

The Audited Accounts for the Year ended 30th September 2021 show a deficit for the year of just £7.

After a most unusual period to September 2020, you will remember the uncertainty still with us in early spring last year when we asked for indicative 2021 competition entries. So we were then delighted to be able to go ahead with the full programme of events, albeit with fewer teams than usual in most of them. When the first event took place in May, ongoing restrictions meant we could not double bank matches, meaning having to hire more lawns than usual. This combination of fewer entries and some restrictions had a negative impact on both our income and expenditure compared back to 2019, leading to what was fortunately only a very small deficit.

Unusually, we had not requested payment with the "entries" back then, so we wondered what would be required to catch up with clubs after the events. So now, I would like to thank the Clubs for settling their Competition entry Accounts very promptly, after I sent them out in August. During my first year in this position, the enforced changes did actually give me the opportunity to make contact with many more clubs than may otherwise would have been the case. And another thanks to Clubs for helping with our move to electronic banking – only one manual cheque received, and none issued.

During the year we changed our website, so the expenses reflect an additional charge for that. With so much going on in our Area, hopefully our Clubs are encouraging their members to keep an eye out for, and maybe enter some of, the open tournaments being offered at other clubs, and the various Academy courses. You may have noticed there were no trophy costs this year. We will be contacting the Trophy winners by early Spring 2022, regarding getting the trophies back for engraving, ready for presentation to the new winners during next season. With many players travelling about for various tournaments, I think it should be possible to arrange "relaying" them back to Southwick.

Thank you for your help in making my job easier this year, and let's hope 2022 will see even more clubs taking part in our competitions.

David King

Treasurer