



Summer Golf Travels

This summer has seen the Golf Society travel to the Annika Course at Mission Hills on Wednesday, 13 July where last year's Stableford League Champion Andy Ko was keen to get quality points in order to vault up the 2011 League table while the 2009 Champion Alfonso Cordero had a similar mindset.

Hong Kong was dull and rainy as we departed KCC but, as so often happened in the past, the further we went over the border the weather improved and we arrived at the palatial Dongguan Clubhouse in sunshine.

The Annika course is a demanding test with undulating terrain in a beautiful landscape where it is vitally important for careful course management.

Alfonso warmed up on the front 9 with 2 pars and a birdie in an excellent 41 but scorched the back 9 with a 5 hole stretch of one under with par, par, birdie, par and par for a back 9 39 and an excellent 80 and 40 Stableford points. This result did

not escape the eagle eye of our Handicap Secretary Alan Thorburn who subsequently lowered Alfonso's handicap from 12 to 10.

Andy Ko showed how accurate he is with pars on five of the six par 3s on Annika and after a 48 front 9 returned with a 42 for a 90 total and 36 points which saw him winning the 1st Stableford prize.

Kim Lamsam returned another excellent performance, as usual, with an excellent round of 82.

Results

Nearest the Pin:

- Hole 7: Michael Tse
- Hole 12: Peter Lowther
- Hole 17: Edward Hui

Longest Drive:

Alfonso Cordero

Stableford:

- 1st: Andy Ko 36pts
- 2nd: Michael Tse 34pts
- 3rd: Danny Lim 33pts

Best Gross:

- Men: Alfonso Cordero 80
- Ladies: Kim Lamsam 82

These results moved Andy from 11th place into 6th while Alfonso moved from 15th to 7th and Kim moved from 8th to 5th in the Ladies' League.

Our next event saw a return to Palm Island, after a 3-year absence, for an overnight stay and a two-day event with players from the Inflight Services Department of Cathay Pacific Airways. Alfonso works in ISD and was the catalyst for this arrangement which was a huge success as everyone mixed in extremely well and we had two very enjoyable days of golf and a wonderful meal in a local restaurant on the Sunday night. The second day saw more arrivals from the Golf Society for the 8th Stableford League event. The first day, Sunday, had seen some very hot conditions but Monday was more pleasant and we teed off on the Lake and River courses. The Lake course had just been cored and sanded three days earlier so the surface of the Lake greens were a little bumpy, but otherwise the course was in good condition.

Alfonso sometimes takes a short while to warm up and this was shown with a triple bogey on the first hole but one hole later he was warmed up and began a sequence of one under over six holes with birdie,



birdie, bogey followed by three consecutive pars for a front 9 of 40. The rough surface on the greens obviously slowed his progress on the Lake 9 but he still had 4 pars and a 42 coming back for an excellent 82.

Kim Lamsam showed a liking for the Lychee course on Sunday as she shot 37 on that 9 and an 81 round; on Monday she shot 38 on the Lake course including a stretch of level par for 7 holes and a total of one birdie and eight pars in a round of 81, so consistent. A couple of great performances from Ms. Consistency.

Danny Lim won one of the longest drives on the 9th hole on the River course but after his 290yd tee shot, he proceeded to take ten more shots for the last 150yds, including three consecutive water shots. That's golf, you hit a fantastic shot and then it brings you from your state of euphoria down to earth with a thud.

Ravi Sujonani showed improved form with a good result of 35 points, is this the start of transferring his considerable sports talent into golf. If so, watch out!

Results

Longest Drive: C9 Danny Lim

Nearest the Pin: B9 Eugene Lai

Stableford:

- 1st: William Ko 36pts.
- 2nd: Ravi Sujonani 35pts
- 3rd: Matt Barnett 34pts
- 4th: Danny Lim 33pts

Best Gross:

- Alfonso Cordero 82
- Kim Lamsam 81

These results brought Andy Ko up from 6th place in the Stableford League into 2nd and Alfonso from 7th place into the lead with two events remaining. Could this season see another close finish, three of the last five years have resulted in a tie and last year saw Andy Ko scrape home by a single point after an excellent result in the final event, the GS Championships.

In the Ladies' League, Kim Lamsam moved into 2nd place and has still to complete her quota of four results.

The September event is being moved and we are currently negotiating for a one, two or three day event coupling Pine Valley and either Lakewood or Chung Shan Hot

Springs over the period 17 - 19 September with the 9th Stableford League Event on Monday, 19 September.

Last year we held a very successful Range Day and BBQ at Whitehead Range near Ma on Shan and we have booked the facility again on Tuesday, 13 September. We will have bays booked from 4-6pm and the BBQ from 4pm to 8pm. The cost of the day for full GS members will be HK\$100 to cover the cost of bays, BBQ and beer and soft drinks. This should be a very pleasant gathering in a picturesque setting looking out over Three Fathoms Cove.

This date is Mid Autumn festival Public Holiday so you have no excuse, so sign up on the list on the GS notice board and come on and have some fun at Whitehead.

Tuesday, 4 October is the date for the GS Championships to be held on the South Course at Kau Sai Chau. In the evening we will have the Championships Dinner in the Pavilion with an excellent Buffet and Live entertainment. Watch the GS board for details.

Cheers,

Richard

