

Devon LTA – Treasurers report – Jan 2020 for accounting year ending 30th September 2019

The accounts for this year show a loss of around £18000. This is due to the loss of sponsorship income which was expected and budgeted for. Without this missing income the accounts would have shown a small profit.

We have operated on the principal that we will continue to employ our 3 paid employees in spite of the short term financial problems. As alluded to by the chairman we have been hit with a punishment for our involvement in the Wimbledon ticket matter. This punishment of loss of Wimbledon tickets means that we will have fewer tickets to use to gain sponsorship income than we had anticipated and budgeted for. Thus we expect our sponsorship income to drop from the budgeted amount so expect to operate at a loss next year. Overall we expect to have spent up to 20% of our reserves to keep the county setup running smoothly.

We still receive no grant from the LTA due to our level of reserves. With the registration fees for clubs being centrally set and the income generated this year, we have decided that due to the level of reserves there is no need to consider a top up for the county at the moment.

If we look at the main items the performance income increased but almost the same amount as the expenditure increased. This is due to the increased level of performance events run as the impact of the performance co-ordinator is felt and due to our participation in the LTA's performance landscape.

The competitions income is up due to some of the income from last year's county closed tournament coming in this year. Competitions expenditure is increased due to a full year of staff costs for our competition coordinator.

The cost of the performance officer has increased to help with the added workload of complying with the LTA's performance landscape. Business operations have decreased due to the change from a full-time to part time administrator

I have to thank Debbie Freeman who has come in and helped a great deal during the year.

Our financial strategy for our cash reserves remains the same.

The current account starts the year with an amount that should mean that over a year of standard expenditure we don't need to get money in from our reserve pots. In order to allow easier banking arrangements we have changed from an instant access building society account to a bank savings account.. We keep the bulk of our reserves (~50k) in a 30 day notice B/soc account. This amount is so we are below the compensation threshold. Similarly we have the balance of our reserves (~35k) in a fixed term deposit with our main bank. This amount is chosen so that for most of the year the combined amount in the bank is below the compensation threshold. We also do this as the fact we have savings as well as our main account with the same bank gives us free banking.

In spite of the financial problems I would like clubs to be aware that we are setting aside a pot of funds to help with grants towards the cost of installing defibrillators at or near tennis clubs. This follows at least 4 instances where players who have had heart attacks during or after matches have

been saved by the use of a defibrillator. We will still operate the small-loans scheme for clubs and still have a small pot of money for grants towards coaching course costs. Please send requests or enquiries to the county office or the treasurer.

I would like to introduce 4 matters for the AGM to vote on:-

- 1) The AGM accepts the annual accounts.
- 2) The council proposes that we increase the Patrons fee to £100 for the year starting January 2020. (The patrons scheme is currently closed to new members but will be reopened if numbers drop below 100 members which will be the maximum number allowed. We will operate a waiting list on a first come first served basis.). In future, the patrons fee will be decided by the management committee at the end of the year and the amount be ratified by the AGM.
- 3) The fee for leagues to affiliate with the County remains at £25.
- 4) Reappoint Francis Clark as our auditors.

This ends my report.

Andy Malcolm (Devon LTA treasurer)

26th January 2020.

P.S. Paper copies of the accounts will be available at the AGM or a pdf version can be sent by email if required.