, 2nd or 3rd prizes. The starting for the Final Round of the *Aggregated Stableford* shall be according to the result over the two initial days. The Best Scorers to start at first.*



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Report from the Greens Committee

The full committee met for the first time since January to consider course condition and progress since our last report.

1. Course presentation.

We believe that the course condition and indeed its presentation is as good as we have seen for some years. We are however firstly very reliant on Antonio our head course manager and on regular rain and the availability of course fertilizer later this year. Antonio has a greater number of green staff than in the last few years but still needs probably two more to cover for holidays, sickness and unexpected leavers.

Our last report made a strong case for renewing our very old course machinery. To date that has not been possible but we cannot say too strongly that we must see renewal as quickly as possible to maintain a condition which reflects a five star golf resort!

We are promised that the satellite irrigation will be started very soon. We are aware that the cost has risen to a seven figure and more! We cannot be certain when this will be done. It was very successful at San Lourenco. Our bore holes are in much better health than for some time if we were allowed to use them!

We are aware that although the promised removal of many trees which STRI said were shading greens, tees and generally unwelcome, has not yet been completed! The contactors who are agreed and will carry out the work have yet to give a clear date! Christophe is chasing them!

Antonio has removed trees on 7/8 of corks and there has been much lobbing of tree branches where our equipment is being used. The cutting machine for cutting tree roots is also in use but this is a never ending job!

2. Future for course condition.

Management are well aware that if nature does not provide the rain water we need to take us through summer we will have to use our bore holes resources to service the greens and ensuring the fairways and tees are watered. We fear there may well be restrictions on golf courses or fines for excessive watering if the drought conditions are not resolved!

Finally we believe, the club management at PA is doing everything possible to maintain a high standard for not only the course but the paths and infrastructure.

We are also aware that foreign money is being invested throughout the Algarve. This will undoubtedly make the cost of golf increase!

Members should feel free to raise any particular concerns regarding course condition.

Stewart Harper Chairman, David Ford, Duncan

Social Golf Report - by Stella Jeffrey and Adrienne Buth

Report Social Golf 18th February 2024

Unfortunately, we couldn't play at Quinta do Lago and it was very busy on Pinheiros Altos, at least on the car park when we arrived, but there weren't any problems for us on the course. There were 35 players and 39 attending the dinner.

The format was Am Am. It sounds very interesting but it means 2 best scores of 4 to count. An easy format and the high scores show.

The winners:

Pines to Corks

- 1st** Stewart Harper, Mai Markey, Jimmy Knight, Stella Jeffrey 87 points
- 2nd** Helen Mills, Greg Griffin. Heather Conroy, Peter Young 86 points
- 3rd** Christian Holst, Lucy Pye, Nils Leffler, Carol Knight 83 points

Olives to Pines

- 1st** Mark Pye, Joanna Young, Anne Walsh, John A. Carver 91 points!
- 2nd** Jax Griffin, Paul Cotterill, Peter Mills, Barbara Kyne 83 points
- 3rd** John Scouler, David Pirret, Molly Wainwright, Melody Cotterill 80 points

The dinner was chicken stroganoff, salad and chocolate cake with sauce and ice cream served by the ever-zealous staff.

Next social golf will be 17th March (St Patrick's day!) and organized by Cathy Harper and Sue Georges

Hello everyone,

I'm excited to announce my new investment in "OnForm Coaching software" along with an upgraded iPad with enhanced camera capabilities.

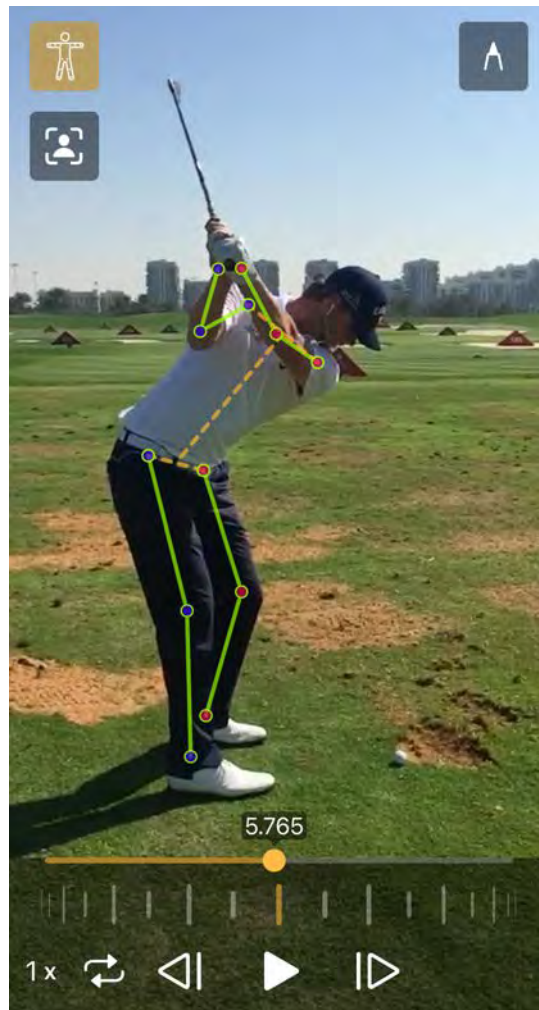
The software produces skeleton tracking and detailed motion analysis, giving comprehensive feedback on your swing or putting stroke.

These advancements ensure a modern coaching experience, providing you with the best support possible, facilitating improved ball striking and hopefully lower scores.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

All the best

Ross





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