

Chairman's report 2017 Season

The season was overshadowed by not only poor weather but the worry that it may be the last playing season. The Match Secretary advised the 2017 AGM that it would be her last season in the role and that a replacement had to be found.

Despite efforts by the Executive Committee and a final plea at the Presentation Evening the role remained vacant. In an effort to reduce the workload, a small subcommittee was set up to examine the main causes of disputes and complaints with a view to eliminating or reducing them. It was discovered that the greatest problems revolved around player registrations, replays and late receipt of scoresheets.

After great deliberation they brought to the Executive proposed rule changes which will be presented to the AGM. At the same time Christian Bryan was researching a computerised system (League Republic) for recording match results. He joined the subcommittee and they decided to investigate the LTA recording system, which with LTA support was decided to be the better option. This again will be presented to the AGM.

With these improvements in place Jeanette Hague agreed to take on the role of Match Secretary which means the League will continue to function in 2018.

Once again Kathleen and I will be in Australia visiting our daughter at the time of the AGM. but I must stress that the amended rules and computerisation must be accepted by the AGM for the League to operate next year.

Our President Barry Burns continues to suffer from ill health and at the Presentation Evening he confirmed that he could not perform the role to his satisfaction and regrettably after seventeen years he had decided to retire. This will be a great loss to the League.

George Coulthard is also retiring as our computer expert but Christian Bryan has agreed to step into his shoes, likewise Val Ormrod, Team Tournament Secretary, will be replaced by Mick Walsh.

The remaining officers carried out their tasks efficiently with tournaments finishing on time and the Treasurer ensuring the League funds remain healthy.

Gill continues to keep the whole committee abreast of all the decisions and plans made at various meetings and is the first and last port of call to the League Clubs regarding appeals.

Finally, after over thirty years as Chairman the Executive have asked me to take up the position of President of the League. As we have Rob Hemmings, a more than able Vice-Chairman who can very easily assume to role of Chairman I have agreed. subject to acceptance by the AGM to take this role.