

Secretary's Report for 2017/2018

Once again I have spent the year acting as league secretary whilst Ian Gibson, as deputy secretary, has continued to handle administrative matters, including running the web site, managing the control of weekly quiz sheet packs and recording results. My thanks go to Ian for once again doing the lion's share of the work and for providing a substantial amount of the data enclosed within this report.

Thanks are due as usual to the management and staff of the Golden Lion for their efforts each week on behalf of the league.

I think it is safe to say that the 2017-2018 Season must go down as one of the most unusual – ever!

It kicked off as it meant to go on with two teams withdrawing at such a late stage that it made it impossible to re-arrange the league and re-draft fixtures. This resulted in a very lopsided arrangement with numerous bye-weeks (hated by Committee and teams alike). Teams in Division 1 had to endure 6 bye weeks during the season, with some teams having to face 3 weeks on the bounce (or 3 within a 4 week period) in each half of the season. This made it very difficult to build any sort of momentum. Teams in Division 2 were faced with 4 bye weeks and Division 3 the usual 2 bye weeks.

The other low spots included:

- a quiz, which had a picture round with pictures and answers but no questions;
- a quiz which had 4 rounds on Food & Drink, driving a coach and horses through the quiz setting guidelines; and
- a team forfeiting a cup quarter final for fielding an ineligible player despite being informed of what would happen if they did.

Things ended as they started with 2 teams deciding not to re-register for next season. However we definitely have 34 teams registered.

There were high spots: -

- **Division 1** - Winners: Boot & Shoe B; Runners-up: Gregson A
- **Division 2** - Winners: Lancaster Cricket & Social Club B; Runners-up: Silverdale Hotel
- **Division 3** - Winners: Three Mariners C; Runners-up: Dog & Partridge
- **Dennis Wigham** - Winners: Boot & Shoe B; Runners-up: Eagle's Head
- **Tony Clare** - Winners: Gregson B; Runners-up: Golden Lion A

We also had a team, Boot & Shoe B, go through the whole season unbeaten, with a league average of 71.934 (overall) and 75 (for the 20 fixtures actually played).

Website Statistics:

Month	Hits	Files	Page Views
May-18	32447	23027	5326
Apr-18	44742	31548	8065
Mar-18	47003	34667	9140
Feb-18	40396	28952	7619
Jan-18	36193	25961	6340
Dec-17	36808	25380	7400
Nov-17	41909	31131	8523
Oct-17	46678	34050	9472
Sep-17	35012	26607	7252
Totals	361188	261323	69137

Hits - refers to all components comprising a web page (page + 20 images on page = 21 hits)

Files - are elements on our website (pictures, docs, pdf files etc)

Page Views - exact numbers of views for entire pages

The percentage of hits for last month were:

- UK 38%
- USA 30%
- China 12%
- Germany 2%
- Canada 2%
- Remainder 16%

It looks like the weekly quizzes are being accessed and downloaded, and there is a surprising fact that 30% of the hits in the last month were from the USA.

Strato annual hosting, including the website and email, costs £57.46, which at just over £1 per week continues to represent good value for money.

John R Pollard
Secretary
8/6/18