

**Ashton-Under-Lyne Golf Club Annual Meeting. May 2<sup>nd</sup> 1936.**

**Secretary's Report**

I have pleasure in presenting the report for the past year and in doing so feel that mention must be made of the loss the Club has sustained by the death of the President, Mr J W Kenworthy. Mr Kenworthy was the President for life and took active part in the formation of the Club and for many years attended the meetings of the Committee, also the Annual meetings, but latterly took no active part owing to failing health, but we are greatly indebted to him in many ways for the part he took in the early history of the Club and I am sure we all regret his passing.

We are as you know, now without a President and from the wording of the rules no provision seems to have been made for the election of a new one, this of course can be remedied if it is decided that we should at a later period elect one.

The financial position has been explained by the Treasurer, Mr Robson and the result of the twelve months working is very satisfactory.

The loan account now stands at £80-0-0 which is a matter of congratulation, especially seeing that it stood at £756-9-6 in 1918.

The members will be pleased to know that there are only two subscriptions owing for last season, viz. 1 gentleman and 1 lady, amounting to £8-18-0, and it is questionable whether any Club in the Country can show such record.

The number of members is as follows: -129 Gentlemen and two country members, and 92 Lady members and 1 junior.

Honorary Members: - 16 Gentlemen and 22 Ladies.

The Gentlemen's membership has increased by 1, decreased by 2 Juniors and increased by 1 country member and the Ladies membership has decreased by 4 playing members, 1 junior and 1 country member. Honorary membership is the same for Gentlemen and 1 less for Ladies. A few of the members of long standing have resigned which is a matter for regret.

It is very desirable that the Men's membership should be increased as this would greatly help the Committee in making improvements on the course and maintaining efficiency, and the members are asked to do all in their power to use their influence in obtaining more members.

The members of Committee have kept up their record and their attendance shews an average of 87.33%; they have had many problems to consider and have given a considerable amount of time and thought to the affairs of the Club, upkeep of the course also the comfort and convenience of members.

The House Committee: - Mr J H Barratt secretary, has again rendered service in the management of the Bar and Shop and it is pleasing to report that the profit is a substantial one amounting to £265-6-3. I may say however that the Shop profits are not so satisfactory and some definite action will have to be made to deal with question at an early date.

The thanks of the members are due to the Secretary for his valuable service.

The Smoke Room has been extended, a new Bar has been installed, alterations to the gentlemen's and ladies lavatories have been made and certain decorations have been carried out, and this arrangement undoubtedly fills a long felt want, and I feel sure that members must greatly appreciate the new arrangement.

It is the intention of the Committee to add to the furnishing of the Smoke Room at an early date.

The Handicap Committee: Mr J Taylor secretary also carried out its many duties efficiently, handicaps have been revised from time to time, and applications are being received from members desirous of handicap revisions which receive due consideration on their merits and our thanks are due to the Secretary for his services which require a great deal of tact.

It is pleasing to know that we have two new members of low handicap as this will tend towards keener competition for the Championship Cup &c.

The Calendar is again very comprehensive and special mention should be made of one or two events viz: - Invitational Four-ball, July 11<sup>th</sup>, Caddies Competition July 14<sup>th</sup>, Luxor Cup Competitions Sept 12<sup>th</sup> in aid of the District Infirmary, also the Annual Dance Dec 4<sup>th</sup>.

The Greens Committee: - J Gibson Secretary, has given much thought to the varied problems which have arisen in connection with the upkeep and care of the course and I think you will all agree that we have in Brooks and excellent groundsman.

A considerable amount of draining has been undertaken during the winter, principally on the 6<sup>th</sup> Fairway and Nos 1 and 11 Tees have been re-laid, in addition to the ordinary work and repairs to fencing and seeing that all this work has been done by two men, I consider they have done remarkably well.

Four men are now employed on the course for the season.

The greens and tees also have been wormed, weeded and forked and the treatment prescribed by the expert from Bingley Research Station, viz. dressing with fertilizers, sea sand, charcoal &c. has been carried out and the result is very satisfactory although the Summer drought was a serious drawback and a source of worry.

A new shelter has been erected near No. 16 Tee.

All the machines have been thoroughly overhauled and repaired and the cutting of greens and fairways commenced.

The Motor tractor continues to give every satisfaction.

The course generally is given every promise and granted ordinary conditions should prove better than ever.

A successful Caddies Match was held during the year and the thanks of the Committee are given to all those who subscribed or helped in any way.

The Social Committee: Mr E S Jones, Secretary, has given excellent support and handed over £40-0-0 as a result of their efforts, and although our financial position is much improved it is still necessary that they should carry on their good work and their services are deserving of our warmest thanks.

The Ladies Committee has handed over the sum of £20-0-0 and this sum is very welcome and I am sure we all appreciate the help of the Ladies.

The subscribers to the Prize Fund and the Winners of the various events relieves, who provided runner prizes are also to be thanks for their generosity which relieves the Club of considerable expense.

In conclusion I again ask for your cordial support on behalf of the Captain and Committee which is very necessary for the smooth running and success of the Club and appeal to every member to assist as far as possible in making the Season a successful one.