

Phoenix Hill Golf Event

Tuesday 25th April

■ **Phil Head, Golf Event Organiser**

This was my 3rd outing to Phoenix Hill Golf Club, which is located 45 minutes drive from the Huanggang border crossing. As its name suggests, the course is set atop a very tropical lush green mountainous area which provided some incredible vistas as well as tricky tee shots and undulating fairways.

Fortunately we had a break in the inclement weather and with only a little drizzle on a few holes, 7 HKFC players teed off in 2 groups to challenge the A/B course layout we were designated.

Jonathan Li, Albert Lam and myself took the lead on a very tricky par 3 hole to start with, and without anyone hitting the green, off we set. Jonathan was sporting his newly cut handicap of 12.4, given to him courtesy of the Golf Society for winning almost all the HKFC golf events he entered. After the front 9 holes, all 3 of us were within 1 stableford point of each other, all excitingly close.



The back 9 saw Albert start off very well indeed and was leading by 5 points after 5 holes. Jonathan hit 4 consecutive double bogeys and I narrowly missed an eagle putt on the 16th to close in on Albert who somehow managed not to score any points on the last 2 holes. Nerves were showing.

The 4 ball behind us consisted of **Steve Lee, Johnny Lam, Ricky Chan** and social player **Peter Nie**.

All 3 players were playing off higher handicaps so the leading group neglected to think of them as a threat until we started to collate the scorecards after the round. Steve's 29 stableford points on the front 9 raised a few

eyebrows as did Ricky's 21 points, and after the final tally, Steve amassed 45 points and Ricky 41 points after 18 holes.

A steward's enquiry was now well under way by the leading group and after some online checking of handicaps and posting of recent scores, it was apparent that both Ricky and Steve's handicaps were not current and therefore faced DQ.

This left Albert and myself to recount our cards with my 38 points trumping Albert's 35 stableford points to win the event. Hurrah!

Nearest pin and longest drive contest winners were as follows:



- NP A1. No one
- NP A4. Jonathan Li
- NP B1. No one
- NP B3. Albert Lam
- NP B8. Albert Lam
- LD A5. Albert Lam

After a quick bite to eat, we all set off for the shuttle bus and were back in Hong Kong by 3.30pm before the rush hour. Double Hurrah.

Thanks to Phoenix Hill for offering a very competitive price for a fantastic course full of interesting and challenging golf.

See you all at the next event.

HKFC vs HKCC: The Bucket Match

Monday 24th April

■ Dallas Reid, Deputy Captain (retired)

On 24th April the stage was set for our annual grudge match against the HK Cricket Club. After their inaugural victory back in 2003, HKCC had managed to put their name on the trophy only a couple of times (plus two ties) and had generally gone home with the Bucket of Shame, a rather nasty ice bucket awarded to the losers of this fixture.

Hopes were therefore high in the HKFC camp as we made our way to Macau for the 2017 event. Tickets had been purchased, match balls handed out, smart team shirts prepared for all players, and a coach ordered to get us back to the ferry as the Macau taxis are notoriously unreliable. What could possibly go wrong?

Well it did not take too long to find out. **Alistair Murray** who had insisted on making his own way to Macau, decided to start his journey with neither phone, nor wallet, and so as apparently cash and ID cards are something of a pre-requisite for the trip, managed to arrive at the golf course some time after his partner had been forced to tee off on his own against 2 Cricket Club players. When he did finally appear on the third hole, **Anatole Le** had actually managed to maintain parity despite being outnumbered, and so things still looked quite bright for our final pair.

This was just as well as our first pair of yours truly (deputizing as Captain in **Terry Wright's** absence) and **Mike Button** had received a severe beating (5&4), and the husband and wife pairing of **Ange Dickenson** and **Bob McKirdy** had also recorded a 3&2 loss. Our other two pairs fortunately managed to bring home the bacon (**Brock** and **Devenish** 2 up and **Spooner** and **Ng** 4&3) so the match at least sat level at 2 matches apiece as we anxiously awaited the result of the final match.

As it transpired, despite being 1 up after 16, and never being behind at any point in the match, **Anatole** and **Ali** managed to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory by losing both the 17th and 18th so handing a 3-2 overall victory to HKCC.

So sadly the rather magnificent trophy Plate was handed over to the HKCC, although luckily they had forgotten to bring the bucket so at least we avoided the humiliation of having to carry that back to Hong Kong.

Next match will be HKFC vs HK Club on 8th May, a fixture which HKFC have never lost. What could possibly go wrong?



GOLF NOTICE

Golf etiquette and codes of conduct when playing at Macau Golf and Country Club and Lotus Hill Golf Resort

To all Golf Society Members,

Please make sure you are aware and have read the rules of golf etiquette and codes of conduct for both MGCC and LHGR prior to using the HKFC's rotational golf debentures at these two Clubs and make sure you comply with them.

These rules can be found on the HKFC golf website hkfcgolf.com.hk

Please remember that, whenever you are utilizing these debentures, you are representing the HKFC.

Therefore you have a responsibility to protect the Club's reputation and use of these debentures which are the Club's assets for use by all members of the Golf Society.

You have the same responsibility when playing in any events organized by HKFC Golf Society on any golf course anywhere in Hong Kong, China or overseas.

Please therefore ensure that you conduct yourself in an appropriate manner at all times both on all golf courses and in all clubhouses.

Failure to do so will not be tolerated as it could compromise both the reputation of HKFC and its use of these debentures and golf courses.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

■ **Golf Society Committee**