**Secretary’s Report 2020 Season**

Well, what can I say about my first season as Secretary? Filling Steve Chiverton’s shoes was always going to be a big task as he knows the role inside out, I’d like to thank him, Ian and the rest of the committee for their help in navigating what turned out to be a very unusual season.

Apart from the HCL meeting at Ageas Bowl in February 2020, all other meetings have taken place on Zoom, meaning that they were attendee and time limited but we have always managed to have at least one participant so we could keep up to date with what’s happening, it seems that this will continue, at least until lockdown is over.

Those that wanted to finally played some non-league cricket for a shortened season starting mid-July. Play resumed, albeit with quite a few ‘in match’ Covid restrictions, and we were able to have a ‘socially distanced’ bar open. The First XI played 7 matches in the SPL ‘mini’ league with Tom Richard’s Captaining and the Second XI managed 6 matches being played under the Captaincy of Sam Redford. Sunday and friendly matches were played as and when we could get them organised, thanks to Chiv, Kev and Dan and anyone else who stepped up to get these matches on.

The majority of the Secretary’s role this year has been fielding all the emails from SPL, ECB, HCB, HCL, NFJCA – sometimes the same one multiple times – and trying to remember whether or not I’ve already forwarded it, alongside committee meetings where we’ve been able to hold them.

We have registered 4 teams for the 2021 season – one in the SPL and 3 in the Hampshire League and, like the rest of the country and all other amateur sports, we’re just waiting to hear whether or not we will be able to start the league matches at the beginning of May as is planned. Please watch the website and look out for emailed updates. To those of you fulfilling Captain’s roles in 2021, please remember how important it is to get match results, ground reports etc. in on time and to check that your players are registered.

Thank you to those of you who contributed money to the Spacehive campaign and to the tradesmen who have helped us out for free. Thank you also to those supporters, like Peter Knight, who come down week on week to just enjoy the game and be part of the club.

One thing that’s struck me about being on the committee is how few people are genuinely, actively involved in the organisation and running of the club. I sent an email to 76 people asking for help, I had one response (thank you Gary Dyer). Members cannot continue to take for granted that the facilities they enjoy will always be there, we all have busy lives but, for 2021, I would ask everyone to ‘do their bit’ – whether it’s learning how to score or umpire, helping with the square or fund raising, as an example – the electronic scoreboard will need looking at before the start of the season – so one or two volunteers to get that ready would be marvellous, remember - every little helps.

Thanks.