

2016 Ryder Bowl vs American Club

Lotus Hill Golf Resort, Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th September

■ **by Terry Wright, Golf Captain**

This two-day match is one of the most keenly awaited on our golf calendar and the trophy has been won by Hong Kong American Club (HKAC) in the last 4 contests.

Early start for the ferry to Lotus Hills with a team that included first time HKFC golfers and also several yet to play Lotus Hill. Lotus Hill presented us with greens that were slow, having been recently punched, but the course was generally in very good condition. Game on!

Saturday afternoon's format was four ball better ball and saw the two captains lead off in a match that showed just how serious the golfers treated this contest. Five of the first seven holes won with birdies - par was just not good enough! This titanic struggle was won by HKFC's **Terry Wright** and Mr Consistent **Nick Allen** who ham-and-egged perfectly to beat Nicholas Lock and Darian Yip 2 and 1, despite Darian carding a superb 1 under par total of 71.

Next off were HKFC debutant **Ryan Black** and the reliable **Anatole Le**, who were too strong for Winston Van and Chris Satterfield, winning 6 and 4. Nice 78 Anatole and impressive golf Ryan with borrowed clubs.

Lee Wainwright and **Gary Sharma** started slowly against Wilson Chu and Karim Marrouche in match 3 to be all square through 3 holes, but then won 5 holes in a row to establish a lead that was never headed - finally closing out 7 and 5 winners.

Word of the early HKFC success clearly got back to HKAC's Bill Huai and Henry Yu who came through with a convincing 4 and 3 win over HKFC's **Phil Head** and **Owen Davis** to stem the tide before solid golf from the last HKFC pairing of **Andrew Wood** and **Eric Desgouttes** saw them close out the last match in HKFC's favour 2 and 1.

Close of Day One : **HKFC 4 - HKAC 1**



Winning HKFC Team with Ryder Bowl Trophy

Day 2: Singles Matchplay

Recharged by a very good meal, some excellent wine, good Korean Whiskey, plenty of beer and less sleep than your PGA Tour Pro might choose to take before Sunday at the Ryder Cup, 20 golfers grabbed their weapons and headed back to the first tee early Sunday morning.

10 points up for grabs today, so a 3 point lead was nice but not unbeatable by any means.

Low handicaps were off first, and match one saw **Phil Head**'s youthful enthusiasm pitted against the age and experience of local Lotus Hill member Randall King, saw Phil prevail 4 and 3. Also in the first flight **Lee Wainwright** carried on his strong form of Saturday to beat Winston Van 3 and 2.

The second flight saw **Terry Wright** take on the intimidating prospect of Darian Yip (Mr

71) for the second day in a row. The match seesawed with never more than a one hole advantage right through to the 18th hole. Gone were the Saturday birdies but certainly no less a contest, with Terry easing out to a flattering 2 up victory as Darian threw caution to the wind trying to peg back a one hole lead on 18. Also in this flight, HKFC's **Ryan Black** played steady golf to be 5 up with 6 to play, only to see opponent Sandy Mackintosh win 6 holes in a row to close this out as a 1 up win for HKAC. Apparently after the 12th hole, Darian told Sandy he would have to buy the beers if he lost. Ryan's legal consultants are still investigating whether that counts as an illegal stimulant under the current rules!

So two flights in and HKFC looking comfortable at 7 points to 2 with just 1 more point required to get the magic 8 for victory.

Flight three saw Bill Huai continue his strong form from Saturday to take out HKFC's **Andy Wood** 2 up... score now 7-3, was the tide starting to turn? The answer was yes but

just a little too late, as **Eric Desgouttes** completed a very solid weekend with a 3 and 2 win over Chris Satterfield. HKFC 8 - HKAC 3.

The final two flights saw Nicholas Lock play a Captain's knock and take a point off HKFC's **Anatole Le. Nick Allen** almost staged a comeback of Sandy Mackintosh proportions, having been 6 down with 7 to play but reached the 18th with a chance to halve the match before going down 2 down to Wilson Chu. **Gary Sharma** continued his strong form with an emphatic 5 and 4 win over Karim Marrouche and finally Henry Yu won the last point off **Owen Davis** to see HKAC win 3 of the last 4 matches.

A good contest played in excellent spirit and humour saw a great fightback from HKAC splitting the singles 5 - 5 but unfortunately not enough to overcome the Day One deficit.

Final result HKFC 9 - HKAC 6

Congratulations team, the Ryder Bowl returns home after four years in the wilderness.

This is a big weekend and takes lots of organising, so special thanks to Nicholas Lock and Jackie Wong from the HK American Club and **Shirley Lo** from HKFC. ■

Kau Sai Chau East

Tuesday 11th October

■ *by Phil Head, Golf Event Organiser*

With the start of the glorious golfing weather approaching, we saw a lot more players enter this event on the East Course.

12 in total were fighting it out for the best stableford competition, as well as nearest pins and longest drive. Thanks to **GolfTec** who also sponsored this event with prizes for the best and worst gross scores which made the event more interesting.

I was playing in the first group along with **Dallas Reid, Jonny Brock** and **Duncan Spooner**.

We were all fierce competitors, and with the added prize incentives, we all tried our best to score well, and did so with three birdies and a par on the first hole. But it was Dallas who stood out with 1 under after 9 holes and Jonny close on his tail. Myself and Duncan were still in contention but we all needed something special in the bag to beat Dallas' final score of 75 for 38 stableford points.

Playing in the second group were **Terry Wright, Lily Chan, David Lyndsay** and **JP Cuvelier** who were also all very keen to get their hands on the prizes on offer. All four players put in solid performances, and it must have been a closely contested grouping as all scores posted were between 27 to 29

stableford points.

Last to tee off were the social players consisting of **Lina Adrianse, Dominic** and **Angela Ng** and **Wai Ming Lam**, who although didn't qualify for the stableford prizes, all commented on a very enjoyable round of golf.

So the final standings were as follows:

1st: **Dallas Reid** 38 points

2nd: **Jonny Brock** 36 points

3rd: **Phil Head** 31 points

Best Gross: **Dallas Reid** 75

Worst Gross: **David Lyndsay** 113

Nearest pin hole 3: **Dallas Reid**

Nearest pin hole 5: **Phil Head**

Nearest pin hole 8 :**JP Cuvelier**

Nearest pin hole 13: (N/A)

Nearest pin hole 15: **JP Cuvelier**

Longest Drive (Men): **Terry Wright**

Longest Drive (Women): **Lily Chan**

Thanks again to **GolfTEC** for their very generous prizes of a free club fitting for the best gross score, and a free swing analysis for the worst gross score.

See you all at the next event.

Happy golfing. ■





Pairs Two Ball Stableford Tournament

Kau Sai Chau North

■ by Phil Head, Golf Event Organiser

This was the second year running the new format golf event on the challenging KSC North course.

With only four teams of two players, everyone had a good chance to win some golf balls.

The format was simple enough, normal stableford scoring for each team player, then both players stableford points are added together after 18 holes to give the team total.

I was partnering with **David Lindsey** and we didn't really get going until the second 9 when I started to find my form and roll in a few par putts to gain momentum for our stableford

points. Unfortunately David's performance was being severely affected by the heat and lack of water stops, and had to stop play on the 13th hole and thumb a lift back to the clubhouse with one of the marshals.

Our playing partners were the lovely couple **Diana Li** and **Deacon Manu**, and although Deacon was relatively new to the sport and both players had high handicaps, they proved they were a great team by getting off to a fabulous start with a plethora of nett pars on the front 9. They didn't stop there and continued to score well on the back 9 and pushed through the adversities of walking the north course in the heat to accumulate a team

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score of 70 Stableford points.

The last two pairs consisted of **William King** playing with **Guy Devenish** and **Angela** and **Dominic Ng** who played in nearly every golf event I organised over the past 2 years. Angela and Dominic decided to keep their game on a very social level and didn't record any scores, but certainly enjoyed their time on the golf course while William and Guy took it a bit more seriously and managed to accumulate 51 stableford points as a team, but it wasn't enough to beat Di and Deacon's 70 points.

Final standings were:

- 1st: **Diana Li** and **Deacon Manu** (70 pts)
- 2nd: **William King** and **Guy Devenish** (51 pts)

There were also prizes for the nearest pins on all par 3's with holes 4 and 11 proving too tricky for anyone to hit. **William King** won hole 7 and I won on the signature hole 14.

Longest drive went to **William** on hole 10.

Another fun day out on the golf course with a slight twist to the normal stableford format.

