

# Clearwater Bay Outing

Thursday 18th October 2018



Aha! So that's where it went.



A majestic collection of un-coordinated colours, but still a remarkably co-ordinated swing!



Everyone delighted to celebrate Allan's remarkable achievement

The scheduled event to Clearwater Bay Golf and Country Club had to be rearranged thanks to the disruption caused by the poorly timed typhoon Mangkhut. Fortunately the weather was more hospitable for the rerun despite a little rain in the morning. Sixteen players registered for this popular event however unfortunately only twelve were able to attend due to a mix of illness and unsympathetic bosses. Duty calls!

We arrived at the golf course around half past nine and had plenty of time to warm up. Despite the attentions of Mangkhut, Clearwater Bay golf course was in excellent condition, especially as it had been toughened up for the CWB Open the previous week. The greens especially were superb.

The first to tee off were **JP, Ian, Steve** and myself. With a strong wind affecting play on the front 9, all of us struggled to score well. The wind was so fierce that when we swung the club, we could feel the club twist off plane and the ball either hooked or sliced. Just before we began to give up on scoring, the sun came out and the wind fell. JP and Ian started to pick up some

confidence and began to score pars at the back 9. With 34 points (15 points at the front 9 and 19 points at the back 9), JP went on and claim the first place of this competition. While Ian scored 2 over par for the last 5 holes. Well done JP.

The second to tee off were **Dallas, Allan, Elsa** and **Helen**. This group played some exceptionally good golf. With 78 gross and 34 stableford points, Dallas went on to win the second place while Helen scored 84 and 31 stableford points to win third place. This group also had the most nearest to the pins with Elsa on hole 14, Helen on hole 16 and Allan on hole 4 - very, very close as it turned out.

The day was one of the luckiest day's in Allan's golfing career. On the par 3 and 4th hole, with 147 yards to the pin and the wind blowing from right to left. Allan hit it with a 8 iron straight to the flag to land in front of the green. The ball then began to bounce and kept on rolling towards the hole and it went in! Sadly Allan's eyesight is a bit poor at present due to cataracts, and so despite Dallas yelling and screaming at the ball to go in, and the cheering when it did, Allan refused to believe it and marched onto the green with his

putter! Not needed Allan!!! A hole in 1 for the first time of his golfing career through 30 years! Congratulations!

Here is the breakdown for the event

Nearest to the Pin

Hole 4: Allan Hoeming (hole in one!!!)

Hole 11: Rosemary Prio

Hole 14: Elsa Lee

Hole 16: Helen Hayward

Ladies Longest Drive

Hole 5: Helen Hayward

Men's Long Drive

Hole 5: Dallas Reid

2 shots Nearest to the Pin

Hole 7: Dallas Reid

When we all went back to the club house, we had some nice food and champagne to celebrate the first hole in one for Allan's golfing career!

Happy Golfing.

■ Ted Li

# HKFC Golf Soc vs DB Residents Golf Soc

Monday 22nd October 2018

**D**iscovery Bay Residents Golf Society (DB Res) is one of our traditionally more difficult opponents. Prior to this year's match the trophy for this event was residing in their cabinet and the honours have been pretty evenly shared over the years. Mid October, low humidity, glorious sunshine, little wind and the Macau GCC in great condition, could HKFC use the home ground advantage of Macau to wrest the trophy back?

First group saw Captain **Terry Wright** partnering **Owen Davis** against DB's **Wayne** and **Janele Weber**. All square after 5 holes both teams seemed well matched. A purple patch saw the HKFC pair pull away to 4up after 10 and were not headed after that. A good combination especially with Owen not long off the tee but playing well within himself, putting well and rarely hitting a bad shot. A 4 and 3 win for HKFC.

Next up DB's **Vladimir Bondar** partnered his wife **Elena** against HKFC's **Helen Hayward** and **Jenny Chapman**. The smiles on the faces of the HKFC pair gave away this result and when asked the HKFC girls simply responded we were **Oarsome** with a capital O! Far from onesided though there was some great golf played in this match with birdie 2s from each team halving one of the par 3s amongst the highlights of this contest. A 5 and 3 win to HKFC.

Match 3 was the battle of the low handicappers with HKFCs **Jonny Brock** (4) and partner **Philip Nunn** against DB Captain **YB Rai** (4) and his partner **Lab Kumar**. Often these battles are won by the best combination rather than the low handicapper and this again proved to be the case. Plenty of birdies from

the four handicappers were equally matched by contributions from their partners on their shot holes. A good tight match all the way HKFC were 2 down with 3 to play but again good teamwork and a birdie on the last hole saw the HKFC pair claw their way back to halve the match. A great contest.

**JP Cuvelier** had been **Andy Wood's** opponent when HKFC played Little Sai Wan earlier in the year and that day they ground out a halved match. Could they put that behind them to pair up and take on DB's **Joe McNeil** and **David Wright**. It seemed like a very happy family with the HKFC pair 4up after 4 holes – how long could this last? Joe decided that had to end and rolled off a string of 4 birdies to claw DB back into the match. Alas it was not enough and Cuvelier and Wood regained their composure to pull away again for a 5 and 4 victory to HKFC.

Last but certainly not least the steady hand of **Jim Suttie** and the fluorescent dress sense of **Gary Sharma** were matched against DB's **David Bonnet** and **Nicholas Jackson**. Gary had not played for the Club for some time having been missing in action in China but his constant smile was welcomed back along with a first for our team his wife **Loretta**. Records are not clear but it is believed that Loretta is our first official supporter at one of these matches and it was lovely to see her there. Clearly inspired by her presence Gary and Jim were always going to be difficult to head and this proved the case with HKFC triumphing 5 and 4. Will this be the seed that germinates into huge crowds and Ryder Cup hysteria at future matches – possibly not.



Captains Wright and YB Rai

So a very enjoyable days golf and thanks to **Lee Parker** and his team for a lovely course in excellent condition. The quality of the day and course matched by the spirit in which the matches were contested. The trophy returns to the Club cabinet for a year after which the difficult challenge of playing DB Res on their home course will again be contemplated.

Long Drive prizes were awarded to DB's Wayne and Janele Weber. Near Pins were won by Lab Kumar, Vladimir Bondar and Captain YB from DB and Jonny Brock and Helen Hayward of HKFC.

HKFC's finest



Our DB Residents Opponents







The winning HKFC team



Saturday night JP is happy

# Reunification Cup 2018

3rd and 4th November, Lotus Hill GC

Another year has rolled around and the HKFC Golf Society's biggest match for its largest trophy is upon us again. Teams of ten golfers from HKFC, The American Club, HK Country Club and the Chinese Recreation Club board the ferry to Pan Yu to do battle at Lotus Hill. Typhoon YUTU had threatened to spoil the party earlier in the week but fortunately it had the sense to recede to the status of Tropical Depression and turn towards Taiwan to mess up their golf instead.

The team was confident going into day 1 with convincing wins in the last couple of years and many of those experienced players in the team again this year. Saturday always sees the low handicappers out first so **Dallas Reid** had that privilege being our low handicapper. The course was full and with the slow pace of the field the fading light in the evening becomes a significant issue for the last groups. It was with relief that the floodlights lining the last 4 holes flicked on later to light the way home. These had failed in previous years and unfortunately with 3 groups still out there they failed yet again this year. **JP Cuvelier's** group were guided through the darkness to the 18th green by Dallas Reid with a combination of his fluorescent shorts and the light of his phone illuminating the flag. Fortunately none of the golfers were good enough to hit either the flag or Dallas who admittedly is not the biggest target especially in the dark.

With the match format being a total team stableford score after dropping the highest and lowest individual scores the result of the day's work was eagerly awaited at dinner. How did we perform? and the other teams?

**Andrew Wood** turned in our best card with 38 points and with the bulk of the team scoring 30 points plus it saw a day 1 total of 261 points. A score of note being a strong 31 points from

**Malou Waldie** despite playing the tricky par 3 17th in the dark and being unable to play the 18th. This team total was 17 points less than day 1 of 2017 so how would it compare to our opponents? The American Club was to be our closest rival with a total of 252 points so a narrow 9 point lead was to be taken into Sunday. A good effort by the American Club especially playing with 9 golfers after one of their team failed to turn up.

A 6:40am tee time was the reward for the best performed golfers of day 1 as the highest stableford scores teed off first on day 2. **Andy Wood** looking keen and ready to lead the charge into the early morning gloom which was not much different to the poor light of the previous evening. One by one the golfers rolled out with bloodshot eyes and to the relief of the organisers this year everyone made their tee time with the exception of the American Club's missing golfer who still had not managed to find Lotus Hill. With no idea how other teammates were performing other than the odd thumbs up or thumbs down signals as golfers passed on nearby fairways the HKFC golfers had to focus on their own game. Each knowing if they topped the scores in their own group they would be helping the team to retain the trophy. On the 18th green as the flights rolled in it became increasingly more apparent that the HKFC team was indeed achieving this. A final tally saw HKFC golfers with the highest stableford scores in 8 of the 10 groups on the course, surely that would be enough. Indeed the days total of 286 was a total that was unlikely to be beaten and only 1 point short of the best day of either of the previous 2 years wins.

The scoreboard at lunch confirmed with a 2 day total of 547 that victory had again been achieved by HKFC by a significant margin over The American Club in 2nd place with HK Country Club narrowly edging CRC out of 3rd

place. This HKFC team score for the 2 days was 1 point higher than the 2016 total which had seemed unlikely to ever be bettered.

Individual performances of note came in from **Andy Wood** high scoring both days with a fabulous 42 points to follow up his 38 on day 1. This earned him a share of the prize for highest stableford points of any golfer across the 4 teams over the 2 days. He split this prize with 13 yr old **Jack Satterfield** of The American Club who shot 45 and 35 and you just know that lad will be tough to beat as he grows up. **Jason Waldie** took the award for best Gross over the 2 days. His wife **Malou** took great delight in taking full advantage of the extra 97 yards her tees offered to blast her drive a long way into first place in the long drive hole removing her Captains name from the flag with a cheeky smile. HKFC players featured well in the near pin prizes also.

All round a good win based on solid golfers playing consistent golf under tournament conditions and playing close to their handicaps. Only two golfers actually averaged better than their handicap over the two days with **Woody's** 2 scores both thrown out as each day's high score (thanks for coming **Woody**) giving him an excellent average of 40 points. **Jason Waldie** with an average of 37 headed the scores that actually counted but every other golfer in the team (**Terry Wright, Eric Desgouttes, Andy Ho, JP Cuvelier, Malou Waldie, Dallas Reid, Phil Head and Nick Allen**) averaged more than 30 points which is how a good team wins a tournament like this.

It was again a fun and competitive weekend on a course in good condition and nice to play with players from each of the other three clubs each day. Thanks to HK Country Club for their efforts as organisers this year and thanks to the staff at Lotus Hill for a great golf course to compete on.

Congratulations on a fine team effort and thanks again team for arriving on time for your Sunday tee times this year !

■ **Terry Wright – Golf Captain**



JP Cuvelier giving his ball a stern lecture in Belgian



A swing only a mother could love. The famous Nick Allen "shovel" technique!



Alastair Murray dreaming up another miracle shot

# KSC South

Friday 9th November 2018

A total of sixteen players including several first timers entered this enjoyable event at KSC South course which was played in perfect weather.

The first flight to tee off were **JP Cuvelier, Alastair Murray, Nick Allen** and myself. Alastair paired up with me up against Nick and JP. In the first hole, Alastair hit a wedge after a perfect drive down the middle and left a 12 foot putt for birdie. While JP and Nick had 6 foot putts for birdie. Alastair went around the green to see the slope of the putt and walked to the golf ball confidently. He then made the putt from right to left and sank it with some speed. We go one up and send a very clear message to Nick and JP - game on!

Nick and JP fought very hard and went one up over 16 holes but the turning point for the game was hole 17. Alastair hooked his drive and the ball landed in a bush. With 70 yards left to the pin, there was literally no way to approach the green given his restricted backswing. Creatively, Alastair aimed at the cart path hoping the ball would bounce to the fairway. He hit it so hard onto the path that the bounce took it over a bunker and kept rolling off the green leaving a 20 yard pitch shot to the hole. What he did in the next shot was also remarkable. He pulled his pitching wedge from his golf bag trying to get up and down to save par. With a quarter swing, the ball landed 5 yards short of the hole and then hit the flag stick. A tap in for a par! That's one way to make par and a way to give your opponent some pressure. After 18 holes, we were all square and headed back to the club house for some refreshments.

For the second group, **Simon Hague** won the gross with a score of 85 and he also won the

longest drive on Hole 18 with 280 yards down the middle. **Elsa Lee** also had a memorable round winning third place with 35 stableford points in the third group. Elsa has been playing consistently good golf, maybe that's because she is training for a half marathon! We do hope she can win more in the future.

Here is the breakdown for the winners:

- 1st: JP Cuvelier
- 2nd: Alastair Murray
- 3rd: Elsa Lee
- Gross : Simon Hague

Nearest to the Pin

- Hole 2: Simon Hague
- Hole 5: Nick Allen
- Hole 11: Angela Koo

2 shot NP Hole 7: Steve Au Yeung

Longest Drive Hole 18: Simon Hague

Happy Golfing

■ Ted Li



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46 Dec 2018