

The 22nd Bad Etiquette Classic



Sept '15

For many years Pete's recommendation to stage the Bad Etiquette Classic in Portugal had been delicately countered by the Founder Members on the grounds that the proposal betrayed the BEC's sworn allegiance to the glorious links of the British Isles. But in 2015, in the certain knowledge that

hoo! How we'd get a shower in the morning without a Shower Voucher (or preferably eight) and a Shower Transfer Voucher remained to be seen. Perhaps, as drummed into us on the yourgolftravel.com hotline, we'd simply need to tell the shower attendant that 'Darren had sent us'. That would do it.

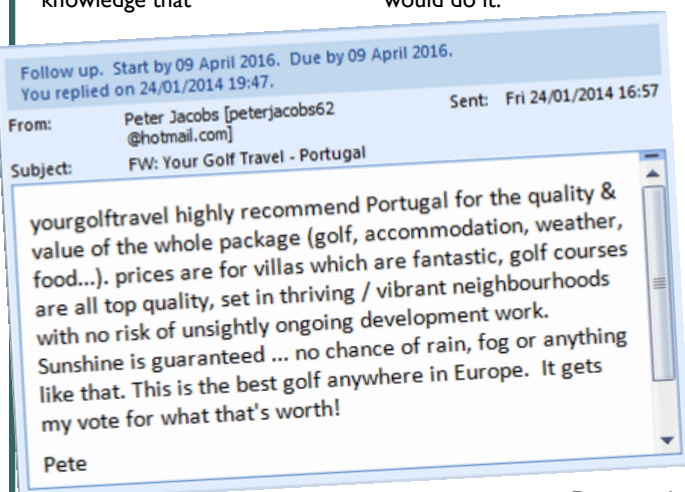
compliment of capable players. Even David L was tentative for a period while he obtained assurance from his accountant that golfing in Portugal wouldn't compromise his elaborate Cape Verde personal tax arrangements. With David confirmed we were 6 and by September we were (a very magnificent) 7 thanks to rookie on the Tour Paul Smith. Welcome Paul!

charuto. DARREN! Never mind. Onde está o primeiro tee? Muito obrigado.'

During the next 4 days, not once did the fact that Darren had sent us appear to have any affect on anyone. Shuttle buses were late despite impeccably presented Golf Transfer Vouchers and it remained chilly despite Guaranteed Warm Weather Vouchers. If 'Darren sent us' wasn't working, perhaps we should reference some famous Portuguese? But who on earth was going to believe that we'd been sent by Christiano Ronaldo or Vasco Da Gama?

For many months prior to our trip, a check of the weather in Lisbon confirmed continuous sunshine and 86°F. And, indeed, as we disembarked at Lisbon Airport it was sunny and 86°F. But an hour later as we pulled into the Praia D'El Rey resort 93km up the coast, it was noticeably less sunny and noticeably less warm. 'Excuse me. Você fala ingles? No? Por que o sol não está brilhando? We were promised sunshine. Muito sol. Compreendo? Darren sent us. Yes. Darren Clark. Golfista irlandês com um grande

No, it didn't all go our way. It wasn't always sunny, it wasn't always warm and it wasn't always possible to find the 1st tee in the fog, but on Monday afternoon at Royal Obidos, the sun came out, the jackets came off, the sun cream was applied and the 22nd Bad Etiquette Classic got well and truly into its stride.



Pete would never relent, the Founder Members did just that after all, it wasn't as if Pete's proposal concealed some cunning plan by which he would lay claim to the Tea Pot for the first time since 2001.

Despite the irresistible lure of clear skies and glorious sunshine, we once again struggled to muster a full

So, Portugal it was, and through yourgolftravel.com a very fine itinerary was developed incorporating 3 nights accommodation and 3 rounds of golf at the Praia D'El Rey Marriott Golf & Beach Resort, 2 rounds at Royal Obidos and one at Bom Sucesso. And imagine our delight when we discovered that ourgolftravel.com package came with 4 Airport Transfer Vouchers, 4 Hotel Vouchers, 6 Golf Vouchers and 8 Golf Transfer Vouchers. Whoo-



Royal Obidos - 'Designed by Severiano Ballesteros to merge effortlessly into the natural surroundings'.



Jornal de Notícias €2.50
 Sábado 26 de setembro de 2015
 0.90 €/QUARTA-FEIRA/180712 //www.jn.pt

A BOLA
 Domingo 27 de setembro de 2015

Malton está ganhando em Portugal

With a steady round of 97 net 75, 4 net birdies and a comfortable 5&4 match win, Julian Malton took the lead on the first day of the 22nd Bad Etiquette Clássico around the links of Praia D’El Rey. While his playing partner, Mark Powderham, spent the front 9 in the trees, Malton eked out a modest 1up lead which they built on once Powderham had reacquainted himself with the fairways on the back 9. The opposition, Smith & Grimbley, had begun the day strongly with rookie Smith making net eagle at the par 4 first bringing back memories of Steve Buck’s start at Waterville in 2000 and highlighting once again the risks associated with rookie handicaps ... in this case, Smith’s implausible 27.

Meanwhile, in the earlier 3-ball, David Law and Pete Jacobs, were showing signs of decent early form at the expense of Richard Reeves who was not.

Overnight, Malton leads on £15 ahead of Powderham on £11 and Jacobs on £6

But there’s a lot of golf left to play in this event which has come to be considered the most entertaining of the majors. How much golf precisely was, in fact, the subject of much discussion in the restaurant at the end of day one to determine whether day two would consist of 18, 27 or 36 holes. In the absence of consensus, this was put to a voto secreto with the decision to play 36 holes announced to the awaiting media scrum just as England succumbed 25-28 to Wales in the Rugby Copa do Mundo.

BEC edição especial

Jacobs magnifico rouba a Camisola Amarela

Five net birdies, two nearest-the-pins and a longest drive saw Pete Jacobs take the lead during a blistering afternoon round at the 22nd Bad Etiquette Clássico today leading many to ask the grande questão: ‘Could this be his year to lift the Bule de Chá?’ Other big questions asked today were ‘Onde estão os seus golf shoes?’ ... Pete & David’s were not in the locker room where they’d left them, and ‘Why is Praia D’El Rey deserted? ... hundreds of shuttered villas and not a soul around; had every property been repossessed by the bancos greediosos or had overcast skies just put everyone off from visiting their casas holidayos?



Highlights of the day:

- In the morning, Dave G emulates his playing partner of yesterday making net eagle at the 1st
- David L ricochets out of the trees at the 18th to steal the front 9 with a par 4 on his way to a 3&2 match win with Mark in the 4-ball
- In the afternoon, Paul makes net eagle at the 1st for a second time ... this time chipping in from 25ft. He & Pete win 6&5 and Richard loses £28
- Julian drives magnificently but self destructs as he approaches each green, David kills a wide variety of wildlife playing out of the succulents at the 7th and Mark wins both matches despite playing poorly

At the end of dia dois, Jacobs leads on £29 ahead of Powderham and Law on £10

Dia três

Dia três of the Bad Etiquette Clássico. 36 holes scheduled at the Royal Obidos Golf Resort just a short minibus ride (and long minibus wait) away. After early morning self-catered tea and toast, we stood at the roadside while Pete called reception and waved our Golf Transfer Voucher's hopefully at passing vehicles.

We needn't have hurried. At Royal Obidos we were greeted with a blanket of thick nevoeiro. This wasn't just a little bit of morning nevoeiro that would clear as the temperature began to rise, this was an absolute sopa de ervilha of a nevoeiro that looked reluctant to go anywhere and likely to cause us to drink a great deal of café branco whilst debating our opções alternativas. 'Why don't we head somewhere where the weather is better?' (... a proposal uncomfortably similar to Pete's business case for taking the BEC to Portugal in the first place). 'Why don't we forsake our Royal Obidos green fees and pay €140 for two taxis to CampoReal and €560 for 7 green fees there?' Other questions on our minds included 'How many cafés brancos can one drink whilst still retaining modest control of one's limbs on the first tee?', 'Did I really travel all the way to Portugal to suffer the near onset of hypothermia and pay €72 for a blue wind-cheater in the Royal Obidos pro-shop?' and 'Why isn't there anyone around here who gives a macacos that Darren sent us?'

To aid our decision-making, Mark was whisked, Ryder Cup Captain (not Ganglam) style, in a chauffer-driven golf buggy to the furthest extremities of the golf course to assess conditions. Cinco minutos later he was back with news that conditions were indeed beginning to improve; the sopa de ervilha was progressively thinning to the consistency of a consomê leve. So we took the decision to stay put at Royal Obidos, hope for the best and bide our time with a fifth round of cafés brancos and a great deal of chipping and putting.

And what a good decision it was. By 11.00 there was a break in the cloud and by 11.30 with the help of a knowledgeable local guide one could find one's way to the 1st tee. All that was required was a spot of lunch before heading out for the long-awaited fourth round of the Bad Etiquette Clássico.



Segunda-feira 28 de setembro de 2015

FORTE NEVOEIRO ATRASA BEC QUARTA RODADA !



Forte nevoeiro caused havoc today on dia três of the Bad Etiquette Clássico with the quarta rodada severely delayed and, in all likelihood, the event reduced to just cinco rotadas. Only in the early afternoon, once the morning's forte nevoeiro had cleared, did the day's play get underway.

Grandes narrativas of the day:

- Julian tosses Richard his ball back as they leave the 8th green, but the ball lands on the head-cover of Mark's driver and hits Richard square on the nariz
- Richard wins the 11th with a magnificent 10 (3 off the tee, 2 irons down the hill, a pitch across the lake, one chip and 3 putts)
- At the 363m 14th, Julian hits a magnificent drive and approach over water but chips in to the lake, drops for 4, duffs his chip and 3 putts for an 8
- Also at the 14th, Paul congratulates Dave G for a fine drive before learning that he'd driven down the 15th
- At the 17th Mark sees Julian lining up his approach to the green in the wrong direction but claims (after Julian's ball is lost forever in a ravine) that he was unable to interrupt Julian's swing preparation
- Mark wins the money in the 3-ball and Paul the money in the 4-ball ... largely at the expense of his playing partner, David L, who suffers a tarde tórrida (... always a risk with Portuguese food)

With just 18 holes left to play amanhã, Jacobs leads on £37 ahead of Powderham on £23

↻ Essential Bad Etiquette Clássico Portuguese ↻

Olá de novo	Hello again	Este camisola amarelo é um pouco apertado	This yellow cashmere sweater is a bit tight
Você fala inglês	Do you speak English?	Birdie liquidos	Net birdie
Por que o sol não está brilhando?	Why isn't the sun shining?	Cão raivoso	Rabid dog
Onde estão os seus golf shoes?	Where are our golf shoes?	Drivo grande	Longest drive
Quem está ganhando?	Who is winning?	Jogando parceiro	Playing partner
Por que ele está vestindo uma jaqueta rosa?	Why is he wearing a pink jacket?	Macacos	Monkeys
Você viu o Bule de Chá?	Have you seen the Tea Pot?	Nariz	Nose
		Tarde tórrida	Torrid afternoon

Os Jogadores

Marco Pó de Porco

To say that Marco's form was erratic coming into this year's event would be an understatement gigantesco. Losing 9 balls at Sweetwoods Park during his first practice round and another 9 balls at Pырford during his second, the alarm bells were ringing ... and golf ball sales in the South East were surging. Slicing his opening tee-shot OB from Praia D'El Rey's first tee did little to improve Marco's confidence nor answer the concerns of his supporters. But despite such an inauspicious start, by winning his matches, he made money in each of the first 4 rounds and remained fixed in 2nd place. But on the final day, his golf simply wasn't good enough to mount a serious challenge for the Bule de Chá and he finished runner-up on £17.



Pedro Jacobs

Having resided mid field during the opening 2 rounds, Pedro made his move on Sunday afternoon at Praia D'El Rey. A 6&5 match win with Paulo against Dave & Ricardo together with 5 birdies liquidos, 2 nearest-the-pins and one drivos grande pocketed him £22 and catapulted him into primeira posição. Once established in the Camisola Amarela, with one arm in the Jaqueta Rosa and one hand on the Bule de Chá, there was no stopping him. A match win in the pairs on dia três kept him in primeira posição, and on the final day at Royal Obidos, Pedro sealed two more solid singles match wins against Marco & Julião to raise the Bule de Chá aloft 14 years after his maiden victory at the 8th Bad Etiquette Clássico in 2001.



Muitos congratulations Pedro! ... and muito obrigado por um BEC memorável em Portugal

Julião Maltonelada

A 97 net 75, 5&4 match win and earnings of £15 put Julião in primeira posição after the opening round. But that lead was relinquished on dia dois as he failed to follow-up drivos magnificas with approach shots or chip shots semi-decente. 5 singles defeats were his undoing and, whilst he was in with a shout ahead of the final round, he was no match for Perfect Pedro losing 5&3 and finishing 4th with earnings of just £1.



David Legislação

As often in recent years, David failed to convert promising early form into a Bule de Chá worthy performance. Match wins and 8 birdies liquidos in the first 2 rounds placed him in primeira posição on £13.50, but around Royal Obidos his form declined, his birdies liquidos and extras positivos dried up and he lost both matches causing him to limp em casa in a disappointing 6th place.

Ricardo Fabricários

Ricardo's 22nd BEC was a tale of two halves or, more accurately, a tale of four-fifths and one-fifth. For 4 rounds he failed to fire on all cylinders or break 100 leading to losses of £58.50 and última posição. Then, without warning during the final round at Royal Obidos he went on the rampage to recoup his losses. A round of 98 net 73, a 4&3 match win, 4 birdies liquidos, 2 nearest-the-pins, 3 drivos grandes and no extras negativos earned him £37, hauled him back into 5th place and won him the Troféu do Scarisbrick for the 4th time.

Dave Severoblé

The good news after Dave's first round was that he'd picked up all 4 bits on the par 3's. The bad news was that three of those bits were furthest-from-the-pins and only one a nearest-the-pin which, together with a 5&4 match loss, relieved Dave of £17 and put him in an all too familiar end-of-day-one última posição. Despite further match losses on dia dois, Dave stemmed the losses, but they reemerged at Royal Obidos returning him to the club house in last place with perdas financeiras of £31. Dave can take consolation from a birdie 2 magnifico across the água at Praia D'El Rey's 8th hole, 3 eagles liquidos and an impressive 6 drivos grandes.



Paulo Ferreira

As well as rekindling fond memories of Steve Buck's similar feat (size 12) at Waterville in 2000, Paulo's par 4 eagle liquido at this year's first hole served notice that he hadn't joined us to just make up the numbers. After 2 rounds, however, the painful realities of BEC golf were beginning to dawn and Paulo found himself in última posição. To his credit, during rounds 3 and 4, he fought back, chipping in for a second par 4 eagle liquido at the first, in round 3 and amassing 4 birdies liquidos and an impressive 3.5 NP's in round 4, putting him back in the black on £9 and in 4th place. In the final round, it was as much as he could do to survive the onslaught from his partner Richardo, but survive he did, finishing third with earnings of £6. Congratulations Paulo! We look forward to you joining us again next year!





On the final day of the Bad Etiquette Clássico today Pedro Jacobs held his nerve to see off his adversários and win the Bule de Chá for the second time in his career. Out first in the 3-ball, Jacobs wasted no time reaching the turn ahead in both singles matches and romped home comfortably to respective 5&3 and 4&3 match wins against Maltonelada and Pó de Porco.

In the following match, Ricardo Fabricários wreaked devastação with a net 73, match win, 4 birdies líquidos, 2 nearest-the-pins and 3 drivos grandes leading to 18 hole earnings of £37 and overall 5th place.

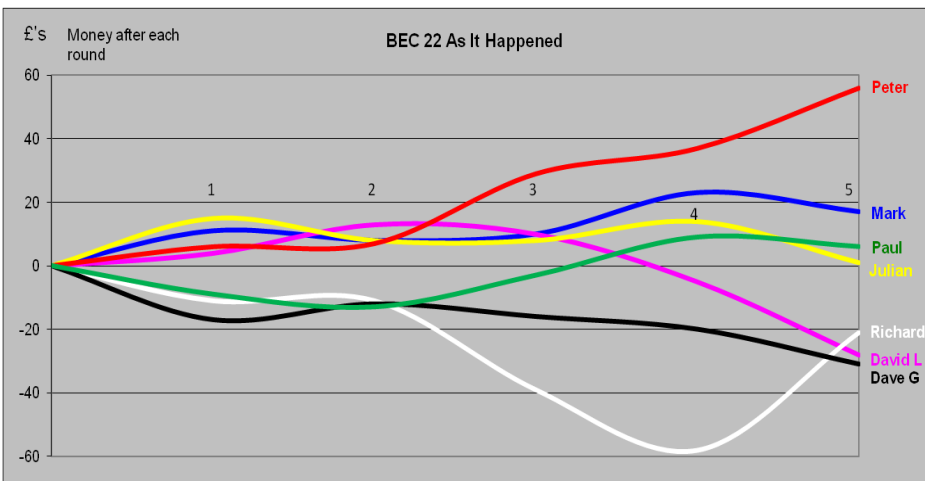
Jacobs wins the 22nd Bad Etiquette Clássico on £56 ahead of Pó de Porco on £17 and rookie Paulo Ferreiro in third place on £6



Pedro Jacobs receives the Jaqueta Rosa and Bule de Chá from last year's BEC Campeão Marco Pó de Porco on the balcony of their luxury Praia D'El Rey apartment.

Grandes narrativas of the final day:

- Pete hits an outrageous drivo grande at the 437m par 5 11th and then agonises regarding his second shot over the água. He elects to lay-up left but leaks the ball right and finishes 12 foot from the pin with a putt for eagle, albatross liquido. But the putto lips outo and so does the nexto as he 3 putts to halve the whole in five with both Mark & Julian ... you could have cut the atmosfera with a navalha!
- The 4-ball behind fares less well on the same hole with all 4 players dumping their approach shots into the água and the hole halved in 10
- It's pure slap-stick at the 363m 14th when Pete puts his third, fifth and seventh shots in the água, plays his 8th subaquático and makes 10; but Mark fails to capitalise, putting 2 in the água himself, thinning his 7th through the gramado and 3 putting como um idiota for a 10 also
- Paul finds the back of the 15th green from the tee but ignores the pro's tip regarding the importance of club selection and accuracy, sinking his birdie putt in the lago in a reprodução gloriosa of Dave G's memorable birdie putt into the lago on the 5th at Dartford Golf & Country Club in 1996
- Pete, Julian and Mark give a wide berth to the cão raivoso (... as if rabid dogs weren't enough to contend with) guarding the front of the 17th green before putting out in their singles matches



See you in Northumberland for the 23rd Bad Etiquette Classic !