

ASHTON GOLF CLUB, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, SATURDAY, MAY 15th, 1920.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The number of Members at the end of March 1919 totalled up to

Men.	Ladies.	Honorary.
163.	92	43

The number of resignations were as follows 29 Men, 18 Ladies, and 7 Honorary, and the number of New Members amounted to 40 Men, 30 Ladies, and 5 Honorary Members, thus increasing the membership by 21 Men, and 12 Ladies, and decreasing the Hon. membership by 2.

The membership therefore stood at the end of March 1920, at 184 Men, 104 Ladies, and 41 Honorary.

During the year the Greens and Tees have been dressed with Basic Slag and Ashes, unfortunately there was great difficulty in obtaining the Slag, consequently it was put on rather late, but the Greens have every appearance of improvement, and it is believed that the coming Season will see them in splendid order.

A great many improvements have been made in the fairways and the approaches to the Greens, such as taking out the hollow places which formerly punished a good drive, and levelling all approaches.

The fencing round the course, also some of the boundaries, has been re-instated at considerable expense and all is now in order.

The Committees were composed as follows,-----

House Committee.--Messrs, Andrew, Lees, Kershaw, W, C, Morris, Herbert and Gibson.

Greens Committee.-- Messrs, Andrew, Eaton, A, Morris, Blatter and Gibson.

Handicap Committee.--Messrs, Whitworth, A, Morris, Andrew and Robson and Gibson.

The House Committee has done excellent work through trying times, there are good stocks on hand, and the Committee have prepared a report in connection with the Club House respecting repairs, also dealing

carefully considered by the General Committee at the present time.

The Greens Committee is responsible for the many improvements on the course previously described, and it is believed that the course generally will be in excellent condition during the Season.

The Handicap Committee has carried out and kept up to date all the Handicaps as far as possible, and all is in order.

The General Committee have met each month, "the attendance being very well maintained", received the reports of the various sub-committees and dealt with the questions arising from time to time, and the affairs of the Club are all in good order.

On May 8th, 1919, the Committee decided to raise the Entrance Fee to £ 3-3-0 for Men and £ 2-2-0 for Ladies to commence from the end of May.

A circular was sent out to the Members in respect to the Levy of £ 1-1-0 and ~~10/6~~ 10/6, New Members excepted, to be paid not later than June 30th, and with one or two exceptions this has been paid, the exceptions being members who have only been up once or twice during the Season.

The Committee also decided to form a Stable in the Garage, and have obtained the consent of Mr. Kenworthy, but are awaiting the good pleasure of the Builder: it is expected that this will be complete before next Winter, and the horse will then be properly stabled on the Club Premises.

The Greens Committee took in hand the Caddie question, and this branch of service was greatly improved chiefly through appointing a Caddie Master, there is considerable difficulty in this department yet, which is brought about by the lads now getting large wages.

Butchers wages were raised on June 21st, by 10/- per week, bringing the amount up to £ 2, and on Oct, 16th, it was decided to raise Mr and Mrs, Butchers wages to £ 3-10-0 per week to date from July 19th.

The Committee also revised the scale of charges for Visitors, viz.-- that all visitors in future pay 2/- each visit, whether introduced by a member or not, and that the charge on Saturdays and Public Holidays be 3/- each for Ladies and Gents, also that the charge of 7/6 per week and £ 1-1-0 per month be made for Gents, and 5/- per week and 15/- per month be made for Ladies.

Mr. T. F. Kershaw resigned from the Committee on Aug. 13th 1919 after rendering useful service, and his place was filled by the co-option of Mr. E. N. Smith on Jan. 16th. 1920.

Messrs Baker and Bird were granted an increase of 10/- per week to date from July 26th, 1920.

The Committee also decided to close the Club House at six p.m. on Thursday of each week during the Months of Nov. Dec. and January so as to give some little respite to the Caretakers.

On October 18th, a Special General Meeting was held, attended by about 40 Members, to discuss the question of raising the Annual subscriptions: and after full discussion it was decided to raise the subscriptions as follows.-- Gents. to £3-3-0, Ladies to £1-11-6 for the coming season.

It was also moved that it be a recommendation to the Committee that in addition to raising the subscriptions, that there be a Levy: ~~in addition~~ Nothing has been done at present in respect to this.

The mowing machines both horse and hand have been put in thorough repair, and all the tackle is in good order.

The Committee have prepared the Calendar for the Season, and a copy has been sent out to each member, and it is hoped that each member will do his utmost to make the Season a record one in the annals of the Club.

The local rules have been revised, and the hazards of the Course defined.

The Committee are negotiating with the Stamford Estate for the

It was also decided that the arrears of loan interest be paid off, and this has been done.

The Committee received prior to March 25th, a circular letter from the Stamford Estate, stating that owing to the heavy burdens of taxation and the increased cost of repairs and improvements, the Trustees feel compelled to increase the Annual Rents of their Agricultural Property by 25%, from the 25th, March, with the approval of the Tenants.

Mr H, G, Hall was interviewed, and stated that the Estate had definitely stated that the rents must be increased: the question was fully discussed by the Committee later, and it was decided that seeing that the Farmers of the District were taking up the matter with the Estate and were well organized, that we should abide by whatever they decide to fix up with the Estate.

The subscriptions owing at March 25th, are as follows.--
Gents, 14. Ladies, 3, Honorary 6. and the whole of these are members who as far as we know have not played during the season.

J Gibson
Sec.