

**Ashton-Under-Lyne Golf Club Annual Meeting. May 1<sup>st</sup> 1937.**

**Secretary's Report**

I have pleasure in presenting the report for the past year and in being able to say that the Season has been a very successful one.

The financial position has been explained by the Treasurer, Mr Robson and the result is satisfactory and the expenditure on the alterations to the Smoke Room has been entirely warranted, and proved a great boon to the men members.

The loan account now stands at £83-4-0 with interest and has been reduced by £673-5-6 since 1918.

The members will be pleased to know that there are very few subscriptions outstanding although perhaps rather more than last year and we still have a splendid record in this respect.

The number of members is as follows: -135 Gentlemen, 2 Country members, and 3 Juniors and 94 Lady members and 2 Juniors.

Honorary Members are 26 Ladies and 13 Gentlemen.

The Gentlemen's membership has increased by 6, and the Juniors by 2 and the Ladies membership has also increased by 2 and 1 junior. Honorary membership has decreased by 3 Gentlemen and increased by 4 Ladies.

I see however that there are one or two nominations on the notice board which will make the result better still.

It is still very desirable that the membership should increase, especially in the case of men, and the members are asked to use their influence and powers of persuasion in bringing about such increase, so that we may have greater revenue which is still necessary to enable to Committee to carry out improvements which are still required on the Course.

The members of Committee have a good record of attendance which shews an average of 80.47%; they have had many problems to deal with and have given a good deal of time and thought to the affairs of the Club. Upkeep of the Course and the comfort and convenience of the members.

The whole of the insurances have been revised and I believe there exists some little doubt in the minds of the members respecting this question; I propose to briefly state the position. The Third Party liability indemnifies the members and visitors against bodily injury to any person except members of the insured's family or any person engaged in the services of the Club whilst playing on the Course, also covers all accidental damage to property and covers all members while playing on any recognised Golf Course in the United Kingdom and the limit of the indemnity has been raised from £1000 to £5000.

The Burglary Policy covers all Stocks in the Bar and all cups and members effects, and the

limit has been raised from £3 to £5 in the case of any one member.

The Employers insurance covers all members of the staff.

The Fire Policy covers all stocks, cups, motor machines, furniture and fittings.

A new policy has been taken out in the name of the Professional to cover the Caddies.

The whole of the premiums are very little more than before owing to adjustments.

The House Committee: - Mr J H Barratt secretary, has again given valuable service in the management of the Bar and it is pleasing to report that the profit of £250-6-6, although less than last year is very substantial.

The Shop which was not a profitable undertaking was handed over to Brennan who became a fully fledged professional, the whole stock being valued at cost was purchased by him. You will know that he was recently appointed professional to Oldham Golf Club and we wish him every success in his new appointment.

The vacancy caused has been filled out of 24 applicants by the appointment of A H Haslam, assistant professional at the Withington Golf Club who is joint holder of the Manchester and District Assistant Professional Championship for 1937. This appointment will be of considerable interest to the members as a good professional is a great asset to any club.

The thanks of the members are due to Mr Barratt for his valuable services.

The Handicap Committee: Mr J Taylor secretary also carried out its many duties efficiently, in fact I believe some members would say drastically. The whole of the handicaps have been revised after very careful consideration and our thanks are due to Mr Taylor for his services which call for a great deal of tact and hardness of heart.

The Calendar Sub-Committee have again drafted a very comprehensive list of events and special attention is called to one or two items: - Invitational Four-ball Bogey , July 24<sup>th</sup>, Caddies Competition July 13<sup>th</sup>, Luxor Cup Competition Sept 11<sup>th</sup> in aid of the District Infirmary, also the Annual Dance December 3<sup>rd</sup> and the Four-ball Bogey Competition open to members friends January 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Greens Committee: - J Gibson Secretary, has again given much thought to the improvement and upkeep of the Course and I believe that at any rate most of you will agree that the groundsmen have performed their task excellently.

A considerable amount of draining has been undertaken principally on the 6<sup>th</sup> fairway in addition to the ordinary work and this work has been carried out entirely by Brooks and his chief assistant during the Winter months.

Four men are employed on the course during the Summer.

The greens and tees have been treated with lead arsenate powder for the killing of worms and this has proved highly satisfactory although expensive, and the dressing with fertilisers and sea sand has been continued as prescribed by The Bingley Research Department.

All the machines have been overhauled and repaired and are ready for work.

The course generally is improved and gives every promise of decided improvement.

The Committee are considering the purchase of a Ransomes Overgreen motor mower for the greens and are to have a demonstration very shortly to decide and it is believed that this will greatly help in improving the cutting of the grass and will also speed up the work.

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

The Social Committee: Mr E S Jones, Secretary, has given excellent support and handed over £30 as a result of their efforts, and although the financial position is improved we find their assistance very welcome and their services are greatly appreciated.

The Ladies Committee has handed over the sum of £20 and this amount is also very welcome and greatly valued and their help is also worthy of our warmest thanks.

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

In conclusion I again ask on behalf of the Captain and Committee for your cordial support which is so necessary for the smooth working and success of the Club and confidently appeal to every individual member to assist in any way that lies within his power in making the Season a successful and happy one.