## **Golf News**



Raymond Chan, BIG Convener

The 41st Hong Kong International Open Tenpin Bowling Championships took place on 23rd of August, at the SCAA Bowling Centre. HKFC Bowling Interest Group were among the 38 teams that participated on the evening. Captain **Emy Clarke** led the team, along with three devoted bowlers, **Bill Nader**, **Henry Luy** and **Raymond Chan** who bowled a total of 1,741 pinfalls. We enjoyed the game, though had trouble with adjusting to the heavily oiled lanes which were quite different to the "normal" lanes at the Club.

Highlight of the event was the lion dance in the bowling alley. It may sound peculiar but I have proof of the event to show (see below)! It was fun to watch, and to clarify, the lion did not wear proper bowling shoes nor did it spit out bowling balls for those who are curious.

## Raymond Chan, BIG Convener





## Xili Golf Club Outing

## **Tuesday 1st September**

his was the first time most of us had played at the Xili Golf Club and what a magical treat it was.

Xili is located just 35 minutes drive from the Huanggang border and thanks to the free shuttle bus that left the Island Shangri-La hotel at 7am we were at the golf course at 8.30am in readiness for our 9am tee time.

There was some slight drama on the China border side when our bus was pulled over and boarded by police with video cameras quizzing us if we had paid the driver any money. Anti corruption police in full force.

The golf course itself is one of the best maintained courses I've seen, the fairways were like carpets, the greens slick and true and very difficult to read. Each hole was different and had its own challenges, from dog legs, to water hazards and there were plenty of bunkers perfectly situated.

As there were only 8 of us playing we had no stableford competition but played nearest pins on all par 3s and longest drive contest were up for grabs.

First up was myself and JP Cuvelier playing with Jonathan Li and Job Tang. The gauntlet

was thrown down and we had a "friendly" better ball match play game up and running.

We were giving our opponents a few strokes but still managed to win the first hole and stayed 1 up after 9 holes. On the 2nd 9 we managed to break away and were up 3 holes at one stage until eventually taking our opponents 3 and 2.

The second group consisted of **Mary** and **YP Soo** with **Pater Mak** and **Rick Ho**. No such competitive streak with this 4 ball and they enjoyed a leisurely round.

Well done to JP for snatching 1 of the 3 nearest pins from me with a near hole in one, and to Mary Soo for taking the longest drive from me too, good job we have a mens and womens category for this.

With my golf bag ladened with new golf balls, we all jumped back on the complimentary shuttle bus at 2.30pm and headed back to HK. Seamless travel arrangements and we were back in Central by 4pm.

Many thanks to the staff at Xili for helping to arrange the event and to YP and Mary Soo being the members to facilitate the event.

See you at the next event.

Phil Head, Golf Event Organiser