

## Match vs FCC Golf Society,

### 17th January 2020 Kau Sai Chau (North Course)

he Golf Society's first match of the 2020 season and my official debut as Captain was against the FCC, a very eclectic opposition. Historically, we have done well in this fixture with a draw, followed by 5 subsequent wins. To try to even things up, we decided to stick with last year's format of 90% of our handicaps, which is generous to the higher handicapping team in the 4-ball better ball format we play. An unenviable task of trying to maintain our unbeaten record of six years, so what could go wrong?

On arrival at Kau Sai Chau, we found the course overcast, mild at 18C with a fresh breeze. No sign of the recent sunshine, with many choosing to don a jacket and long pants.

Some downed the value-for-money breakfast and most had a decent loosener with a bucket of balls, before proceeding to the 1st tee to do battle. We were led off by Alastair Murray ("Never Hurry A Murray" just making his tee-time!) and John Banks, who found the going hard. One of their opponents was smashing his drives 300 yards! Next up were Dallas Reid and Elsa Lee, who know each other's games inside out and came through strongly. Match tied after 2 flights. Jonny Brock and Chris Frost's match became easier before it started, as they were informed one of their opponents' car was hit by a scooter the night before, so unfortunately they had to pull out. HKFC now 2-1 to the good. Justin Faulkner and Jenny Chapman steamrolled their way through to the biggest win of the day with aplomb, enough now to ensure we couldn't be defeated. Andrew Wood and Darren McEntee (nice to see Darren back in the fold after a 4 year absence) combined seamlessly for the deciding win. Last, but by no means least, Jukka Hakli and Bill King shrugged off going down in their tussle by 3 holes early on, only to switch on the burners through the halfway mark and seal the victory on the 15th hole, by yet another impressive score line.

**Russ Julseth,** the genial non-playing Convenor of FCC had said to me before any ball was struck that he thought he had 3 strong pairs and had dropped himself to accommodate his best players. So, as it turned out that we won the last 5 matches, and final score 5-1 in favour to the HKFC, it was not really close - with his prediction perhaps not taking into account the quality of our own pairings!

The match was followed by a pleasant lunch at the Kau Sai Chau restaurant washed down by the odd ale, and numerous tales of new golf clubs acquired recently working wonders under the pressure of competition.

Thanks to Dallas for arranging a substitute trophy (where in the world did the original silverware go??) and to Russ for doing the hosting and arranging, in what is always a great way to start the New Year. Also, a mention to all the players for kindly taking the time to compete in this very social fixture, and to Kau Sai Chau for a North Course which was in very good condition with firm lush greens and to their ever helpful staff.

### Match results:

Murray/Banks vs Kelly/Pfrang	FCC 4 and 3
Reid/Lee vs Bolland/Au	HKFC 7 and 6
Brock/Frost vs Feng/Chung	HKFC 8 and 6
Faulkner/Chapman vs Sek/Leung	HKFC 9 and 8
Wood/McEntee vs Wong/Cho	HKFC 7 and 6
Hakli/King vs Fitzpatrick/Cornfield	HKFC 5 and 3

### ■ Andrew Wood, Golf Captain



Pretty in Pink, but our Aussie pair blew them away



Much harder to hit with the club cover on



Darren and Andrew combined well to keep the door firmly shut



Bill feeling confident enough to roll out a cigar on the 1st tee



The trophy comes back to Sports Road

# Kau Sai Chau North Outing

## 20th January 2020

s is common at this time of year, we were blessed with gorgeous if slightly chilly weather for the start of our round.

The first to tee off were JP Cuvelier, Simon Hague and Alastair Murray. To keep his playing partners entertained, Ali Murray tried a novel way to play the 13th, a 303 yard par 4. Having sliced his drive well to the right, he discovered it hanging about a metre up in some bushes. Never one to refuse a challenge, he pulled out a nine iron and made a baseball-like swing to punch it out. Surprisingly the ball went straight for about 40 yards permitting Alastair to save a bogey!

Less successfully on the signature par three hole 14, JP hit the green in regulation but was left with 20 yards to the hole. Sadly he seriously misjudged the slope, and his first effort gave up halfway to the hole, and he had the pleasure of watching it roll back to finish even further away than when he started. 3 putts later he finally secured his double bogey!

Notwithstanding this hiccup, JP still shot 91 with 33 stableford points to win the competition! The Second place went to Simon Hague who shot 89 with 27 stableford points! Not a high scoring day which reflected the difficult pin positions and a demanding wind.



Simon Hague trying to emulate Ali Murray's bush heroics

#### Final results were:

1st place – JP Cuvelier 33 points 2nd place – Simon Hague 27 points 3rd place – Jukka Hakli 26 points

#### Nearest to the Pin:

Hole 3 – Simon Hague Hole 7 – Albert Lam Hole 11 – Jukka Hakli

Hole 14 - Albert Lam



Prize winners from left to right: JP Cuvelier, Jukka Hakli, Ali Murray, Simon Hague

Longest Drive on hole 12 – Simon Hague 2nd shot Nearest the Pin – Alastair Murray Happy Golfing!

■ Ted Li, Golf Event Organiser





2830 9562 or restaurant@hkfc.com