

HKFC Golf Society vs HK Seniors Golf Society

Monday 12nd March, Macau GCC



Gordon Marsden, Warren Weener, Ian Laidlaw and Clive Hunter.



Jukka's putt – Yes, yes, yes No lipped out !



Andrew Wood, Kien Ng, John Dibble and Robert Barber



Spooner on the drive

A gorgeous spring day greeted the golfers from our two societies as we headed to Macau. Twenty-seven degrees and the lightest of breezes made for perfect golfing conditions. HKFC arrived to find a very relaxed Seniors team who had travelled early only to find the practice nets unavailable but a wholesome breakfast looked to have removed any disappointment they may have felt.

Leading off for HKFC were **Warren Weener** and **Gordon Marsden** a combination that had gelled well in the past for us. All square after 8 holes but not taking advantage of opportunities they were to find the back nine far more challenging as **Clive Hunter** in particular hit his straps parring 4 of 5 holes. He and **Ian Laidlaw** closed this one out in HK Seniors favour 3 and 2 on the 16th hole to have the Seniors leading after the first game.

Duncan Spooner was next out for HKFC with debutant **Jukka Hakli**. No such problems for this pairing stretching out to an early 5 up lead after 8 holes combining very nicely. The back nine saw their opponents **Leif Markutza** and **Esmonde Corbet** a bit more competitive but the match was comfortably won 7 and 5. Clearly no nerves shown by Jukka who seemed to feature on most of the near pin markers as well. A good start to his competitive golf with HKFC and the match score back to 1 – 1, balance restored.

The third contest saw **Jonny Brock** and **Sam Shei** matched against HK Seniors' **Alan Tong** on his own as his named partner was unfortunately a late withdrawal. Assuming this would be a fairly comfortable lopsided contest for HKFC with two golfers against one it was surprising to hear from a slightly tense Mr Brock on the 8th green that they were hanging in there and the match was all square. Indeed it wasn't until the back to back par 5s on 12 and 13 where Alan struggled for distance that the HKFC pair were able to sneak ahead. They managed to hold onto that lead and close it out 3 and 2 but not before they had been given a big scare and full credit to Alan Tong for competing so well as a single against the HKFC pair.

Anatole Le and **JP Cuvelier** were next up against **Locus Lau** and **Russ Julseth**. With the volume of golf played in recent months by Anatole and JP it was hard to know if they would be jaded or on top of their game. It proved to be the latter with the HKFC pair easing out to a 3 up lead after 8 holes and kept that edge until Anatole closed out this match with a birdie on the 16th to win 4 and 2.

One group left on the course and they had no idea of the results ahead of them. **Andy Wood** and **Kien Ng** of HKFC against **Robert Barber** the Seniors captain and his partner **John Dibble**. These opponents traded blow for blow to be all square after 7 and scrapping hard to halve the next 2 holes and still be all square at the turn after 9. The Seniors' pair of Barber and Dibble then eased out to a 2 hole lead only to see some solid play and good putting by Andy Wood claw back two holes on 16 and 17 to leave them standing on the 18th tee all square. Still unaware of the results ahead they had to play this hole as if the match hinged on it. Kien Ng and John Dibble managed to remove themselves from contention during the course of this long par 5 so we were left with Wood and Barber on the green to both sink their short but significant putts to appropriately leave this last contest a very honourable hard fought draw.

Alas for HK Seniors the overall match had already been decided after the 4th game concluded so the final result was HKFC winning out over HK Seniors 3 and a half points to 1 and a half points.

A great day, excellent weather, a lot of fun and good competition with 3 matches being all square at the halfway point. There was probably nowhere else any of these golfers would rather have been and the result was almost unimportant - Almost !!!!

Nearest Pin prizes on the day were won by Leif Markutza and John Dibble of HK Seniors and Duncan Spooner, Gordon Marsden and Jukka Hakli of HKFC.

Thanks as usual to **Lee Parker** and his very helpful team at Macau Golf and Country Club for presenting a course in great condition and enabling us to have such an enjoyably contested day of golf.

KSC East Outing

Monday 26th March



Helen aiming for the par four fourth green.



Allen Homeming taking aim at the tricky par 3 third



Nick Allen, Dallas Reid, Phil Head, Don Roberts, Helen Hayward and Paula Wymond all set to start the day

This is the first event for March since the previous event to Nansha was unfortunately cancelled due to insufficient participants. The weather was magnificent with clear blue skies and the sun shining warm and bright. As usual, we headed to KSC from HKFC at 7.30am in the morning and arrived at 8.30am leaving plenty of time to grab a bite of breakfast and have a little bit of warming up before our tee times.

We played in three flights with **Dallas Reid, Phil Head, Don Roberts** and **Nick Allen** in the first group. As normal, we teed off with the low handicappers on the theory that they would play the fastest, but to be fair everyone kept up a good pace of play on a course that inevitably takes well over four hours and thirty minutes because of the long drives between holes and the frustratingly slow carts. Despite the lovely weather, Dallas' rather unimpressive 34 stableford points managed to sneak the first prize. Perhaps everyone was too busy enjoying the amazing views from the East course, possibly Hong Kong's most spectacular course on a nice day. He also managed to get the nearest to the pin on hole 8, a 180 yards long par 3 which, with a strong head wind, equated to a regular 200 yards shot. At least the head wind made stopping the ball easier as the greens were very hard and everyone struggled to stop their approach shots bouncing off the back of the greens and into the usual nasty reception awaiting long shots. He won it by 6 feet. Phil told me it was a fluke. Well, that's golf, there are good days and bad days all the time. Today is a good day for Dallas!

Helen Hayward, Paula Wymond, Allan Homeming and myself comprised the second flight. Paula and I had a wonderful start with birdies on the first hole to get 4 points each. After the first nine holes, I thought I was going to at least get a third place with 21 stableford points leading and shot 41 on the front nine. However, the back nine was a total disaster for me. Even my monster drive on hole 17 (long drive) was

beaten by **Terry** in the next group by few yards! Helen won the Hole 12 "nearest the pin in two" and the ladies long drive on the 17th. Whilst there were only two ladies competing, her 230 plus yards uphill drive probably beat most of the men!

Terry Wright pulled off some excellent shots despite not having fully recovered from a sprained wrist finishing third and also winning the longest drive on hole 17 and the Nearest to the pin on hole 3. Discretion prevents me detailing how Terry injured his wrist, but if you buy him a drink in the Sportsman's he may explain it to you. Well worth it!

Here's the summary of the results:

1st Place	Dallas Reid 34 points
2nd Place	Allan Homeming 32 points
3rd Place	Terry Wright 32 points
Best Gross	Phil Head 82 points

NP hole 3:	Terry Wright
NP hole 5:	Ted Li
NP hole 8:	Dallas Reid
NP hole 13:	Paul Casey
NP hole 15:	Steve Lee
NP 2nd Shot NTP hole 12:	Helen Hayward
LDM:	Terry Wright
LDM:	Helen Hayward

Once again, thanks to everyone who has participated to this event and we do hope to see you in the next event in Pheonix Hill.

Happy Golfing.

■ **Ted Li, Golf Event Organiser**

Phoenix Hill Outing

Thursday 12nd April

Phoenix Hill is located in Dongguan China, around 40 mins away from the Huangguan border which meant leaving the HKFC earlier than previous events. We took off at 7am from the Club and headed North! Traffic was excellent and we arrive at the border smoothly. Our shuttle to Phoenix Hill was at 8.30am in the morning and luckily everyone was earlier than expected.

On the way to Phoenix Hill, we were discussing the Masters championship, one of the majors in golf and Sergio Garcia's 13 on a par 5. It made us feel batter that a professional shot 8 over par on a par 5. Suitably motivated, after our 50 minute drive, we arrived at the club house at around 9.20am and we planned to tee off at 9.40am so we could get back early to catch the 3.30pm return shuttle.

The first to tee off were **Jonny Brock , William King, Stephen Bottomley** and myself. Stephen and I paired up versus Jonny and William. It was a tough match and we were already 3 down after 6 holes. We tried to work our way round and we managed to decrease the deficit to 1 down for the front 9. We thought we are going to get a few holes back on the back nine especially with the par 3 holes. A4 would be the turning point of the match. We all hit a high draw and the slope will get the ball down towards the hole and Stephen had a 6-foot putt for birdie to turn the match. Unfortunately, he missed it and we all made pars on that hole. A great match and Jonny shot 77 and William shot 81 to win the match 3 up. Congrats guys! William and Jonny managed to get the first and second place in the match with 37 points and 36 points. No wonder we lost, they were just a better team. We surely want a rematch.

Everything ran smoothly and the second and third flights finished 15 mins apart and **Allan Homeming** managed to get a third place with 35 stableford points.

Below is the breakdown of the scoring

1st Place	William King 37 points
2nd Place	Jonny Brock 36 points
3rd Place	Allan Homeming 35 points
Best Gross	Ted Li 87 points

NP hole C8:	BF Wong
NP hole A2:	Don Roberts
NP hole A4:	Stephen Bottomley
NP 2nd Shot NTP A6:	Ted Li
LDM:	Ted Li
LDF:	Katy Wan

So with everyone back by 3 o'clock we got on the shuttle at 3.30pm to avoid the traffic. William also suggested us to play in Zhong Shan located in Zhu Hai as it is the first golf course being built in China. We will definitely be interested in doing this and we most a rematch!

Happy Golfing.

■ **Ted Li, Golf Event Organiser**



Jonny Brock blasting off



William King's more gentle approach to golf



Notice of Annual General Meeting

To be held on Thursday, 29th May 2018
At Meeting Room 1, 2 & 3
1/F, Hong Kong Football Club

Full details available on Golf notice board and on the Golf Society website <http://hkfcgolf.com.hk>