

CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

December 2020

WEST CLIFFS
GOLF LINKS



Dear Members,

Wish there would be better news but the virus is still there and still does not stop interrupting our lives.

Our "PDR Corona bubble" has so far been a fairly safe place and for the sake of everybody's health and to be able to continue playing golf please remain conscious about our particular situation. Most of us maintain two homes and are not permanently residing in Portugal. These circumstances require frequent journeys to and from Portugal. Also, many of us wish to visit their nearest relatives and friends during the upcoming festive season. So, please allow me to remind you to handle your travels cautiously. We at PDR belong to the higher Covid-19 risk group and although it is not a mandatory requirement, self-isolation is an appropriate measure in our circumstances. Please be vigilant!

Being in the mood to offer good advice and as there is not an awful lot to report about golf here some more:

SLOW PLAY

This is the never disappearing and the never resolved subject. Nevertheless, let us all give it our very best and follow these rules:

- Playing time is 4 hrs 40 minutes or about 15 minutes per hole. Occasionally, check your timing.
 - 1 Hole ~ 15 minutes >>>>> 4 holes ~ 1 hr
- If you lose a hole to the players in front, speed up or wave through the faster group behind you. It is no shame or embarrassment in letting a faster group through. It will make your game more enjoyable.
- Be ready to play when it is Your Turn.
 - Yardage determined, strategy decided, club selected, glove is on your hand, ball is cleaned and placed, etc.
- Keep Pre-shot Routines in check.
- Play Ready Golf whenever possible
 - i.e.: If the furthest \player to put is still busy raking a bunker or walking towards the green
- Pay Close Attention to where your and other player's ball go.
- Comply with the 3 minutes search rule.
- Play Your Ball First before helping other players to find their ball.
- If you search for your ball Take Suitable Clubs with you.
- Leave your Bag, Trolley or Buggy at the Right Spot to leave the green as quick as possible.
- Note Scores on the Next Tee while the other players tee-off.



Martin Playell
Golfer of the Month

In the context of **Avoid Slow Play** we have conducted a thorough statistical analysis of the pace of our golfers and although a conclusive determination was impossible my fastest golfer and therefore Golfer of the Month is **Martin Playell**.

WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM - NO RETURN PENALTY

It has been said more than once but here again the World Handicap System requires the players to register their scores. Unless there is a valid reason (health, emergencies, etc.) other than personal predilection a **No Return** is not permitted. The Club Committee has decided during their last meeting that players who are not obeying this requirement will receive a reminder that the rules of the WHS are mandatory. Upon a repeated and unfounded No Return the player will be banned from playing the next Role UP or the next Order of Merit.

END OF THE YEAR GRATUITY

Every year we are collecting donations to allocate a gratuity to the golf course employees of Praia D'El Rey and West Cliffs. Traditionally, this was done by having a money box available at the clubhouses for the members to make their contributions. This year the corona restrictions would not make the joint handling of the box feasible. Therefore, you are kindly requested to transfer your Christmas gift to the following bank account:

Bank:	Crédito Agrícola
Account Holder:	Alan Westhead or Thomas Wiedenbruch
IBAN:	PT50 0045 5223 4032 7390 876 61
Keyword:	PDR WC Gratuity



ORDER OF MERIT

This month the travel restrictions prevented players from outside the municipality of Óbidos to participate in the West Cliffs Order of Merit. These results were not carried forward to the leaderboard.

Here the present leader board:

Praia D'El Rey:	1 st	Sabine Wiedenbruch	141 points
	2 nd	Susan Stavers	136 points
	3 rd	José António Santo	133 points
West Cliffs: (unchanged)	1 st	Lee Crock	125 points
	2 nd	Thomas Wiedenbruch	123 points
	3 rd	Alan Westhead	121 points

The full leader board is displayed on the notice board.

SILVER COAST LEAGUE

The Silver Coast League had catching up to do and thanks to all the coordinating efforts of Dave Moxham three matches were played in November. All players gave it their absolute best and here are the results:

Bom Sucesso Home --- Won 3-2

Campo Real Away --- Lost 1 1/2 - 3 1/2

Bom Sucesso Away --- Won 3-2

Royal Óbidos Away --- Draw 2 1/2 - 2 1/2

At present the league stands as follows:

Campo Real	5 matches played	score 14.5	points
Bom Sucesso	5 matches played	score 13	points
Praia D'El Rey	4 matches played	score 10	points
Royal Óbidos	4 matches played	score 7.5	points

Again, corona does not allow a completion of the league this year and we are all hoping that this season's winner can be decided by February 2021.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

The response of our members has been very encouraging to our request to register for the Club Championship.

Therefore, it has been decided that the Club Championship will be played on **28th and 29th December**. More details regarding the restrictions imposed by the Corona virus will be discussed during the week of the 7th December and published on our website expeditiously.

UPDATE JUNIOR ACADEMY (BY DAVE MOXHAM)

This year has been a challenge for the Junior Academy. The departure of Martim Baptista and Vasco Silveira to University has made a significant dent to numbers of players competing at national level. The impact of Covid on National Competitions has meant very little competitive golf for both Miguel Silveira and Carolina Chagas.

The Academy, has however, grown with the introduction of a number of new Golfers.

There are now 16 Junior Academy members attending regular coaching from Luis, our resident Professional. An interesting (and encouraging) statistic is that we have more Girls than Boys in the Academy. Some young members are travelling from as far away as Leiria every week to attend Academy coaching. Thank you parents!! Commitment and fun are qualities encouraged.

With a younger age spread we have needed to source Clubs more suited to the age groups of 6 to 10 years. With the support of donations from the membership we have recently procured 3 sets of Clubs and other equipment enable development of our younger (and more diminutive) players. For this we would like to thank our Captain, and recent past Captains for their support.

Our Academy will help sustain the Club going forward and develop our National Profile. We continue to engage the local communities to grow the game locally.

PRO-CAPTAIN CHALLENGE

What a match that was against **Julie Calvert** and **Dave Moxham**. All of us enjoyed high quality golf. The score was a roller coaster, up and down all the way. Dave had the last put on the 18th green to half the match and of course he kept his nerves.



CHARITY

This month the **Busy Bees** lived up to their name, sewed lots of nice products and the proceeds went to the "**Village Triumph Association**" (Captain's Charity).

As is the case most of the time "Fun Golf" was the biggest contributor of the month.

The pro-captain challenge provided funds and Thomas' woodwork added some money, too.

In these days **REFOOD** is needed more than ever and the charity funded another fridge to keep the soups cold and fresh. A proposal for the AC has been received and the unit should be installed before the next summer.

Wish you all Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Thomas