



Chairman's Letter 2021

Dear Member,

I'm sure you can imagine that 2020 did not turn out to be what I was hoping for when I wrote to you this time last year, but I am confident that this letter will herald a much improved 2021 and I would like to set out the Board's current thinking about the forthcoming membership year, together with some of our aspirations.

Following the publication of the Government Road Map for lifting Covid-19 restrictions on 22 February, we are delighted that the Club will almost certainly begin to re-open for business again before the start of our new financial year on 1 April, particularly in respect of outdoor sports. I am also encouraged by the amazing loyalty and support that the current 3400 members have shown over the past year and my thanks to each and every one of you for the £25/month payments for the past few months. This will have to continue for March, but the additional funds that have been generated have helped enormously in reducing our ongoing losses. I am convinced that this demonstration of "Club spirit" will soon see us back to better times, in every respect.

As far as subscription credits for the coming year are concerned, these will be dealt with in line with our current policy and I will contact you all again when the Government data on lifting restrictions is converted into firm dates.

Subscription increases for the coming year are unavoidable, but these have been set at a level to generate a total income which reflects an expected increase in member numbers going forward, as we do not feel that our loyal members should shoulder the burden of the Covid-19 losses alone. As long as enough of you renew your subscriptions, we can start rebuilding our member numbers, as well as our food and beverage operation, and third party business, all of which are obviously well below where we were at this time last year. The Board has consistently taken the view that a Members Club has to share the burden collectively, so the increase for the coming year has been applied to the Club subscription and no increases have been applied to the Sports Sections (apart from a modest increase to Golf due to the heavy use on the course, and the lack of green fee income). I can also confirm that the 20/21 levy has been carried forward for your use in the coming year.

Subject to strong membership renewals by our existing members, we are also hoping to begin to use the funds which have been reserved for the future development of the Club, and make a start later this year on the improvements to our facilities, for the benefit of all our members. These will begin with the construction of the magnificent Garden Pavilion, the relocation of the family area to the existing Sports Bar, as well as new lounge and bar areas, and new changing rooms and toilet facilities. Future improvements are also still planned for the Gym, Squash and Tennis Sections.

Finally, I will be writing to all of you again soon with further updates on re-opening our facilities, and thank you again for your ongoing support.

Kind Regards.

Will Gannon.
Chairman.