



BRADFORD & BINGLEY SPORTS CLUB

Chairman's Report
On behalf of the Board of Directors
Year-end 30th April 2011.

The AGM will be held on Thursday 19th January at 6.30 pm prompt at the Clubhouse.

Enclosed is a copy of the Revenue account. Not pleasant reading particularly when in my September 2010 report on the year ending April 2010 your Chairman expressed reasons for optimism and complimented the two main Sport sections Cricket and Rugby for that year's improved cash management!

At the AGM Mr Alan Wintersgill will answer questions on aspects of the financial results that have lead to our losses.

Despite the disappointment on the bottom line, a lot of progress has been made by the Board during the financial year. At a well-attended Members meeting in February 2011 the Board confirmed a number of changes to the Clubhouse staff structure following the return of the Clubhouse to the control of the Sport Club Board on 1st October 2010. Mr Ian Morrall and Mr Bill Crawford of Romall Ltd relinquished their 5 year lease 2 years early with the Board's agreement. Having invested heavily into our Club their tenure showed what re-investment to our facilities can yield. Thanks are due to Romall Ltd for their 3 year tenure and to Board Member Mr Neil Hartley and Mr Richard Bottomley OBE for their work on Members behalf in sorting out the details of the lease transfer.

Since the lease return Mr Phil Padgett of Bison Business services has continued to assist the Board during the challenging Romall transition. Staff changes and a different approach to providing Catering services were necessary. The Sport Club thanked Mr Simon Dibb for his services and employed its own Chef Mr Chris Melaugh in May 2011. The cleaning staff arrangement was reviewed and this provision also changed. I can report that improvements to room hire and catering standards have increased value to Members. The facilitating of profitable 'outside' Events has been encouraged and Mrs Kath Crossan has done a sterling job as the Event Coordinator balancing these functions with Members 'needs'.

During the year the Board has carried out essential maintenance, purchased a new storage unit with Rugby assistance and also implemented some of the recommendations from the Sport and Marketing report commissioned in Jan 2010. Thanks to Directors Jo Dean and Sharon Stamp, a Sports Club Website (now live) and improved visibility for Membership benefits were sanctioned. Discussions with the Bingley Harriers were on going and talks on opportunities for facility share with new Beckfoot School were started. Regrettably both Directors Jo Dean and Sharon Stamp are not seeking re-election at the AGM. Their input has been extremely valuable. I hope they both enjoy 'retirement' and stay involved as Members.



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On the playing fields each section has increased their participation numbers overall. Each section has its own website news and it is evident when reading these sites that several of our Club's Sportsmen and Women have achieved high standards and honours. Mr Richard McCarthy's local Cricket status became legendary and the mixed ability Rugby side, the Bumbles have achieved numerous accolades in the National Press. The Olympics are nearly with us and whilst this Report is a review of year ending April 2011 it's possible that we may have a Canoeist representing team GB who learnt to 'paddle' on our stretch of the River Aire!

The Cricket nets and floodlight 20/20 are added attractions to the facilities, and the use of our facilities by Bingley Harriers, as 'home' is to be encouraged. Numerous Charity organisations and Social Clubs, like the Chess Club, Riding for the Disabled plus local Ornithologists are also meeting regularly at the Club. There is a lot going on. Members seem to be happy and enjoying themselves.

On the surface 'things' appear to be heading the right way. But, without being a damp blanket, I would hate to see this enthusiasm for the Sports we play eroded because of a cash crisis created by selfish egos or bad planning! Closer working relations are called for.

The Board of Directors have asked me to appeal to individuals interested in helping their Club to join the small Board. There are many interesting challenges ahead. These challenges need champions.

During the year it became evident that all sections have good Committees but particularly the Rugby and Cricket section's Committees were stronger in numbers than in recent seasons. They along with Hockey and Canoe section have bundles of enthusiasm for 'their' Club and verbally agreed with the Sport Club Chairman that 'we' should all pull together.

Having more representation on the Sport Club Board will improve internal Club communication and help the whole Sport Club plan its future. Certainly a more joined up financial planning process is needed but there are lots of other areas we can improve for each other's mutual benefit.

Finally, may I thank my fellow Directors, our Staff and all Committee members for providing support for our Sports and excellent facilities that benefited our Members and Guests during 2011.

Richard M R Smith
Chairman
Bradford and Bingley Sport Club Ltd

31.12.2011