

# Altos news

Nº 230 . JULY 2024



PINHEIROS ALTOS  
GOLF CLUB



# Introduction from the New Captain

## Mr Nigel Spokes

Dear Members

I hope you are all well and enjoying yourself in the Algarve or other destinations where you have chosen to spend the summer.

Very pleased to see the course improving every week. I'm sure Stewart will have a more detailed report. Three highlights since my last report

### **Lunch on the Beach**

Over 60 members enjoyed a lively lunch at Julia's, lots of good banter and most managed to get up and join in the dancing. Thank you Nico for inviting a number of us back for an after party, I'm not who has the worst choice in music Nico or Barry.

### **Captain's Day**

Slightly cool day but I think it was better conditions than some of the hotter days that we have had recently, Tracey and I managed the bar on the 5th of Corks and it was a pleasure serving everyone a number of times. Thanks to Kenny and Ross for coming down and entertaining the players.

Congratulations to all the players and of course all the prize winners especially winner Paul Hanby, his winner's speech was brilliant, especially when his notes looked like a spider had crawled out of the ink well and ran across the paper. His playing partners certainly got a bit of stick. Thanks to Adrienne for sharing the last of the Chicken Pies and Pastel De Nata at the 19th hole, I guess that's why a lot of you couldn't manage all your dinner.

Port with the cheese helped those with inhibitions take to the dance floor and a video of Martin Jessup shapes is now on YouTube.

### **Nine and Wine**

Many thanks from Bill from Prime Wine for supporting the club on the day of the UK election, we had full turnout and managed to get 22 flights around Olives in under two hours. Bill was giving €20 vouchers to anybody who hit the green at the 8th, which wasn't many, plus serving some very nice English Bubbles on the tee.

After golf we were treated to some fine French & Portuguese wine which was interrupted only by prize giving, although a number of members were more interested in topping up their glasses. Nearest the pin was Frances Smeaton who won two bottles of Rose and a Wine bucket, while David Warnock was the proud winner of a magnum of Rioja, his playing partner Stella is wondering when she's going to be invited round to share it. Thanks to Hugh for running round with the bread basket where everybody was most generous. Tracey needs a mention for giving up our 2nd place prize so the two couples tied third won a prize, we were beaten by a better back six by the Suttons, one day we will beat them 😞. We will try and fit another 9 hole mixed event after the summer if we can find the space, so if you're playing partner wasn't up to the job start looking for a new one.

A special thank you to Paulo, Renato and their team for their continued support at all the club events.

Please remember we have Gala week coming up.

Kindest regards

*Nigel*





*Picnic on the Green*





*Picnic on the Green*





*Picnic on the Green*





*Picnic on the Green*





*Picnic on the Green*





Roger Caliço, Club Captain Nigel Spokes presenting the trophy to the Captain's Day Winner Paul Hanby and Christophe Rindlisbacher



Club Captain Nigel Spokes and Best Ladies Gross Susan Russell



Club Captain Nigel Spokes and Best Men Gross Dan Henderson





**Christophe, Best Men Net Eddie Moloney and Club Captain Nigel Spokes**



**Christophe, Best Ladies Net Rosie Agnew and Club Captain Nigel Spokes**



**2<sup>nd</sup> Place Net Ladies Kay Ford**



**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Net Men John Conroy**



**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Net Ladies Helen Moore**





Nearest the Pin Winner Pascale Fraisse



Nearest the Pin in 2 Winners Colin Glennon and Rosie Agnew



Nearest the Pin Winner Steven Crowdey



Nearest the Pin Winner Amanda Stretton



Nearest the Pin Winner David Markey





PINHEIROS ALTOS  
ACADEMIA DE GOLFE



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## Director of Golf – Monthly Report

Hard to believe we are already planning for yet another Gala Week and we are already half way through the Summer. Fortunately, we now have the irrigation pumps working fully and we can already see the changes on the golf course and some green grass coming back. The course has been fully fertilized which should help speeding the recovery progress.

June started with the usual Ben Hogan Challenge being hosted in Pinheiros Altos this year against Quinta do Lago and the team exceeded themselves by winning the trophy 17-2 with Quinta do Lago only winning 1 of the 19 matches. Let's hope this will not put them off playing next year which is planned for June 2025 in Quinta do Lago! Congratulations to the Captains in making up the perfect teams.

The Captain's Day was played on 29<sup>th</sup> June and we had a great turn out for the event. Scores were the highest I can remember and the winner of the day was Paul Hanby with 43 points and what a great speech he had prepared (he said the day before the tournament!). That is confidence for you! Dan Henderson & Susan Russell took the gross on the day and the net winners were Eddie Maloney close with 42 points and for the Ladies Rosie Agnew with 39 points. Congratulations to all players who took part and thank you to the Captain for his input on the day and his generous donation to the charity.

The June stableford was won with 36 points by John Scouler while the medal was won with a fantastic 68 from Neil Sutton. Historically the month of June is a quiet one however the course this year has been busier than normal with members & visitors and just show the growth of golf across the year in Portugal. I would like to remind our members that buggies should be used on the course at 90° avoiding all buggies to come on and off the fairways in the same spot as the wear & tear at entrance and exits of fairways suffer from a lot of transit. Also, make sure you repair your pitch marks on the greens and rake bunkers after use. These are little things which will help recovering the course quicker and better.

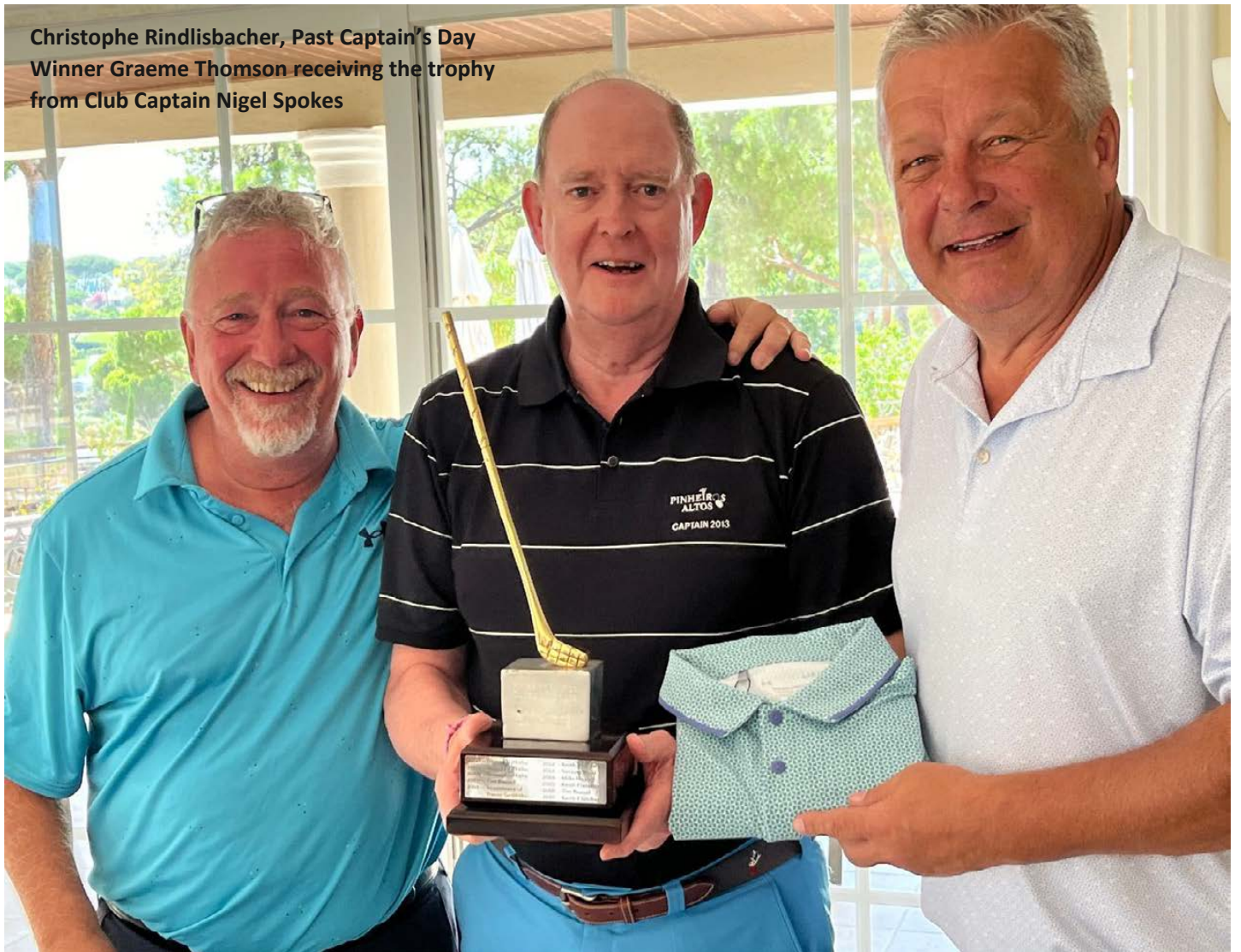
July is all about Gala Week and this year's theme is Back to the 60's and there should be a wide choice of costumes for the shoot out on Wednesday. Also, the Gala Dinner & Prize presentation will take place in the Dona Filipa this year which should give it a nice twist with the Fisherman's Buffet. Enquinta has kindly agreed to continue our long-term partnership and will be sponsoring Gala week so a big thank you to Nick Austin and his team for the continued support to the club.

I wish you all a good Summer whether it is on the beach or on the golf course and look forward to see many of you in the club.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS  
**PLEASE CHECK THE APP!**



**Christophe Rindlisbacher, Past Captain's Day  
Winner Graeme Thomson receiving the trophy  
from Club Captain Nigel Spokes**



**Past Captain's Day Runner Up  
Andy Georges receiving his prize**



**Past Captain's Day 3<sup>rd</sup> Place  
Tony Hickey**







## XXIV INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR GOLF TOURNAMENT 23<sup>RD</sup> NOV. - 30<sup>RD</sup> NOV. 2024

### Program

- 24<sup>th</sup>, Sun.** Practice Round – from 9:16 AM  
Welcome Cocktail at 7:00 PM
- 25<sup>th</sup>, Mon.** Aggregated Stableford – 1<sup>st</sup> round – from 10:04 AM
- 26<sup>th</sup>, Tue.** Aggregated Stableford – 2<sup>nd</sup> round – from 10:04 AM
- 27<sup>th</sup>, Wed.** Rest Day
- 28<sup>th</sup>, Thu.** Aggregated Stableford – Final round – from 10:04 AM
- 29<sup>th</sup>, 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 3<sup>rd</sup> day *Aggregated Stableford*:  
– Overall 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>;  
– *Nearest the Pin* in each day.

For the *Four Ball Better Ball*:  
– 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.*



### DONA FILIPA HOTEL

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## Ladies Section – by Heather Conroy



June was a busy month for the Ladies' section with the Past Lady Captain's Day on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of the month. Thirteen past Lady Captains took part in the Stableford competition including Margo Fletcher who flew over especially for the occasion and Hilary and Shirley who are recovering from injuries joined us for the lunch. The weather was good, and everybody enjoyed the day, our wonderful Past Lady Captain Cathy Harper won (after recovering from a foot operation) with a magnificent score of 44 points!! The saying of "Beware the injured golfer" was mentioned once or twice during our lunch.

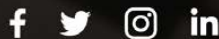
On 11<sup>th</sup> June, fifteen ladies took part in our social event with a Guided walking tour around the Old Town in Faro with our wonderful guide Marcelo, the walk was informative and even though I did this guided tour five years ago I came away with new knowledge and understanding. We hope to do other tours with Marcelo in the future.

The two-hour tour was followed by a grilled chicken lunch at a small restaurant called Churrasqueira O Recife. We had an excellent meal of grilled chicken, salads, desserts, coffees and drinks for around 12 euros!



On the 16<sup>th</sup> June, thirty eight PA ladies took part in the Lucky in Love competition which was held at the Club. Other clubs joined the event including Vilasol and the Texas Scramble format was loved by all that took part. The golf competition was won by a Vilasol team with a better back nine to Helen Mill's PA team. This was followed by a great lunch, fashion show and a tombola. I would encourage anyone from PA or other clubs to attend this event as it's a great chance to meet members from other clubs and great value.

## Follow us on social media.







*Past Lady Captains Day*



# Eventos de Golfe / *Golf Events by*

## **JJW HOTELS**

2024/2025



<b>HOTEL</b>	<b>EVENTO / TORNEIO</b> <i>EVENT &amp; TOURNAMENT</i>	<b>DATAS</b> <i>DATES</i>
Dona Filipa Hotel	XXIV International Amateur Tournament	23/11/2024 – 30/11/2024
Dona Filipa Hotel	JJW International Amateur Senior Tournament	16/02/2025 – 23/02/2025
Dona Filipa Hotel	Spring Amateur Tournament	12/04/2025 – 19/04/2025
Penina Hotel & Golf Resort	IX Penina Golf Week	11/05/2025 – 17/05/2025
Penina Hotel & Golf Resort	XXXIV Sir Henry Cotton Trophy	24/05/2025



# Report from the Greens Committee

The full committee met on the 11th July in the absence of David Ford who was abroad.

Our Director Christophe required the committee to prepare their report ASAP.

## 1. Course condition 2024

The first few months of 2024, saw the course in its best condition for many years. A combination of heavy rain and the use of sand and fertilizer in stock proved a remarkable combination for growth.

As this committee reported a failure to find the promised finance to fund, the agreed spending budget, and drought conditions, combined with water restrictions quickly reduced the course to a very sorry sight!

Our greens manager wisely used the water that was available to water the greens and the area around the greens and the tees.

## 2. Present position

The promised funds to buy new water pumps came as promised and as a result we were promised the course would be restored over a period of 2-4 weeks. The changes in the course are remarkable and only the 4th of Olives remains a problem which we are advised will be settled once a new electric cable is in place in the next few days.

## 3. Future position

The course needs sand and fertilizer and new equipment to maintain the course in the condition members and visitors expect.

Irrigation will be changing over the next few years to maintain an adequate supply of water which still leaves many new tasks for the greens workers.

Staff numbers are up, (23) for the course but there remains work to improve the tees and to reduce the trees which

are marked and which we hope to have removed before year end.

Discussions are in place to replace our aged equipment in all the 3 courses owned in the Algarve by JJW with a rental arrangement which will safeguard failure of new equipment and give an improved appearance to our courses.

## 4. Preserving course condition

It is accepted that the heavy watering of fairways to restore growth makes the course more vulnerable to buggy use and tyre tracks. The committee agree that wherever possible members should accept a 90 % rule and park their buggy and walk across to their ball. Maturity of the grass and a reduced use over the summer months should see a much improved course with less vulnerability.

The tees need feeding and sanding and temporary tees may have to be used to improve growth.

There is also a much increased use of sand on the course and greens and indeed in bunkers where we would like to see consistency for bunker play!

The committees try to remain optimistic about course conditions and indeed there are many other issues which the main committee are considering to improve the PA golf club as the first choice for new golfers coming to the Algarve. One issue is of safety and members should feel free to report any areas of danger which they see.

The next few months are very important to the club and its continued good reputation.

*Stewart Harper chairman,*

*David Ford,*

*Duncan Evans.*



# Social Golf Report

## by Adrienne Buth and Knut Pedersen

Report on Social Golf 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2024

June Social Golf took place on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June. The format was “Who Stole the Par 4s”, This gave the players a chance to see some T`s that they never seen before. Meaning that the par 4`s turned in to Par 5, with the Men playing of White and the Ladies from Yellow.

We were 32 players turning up for the game.

After the game we were joined by 4 guests for supper, with Chicken and Chips, and Apple Strudel and Ice-cream for dessert.

Overall, we had a social and lovely Sunday, and thanks to everyone for joining the event. We will have a break for the summer, and looking forward to next Social golf on the 8th of September. Adrienne and Cathy will do this event. The format will be announced later.

### **Winners on Pines to Corks:**

Wallace Forde, David Pirret, Lisa Burns and Carol Knight	<b>95 pts.</b>
Philip Hardie, Paul Cotterill, Molly Wainwright and Stella Jeffrey	<b>93 pts.</b>

### **Winners on Corks to Olives:**

Kieran Nagle, Ken Irving, Barbara Kyne and Bernadette Hardie	<b>102 pts.</b>
James Knight, Hugh Carter, Zoe Pirret and Louise Baker	<b>100 pts.</b>

*Adrienne Buth and Knut Pedersen*





## Interclub Report

### by David Ford

The PA Interclub team are lying sixth out of seven in Division 2 as we reach the point in our season where we break for July and August.

Whilst this looks somewhat uninspiring, our league position only tells half the story. We have played six games, when five other teams have played nine or ten. Of our six games, five have been away from home. Once again, most teams have played five games at home. Interclub competition is normally about winning your home games convincingly and keeping away losses to as respectable a score as possible. Remarkably, this season we have secured three away wins out of five, resulting in three bonus points. Prior to this, we hadn't won away for four years. Only one other team has secured an away win.

For those who are unaware of the Interclub format, there are five four ball matches per game, so ten players per team. This year we have selected 19 players from a potential squad of 40. We will unquestionably be selecting more people who have yet to play this year.

Our next match is on September 12th. With five home games remaining and one away, our final league position really is in our hands. Another positive away performance (at our neighbours Quinta do Lago) and no losses at home (including a couple of high scoring victories) and we could be candidates for promotion.

If anyone would like more information regarding Interclub, please do not hesitate to contact me.

*David Ford*





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](https://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