



# DSC Chairman's Report

2020 AGM Report

John Glendinning

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Dumfries Sports Club

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

This has been the most challenging year for all of us at Dumfries Sports Club.

Since last March the Club has remained closed for most of our activities with some respite for tennis and for those who have been able, on occasion, to use the Fitness Suite. There has been very limited cricket available and even less for those who play squash.

Despite all the difficulties encountered it is amazing the support we have received from our members and on behalf of the management committee I want to thank each and every member for their loyalty over the past year it is very much appreciated.

This support from members and the financial assistance received from government grants has allowed us to show a small profit in our annual accounts this year. It is clear from our accounts that two main income streams, squash court income and bar takings, have been severely affected but our membership fees have been particularly resilient which is testament to you our members.

As we approach a new membership year in March the management committee are very conscious that we must reflect what has happened in the past year when we consider the effect on our members. It is still very much of an unknown when we are likely to get back to something like normality. We cannot predict income or set budgets and therefore we have to monitor the situation closely each month and probably even weekly.

We are also aware that members have all been affected in different ways since March, many have made good use of our tennis facilities and also the Fitness Suite has been very popular when it has been available.

We are therefore recommending that there should be no increase in membership fees this year but also we would like to hear from any individual member who may feel that they have been particularly affected in the last year and we will consider, on a case by case basis, if their fees for the new year should reflect their individual circumstances. The arrangements for this will be outlined in the correspondence you receive with your annual membership renewal information.

During the pandemic we have had to furlough our staff at different times however as a Club we felt that it was important to support our staff as they have all supported us and we ensured that they would not lose out financially and any loss in wages due to furlough was made up by the Club.

On the sporting front as expected things have been quiet. The chairs of each of our sports have produced reports that summarise the year for them and these are available to our members.

There are three particular points I would like to note firstly the efforts of Jim Scrivens who has tirelessly worked to raise the issue of squash and to get it restarted in some format. Scottish Squash, Sport Scotland and government ministers have all been contacted on numerous occasions by Jim and his fight continues to get a fair deal for our squash players and secondly thanks go to Michael Goldie not only for overseeing the significant increase in members playing tennis but also ensuring courts are playable following inclement weather and also keeping kids coaching, with increased numbers, available throughout the pandemic. Not only has Michael excelled on the playing front his efforts have also been to the fore as we undertake a full upgrade to our four tennis courts. This work has been planned for some time but thanks to Michael additional funding streams have been sought and grants confirmed to ensure the work is completed at no extra cost to the Club at what is a financially challenging time for us. Although our bar and lounge areas have been closed for long periods thanks also must go to Willie Martin for doing his very best, and usually at very short notice,

and he went the extra mile (no pun intended Willie) to ensure when we were able to open both indoors and outdoors that both members and staff were completely safe when using our facilities.

Finally, I must acknowledge the work undertaken by my fellow management committee members. This has been an exceptional year and members can be reassured that we have gone the extra mile to make sure all financial assistance available to us has been accessed and particular thanks go to Gladys McClimont and Andy Reed in this regard. We have met continuously during the year (I now appreciate that ZOOM isn't just what rockets do!), filled in a multitude of forms and read countless government do's and don'ts documents.

We now progress in to another sporting year for our Club and we live in hope that we see a return to something like normal. As your representatives we will do everything we can to make our Club the vibrant, inclusive and socially active place it has always been and at the same time ensure our facilities are the best they possibly can be.

Enjoy your sport (when you are able) and please keep safe

***John Glendinning***  
***Chairman***