

2015 – 2016 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This has been an extremely busy year for the committee. The introduction of Pianola raised a few issues. The fact that the constitution needed to be updated, which in itself raised several issues. Also handicaps and scoring.

Paul very kindly set up the new constitution from the EBU template. Over several months Paul, Christopher and John thrashed the details out before it was put on the web for your perusal.

The committee have decided to continue with both websites for at least 1 more year.

The committee propose that we change the scoring of all aggregate competitions to cross imping, which will enable the computer to work out the handicaps annually. The computer will also be able to apply the handicaps into the results instantly instead of them being applied manually, which will give an instant result. I feel this is progress.

I feel that the club is going very well but sadly the standard of play has dropped. We no longer can support a team in the league top divisions. It was as recent as 2013/2014 that we were in the 1st division.

I must thank all of the committee for their support, especially the office bearers, for all the differing tasks you have all done. Thank you to Christopher Smith and Brian Griffiths who stand down this year.

Thank you to all the directors, to Terry for the boards, to Christine for managing the congress. Morven for working out the handicaps, Marguerite for weekly writing the report for the paper, John for the website but especially to Paul who has been a huge support to many of us, he has worked without any complaints behind the scenes, giving us sound advice on scoring, constitution, websites and rulings.

I was humbled to be asked to be your president and hope that the club has progressed in these last 2 years – thank you.

Berwick Bridge Club – Financial Report 2015 -2016

We have 82 members, 2 more than last year.

This year the club has made a small surplus of £458 this is £139 less than last year. We haven't had to purchase any large items of equipment, spending about £500, mainly on cards. At the end of the year the closing balance was £9,141.

The new club website was a little more expensive than the old one. £150 per year compared with £50 per year.

The Christmas party made a loss of £56.

The congress had a one off extra cost of £100 towards extra lighting at the Rugby Club and it was also decided to give out pens again, at a small cost. The event was a big success and made about £332 profit, to be donated to a charity. If anyone has any strong feelings about which charity to support, please could they let a committee member know, before the Summer meeting. Last year we donated £500 to Berwick Infirmary physio department.

At present the clubs finances are in a very healthy state, with just over £9,000 in the bank. Yes, we are making slightly less each year, but we are not a profit making organisation and unless we have a significant increase in costs, I propose we leave things unchanged for now. So I suggest that we leave the table money unchanged, at £2 per night.

However, the annual Subs of £7 will have to be raised to £8 because the SBU has increased their portion from £6 to £7. So I propose that the Annual sub should be raised to £8, £7 for the SBU and £1 for Berwick Bridge Club. The SBU will be raising their sub by a £1 on an annual basis until it reaches £10.

Jane Smithson

Hon. Treasurer

Berwick Bridge Club Congress

Income from entry fees	£2376
Income soup + coffee	<u>£ 124</u>
Income	£2500
Expenditure	£2168
<u>Surplus</u>	<u>£332</u>

2015 – 2016 A Team Report

The A team has not fared well this season. We played 10 matches, won 2, lost 7, and 1 losing draw. Unfortunately this means that we have gone down to division 3.

13 people played for the team, most of whom have now decided to retire after many years of travelling to Haddington.

Berwick teams have had an excellent run over many years. For over 20 years we have had a team in division 1, and then in the following 10 years fluctuating between division 1 and 2.

Thank you team for your support, we wish the new team well in the coming season.