



Mike keeping a close eye on Jukka Hakli's near pin attempt



A picture of perfect concentration from Mike Button



The caddy seems to approve of Jonny's technique

# Phoenix Hill Outing

Wednesday, 3rd April 2019

We were lucky to have a sunny day with warm weather when we played at the challenging Phoenix Hill Golf Course in DongGuan. We gathered at the HuangGuan terminal at 8.20am and headed to the golf course. It took us 50 minutes to travel to the golf course. In order to ensure we could catch the 3.30pm coach home, we gave up the warm-up and headed to the 1st tee directly.

The first to tee off were **Jukka Hakli, Jonny Brock, Mike Button** and myself. I teamed up with Jonny to play against Mike and Jukka. Jonny was on fire the whole game, with long drives and precision iron play which allowed him to dominate throughout and secure a 5 hole victory against the other team. Jonny came back to score a 72 gross with 42 stableford points for the round which included 4 birdies.

At hole A6, a par 4 – 365 yards, Jonny hit a 3 wood which he pulled to the right. His ball went straight to the driving range net and landed beneath a tree. Normally, it would be considered OB, however the tree had just been planted there so Jonny got a free drop (sounds very dubious to me – Ed). 160 yards to the flag with an 8 iron in hand, Jonny hit it so perfectly it landed right next to the hole for a birdie! At hole A7, I have set the course to be the longest drive competition. Jonny and I hit perfect drives to battle for the trophy and it turns out we had exactly the same distance. It is rare to have this kind of incident so we shared the trophy together. On the last hole, A9, Mike left his second approach shot short with 70 yards left and he also pulled his wedge shot to the left. However, he chipped in to make a par! A dramatic way to finish his round.

The second to tee off were **Anita Ng, Clement Fu, Agatha Hay** and **Allan Hay**. Agatha shot 101, one of her best rounds to win second place with 37 points. While for Anita, she had two nearest the pins in Hole A4 and C5 and she came back to the Club house with 102 gross.

Here is the breakdown of the outing,

Nearest to the Pin

- A2: CP Li
- A4: Anita Ng
- C5: Anita Ng
- C8: Jonny Brock

2 shot nearest to the Pin

- C3: Mike Button

Longest Drive

- A7: Jonny Brock and Ted Li
- 1st place: Jonny Brock (42 points)
- 2nd place: Agatha Hay (37 points)
- 3rd place: Ted Li ( 33 points)

That's it for this outing.

See you at the next event!

■ **Ted Li, Golf event organiser**

# HKFC vs WAGS

Monday 6th May, Macau

A miserable weekend of rain preceded this eagerly awaited fixture. Early showers left the course damp but the improving forecast had our 24 golfers optimistic.

**Dallas Reid** and **Jim Suttie** were first into the fray against WAGS **Ian McGovern** and **Craig Pallister**. The WAGS pair playing strong consistent golf but every punch they threw was met by a counterpunch from Reid who would have played an even par round but for a missed 4 foot putt on the last. As Jim was

heard to say afterwards "it's the best golf I've watched for a while!" A tight 2 and 1 win for HKFC.

**Jonny Brock** and the eye catching **Paul Walters** out next seemed to be in full control over WAGS **Phil Carter** and **Mike Edie** at 2 up with 4 to play but a blistering finish from Carter saw that lead erased with the WAGS pair eventually finishing 2up.

Captain **Terry Wright** paired with **Owen Davis** got the HKFC pair off to a cracking start



Jonny Brock, Paul Walters, Phil Carter and Mike Edie

shooting even par on the front nine and even though he was not able to maintain that form on the back nine the HKFC pairing held onto their lead for a comfortable 6 and 4 win over WAGS **Damien Massingham** and **Ed Liu**.

The fourth match saw big hitting **Tom McColl** and **Helen Hayward** take on WAGS **Vishnu Murthy** and **David Wright**. Helen's round was highlighted by a chip in birdie on the par 5 12th hole which was cleverly rebounded off an opponent's ball but that was a rare highlight in a match where the HKFC pair never quite got going and WAGS scored a dominant 4 and 3 win.

Four flights in with the score 2-2 this match could go either way as the last 2 were very tight contests. After a short time HKFC's **Andy Wood** and **Jukka Hakli** came in off the course no smiles or frowns to give away the result. A hint of a smile from Jukka preceded the news that they had ground out a tough 2up victory over **Keith Halley** and **Seb Hughes** in a match where neither team managed any real dominance.

The final group saw **Justin Faulkner** and **Matthew Burke** taking on the seasoned pairing of WAGS longtime organiser **Brian Moss** and their current Captain **Steve Warwick**. Brian Moss is known to be a very determined competitor in these matches and in scoring level par through the first 8 holes was living

up to his reputation and had the WAGS pair out to a 3 hole lead. At this point on the 9th green Justin who had been carrying the load for HKFC gave Matthew a nudge to awake him from his slumber. Result – Burke holes 30 foot putt for birdie to win hole – 2 down. Battled back to 1 down by 16 then all square after 17 holes. All to play for!!!!

What happened next was relayed to this reporter quite a few beers later that night : Burke steps up to the tee smashes a huge drive followed by a massive 2 iron (who has a 2 iron these days???) to 4 feet and sinks the eagle putt for a dramatic victory. Being a diligent reporter I sought to fact check with Mr Burke himself who was very happy to take full credit for the huge drive and the massive 2 iron but turns out the 4 foot putt for eagle was actually a fairly lame 3 putt but fortunately it was enough for a par to beat the WAGS pair's best of a bogey to win this dramatic encounter 1 up despite the fine golf of Moss and Warwick.

A great day out lots of fun and good golf contests: 4-2 overall win and trophy retained by HKFC but bring on next year.

Near Pins were won by: Matt Burke, Jim Suttie, Jonny Brock, Terry Wright. Long Drive: Tom McColl. Special Award: Phil Carter and Mike Edie for their blistering finish.

■ **Terry Wright, Golf Captain**



Ed Liu, Damien Massingham, Owen Davis and Terry Wright



David Wright, Vishnu Murthy, Helen Hayward and Tom McColl



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