



RBCGS PLAYS THE HOTEL BAÍA TROPHY at Estoril Golf Club - Wednesday, 7th July, 2021

With 'restrictions' changing all the time, some many hoops were gone through to ensure that The Hotel Baía Trophy, which had to be cancelled last year, would be played in 2021. Our golfers did their very best to keep up with the Captain's ever-changing plans, the last of which was that the competition would go ahead, with 'drinks and petiscos' being available after the game, for those who wished to stay - Prize Giving was to be scheduled for a later date.

In the end, and at the last minute, the Captain threw a curve ball, exercising, as she put it, 'a woman's prerogative to change her mind' and arrived with all the prizes, hoping to persuade members to stay for an 'impromptu Prize Giving'. Such was the loyalty - some might say patience - of our members, they stayed!

But now let's talk about the game. We had another good turnout of 39 golfers and, despite the predicted light, but very short shower, it was perfect golfing weather. There were the usual ups and downs: putts that refused to drop or lipped out, wind that stopped those approaches reaching the green; topped chips, coursing their way across the fast greens.

But by the time the first group reached the 17th hole, the fact that our scores, good or bad, would no longer count for handicap became a reality. The noise of close by heavy duty machinery caused us to turn and view the proceedings: temporary tee boxes were being placed on the fairway on the 18th Hole, shortly after our game had started, with no pre-advice being given! Players whose game had started on the 17th hole, however, had found the Tees still in their correct place! It was thoroughly annoying for those with a good score, hoping to finish in style and register their card; a relief, perhaps, for those who'd had a more trying day. And as the steam started slowly to seep from our Captain's ears, she wondered what else could possibly go wrong.

BUT NOW FOR THE SCORES:

The Cowbell - awarded to the person who had the most challenging of days - went, surprisingly, to our intrepid Denys Stormont. I guess it's good to know he is human!

Nearest the Pin - for the **Ladies**: Camille Beraud; and for the **Men**: Simon Jakeman.

The Newstead Cup - Selwyn Kennard, with 34 points.

In 6th Place was Ian Yarwood with 35 points.

5th, 4th and 3rd were hotly contested. All three winners had 36 points, so it was down to a countback of the back nine:- Sally Buxton took **5th** (20/16); Yolande Macey was **4th** (17/19) and Sakiko Takeda snapped up **3rd** (15/21).

In 2nd place was Paul Guérault with an excellent 38 points.



Our winner was the very worthy Mark Dawson, playing off a handicap of 9, who brought home a stunning 39 points. Many congratulations to Mark and indeed to all the winners.

Our grateful thanks go to the bar and kitchen staff at Estoril Golf Club, who looked after us so well and at such short notice and of course to the Members, whose patience was unending. Our next event is on Wed. 4th August.