

**Weapon of Choice?**

My backhand down the line. Playing two handed on forehand and backhand, I rely a lot on my ground strokes to finish the points early. Hitting down the line allows me to use my body to disguise the racquet head and while using the shot to take away time from my opponent.

**Best tennis memory?**

Having grown up in Thailand practicing for countless hours on the court to compete in various national and international junior tournaments, my hard work paid off when I was selected by the International Tennis Federation as one of the four to represent Team Asia in the Summer European Junior Circuit. The experience really taught me the dedication and discipline required to become a successful professional tennis player.

**Favourite hangout at HKFC?**

Hands down the pool. Nothing beats playing a couple of hours of tennis under the sun before jumping into the pool. ■

**UPCOMING  
TENNIS EVENTS**

**Cup of Nations  
Saturday 14th  
November**

**Christmas Social  
Saturday 5th  
December**

## Hong Kong Football Club Golf Society v. Discovery Bay Residents Golf Society

**Discovery Bay Golf Club -  
Monday 7th September, 2015**



As we gathered at the ferry terminal the mobile phones were glowing red hot as everyone checked the weather on the HK Observatory app to assess the path of the prevailing thunderstorm. A call to DB confirmed that the course was currently closed. It wasn't looking good! But we weren't going to quit – and more to the point the Captain had left his clubs there overnight and needed to head over to retrieve them whatever the deluge! Our fortitude was rewarded when word came that the course had re-opened and our original tee times remained unchanged.

Last year, most unusually, we had been beaten in this fixture. They always field a very strong team and, this being their home course, we knew we had our work cut out. Sure enough, they were conceding us 2 shots on average per person across the team, a significant margin.

We were led off by yours truly and debutant, **Gorden Marsden**. Despite the skipper coming in with a net score under 70, HKFC were beaten by a familiar foe, YB Rai, founder of DBRGS. Our second pairing, **Nick Allen** and **Stephen Bottomley**, raced into a seemingly unassailable 4 up lead. At all square with 2 to play, however, it took Nick's steady nerve to close it out. Oh how he likes to tease us!

Our next pairing was stalwart **Jim Suttie**

and another debutant **Jenny Chapman**. Jenny was doing well off the tee winning both long drive contests but it was to no avail as they slipped to defeat. Fortunately, backing them up were the redoubtable pairing of **Dallas Reid** and **Fiaz Magdoo**. Their victory was never in doubt and so the match was squared again.

The grandee 'GC' pairing of **Ian Petersen** and **Iain Valentine** had a very tough task off the back tee facing a DB regular, Kung Winchester. They fought hard but ultimately couldn't do better than second. Could the anchor pairing, the methodical **Anatole Le** and the unhurried **Andrew Wood**, save our bacon?

They had a close match but always had their nose in front and in the end sealed their victory on the 15th green. And so the match was drawn.

DBRGS was adamant that in the case of a tie the trophy would remain with the holder. It seemed churlish to argue this point too hard, especially in light of their generosity with prizes and their fantastic hospitality. And it saved the Captain lugging a trophy home and bringing it back next year!

After 3 times of playing this match, we now stand at W1 D1 L1. Everything to play for next year when we host them in Macau.

*Duncan Spooner, Captain*

## Two Ball Pairs Team Stableford Event

**KSC North - Tuesday 15th September 2015**

This was the first time we had run this format through the Golf Society, and after some discussion we decided on a two ball pairs team stableford event where both team players' stableford points are combined to give a total team score. Normally only the better ball is used for the team score, but this format proved very successful.

Five teams signed up for the event and first off were myself partnering with **Johnny Lam** playing with **Duncan Spooner** and **Darren McEntee**. The Head/Lam partnership started off well and were able to match the points of the formidable Spooner/McEntee duo after the front 9. Head's jet lag then started to show and we finally succumbed to a measly combined score of 45 stableford points compared to 56 stableford points for Spooner/McEntee.

The 2nd flight consisted of the **Jason** and **Malou Waldie** partnership playing with **Linda O'Brien** and **Jenny Chapman**. This 4 ball proved to be very competitive and after a

very entertaining round of golf with all 4 players pulling their weight, the scores were 56 stableford points to Chapman/O'Brien and 57 stableford points to the Waldie duo.

Last but not least were **Elsa Lee** and **John Banks** playing together as a 2 ball. Their final score was 41 stableford points.

After a quick shower we were back at the Club Coffee Shop for the prize presentations.

Outright winners were the Waldie's with 57 points. For second place there was a count back between Chapman/O'Brien and Spooner/McEntee who both had 56 points with Spooner/McEntee taking it on the back 9, leaving Chapman/O'Brien with third place.

Longest drives on Hole 18 went to Duncan Spooner for the Men's and Jenny Chapman for the Ladies.

Nearest pins went to Johnny Lam on Hole 3, myself on Hole 7 and Darren McEntee on Holes 11 and 14.



A great new format which we will certainly use again.

See you all at the next event. ■

*Phil Head, Golf Event Organiser*

## The Ryder Bowl - HKFC Golf Society v. American Club Golf Society

**Lotus Hill Golf Resort, 26th-27th September**

The Ryder Bowl against our Yankee friends was played in Lotus Hill in sweltering conditions. **Captain Spooner** and then Vice Captain **Phil Head** fell by the wayside and so leadership passed at the last minute to our Belgian maestro, Captain **JP Cuvelier**.

The first day was a tight affair and 4 matches were closely contested. Unfortunately, of the Club team, only the pairing of **David Muir** and **Andrew Wood** prevailed as they defeated the putting specialist Randall King and CF Yu by 4 and 3. And so the score after day one was a foreboding 4-1 to the Yanks.

Despite a serious team talk from the stand-in Captain during the dinner, our team couldn't reverse the negative score and we also lost the singles, albeit by the lesser margin of 6-4. And so the final score read an unflattering 10-5 to the American team.

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Congratulations to our Sunday winners — **Warren Weener, Eric Desgouttes, Anatole Le** and **Ange Dickinson** (who clearly listened carefully to their Captain's instructions)! Captain JP was 5 down with 5 to play and nearly did a Houdini only to lose his match on the last putt.

All in all, whilst victory went once more to the Americans, it was a great match played in an excellent spirit between the two teams. The food and wines were excellent and we took solace from the fact that the quality of our wines defeated those of the Americans! ■

*JP Cuvelier,  
Deputy Captain*



Kau Sai Chau East Course

photo from [www.kcsgolf.org.hk](http://www.kcsgolf.org.hk)

## Ian Petersen Texas Scramble Challenge

### KSC East, Monday 12th October 2015

To commemorate his time as the Golf Society's Secretary, followed by Chairman and now President, **Ian Petersen** came up with the idea of introducing a new Texas Scramble tournament into the Society's calendar and has donated the trophy to be played for annually. One of the objectives of the tournament is to team up high and low handicappers into evenly matched teams, so that all participants have equal chances of competing and being in a winning team.

Initially this was to be a 4-player team event but due to a lacklustre attendance we settled for 5 teams of 2 players.

Teams were decided by matching a high handicapper with a low handicapper giving a roughly even team handicap. The team handicap was then halved and this handicap would then be deducted from the teams gross score at the end of the round...

First off were myself and **Alan Homeming** playing with **Jonny Brock** and **Duncan MacKay**, both of our team handicaps were 14. After 9 holes it was very clear that there was going to be some low scores recorded. Myself and Ian were dovetailing incredibly well with some impressive up

and downs, resulting in our gross score after 18 holes of just 1 over par, 1 shot better than Jonny and Duncan's gross round of 74.

**Terry Wright** and **John Banks** playing with **Ian Petersen** and **Darren Measures** were off next and from all accounts Terry and John both had an amazing round of golf carding a 1 under par round to Ian and Darren's 84. With Terry and John's team handicap being 13 this was going to be a tough score to beat.

Last but not least were the experienced duo of **Don Roberts** and **Mike Button** whose team handicap of 18 equalled Ian and Darren's. Somehow Don and Mike were only able to shoot a gross score of 80 even though between them they managed to secure 4 of the nearest pins.

So with the gross scores in and the handicap adjustment made, the final standings are as follows:

1st: Terry Wright and John Banks  
Gross 70 Net 57  
2nd: Phil Head and Alan Homeming  
Gross 73 Net 59  
3rd: Jonny Brock and Duncan MacKay  
Gross 74 Net 60

4th: Don Roberts and Mike Button  
Gross 80 Net 62

5th: Ian Petersen and Darren Measures  
Gross 84 Net 66

Nearest Pin 3: Mike Button

Nearest Pin 5: Mike Button

Nearest Pin 8: Don Roberts

Nearest Pin 13: Don Roberts

Nearest Pin 15: Phil Head

Longest Drive: Terry Wright

I think everyone will agree that this was a fantastic format and a very welcome change to the normal stableford scoring of the golf events. This will definitely be going into the calendar next year.

See you all at the next event.

Happy Golfing! ■

*Phil Head,  
Golf Event Organiser*

