

NOVEMBER 2022

# CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

BY ROBERT WALSH

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# CAPTAIN'S MESSAGE

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## CAPTAIN'S MESSAGE

### LATEST NEWS

Welcome to my second Newsletter. We have had a busy couple of months since my last communication. The course has been extremely busy with visitors, however as a committee we have tried our best to accommodate as many people in competitions despite waiting lists etc. It is quite obvious that our pairs competitions seem very popular and in order to make sure everyone got to play it meant we had to play foursomes in flights of six. This was not ideal but at least we pretty much all got to play.

As we all know our fairways suffered straight after the summer and this is well documented in Geoff Newton's Course report, which I hope you have all read. However the work that Bernardo and his team have done has been nothing short of miraculous considering the traffic he has to contend with. I would like to thank the whole team for all their efforts. There is much information in Geoff's report and I am sure you will agree is very informative and also shows our members what is planned in terms of changes and upgrades. I would ask that members be mindful of our course staff whilst they are working and be a little patient if you have to wait to play shots etc.

LATEST NEWS

## TOURNAMENTS

### SOCIAL & COMPETITION

#### Atlantic Trophy

Our team went to Quinta do Peru for the last match of the Atlantic Trophy on the 8th of October. We went knowing we had to either get first or second on the day to win the trophy. Unfortunately we were unable to manage the result required. We basically lost to Quinta de Peru on countback! Well played to everyone who was chosen to play throughout the competition.

#### Oktoberfest

This is the second year we have celebrated Oktoberfest and I would like to thank Thomas and Sabine for all their hard work and organization in putting the day and evening together, it was fantastic. However it didn't all quite go to plan as the weather would not play ball and we had to cancel the golf. Not what we all wanted, but the right decision nonetheless. The upside though was we had a fantastic evening and had over 100 people attending and we were once again entertained by Rainer all the way from Munich.

#### Match Play

As you are all aware the match play competitions are up and running. It is vitally important that you organize your matches and have them played before the deadline dates. No extensions will be given as there is ample time to meet the timeframe, thank you in advance for your understanding.

#### Booking Duplications

It has been an issue where members double book competitions and this can cause issues for organizers when doing draws etc. and also availability online for the competitions. This has now been resolved and it is not now possible to double book as the system will not accept it. Can I remind all members to please book competitions through the website ONLY. The competitions are open one month in advance so it should not be an issue. This will help to do away with errors in not being entered by the reception staff. We will at some stage soon make this compulsory as it will allow a smoother running and less issues going forward. Also if you are unable to play, please cancel in advance of the draw, which is normally done by midday on the day before the competition.

#### No Shows at Functions

We have had a number of no shows at some of our organised functions recently. This is unfair to the organisers who have to budget and organise these events and is in fact disingenuous. We cannot allow this to continue, so in future we will require 48 hours notice of non attendance and failure to do so will mean that the cost will need to be paid regardless. I do hope you understand and do your best to comply.

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## New Local Rule

As we are all aware the course is very wet and we have a lot of tire marks from both buggies and course machinery. With immediate effect we are bringing in a local rule allowing a free drop from any of these damaged areas. Please remember that you should always check with your playing partners that you are entitled to relief.

## Buggies

In order to limit the damage to our fairways, could I please ask that all buggies stick to the rough and stay off the fairways. Also no buggies should be parked alongside the greens. This again is a temporary measure until the we get through the winter months and the course dries out. I would appreciate your cooperation.

## GUR

Please note, all areas either marked with blue or white paint are classed as GUR and you must take full relief from these areas. Playing from these marked areas is NOT allowed.

## No Shows at Golf Competitions

I am sorry to say that this seems to a regular occurrence. Can I please ask all members to call reception if you are unable to make a competition. This will allow us to change the markers on the cards and advise the affected group. Thank you for your understanding.

## CHARITY UPDATE

### CAPTAIN'S CHARITY

Firstly the members generosity never ceases to amaze me. You continue to give week in and week out through the various activities that are either organised or through donations. I feel it is important to give an update on where the charity stands currently.

A few years ago we went away from the idea of having one charity to support and instead created a charitable fund that would be able to help numerous good causes. Currently we are holding a fund of circa 56k in the bank. However 36k has been allocated towards one of Ingrid's charities which has not yet been paid.

To date I have given to two very good causes. Association MVC in Caldas de Rainha. They were looking for help for 60 children who rely on their soup kitchen. The need was for school books for the start of the new year. We were delighted to donate the sum of 1200 euro for a wonderful cause.

The second Organization we are currently supporting is Oeste International Community Volunteers. Many of you will know this organization as it is run by Joseph Poon who is a regular bridge player. Joseph and his team are involved in visiting and cooking for Old Folks organizations along the Silver Coast. They introduce them to various different foods but mainly Chinese. They have managed to do this by transporting their equipment in their cars. They were looking for help to buy a trailer and we were more than happy to help a great cause and we donated the 6000 euro required. The trailer should arrive later this month and we will do a handover in January when I am sure Joseph will give you a lot more information on his organization.

We are constantly looking for other charities or causes to help and with this in mind if anyone has any ideas please do not hesitate to contact me and I will be happy to discuss.



# COURSE TEE TIMES

## CLUB'S TOURNAMENTS

We are all aware of the challenges with getting tee times during the busy periods and I have referred to this earlier on in my newsletter.

Dave Moxham, Geoff Newton and my self met with Francisco to discuss our concerns on behalf of the members recently. It was a very frank discussion and we put our views across and gave member feedback.

Obviously the one tee start did impact availability this year and we will be reverting to the two tee start in January, however during December, if the situation allows ,we maybe able to get two tee starts on occasions. We pointed out that more members are now living here and also more retiring so the need for members times needs to be increased . Francisco understands this and he is givingus an increase for competitions next year. Also the two tee start will also allow extra tee times daily. We are currently working on the Calendar for the 23/24 season and we are factoring this extra availability in.

Just to remind you, we have over 250 competitions a year and generally we can accommodate everyone. Can I please remind you of the importance of booking non competition tee times well in advance during the busy periods, ie. October/November and March/April. Although we are all members, we are not a private members club, so there is a limit on what we can expect.

Francisco shared some statistics for the last three years with is during this meeting and I would like to give you a brief synopsis as follows:

### **Total Rounds Played**

2018 - 38,000

2019 - 37,000

2022 - 39,000

The split is roughly 68% guests and 32% members in terms of the number of rounds played.

### **Membership**

2020 - 509

2021 - 536

2022- 555

# MATCH PLAY - QUINTA DA RIA

## AWAY MATCH PLAY

I was delighted to be able to resurrect this fixture against our old friends at Quinta da Ria in the Algarve. There has been a friendly fixture for quite a few years, however it was interrupted by Covid. On the 26th of October we had 24 players heading to Tavira for this match. We all played on the Ria course on the first day and the match was held on the Quinta de Cima course on the second day. Unfortunately we could not manage a win and the score was 5 ½ to 2 ½. We enjoyed a great lunch outdoors and made some old friends and new over a few glasses of wine.

I have managed to secure the return match to be played as a 36 hole event at West Cliffs and PDR on the 18th and 19th of May next year. I will advise further details closer the time.



# SAVE THE DATE

## CLUB'S TOURNAMENTS

12.11.2022	Order of Merit West Cliffs
19.11.2022	Pairs West Cliffs
23.11.2022	1st Major Roll Up
26.11.2022	Order of Merit PDR
03.12.2022	Pairs West Cliffs
10.12.2022	Order of Merit PDR
17.12.2022	Pairs PDR
24.12.2022	Order of Merit West Cliffs
01.01.2022	Hangover Tournament
02.01.2022	Portucale

Please note:

The **1st Major Roll Up** of the Road to Praia D'El Rey has been rescheduled for **November 23rd**.



# ROAD TO PRAIA D'EL REY

COMPETITION LEADERBOARD - UPDATED ON 09.11.2022

1	Per Åke Tobiassen	100,6
2	Hans Fjarem	72,0
3	Ingrid Kerremans	60,9
4	David Moxham	52,9
5	Michael King	45,0
6	Martin Playell	42,0
7	Joy Mendoza	37,3
8	Timothy Bye	37,0
9	Neil Hinch	36,0
10	Andrew Dean	34,9
10	Tuija Palo-Teirikko	34,2
12	Maurice McCullough	33,7
13	Mark Aubrey-Fletcher	33,0
13	Kees Kerremans	33,0
14	Kevin Mendoza	31,8
15	Jacqueline Jones	30,6
16	Dag Arvidsson	29,6
17	Susanne Spivey	27,9
18	Robert Walsh	27,3
19	Frank Kennedy	25,6
20	Keith Rawlings	24,4
21	Vincent Dowling	24,0
22	Susan Pollard	23,2
23	Alison Taylor	21,0
24	Peter McQue	18,8
25	Thomas Byrne	18,5
26	John Spon-Smith	18,0
26	Aileen O'Hanrahan	18,0
26	Stephen Cottrell	18,0
26	Julie Calvert	18,0
30	Nicolette Hind	17,5
31	David Wedgeworth	16,8
32	Marilyn Brownlow	16,0
33	Lauren Sheppard	14,5
34	Alan Westhead	14,4
35	Helena Boot	10,9
36	Jan-Willem den Ridder	10,8
37	Kevin Allen	9,9
38	Robert Smeeton	8,7
39	Tom Kelly	6,8
40	Mark Pollard	6,3
40	James O'Hanrahan	6,3
42	Johnathan Masters	5,8
43	Helena Headworth	5,4
44	Liam Cundill	5,0
45	Martin Cooper	4,4
46	Suzanne Godwin	4,2
47	James Harris	3,3
48	Pauline Usher-Mahon	3,2
49	Mats Sjöholm	2,3
50	Ian Hall	2,1
51	Francis Kelsey	1,8

## REY ESTATES