

Chair's report 2024

As in previous years, I start by highlighting a number of the "off field" achievements of the club and will leave the respective Captains to report the "on field" achievements

The Club has: -

1. We started a fourth Saturday team and had for the first time a separate Women's 2nd team.
2. We have refurbished the Main Hall of the Pavilion.
3. New TV
4. We have converted the outside store to a new umpire's room
5. We have installed Solar Panels and are now both using our own electricity and exporting to the grid
6. We have constructed a gym facility for use by members.
7. Installed solid paths linking the pavilion, gym and nets for year-round access.
8. Extended the Wi-Fi and security cameras to cover these new areas.
9. The surface of the access road has been improved along with extended parking around the pavilion.
10. Coloured clothing was introduced with T20 cricket
11. Regular monthly Quiz nights during the winter
12. Lily Wood played for Worcester Rapids and is now in Australia playing Grade B woman's cricket. She has also become the first women to play in our Saturday 1st team.
13. We've had a few players representing the county. Nala Lee has represented Dorset at U13 level and Luke Gould at U10s.
14. Taster sessions for Walking Cricket were held at the end of the season
15. The 1st XI won the Fair play award for Prem 2.
16. The indoor winter league has been extended to allow full participation by all players
17. The Club tour took place again and was enjoyed by all (some more than others!!).
18. We have acquired machinery with a view to continue improving the squares and outfield
19. We hosted two County age group matches, Dorset U13's and Dorset U11's.
20. A group of club members assisted the Rotary with the erection of tents and marquees on Sandpit field
21. A group of members provided support to Swanage Carnival by staffing the Carnival Bar on a packed Friday night
22. We have established relations with Lewis Manning and Purbeck Parkinsons who both now regularly use our facilities to provide respite and general support for individuals and their Carers.
23. Over 70 members attending the annual awards dinner.
24. The Croquet section also continues to thrive with more new members this season.

What a fantastic list of achievements again this year. Many thanks to all those involved in helping to make this possible

You will see, we are proposing a small increase in subscriptions and match fees this year. It has been some years since the last increase and I hope you will agree the membership is still very competitive and reasonable for the facilities on offer.

We have again been very fortunate to receive financial support this year from Peter Constable, the Swanage Conservative Club, Royal British Legion (£800 plus) and the East Bar. We are always very

grateful for their support. Many people also provide huge contributions by volunteering their time, skill and knowledge without which we would not achieve as much as we do

Well done to all our players and members who have had a successful season and continue to see the club grow from strength to strength both on and off the field

A big thank you to all committee and other members who have helped behind the bar throughout the season, to Nigel and Stuart for scoring, Tatty for umpiring and to Sharon and Beryl for the teas

Craig Wells

Oct 24