

27th April 2024



Treasurer – Thalia Galloway

I'm going to take us back to last season for the presentation of last season's accounts (2022/23), club members can view via Teamo [from the home page select 'The Club' (middle bottom), then the folder icon (top right, below the search bar), 'Club accounts', 'POOLE HOCKEY CLUB ACCOUNTS 300423']. Last season we spent lots of money. Does anybody remember from last season's report where we spend money?

- Ashdown for our pitch time.
- Food: we do not spend money on food. The Pilot provides our teas free of charge. We've been in a really fortunate position and that's been happening for years and years. And with Lisa hanging up her cap here, we are potentially at risk next season. We may need to have a conversation next season if we need to start paying for teas, but I'm really hoping we don't need to.
- Rossmore for any indoor stuff that we do there.
- We pay our affiliation fees, which comes with our membership of England Hockey. We get the support of England Hockey but also provides for our insurance, which very sadly we do sometimes have to use.

All our membership fees go to our annual obligations:

- Coaching pitch fees.
- Entering the South Central league.
- Paying for the appointed umpires that we have at those games. And when I say paying for them, I'll remind you they don't receive payments. They are paid fuel to get to your games where they are volunteering.

Then of course we collect match fees. The match fees help to pay for the pitches at the game and they helped to pay for us to get to those games. So lots of money in and out.

There's a nice beautiful sheet that tells us here at the end of last season we ended up with money in the bank. It's the number at the bottom, aka the bottom line. For the 2022/23 column, look to the bottom and the number does not have brackets around it, meaning it's positive. And that says £2,460.

I will remind you when going into this season (2023/24) I advised that we should not have any increase in membership fees and we also did not increase our match fees. Despite Everyone Active (who run Ashdown and Rossmore Leisure Centres) putting their prices up by 10%. The pitches aren't cheap. We've done okay this season and it's looking like we're going to balance out ok.

We've done lots of exciting things this year:

- We have organised the England Hockey session for the coaches to develop themselves, which very thankfully we had a sponsor called Jade Aden come forward and they gave us some money to help pay for that.
- We obviously continue with our Trent's sponsorship of our kit and Amethyst Sports sponsoring our junior kit.

If you work for a company who are very desperate to give some money out, we are very keen to hear from you. There is plethora of opportunities for people to throw money at us and we will come up with a big, long list. We will describe everything. Obviously, we've got a huge reach, right? We are a club with a vast membership, and we travel all across the South Central area. So please if you know somebody who might want to give us some cash, that would be great because of Ashdown's increases and as we look to next season, I am wanting us to help invest more into our coaching and we also need to investigate into our umpire development. Ruth mentioned that we've not put any umpires through their qualifications this year. We need to, so that we can support with umpires at the lower levels and make sure that our teams are getting the right support that they need.

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There are a couple of investments that we want to make there. Of course, Ashdown last year told us they gave us a 10% increase. I'm still nervous about what might happen this year. For anybody not aware, Ashdown Leisure Centre and Rossmore will return to the control of BCP Council later this year and therefore I have no idea if they're planning on another price increase.

My advice to the next elected management committee will be to increase marginally our membership prices. I'm going to advise an increase to individual membership prices of £5. Do we think possibly we could just drink one less pint this week then hopefully it is affordable. For family membership, I'm going to be advising the next management committee to increase that by £10 and for concessionary members a general increase of £5.

We're going to make all our concessionary members into one membership category. Whether you are an under 18, unemployed, work fewer than 30 hours a week etc we're going to put you all into one category and that is going to be the one concession rate. And my advice is for this rate to be £80.

The other thing I will be advising the next management committee, whoever they might be when they get elected later, is to increase our match fees by 50p. I appreciate that will add up across the season, but I will remind you at this point, if you don't enjoy paying match fees: if you volunteer to umpire, you get a match credit. If you help with coaching and you take a junior team to a tournament on a Sunday, you will get a match credit. i.e. there are ways that you can save on money as well. So, if you are looking at your finances thinking how am I going to do it? Please step up and volunteer for roles like that. If you are coaching in any capacity of any age group of coaching, we look at how many hours you've delivered of coaching over the last year, and we give you a proportion off your next season membership fees. So again, there is an incentive to help with coaching in the club. There is an incentive to help with umpiring and hopefully we can all agree that those are not major changes.

However, it's not up for approval now because I get to sit down. That's the end of my treasurer's report. Thank you very much.