YORKSHIRE UNION OF GOLF CLUBS
HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT 2018

GOOD AFTERNOON TO YOU ALL

IN 2018 THE YORKSHIRE UNION OF GOLF CLUBS CONTINUED TO DELIVER TOP CLASS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR ALL AGES, TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS, AND COUNTY MEMBER MEETINGS FOR CLUB GOLFERS. IN ADDITION WE CONTINUED TO EXCEL IN COUNTY MATCHES, WINNING NATIONAL TITLES WITH BOTH OUR MEN AND BOYS' TEAMS AS WELL AS THE NORTHERN COUNTIES' LEAGUE FOR THE FOURTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR. OUR CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO NURTURING TALENTED YOUNG GOLFERS THROUGH INVESTMENT IN TOP-CLASS COACHING FOR THEM HAS NOT ONLY GREATLY CONTRIBUTED TO OUR CONTINUED SUCCESS AS A COUNTY, BUT ALSO IN HELPING TO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THESE TALENTED GOLFERS TO SHINE AS TOP AMATEUR GOLFERS, AND ULTIMATELY FOR SOME TO FORGE A CAREER IN THE PROFESSIONAL GAME.

MUCH OF OUR FUNDING COMES FROM THE COLLECTION OF AFFILIATION FEES FROM CLUBS. 2018 SAW YUGC COLLECTING FEES ON BEHALF OF THE YORKSHIRE LADIES COUNTY GOLF ASSOCIATION FOR THE FIRST TIME, MEANING ONE SINGLE COLLECTION POINT FOR CLUBS. OUR ACCOUNTS IN 2018 THEREFORE REFLECT THE FEES COLLECTED AND THEN DISTRIBUTED TO YLCGA AS WELL AS ENGLAND GOLF.

UNFORTUNATELY I HAVE TO REPORT THAT THERE WAS A REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF MALE PLAYING MEMBERS DECLARED IN 2018 TO 53,215 FROM 55,588 IN 2017. ADMITEDLY YEAR ON YEAR COMPARISONS ARE BECOMING MORE DIFFICULT DUE TO THE NEW TWICE YEARLY "REAL-TIME" COLLECTIONS, BUT IT IS EVIDENT NUMBERS REDUCED, AND OUR EXPERIENCE IN YORKSHIRE IS IN LINE WITH THE NATIONAL PICTURE.

CLEARLY A NUMBER OF CLUBS ARE STILL FINDING IT DIFFICULT TO RETAIN EXISTING MEMBERS AND ATTRACT NEW MEMBERS. WE ARE THEREFORE PLEASED TO OFFER SUPPORT TO CLUBS THROUGH OUR SMALL GRANT SCHEME (MORE FROM JONATHAN LATER); TOGETHER WITH FREE RULES SEMINARS; AND PRACTICAL HELP FROM THE GOLF DEVELOPMENT GROUP AND ENGLAND GOLF CLUB SUPPORT OFFICERS (TOM FREELAND AND ROB MOORE).

AS ALWAYS A BIG "THANK YOU" TO OUR CLUBS FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT WITH REGARD TO THE COLLECTION OF AFFILIATION FEES.

OTHER INCOME SHOWED A WELCOME INCREASE THANKS TO AN EXCELLENT LEVEL OF COUNTY MEMBER COMPETITION ENTRIES AND HEALTHY ENTRIES TO ALL OUR CHAMPIONSHIPS. IN 2019 THE ABILITY TO ENTER ON-LINE HAS WIDENED TO INCLUDE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS, COUNTY FOURSOMES, INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AS WELL AS COUNTY MEMBER MEETINGS. WITH MANY ENTRIES ALSO BEING RECEIVED BY BANK TRANSFER THIS MEANS WE ARE BANKING FEWER AND FEWER CHEQUES, THUS SAVING ON BANK FEES AND TIME! WE DID SEE AN UNWELCOME REDUCTION IN COUNTY CARD SALES. COUNTY CARDS PROVIDE AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR AFFILIATED CLUB MEMBERS TO PLAY AROUND 1,300 ENGLISH CLUBS AT A MUCH REDUCED GREEN FEE. PLEASE ASK YOUR CLUBS TO ACTIVELY PROMOTE THE SCHEME TO CLUB MEMBERS (OR BUY IN BULK AT A REDUCED PRICE!).

TOTAL INCOME INCREASED BY 3.5% TO £276,393.

OVERALL EXPENDITURE WAS £24,918 MORE THAN 2017 AT £286,976. ON THE FACE OF IT THE INCREASE IS DISAPPOINTING. HOWEVER A LARGE PART OF THE INCREASE CAN BE ACCOUNTED FOR BY THE “SECRETARY’S HONORARIUM”. AS WE ALL KNOW KEITH RETIRED AS OUR HONORARY SECRETARY AT THE END OF AUGUST LAST YEAR WHEN JONATHAN TOOK OVER THE ROLE. JONATHAN STARTED WORKING WITH KEITH IN APRIL AND THEREFORE THERE WAS A DOUBLE HONORARIUM FOR 6 MONTHS THROUGH THE MAIN GOLFING SEASON. OBVIOUSLY THIS WILL NOT BE REPEATED. THE DOUBLE HONORARIUM PAYMENT ADDED APPROXIMATELY £15,000 TO OUR COSTS FOR 2018.

WHEN KEITH RETIRED THE “COMPANY CAR” WAS SOLD AT A BOOK LOSS OF £3,188 AS SHOWN IN THE INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT. THE DECISION WAS TAKEN NOT TO BUY A NEW CAR (THUS SAVING AROUND £18,000 OF CASH OUTLAY) AND A DEPRECIATION COST IN THE ACCOUNTS OF APPROXIMATELY £6,000 THIS YEAR. YUGC HAS INCREASED THE SECRETARY’S HONORARIUM TO HELP COVER THE COST OF RUNNING A VEHICLE FOR YUGC WORK. BUSINESS MILEAGE WILL BE RE-IMBURSED AT THE STANDARD HMRC RATES. AS A RESULT YUGC DOES NOT NOW HAVE THE LIABILITY FOR CAR REPAIRS, TAX, INSURANCE, NEW TYRES AND P11D EMPLOYERS NI.

ANOTHER CONSEQUENCE OF THE HONORARY SECRETARY CHANGEOVER WAS THE RELOCATION OF THE COUNTY OFFICE FROM WAKEFIELD TO SANDBURN HALL GOLF CLUB NEAR YORK LAST JULY. INEVITABLY THERE WERE “ONE-OFF” COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE MOVE. FOR EXAMPLE DRAWING-UP A FORMAL LEASE AGREEMENT, MOVING THE PHOTOCOPIER, SHELFING, ETC. HOWEVER THESE COSTS WERE DEFINITELY KEPT TO A MINIMUM, UNDER £1,000, THANKS TO JONATHAN’S DILIGENCE, AND FREQUENT USE OF E-BAY FOR BARGAIN BUYS! HE HAS ALSO ASSURED ME THAT HE IS NOT HITTING 500

BALLS EACH DAY ON THE PRACTICE RANGE AT SANDBURN WITH THE OFFICE TELEPHONE AND HIS MOBILE LEFT IN ANSWERPHONE MODE!!

OTHER INCREASED EXPENSE LINES OF NOTE INCLUDE NETT COACHING SCHEME EXPENSES UP BY £5,401 TO £43,106 AND SUNDRY EXPENSES UP BY £2,571 TO £15,138. YUGC CONTINUES TO INVEST IN AN EXCELLENT COACHING PROGRAMME, PARTICULARY FOR TALENTED BOYS, AND MAKE NO EXCUSES FOR THIS, PARTICULARY BEARING IN MIND THE VERY POSITIVE OUTCOMES SEEN OVER THE YEARS. 2019 BUDGET SEES CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO BOYS COACHING, AND THE PLANNED LEVEL OF ACTIVITY IS BEING MAINTAINED DESPITE THE LOSS OF ENGLAND GOLF GRANT MONIES OF £6,000 THIS YEAR. THE LARGER ITEMS OF SUNDRY EXPENSES INCLUDE OUR SUBSCRIPTION TO THE NORTHER COUNTIES GOLF UNION, PRESIDENT'S HONORARIUM, BANK AND PROFESSIONAL COSTS. IN 2018 THERE WERE £2,100 OF SUNDRY EXPENSES WHICH WILL NOT BE REPEATED.

THANKFULLY WE ALSO HAVE TO DEAL WITH THE FINANCIAL PRICE OF SUCCESS! AS MENTIONED EARLIER THE MEN AND BOYS TEAMS BOTH QUALIFIED FOR THEIR NATIONAL FINALS AND WITH THIS COMES THE COST OF TEAM KIT, ACCOMMODATION, COACHING SUPPORT, TRAVEL AND FOOD. I CAN CONFIRM WE DO BUDGET FOR REACHING COUNTY FINALS, AS A COUNTY WITH YORKSHIRE'S PROUD RECORD SHOULD!!

2018 SAW THE SECOND ANNUAL PROVISION OF £7,500 FOR THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY FUND. THE FINAL PROVISION IS BUDGETED FOR 2019.

COSTS ARE ALWAYS UNDER REVIEW AND OPPORTUNITIES TAKEN TO MAKE SAVINGS WHERE THIS WILL NOT ADVERSLY AFFECT OUR COACHING PROGRAMMES, SUPPORT OF THREE COUNTY TEAMS, AND THE STAGING OF TOP CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS AND COUNTY MEMBER MEETINGS.

IN SUMMARY THE INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT REVEALED A DEFICIT OF £10,583 AGAINST A SMALL SURPLUS OF £4,885 IN 2017. THIS WAS AN ACCEPTABLE OUTCOME BEARING IN MIND ONE-OFF COSTS DETAILED EARLIER. THE BALANCE SHEET REMAINS STRONG.

IN 2019 THE COUNTY MALE AFFILIATION FEE HAS BEEN INCREASED BY £0.20 TO £3.70 PER GOLFER, AND ENGLAND GOLF FEE INCREASED BY £0.75 TO £9.00.

FINALLY I WOULD LIKE TO RECORD MY THANKS TO OUR HONORARY AUDITOR, PAUL BRUCE, FOR HIS DILIGENCE IN REVIEWING THE BOOKS AT THE END OF EACH QUARTER, AND UNDERTAKING HIS “ANNUAL AUDIT” OF THE FINAL ACCOUNTS.

IF THERE ARE ANY QUESTIONS I WILL BE PLEASED TO TRY AND ANSWER THEM, THEN I WILL PROPOSE THE ACCOUNTS AS PRESENTED FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2018 BE APPROVED (SECONDER PLEASE).