

MARCH 2023

CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

BY ROBERT WALSH

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CAPTAIN'S MESSAGE

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CAPTAIN'S MESSAGE

LATEST NEWS

Dear Member,

It has been a couple of months since my last newsletter and to say a lot has happened would be an understatement! In my last communication I told you of the difficulties we were having with the course and the weather conditions. Well all I can say now is we have had a total transformation on both our courses. The fairways are now well dried out and running and the greens are absolutely excellent. Many thanks must go to Bernardo and all the staff for turning what could have been a potential problem around.

Geoff continues to work with Bernardo in giving feedback from the committee and this is certainly showing a beneficial affect in many ways. I am pretty sure you will have read Geoff's recent report which was sent last week.

TOURNAMENTS

SOCIAL & COMPETITION

Chinese New Year

During January we held what has now become an annual event, Chinese New Year. This was organised by both Ingrid and Kees and once again was a fantastic occasion.

We started with golf at the wonderful Quinta de Peru with 50 player and then we had a traditional Chinese dinner at The Old House in Lisbon where we had sixty attend. This event seems to be firmly set in our calendar and I know that Ingrid and Kees are looking at options for next year.

Belmont Press Pro Am

Our Pro Am was held on the 24th and 25th of February. This year we had a total of 54 Teams with a waiting list which was a record! It goes to show how popular this event has become over the years. This year there was a slight change of venue for the Gala Dinner. We were all bused up to Quinta de Juncal in Serra de'l Rey and I have to say we had a wonderful evening. We had some fantastic scores over the two days and congratulations to the Dutch team of Ingrid, Kees and Jan Willem and their pro who prevailed a tough battle with a score of 131. Our thanks must go to Phil Thomas as one of the main sponsors and also to Francisco and his team for the wonderful organisation.

St. Patrick's Day

We celebrated St Patricks Day on the 17th of March. Tom Kelly and his team did a magnificent job on the day. There were nearly 100 for golf and 120 for dinner in the Marriott on the evening. The weather was reasonably kind to us with only a couple of showers. The Captain's Charity was a huge beneficiary on the evening with a magnificent €3600 raised. Many thanks to everyone for your support. Congratulations to the team of John and Sue Stavers and Peter and Jennifer Ledger who won the overall prize with a magnificent 91 points.

National Success!

I am delighted to tell you that Betty Vanneste and Kim Brevick won the Portugues Seniors National Pairs Competition. I am pretty sure this will be the first of many successes for Betty and Kim, congratulations to you both from all in the club.

Pace of Play and Draws

As we are all aware this is a very emotive subject and one that as a committee we are keen to tackle so all members can enjoy their round of golf. The current system certainly favours the lower handicap golfers going out first in the draws. This does not allow the inclusiveness and mixing of members that we would like. Also it seems to have an effect on pace of play.

After a lengthy discussion it has been decided that for the next month we will trial mixed handicaps and genders. It will certainly mean that we will all get to play with a more varied selection of members which in my view can only be to the benefit of all. Hopefully also it may speed up the pace of play during these busy times.

I would ask that we all embrace this change and try and make it work. In my twenty plus years of being a member our club has always been inclusive and I hope this initiative will help in this continued ambition.

On another note, can I ask members NOT to ask reception for a specific flight or time going forward. I have told reception that they are not to manipulate the draw for anyone. However I am aware that sometimes needs must so please contact me directly to request a specific time etc.

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Competition Qualification

As we have advised in the past all players need to have submitted three cards within a six month rolling period to be eligible for prizes in our club competitions. The rationale behind this is to make sure that we are complying with the requirements as laid down by World Golf. As a committee we will monitor all entrants and if you do not have the required number of cards you will be advised that you cannot win a prize. Please also remember this applies to pairs, order of merit, club championships etc.

However I would like to share some statistics with you from the last couple of years:

These are the figures from the 1st of Jan 2022 to 31st of May.

More than 3 cards - 35%

1 or 2 cards - 24%

0 cards - 41%

The corresponding figure for period from 1st January 2022 to 13th February 2023 are -

More than 3 cards - 62%

1 or 2 cards - 14%

0 cards - 24%

As can be seen we have improved the number of official scores over this period which is great. Please remember a social round is an official score and should in fact be submitted, this can be either 9 or 18 holes.

Please help your committee with the above request.

Meet the Marriott Team

The hotel has recently appointed a new general manager, António Esteves. António was eager to meet with as many residents as possible and we organized a drinks evening at West Cliffs on the 16th of March where we were given a short presentation on what to expect within the resort over the coming months. This get together also gave us the opportunity to meet with Antonio and his senior team to share ideas and discuss issues which we may have. It was not a Q and A session but purely an opportunity to get to know one another.

UPCOMING CAPTAIN'S EVENTS

SOCIAL

St George's Day

April 23rd

The registrations for this day are already open so please keep an eye on the website and remember we will only be taking registrations with payment in this way. Steve Cottrell is the organizer and he has already sent out information to all members.

Scandinavian Day

May 27th

More on this closer the time.

Quiz Night

April 12th

With the help of Peter Reed we have organized a Golf Rules Quiz Night on the 12th of April. The evening is going to be fun focused and will help us ALL understand the rules better hopefully. The event will take place in Club House and we have organized a buffet supper with drinks at a price of €25 per person. Please come along and support this evening as I'm sure it will be great fun.

SAVE THE DATE

CLUB'S TOURNAMENTS

01.04.2023	Pairs Praia D'El Rey
08.04.2023	Pairs West Cliffs
15.04.2023	Order of Merit Praia D'El Rey
23.04.2023	St. George's Day
29.04.2023	Order of Merit West Cliffs
06.05.2023	Pairs Praia D'El Rey
13.05.2023	Pairs West Cliffs
20.05.2023	Order of Merit D'El Rey
27.05.2023	Scandinavian Day
28.05.2023	Order of Merit West Cliffs

CAPTAIN'S CHARITY

PRAIA D'EL REY & WEST CLIFFS

The Captain's charity is in fantastic shape and once again many thanks for your help and support.

Recently Ingrid handed over circa 35k to our local day care centre in Serra de'l Rey towards the purchase of an electric mini bus. I am sure we will have the official handover ceremony and photos very soon and I will include these in my next newsletter.

In the meantime I have been busy distributing the money that you have all helped to raise. On the 15th of March we welcomed Joseph Poon and his team to Praia de'l Rey for the official handover of a trailer we purchased for their organisation, Oeste International Volunteers. We are delighted to have been able to partner with OICV to help them deliver their International Cuisine Lunch to the elderly day care centres around the areas of Obidos and Caldas. As a thank you we were treated to a beautiful Chinese lunch on the terrace by Joseph and his team.

We have also donated €2500 to Crappa. This organisation has helped us in the past with removing stray dogs and cats from our resort and they are in need of a new van to continue the good work they undertake in the region.

We have also made several smaller donations to worthy causes over the last few months and we will continue in our endeavours to help those people and organisations that need assistance going forward.









ROAD TO PRAIA D'EL REY

COMPETITION LEADERBOARD - UPDATED ON 22.03.2023

1	Susanne Spivey	200,4		48	Peter McQue	23,1
2	Kim Kerremans	173,9	Q	49	Andrew Williams	22,5
3	Hans Fjarem	172,0		50	Hannu Teirikko	22,3
4	Ingrid Kerremans	139,6		51	Tom Kelly	22,1
5	Maurice McCullough	131,8		51	Alison Taylor	21,0
6	Jan-Willem den Ridder	130,1		53	Thomas Wiedenbruch	18,9
7	Michael King	116,4	Q	54	John Spon-Smith	18,0
8	Per Åke Tobiassen	107,8		54	Aileen O'Hanrahan	18,0
8	David Moxham	107,8		56	Betty Vanneste	17,2
10	Kees Kerremans	94,6		57	David Wedgeworth	16,8
11	John Breen	94,2		58	Christopher Bell	16,4
12	Joy Mendoza	84,6		59	Marilyn Brownlow	16,0
13	Martin Playell	81,9		60	Francis Kelsey	15,8
14	Mats Sjöholm	81,2		61	Lauren Shepheard	14,5
15	Mark Aubrey-Fletcher	76,4		62	Kevin Allen	13,7
16	Vincent Dowling	75,8		63	Ian Hall	12,0
17	David Carruth	74,2		64	Timothy Jones	11,7
18	Tuija Palo-Teirikko	68,3		65	Peter Brownlow	10,3
19	David Martin	59,2		66	Philip Williams	9,5
20	Kim Breivik	58,4		67	Robert Smeeton	8,7
21	Alan Westhead	58,0		68	Thomas Seemann	6,8
22	Tina Walsh	54,7		69	James O'Hanrahan	6,3
23	Jonathan Rutledge	54,3		70	Jonathan Masters	5,8
24	Frank Kennedy	48,0		71	Bill Ahern	5,7
25	Julie Calvert	46,0		72	Helena Headworth	5,4
26	Yvette Marshall	40,8		73	Liam Cundill	5,0
27	Stephen Cottrell	40,2		74	Martin Cooper	4,4
28	Catherine Hadden	39,0		75	Suzanne Godwin	4,2
29	Bill Trendell	37,3		76	James Harris	3,3
30	Timothy Bye	37,0		77	Pauline Usher-Mahon	3,2
31	Neil Hinch	36,0		78	John Stavers	3,0
32	Andrew Dean	34,9		79	Archie Williams	2,0
33	Helena Boot	34,3		80	Ebba Dohlman	0,8
34	Gabrio Bianchetti	32,4				
35	Kevin Mendoza	31,8				
36	Thomas Byrne	31,2				
37	Jacqueline Jones	30,6				
38	Nicolette Hind	29,9				
39	Dag Arvidsson	29,6				
40	Susan Rawlings	28,0				
41	Robert Walsh	27,3				
42	Mark Pollard	26,1				
43	Angella Walton	25,5				
44	Geoff Newton	25,0				
45	Keith Rawlings	24,4				
46	Henry Wilson	24,2				
47	Susan Pollard	23,2				

REY ESTATES