

HKFC Golf Society
2022 Captain's Report to the AGM
25th May, 2022

Thank you all for taking the time and having the interest to attend and support our Society's AGM, it means a lot.

Also, thank you to my lovely and considerate wife for allowing me to be here on her birthday, whilst she's home alone attending to our demanding 1-month old son!

On what is my second report as Captain, I can fully support what my fellow Committee members have said tonight. It has been déjà vu, with yet another most challenging and strange year for the Golf Society, and indeed mankind due to the continuing pandemic disruptions. However, and for what we should be thankful, it has been both another enjoyable and successful one for our team out on the local golf courses.

Whilst in the midst of the 4th wave restrictions, our first match of 2021 against FCC fortunately proceeded with a win to get the ball rolling. However, the brakes were then applied, as the following fixtures against LSW, BSW and DBRC were all cancelled. Our fixtures then went ahead with wins over the RHKYC and the HK Seniors. Interspersed with a very good showing at the AIA Society Pairs, where our Chairman Phil Head and Marco Jorge won the Nett competition and with our combined team pairs scores being the 3rd best across all participating Societies. We then continued unbroken for the rest of the year, with further wins against the HK Club, the HK American Club, the HK Cricket Club and the HK Country Club. We also had one draw, an excellent come-from-behind effort against WAGS. The pick of the bunch was the return of The North-South Trophy to our cabinet, as the cricketers had held it for a couple of years and after naming a strong team, they thought that they were going to retain it once more!

The Reunification Cup at Lotus Hill GC was once again cancelled and the Par-3 Cup at the Clearwater Bay Academy course also fell by the way side.

So, out of 13 planned matches, only 8 eventually took place and none on our "home" courses in Macau and Mainland China. However, at least that was an improvement on only the 6 matches that got played in 2020.

I do have full details in regards to the players in 2021, which shows that in our 8 matches played, plus the AIA Pairs, we had altogether 39 different players playing in a total 100 rounds - and 26 of them played at least twice, as one of my tasks is to try to achieve that each player plays at least two matches in order to activate the Club subvention, which assists our Society finances.

Again, I have tried to rotate the team players as much as possible, without weakening team line-ups, so that we had proportionately more different players in 2021 than in prior years.

In 2021, we played all fixtures on more or less on a home/away basis, where the home Society uses their golf bookings and reciprocates the following year.

So, for the second year running, I am very proud to report that we remain unbeaten under my stewardship of played 8 Inter-Society matches; Won 7, Drawn 1. Within that period, we retained The Ryder Bowl, one of our two majors, with The Reunification Cup cancelled.

Looking at 2022, there is really very little to say, given that due to the 5th wave, our first fixture against FCC in early January was postponed the day before, as Kau Sai Chau GC was closed for a few months and we have not yet played a match! However, we have two fixtures in the diary in July, which all being well, will be the start of uninterrupted matches for the rest of the year and onwards. Fingers crossed!

In addition, the trend continued with a number of new players making their match debuts, many with younger age profiles than most of our stalwarts, some who have now left our shores. We wish them and their families well and hope to see them back on our fairways one day soon!

Finally, I would like to thank all the members of the Golf Society for your continued support, patience and understanding and hope that this damn pesky virus is once and for all beaten, meaning you will all be out on the course more often to enjoy this great game of golf. After all, it is fun and there's always the next time!

Andrew Wood
Captain