

## The Best Western Shrubbery Hotel Somerset Cricket League

### Honorary Treasurer's Report 2015

The twelve months ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015 produced a surplus of Income over Expenditure of £682.75p and increased the value of the League to £16506.49p. We are grateful to Andy Stevens (Winscombe C.C.) for agreeing to audit this year's accounts. For some time the League's finances have been fairly settled with no great variance in either Income or Expenditure on a year to year basis. The main items of Income being **Club Subscriptions, Sponsorship** from the **Shrubbery Hotel** (Annual Presentation Dinner), plus **Lords International** and **Fines**. It is six years since subscriptions were last increased and total income has reduced slightly over that period as membership numbers have declined. From a high in 2013 smaller attendances at the presentation dinner have also seen income reduced. Fines cannot be a source of reliable budgeted income because if all clubs attended General Meetings, if all matches were played and all results recorded as required there would be no income.

The main items of regular Expenditure are **Administration** and the **Handbook**. Administration costs have remained stable as email has replaced post with that saving offsetting small increases in the other elements where the largest item is the annual cost of maintaining and developing the website. The Handbook with a net cost of £1355, i.e. production less advertising income, is reviewed annually. We continue to provide members with a 50% subsidy of the cost of the umpires course organised by the Somerset Cricket Board. In the past only a few have taken up this offer and interested individuals could enquire whether their club might finance the other 50%.

Specific to this year we had some repairs of perpetual **Trophies** accounting for the higher cost. A £250 donation to the **Air Ambulance** was made from the profit on the presentation dinner Draw. The subsidy of the **Umpires** charge totalled £633, i.e. expenditure less income. Overall the year has proved satisfactory with the League holding sufficient assets to cushion, in the short term, any significant reduction of income or significant increase of expenditure. **Therefore with 2016 club subscriptions already collected, these will remain unchanged for 2017 at £50 for the first SCL team and £25 for each additional team. The cost of the League Cricket Ball will remain unchanged for 2016 at £8 a ball.** Normally I would also announce the cost of umpires for the next season but as I am sure most people will be aware the League having its own panel of umpires has come to an end after 37 years. The task of providing umpires to our top two divisions in 2016 is passed to the Somerset Association of Cricket Officials (SACO) and so in the future clubs will be paying them for the umpires they receive.

SACO have requested a £35 per match expenses payment for their umpires. The top two divisions in 2016 will be composed of a mix of former West of England Premier Cricket League (WEPL) 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> teams, 2015 SCL Division One teams and 2015 SCL Division Two promoted teams. Former WEPL 1<sup>st</sup> teams will have been paying £35 per umpire, but SCL Division One teams paid only £24 this year which means £192 additional costs in 2016. Former WEPL 2<sup>nd</sup> teams and the SCL Division Two promoted teams will mostly have had no umpiring costs so will face up to £630 additional expenditure. It is not known how these additional costs will affect clubs but the Management Committee have agreed to extend the umpires subsidy, previously applied to the SCL clubs, into the 2016 season. For this transitional year only, the SCL will pay SACO £5 for each umpire provided, leaving the clubs to pay the balance of £30. It is hoped that this will help some clubs by allowing a little more time to reassess their income streams for the 2017 season.

The effect of the unchanged subscriptions and unchanged cricket ball charge together with the umpires subsidy is that for one year only we have budgeted a deficit for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016. As reported earlier the League has sufficient assets to withstand any short term reduction of income or increase of expenditure. I submit this report together with the enclosed Income & Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet for the League's approval.

Tom Packman  
28<sup>th</sup> October 2015 .