

The Kent County Playing Fields Association

Summer 2011 Newsletter



Robert Horner
KCPFA Chairman

Since our last newsletter, several changes have taken place regarding Officers of the Association. Our Vice Chairman, **Mr. Robert Horner**, pictured left, appointed to the post in June last year has now been elected to serve as **Chairman of the Association**. With his formidable back ground in Sport; Robert is the former President of the England Rugby Football Union and current member of the Executive Committee of the Kent Rugby Union, he will undoubtedly bring his own ideas and style to the post. We do however hope to focus on bringing more of Kent's Schools Sporting Academies into membership and to encourage Kent's MP's into supporting the Association, more so given the 2012 Olympics and the Queen Elizabeth 11 Challenge are imminent.

Other important changes include the appointment of **Mr Richard Young** to the post of **Vice Chairman**. Richard is also Chairman of the Golfing Committee and will retain that office. **Helen Skellorn**, pictured below left, our former Chairman takes up a role as **Vice President**. On behalf of all Officers and Trustees of the Association, thank you Helen for your dedication and service over many years and our gratitude that you will continue to serve the KCPFA in your new role.



with the Governing Bodies of Sport in Kent will provide a base from which the Charity will increase its membership and in turn redistribute the increased funds by way of increased grants and loans.

The agreements made with the **Kent Athletic Association, Kent Hockey Association, Kent Cricket Board** and the **Kent Rugby Union** have all brought a trickle of new members to the Association with the one exception being the **Kent RFU**. Following an invitation to the Secretary to present the Charity to the RFU in March, they have decided to purchase membership on behalf of their members en block. We are grateful to the RFU and trust we will provide an informative and useful service to their members over the coming years. These affiliations and others

Subscriptions and Funding

Thank you to all our members for their prompt subscription payments and a gentle, respectful reminder to those that may not have done so already. Remember to look at the website as new funding streams come on line. The latest being www.sitatrust.org.uk where funding may be sought for **the QE11 Challenge**, to improve designated QE11 fields. **There is still time for those who are considering nominating fields in their area.** Other funding opportunities, such as the **Enhancing Communities Programme; Enriching Nature and the Young Persons Volunteering Fund** may also be found. The site provides details of closing dates for applications, areas and postcodes within the remit and other useful information. Check it out! **Sport England** has also announced a fresh round of funding with the deadline for applications being the 28th September. The next round will not be open until 1st February 2012. See their website.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM took place as scheduled at the Tonbridge Castle on May 3rd. The Report & Accounts for the previous year were approved as was the Balance Sheet. Members who wish to have a hardcopy should contact the Secretary; alternatively they may be viewed on the Charity Commission website or on our website www.kentpfa.org.uk. The Chairman presented the Annual Report and gave a brief summary of

the association's objectives, mentioning the higher level of grants and loans made since last year and the reduction in membership numbers since our Life Member category had been updated. The Secretary stated that the higher level of both grants and loans was due largely to the increased pro-activity of the Charity; the lowering of interest rates payable, the increased awareness of the Charity as a result of regular newsletters and a number of initiatives to attend and organize meetings to present the Charity to the public. He also mentioned that the reduction in membership numbers with the loss of over 100 Life members had been partly offset by approximately 40 new members over a range of subscription categories. **The Treasurer, Mr Wong** spoke briefly about the Accounts and the Balance Sheet, stating the need to raise income levels or reduce costs. The Secretary mentioned that investments made in November 2010 in equity related assets providing yields of 7% & 5% respectively would help together with a rise in the rate of interest the Charity requires on new loans, up to 4%.

The Stanley Blow & Ole Kverndal Fund



Awards were presented by Mrs Brenda Kverndal as follows: Mr Chris Simpson - Kimura Shukokai Karate Club £300; Master William Knott - Rochester Indoor Skateboard Club £200; Mr Mike Evans - Maidstone Hockey Club £200; Mr David Errey - Marden Minors FC £200; Mr Chris Dyer - Smarden FC £200. Mrs Skellorn thanked Mrs Kverndal for presenting the awards. William Knott, pictured left, receiving cheque on behalf of Rochester Skateboard Club. Chris Simpson pictured below left and David Errey of Marden Minors F.C. pictured right. In total the Charity made awards of £1,100 during the evening. These awards are presented annually each year with the deadline for applications being the 20th March. Applicants must be sporting organisations or organisations promoting a sporting initiative in Kent. The beneficiaries must generally be between the ages of 10 and 16 years. Make a note in your diary and look out for these awards in the New Year and help your club. Application Forms can be downloaded from our website or by contacting the Secretary.



The Ivy Hawkes Memorial Fund

Three awards were made in the May covering a variety of sports. One previous recipient, **Mark Cryer**, representing **Athletics** received an award of £100 to assist with travel and accommodation costs. New applicants **Luca Russo** and **Dean Terry** received £100 and £200 respectively. Luca continues to impress with his **middle distance running** while Dean hopes to qualify for 2016 Olympics in **sprint Kayaking**.

Grants

A grant of £250 was awarded to **The Mote Cricket Club** towards the costs of a new artificial wicket but has subsequently been declined due to vandals destroying the pitch which will now need to be replaced rather than repaired. **Smarden Football Club** were awarded £750 towards the cost of renovating their pavilion at Come Meadow.

Loans

An application was received and awarded to **Swalecliffe & District Target Shooting Club**. The club sought funds of £3,500 to provide improvements and renovations including additional toilet facilities to the club building at The Range in Eddington Lane, Herne Bay.

Association Tie

The office has commissioned a new tie which is available to members at a price of **£15** inclusive of postage. It is hoped members will be proud to wear it. Please contact the Secretary for more information.

The Elizabeth II Challenge

At a recent meeting with **Mr Terry Housden**, FIT's representative for Kent & Sussex, progress continues with Kent's nominations for the QE11 Challenge. Mr Housden will provide a full update at our next **Council Meeting on October 21st at Maidstone Town Hall**, whilst presenting the **QE11 Challenge** to our guests. Should you have any questions in relation to the Challenge, Terry will be delighted to answer them.

Charitable Donations

One of our Trustees, who asked to remain anonymous, has purchased £100 of Premium Bonds for the Association and although they had to make the purchase in their own name, they have authorized the Charity as the beneficiary. This is a splendid and generous gesture and perhaps one that some of our members may consider for the future. Contact /advise the Secretary should you wish to do so.

Change in inheritance Tax laws encourages charitable giving

The Chancellor recently announced a cut in the rate of inheritance tax from 40% to 36% from next April for those who left at least 10% of their estates to a good cause. Inheritance tax is only paid on estates worth more than £325,000. Currently therefore, an estate of £1m would see the beneficiaries receive £730,000 and the taxman £270,000. However, if 10% of that estate above the threshold is given to Charity, the beneficiaries would only receive £713,000 and the taxman £218,700. It means the charity receives £67,500. George Osborne said, "if you leave 10% or more of your estate to charity, then the Government will take 10% off your inheritance tax rate. I want to make giving 10% of your legacy to charity the norm in our country". The Charity is currently examining the possibility of providing a deed of Codicil for potential donors to simplify the process of Legacy Donations. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary.

Gift Aid

Some of our members have recently switched to making subscription under Gift Aid and new members are being encouraged to follow suit, providing valuable extra income for the Charity. Gift Aid will also be dramatically simplified so charities can lodge donors' details on line- and not at all for small gifts. The Chancellor said a new scheme would allow Gift Aid to be claimed on small donations without the need for filling forms, up to a limit of £5,000 per charity per year.

The Ernest Virgo Awards

Just one applicant, **Charlotte Pape**, receives £200. Charlotte has represented the County of Kent in all age groups from U11 to U17. In addition, in girl's cricket she has represented Nonington (2002-7) and St Lawrence and Highland Court (2008 -11). This award is open to those young aspiring Cricketers of lesser means and opportunity so that more young people can be encouraged to participate in the sport. Do you have a player that could benefit from up to £300 a year?

Cecil Leitch 5 Club Final 13th June 2011 results

This year's final held at the Ashford Golf Club was a resounding success. With 61 ladies and 48 men's entries competing for the two winning Trophies. Some 2,931 players took part in the preliminary rounds. A really wonderful achievement, and so much appreciated by KCPFA. Our thanks to all at Ashford Golf Club for giving us courtesy of their course and to each and every competitor. Winner of the Men's competition was



Alan Cornell of Fawkham Valley Golf Club with 36 points with a handicap of 24. Pictured left, receiving Trophy from **Ashford's Captain Chris Patridge**. Our Ladies winner was **Julia Martin-Harper** of the The Ridge Golf Club also with 36 points and with a handicap of 17, pictured right, with Ashford's **Ladies Vice Captain Eileen Wharton**. We were lucky on the day to have excellent conditions with the weather remaining fair to sunny. The course at Ashford was in excellent condition due to the care and attention of **Head Grounds man Kevin Hayward** and his staff. The day was completed by the help and attention received from Chris Patridge and Eileen Wharton and their catering team, led by **Teresa**. Several sponsors also contributed and included the following: **Fiat Lipscombe, Express Auto**



Centre the Sandhole Veterinary Centre, John Knott Cars, Aero Auto Sport, GB Promotional Products, SO Hairdressing, Larking Chartered Accountants, the Poul Wood Golf Centre, K.C.Wong Acupuncture, Sapphire Water Softeners and the Utility Warehouse all sponsoring holes on the day.

This year's event has raised £10,000 for the Charity thanks to the generosity of Ashford Golf Club and to all the clubs throughout Kent and their members who continue to provide support and to our sponsors. Thank you everyone!



On Saturday the 9th of July, the Secretary attended the official opening of **Egerton PFC's** new pavilion at Rock Hill Road. The KCPFA was pleased to assist providing a loan of £19,000. Pictured left Phil Missing, Chairman, Damien Green MP and Secretary and Treasurer, Geoff Wickens. Damien Green MP can be seen, right, cutting the ribbon to officially open the facility.



Final Comment

Over the years the KCPFA has built up a revolving fund by careful and cautious management from which we provide the grants, loans and all other assistance above, but funds are limited. We rely on voluntary subscription/membership and charitable donations to meet the costs of administration. The nominal rates of subscription are kept low to attract support whilst we provide a service that is valuable, both intrinsically and financially. We do hope you continue supporting the Association.