

Somerset County Rugby Football Union Limited



ANNUAL REPORT
2020 / 21

Somerset County Rugby Football Union Limited

Incorporated with Limited Liability under the Industrial & Provident Societies Act 1965. No. 29084R

County Secretary: Gareth Chew, 20 Fairlands Way, Cheddar, Somerset, BS27 3NN
Telephone: 07738220731 email: gareth.chew@somersetfu.co.uk

30th July 2021

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Somerset County Rugby Football Union Limited will be held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday 24th August 2021 at 7.30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting: -

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87407430690?pwd=ay94MnlmUVh1NlplKYWhHT1VUNUIJdz09>

Meeting ID: 874 0743 0690

Passcode: 216894

Each affiliated club may be represented by a single member of that club, in addition to any Individual Members of the Union and Members of the County Committee.

Due to this being a virtual meeting please could I ask you to confirm your attendance or absence in advance and indicate if you are representing a club or individual member to be received via post or email by no later than Tuesday 17th August 2021.

Gareth Chew
County Secretary

A G E N D A

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting, held on Wednesday 12th August 2020 and the Financial AGM held on the 10th February 2021 both Virtually via Zoom, a copy of these is appended at the rear of this booklet.
3. To consider any matters arising from these Minutes. Matters must be submitted in writing by post or email in advance and received by the secretary no later than Tuesday 17th August 2021.
4. To receive the Treasurers report and audited accounts for the year 2020-21. Club membership should remain at £25 for one team and £50 for 2 teams in a league. Individual membership should remain unchanged at £20 for the 21-22 Season.
5. To receive reports from the following:
 - (a) Secretary (Page 21)
 - (b) Competitions Sub-Committee (Page 22)
 - (c) Discipline Sub-Committee (Page 23)
 - (d) Senior Playing Sub-Committee (Page 24)
 - (e) Age Grade Sub-Committee (Page 24)
 - (f) Safeguarding (Page 25)
6. To elect the Officers and Committee for 2021-22.

Representative of the Somerset Clubs on the RFU Council

In accordance with Rule 18 of the Rugby Football Union, the following individual has been duly elected to serve as the RFU Representative for the year 2021-22:

Mr S J Mead

Officers

The nominations proposed are set out below. Due to the extraordinary situation caused by Covid, the Committee agreed to recommend that the current Presidential term remain in place for another season 2022/23.

There will be no Past President until 2023-24 and the President elect term will therefore run for 2 seasons, 2021-22 and 2022-23.

This will assist in providing continuity for the county.

President	Mr S J Mead
President Elect	Mr S Arnold
County Secretary	Mr G Chew
Honorary Treasurer	Mr M Wicks

Committee

In accordance with Rule 8.4 of the Somerset County Rugby Football Union Limited, the following nominations have been received and duly found to be in order:

Division A	Mr S J Mead AN Other*
Division B	Mr J Harding Mr B Briffitt
Division C	AN Other* AN Other*
Division D	Mr N Robins Mr N Prescott AN Other*
Division E	Mrs A Bennett Mr H Davies Mr M Nebel

* These vacancies may be filled on appointment by the Committee, at its discretion, under Rule 13.

7. To receive and approve the nominations proposed by the committee for Life membership.

8. To appoint Auditors for the ensuing year.

The County Committee would like to thank all the clubs and individual members for their patience and understanding at these very unprecedented times. There will be an opportunity to have a face-to-face meeting and for clubs and members to ask questions in the near future.

SOMERSET COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

Registered Number: 29084R

(Registered under the Community and Benefit Societies Act 2014)

SOMERSET COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

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SOMERSET COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED

UNION INFORMATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

INCORPORATED	1 May 2000
NUMBER	29084R
CHAIRPERSON	A Bennett
HON TREASURER	M S Wicks
SECRETARY	G Chew
REGISTERED OFFICE	20 Fairlands Way Cheddar Somerset BS27 3NN
BANKERS	Lloyds TSB Plc Clifton Bristol
AUDITORS	Haines Watts Partnership (Bristol) Limited Bath House 6-8 Bath Street Bristol BS1 6HL
INVESTMENT MANAGERS	Rowan Dartington, Temple Point, Redcliffe Way Redcliffe Bristol BS1 6NL

SOMERSET COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

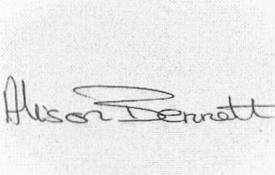
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

Management and control of the Union's affairs under the Rules are vested in a Committee of Management which implies that the Committee has to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Union and of the surplus or deficit of the Union for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Committee have:

- a) selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- b) made judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c) prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Union will continue in operation.

The Committee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Union. The Financial Statements comply with the Community and Benefit Societies Act 2014 and that they are in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Union and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the Board



A Bennett
Chairperson

Date: 21/07/2021

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Somerset County Rugby Football Union Limited

We have audited the financial statements of Somerset County Rugby Football Union Limited (the 'Union') for the period ended 30 June 2021 which comprise the income and expenditure account, the match account, the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standard (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Union's affairs as at 30 June 2021 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the union in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the committee of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the society's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the committee of management with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

However, not all future events or conditions can be predicted. The Covid-19 viral pandemic is one of the most significant economic events for the UK with unprecedented levels of uncertainty of outcomes. It is therefore difficult to evaluate all of the potential implications on the Union and the wider economy. The member's view on the impact of Covid-19 is disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the Union has not kept proper books of account, and not maintained a satisfactory system of control over its transactions, in accordance with the requirements of the legislation; or
- the revenue account, any other accounts to which our report relates, and the balance sheet are not in agreement with the books of account of the Union; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Somerset County Rugby Football Union Limited - continued

Responsibilities of the committee of management

As explained more fully in the committee of management's responsibilities statement set out on page two, the committee of management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the committee of management is responsible for assessing the Union's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee of management either intends to liquidate the club or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Union the sector in which it operates. We determined that the following laws and regulations were most significant: Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014.
- We obtained an understanding of how the Union is complying with those legal and regulatory frameworks and made enquiries to the management of known or suspected instances of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations. We corroborated our enquiries through our review of management committee minutes.
- We assessed the susceptibility of the Union's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur. Audit procedures performed by the audit team included:
 - Substantively tested the recognition and completeness of the Union's income streams; and
 - Substantive testing on journal entries for any signs of manipulation.

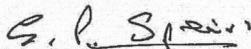
Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Somerset County Rugby Football Union Limited – continued

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Union's members, as a body in accordance with section 87 of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Union's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Union and the Union's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Geoffrey Speirs BSc FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Haines Watts Partnership (Bristol) Limited
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Bath House
6-8 Bath Street
Bristol
BS1 6HL

Date: 22 July 2021

SOMERSET COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	30.6.2021		30.6.2020	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Profit/(Loss) on match accounts		-		-
Subscriptions		2,250		4,079
Cup and Vase Competitions:				
Gate income	-		-	
Less: Allocated to Clubs	-		-	
Staging and general costs	-		758	
	-		758	
		-		(758)
RFU financial support – 2019/20		23,750		109,293
Leagues sponsorship		-		-
Cup sponsorship		-		
2,833				
Advertising income		100		100
Investment interest		5,312		6,827
Profit/(Loss) on sale of Investments		-		4,765
Disciplinary	-		1,725	
Less: Costs	-		-	
		-		1,725
Kit sales		-		4,364
Sundry income		59		1,996
		31,471		135,224
LESS EXPENDITURE:				
Playing costs:				
Age groups:				
Under 20	-		900	
Under 18	-		5,091	
Under 12-17	-		11,662	
Senior	63		429	
Ladies' and Girls' rugby	-		3,205	
Players' insurance	-		1,920	
Clubs' support:				
Retention Recruitment/RFU				
linked Coaching etc facilities/Innovations	772		29,638	
Covid-19 Grants	226		61,181	
		1,061		114,026
Carried forward		30,410		21,198

SOMERSET COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

(Continued)

	30.6.2021			30.6.2020		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Brought forward			30,410			21,198
ADMINISTRATION:						
Committee meetings and travelling		119		3,327		
Printing and stationery:						
General and Webmaster	3,134			4,484		
Year book	1,835			1,708		
Advertising	-			-		
	-----			-----		
		4,969		6,192		
Secretarial salary and expenses		9,267		8,965		
Sundries		45		234		
Audit fee		1,485		2,480		
Donations and subscriptions		80		79		
Insurance		408		389		
Bank charges		244		243		
Depreciation		230		41		
Investment management fees		120		120		
Professional fees		78		65		
		-----	17,045		-----	22,135
			-----			-----
SURPLUS /(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR			13,365			(937)
(Loss)/Gain on fair value adjustment of investments			8,468			(10,700)
			-----			-----
SURPLUS /(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR BEFORE TAX			21,833			(11,637)
Taxation			-			-
			-----			-----
SURPLUS /(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR AFTER TAX			21,833			(11,637)
			-----			-----
NET SURPLUS /(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR TAKEN TO GENERAL RESERVE ACCOUNT			21,833			(11,637)
			=====			=====

SOMERSET COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED

MATCH ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Tótal	N/A	N/A	N/A
	£	£	£	£
Expenditure:				
Travel and accommodation	-	-	-	-
Catering and host club costs	-	-	-	-
Kit and other requisites	-	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Income:				
County Championship Pool 2020/21	-			
Financial support – Sponsorship	-			
	<hr/>			
	-			
	<hr/>			
	<hr/>			
NET PROFIT/(LOSS)	-			
	=====			

SOMERSET COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Note	30.6.2021	30.6.2020
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS	5		
Tangible assets		-	230
INVESTMENTS	6		
Quoted securities		145,492	137,024
CURRENT ASSETS			
Sundry debtors and prepayments	7	436	-
Cash at bank/in hand		112,737	100,250
Stock		3,418	3,463
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		116,591	103,713
		<hr/>	<hr/>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	8	32,515	33,172
		<hr/>	<hr/>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		84,077	70,541
		<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL ASSETS			
LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		229,569	207,795
		=====	=====

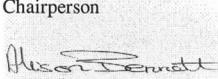
SOMERSET COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED

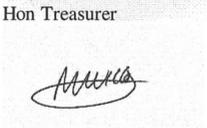
BALANCE SHEET

**YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021
(Continued)**

	30.6.2021		30.6.2020	
	£	£	£	£
CAPITAL AND RESERVES				
Called up Share Capital	9	192		251
General Reserve				
Brought forward	197,544		209,181	
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year	21,833		(11,637)	
	<hr/>	219,377	<hr/>	197,544
Tour Fund		10,000		10,000
		<hr/>	<hr/>	
		229,569		207,795
		<hr/>	<hr/>	
		=====		=====

The financial statements on pages 6 to 16 were approved by the executive committee on 21/07/2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Chairperson  A Bennett

Hon Treasurer  M S Wicks

Secretary  G Chew

SOMERSET COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

1. General information

The company is a private company limited by shares, registered under the Community Benefits Societies Act 2014 incorporated in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 20 Fairlands Way, Cheddar, Somerset, BS27 3NN.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Section 1A "Small Entities" of Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the requirements of Community and Benefit Societies Act 2014.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the members have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the members continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

The members have reviewed and considered relevant information including future cashflows in making their assessment. In particular, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the members have tested their cashflow analysis to take into account the impact on the company brought on by the impact of COVID-19, alongside the measures they can take to mitigate the impact. Based on these assessments, given the measures that could be undertaken to mitigate the current adverse conditions, and the current resources available, the members have concluded that they can continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Income

Income is stated net of value added tax where appropriate.

Income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable net of value added tax. Income such as the sale of kits are recognised when significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods have transferred to the buyer, the amount of turnover can be measured reliably, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the club and the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably. This is usually on cash receipt.

Grants are recognised as income over the periods necessary to match them with the related cost which they are intended to compensate. Following discussion with the RFU it has been agreed that some of the income received should be ring-fenced and deferred to 2021/22.

Subscriptions are accounted for when received.

**SOMERSET COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED
NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR 30 JUNE 2021

(Continued)

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation

Depreciation of fixed assets is calculated to write off their cost less any residual value over their estimated useful lives as follows: -

Office and computer equipment	33% reducing balance
Machinery and equipment	15% reducing balance

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing stock to its present location and condition

Investments

Listed investments are measured at fair value with changes in fair value being recognised in the income and expenditure account.

Investment income is accounted for and recognised in the accounting period to which it relates.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in the income and expenditure account in other administrative expenses.

Taxation

Taxation for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the Income and expenditure account, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity.

Current or deferred taxation assets and liabilities are not discounted.

Current tax is recognised at the amount of tax payable using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

SOMERSET COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED

**NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR 30 JUNE 2021**

(Continued)

3. OPERATING SURPLUS

The operating surplus for the year is after stating –

	30.6.2021	30.6.2020
	£	£
Depreciation	230	41
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	230	41
	=====	=====

4. EMPLOYEES

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	30.6.2021	30.6.2020
Employees	1	1
	=====	=====

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Machinery and Equipment £	Office and Computer Equipment £	Total £
Cost			
1 July 2020	3,352	1,667	5,019
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
30 June 2021	3,352	1,667	5,019
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Depreciation			
1 July 2020	3,122	1,667	4,789
Charge for year	230	-	230
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
30 June 2021	3,352	1,667	5,019
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Book Value			
30 June 2021	-	-	-
	=====	=====	=====
30 June 2020	230	-	230
	=====	=====	=====

SOMERSET COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR 30 JUNE 2021

(Continued)

6. INVESTMENTS quoted at Market Value:	30.6.2021	30.6.2020
	£	£
3,000 Coventry Building Society 12.125% Pibs	6,706	6,001
18,000 Nationwide Building Society 7.5% Pibs	18,607	18,607
4,000 Skipton Building Society 12.875% Pibs	8,712	8,014
16,000 UK (Government of) 4.125% Idx-Lkd Stk	60,255	62,650
2,150 Law Debenture Corp Ord GBP 0.05	27,375	18,871
20,000 Troy Income & Growth Trust GBP0.25	15,300	14,760
4,750 Link Fund Solutions Ltd Trojan Income	8,537	8,121
	145,492	137,024
	145,492	137,024
Market Value		
At 1 July 2020		137,024
Revaluations		(8,468)
		145,492
At 30 June 2021		145,492

Investments are recorded at market value in the financial statements. The book value of the investments at the year end date was £132,493 (2020: £132,493).

7. DEBTORS	30.6.2021	30.6.2020
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year		
VAT	436	-
	436	-
	436	-

SOMERSET COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

(Continued)

8. CREDITORS:	30.6.2021	30.6.2020
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	857	857
Other taxation and social security	-	519
Accruals	1,750	31,796
Deferred income	29,908	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	32,515	33,172
	=====	=====

9. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL	30.6.2021	30.6.2020
	£	£
Allotted called up and fully paid.		
Ordinary share of £1 each	192	251

Every member holds one share in the Union. Each share has a nominal value of £1. The cost of the shares are paid up by applying £1 of the subscription next received from the member after the date of admission to membership. Shares are not transferable and will be cancelled if membership ceases.

10. CORPORATION TAX

Non mutual income less relevant expenses is subject to corporation tax at 19% (2020: 19%).

	30.6.2021	30.6.2020
	£	£
Corporation Tax	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	-
	=====	=====

SOMERSET COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

(Continued)

11. RECONCILIATION OF MEMBERS

	Clubs	Members
Members as at 30.6.18	60	149
Added during the period	-	-
Leavers during the period	-	(5)
Members as at 30.6.19	60	144
Added during the period	2	1
Leavers during the period	(2)	(13)
Members as at 30.6.20	60	132
Added during the period	-	-
Leavers during the period	-	-
Members as at 30.6.21	60	132

County Secretaries Report 2020-2021

Who would have thought we could go a whole season without a game of rugby being played! If the pandemic has taught us anything it must be to appreciate what we have, those around us and those we love.

Thanks to all the wonderful NHS staff, teachers all front-line and essential services' workers for what they have done and continue to do.

We have seen a change to the RFU with a re-structure. We said goodbye to old friends as some people left whilst some moved to different posts and welcomed others to the rugby family, whether this new layout will work remains to be seen but covid has brought this new world whether we like it or not.

This season has certainly come with its challenges for all those hard worked CB's and Club volunteers who have not seen an off season but I'm sure are looking forward to the return of the game that we all love which will make it all worthwhile.

Let's look to the future but not forget the past and those who have kicked off their boots for the last time, please leave details for any loved ones that have passed away on the RFU wall of remembrance that can be found here: -

www.englandrugby.com/participation/volunteers/wall-of-remembrance

The vaccine rollout is now well underway so hopefully we can get back to playing Rugby!

We may have to make changes to the game along the way but let's hope the worst is behind us. Good luck to all the clubs and teams for the coming season.

Stay safe, enjoy your rugby.

Gareth Chew
County Secretary

RFU CB Relationship Team Report

After a restructure during the summer of 2020 the new RFU team has been working with Somerset RFU for a number of months now, we have enjoyed getting to know Somerset RFU and all of the clubs.

CB Relationship Manager – Becca O'Neil, Club and Volunteer Support Manager – Scott Sturdy

Club Developers – Lizzie O'Connor and Ben Smith

Area Training Manager – Tim Pickard

Coach Developers – Chris Hurd, Ian Smith, Stephen Barber

This has been a year like no other and never has so little rugby been played. Despite this Somerset clubs showed resilience and no clubs have been lost due to the Pandemic. A number of Somerset clubs have benefited from the Winter Survival Support Fund and are well placed to move into the new season strongly. These applications were well supported by the club developer through direct calls to each club.

To support the off-field management of Clubs, the new Club Development team have conducted webinars on topics such as, Rugby Re-boot, Recruiting Volunteers, Transition, Recruiting from Education and Membership. We have had some good initial engagement from Somerset clubs but we would like to get greater attendance in the 21-22 season.

Scott, Ben and Lizzie have enjoyed getting to know the clubs and look forward to continue to do so over the coming season.

For CB support Becca has hosted a number of forums for a number of different roles across the CB's (e.g., Women and Girls, Competitions, Age Grade etc) in the South West and we have enjoyed starting to share ideas and models of best practice around different subjects.

To support coaches within Somerset clubs Tim and the coach developers have delivered 4 Kids first tag courses, 2 kids fist contact courses, 2 game changers, 2 Club Coaching Co-ordinator workshops, 1 England Rugby coaching Award and 1 coach being mentored within the CB.

As we look ahead to the start of next season the Pitch Up campaign is back again after very positive feedback from last year. A chance for the Rugby Community to showcase their sessions and offers and shout about the fact the game is ready to go again! If anyone is interested in joining the campaign, please speak to one of the team who would be happy to talk it through.

We look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with Somerset RFU and the brilliant clubs within the County.

Competitions Report 2020/2021

Whist the season was decimated by the pandemic and resulted in no competitions being able to be played the County once again sincerely thanks Webb Ellis for their continued support and sponsorship of the County Cup and Vase competitions.

Likewise support from St Austell Brewery for their league sponsorship remains a lifeline to rugby in Somerset for which we offer our huge gratitude.

Efforts by the SW District Organising Committee to arrange locally clustered competitions were doomed to failure by the resilience of the Covid virus which understandably led to Government restrictions on the Return to Rugby Roadmap for the Community Game continuing to limit what Clubs were able to organise.

Despite these however Clubs were able to arrange some activity internally and some informal fixtures within the allowed rules to their great credit.

In the absence of any other activity an overview of the forthcoming season and beyond seems to be appropriate – subject of course to the restrictions being eased sufficiently to allow for meaningful fixtures to be played.

Next season will continue with the league structure that was in place at the end of the 2019/20 season with matters of promotion and relegation being decided by the system put in place by the RFU to determine final placings.

I know that everyone is aware of the RFU Future Competitions Review instigated by the RFU following much debate and consultation with all Clubs and can confirm that the plan is to introduce this in the 2022/23 season. At that point there will be an overall restructure of every division within all the leagues which it is hoped will result in better outcomes for player participation and greater interest in the game overall with a more sensibly structured season coupled with reduced costs mainly in the amount of travel involved.

In addition, the RFU also intend to invite all Clubs to participate in an end of season cup competition relevant to their level to provide additional fixtures during this specifically designated period. It is hoped these will create interest in the different format of cup rugby as opposed to leagues and keep players motivated to compete in these extra fixtures.

For the forthcoming season League rugby will not change and it is the County's intention to run the Webb Ellis Somerset Cup and Vase competitions as in previous seasons. Clearly these plans are still dependent on the vagaries of the ongoing situation regarding the pandemic. We can but plan.

As for the abandoned Webb Ellis Cup and Vase competitions from the 2019/20 season the Competitions Committee has concluded that there is little point in trying to complete these as we are convinced Clubs will be more focussed on getting their leagues going first without distraction.

One particular item I would encourage everyone to ensure they are fully aware of is the revised Regulation 9 (Player Safety) Community Rugby – First Aid & Immediate Care Provision Guidelines for Training & Matches which are being implemented in the coming season and which aim to ensure that all participants are able to train and play rugby safely, a goal with which I am sure no one would disagree.

Please note these changes will become mandatory from 2022/23 so getting suitably qualified people for each team, which also applies to both sides in a fixture, and that also applies to all levels of the game including Women and Girls, in place in the coming season when it is only a recommendation will be most beneficial and avoid problems later on.

Finally on behalf of the Competitions Committee I would like to thank everyone for their participation in surveys and responses to all matters arising throughout our lost year and wish all the very best for the coming season.

Somerset RFU Competitions Committee – Andrew Derry, Steve Mead, Neil Prescott, Nick Robins (Chair)

Somerset Discipline Report 2020/2021 Season

This season was like no other for all aspects of the game and obviously life in general. It was a strange year to take over the mantle of Discipline Secretary from Steve Mead and I would like to record my personal thanks for the many years that Steve managed this activity and always provided valuable support and guidance when requested by clubs.

This year has enabled the Discipline Department in Twickenham to review its communication systems with the CB Discipline Secretaries and regular zoom

meetings have been held which has proved a valuable source of sharing of good practice and discussions on the regulations and any proposed changes going forward. As a team we have also reviewed processes and there has been an introduction of a process communicated with Schools which we hope will assist in better communication at age grade level with any discipline issues within Schools.

Further work has been undertaken in the recording of cases using the GMS system, all CB Discipline Secretaries have had the opportunity to receive training and this will be put to the test next season.

There will be some changes to Regulation 19, clubs understanding of these amendments to the laws will be put to the test, particularly in the first few months of the season, as clubs understand these changes but hope that all clubs will ensure players are well aware of the changes through their training leading up to the re=commencement of games.

My continued thanks to all members of the SCR FU Discipline Panel for their help and understanding during this last season and my thanks in particular to Steve Mead for his continued support as we return to rugby.

Stay safe everyone

Alison Bennett
SCR FU Discipline Secretary

Somerset RFU Senior Playing Report

Another season without senior representative rugby, but we remain positive that we will return in 21/22. There is a RFU review of the county championship underway at present and we will keep the clubs updated throughout. It's important that we have a Men's Women's and U20's championship that's viable for the players and clubs. Which allows players to play to their full potential and does not affect clubs league program.

Steve Arnold
Senior Playing Chair

2020-2021 CB Age Grade Representative Rugby Annual Report

What a year it has been, we lost our newly appointed age grade chair due to other work commitments and are still recruiting for the right person to lead this going forward. If you are interested in this role, please contact me for more details.

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic no county age grade representative rugby has been played in Somerset. We did manage to complete trials for the u15 & u18 girls at the very end of the season with those successful going on to trials for the Bristol Bears centre of excellence (CoE) in August.

Our thanks to Steve Harvey (Bristol Bears), Tracey Sweetland and Zoe Strobe and to all those who volunteered for all their hard work that made it happen.

We look forward to a return to some sort of normality for the new season and watching young players enjoy their rugby and represent their county.

All the best for the coming season.

Gareth Chew
County Secretary

SCRFU Safeguarding Annual Report 2020-2021

Whilst it's been a quiet year for rugby, safeguarding in Somerset has been busy throughout the season. I'm pleased to report that each Club has a Safeguarding Officer (CSO) and the majority have an Assistant to share the load.

Our social media group for all CSO's and RSLs (Rugbysafe Leads) has gone from strength to strength and created a network of support in the County.

We've been unable to meet for a County Conference this year but have been successful in holding a number of meetings online to share best practice. Our focus this year has been on improving the recruitment process for volunteers.

A small number of club audits were carried out between the lockdowns together with some one-to-one online training sessions to new CSOs.

New this year has been the development of the RFU's e-learning platform with the safeguarding module providing an introduction for all volunteers. Play it Safe courses will still be delivered in person and clubs are now booking their courses again.

Kat Swain, Assistant Safeguarding Manager and I have worked closely with Zoe Strode the County Rugbysafe Manager to create a safe environment for players.

Thanks to the Somerset Committee, especially Gareth Chew, County Secretary for their support this season.

Tracey Sweetland
County Safeguarding Manager

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 12th August 7.30pm via Zoom

Present: Mr Mark Hawkes (President & Meeting Chair), 14 Individual Members and representatives of 10 clubs, there were 11 apologies for absence (8 Members / 3 Clubs).

Chair addressed the meeting and thanked those present for attending. He had enjoyed his term as County President and had managed a robust re-structure to safeguarding within the county during his term of office.

Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting had been published in the 19-20 annual report that was sent to all clubs and individual members and were accepted by a majority as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Proposed by Gareth Chew - Seconded by Alison Bennett.

Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.

Honorary Treasurer's Report:

1. **Accounts** up to the year-end date of 30th June 2020 have been sent to auditors (Haines Watts of Bristol) and have begun their review, no comment to date. There will be a meeting in the Autumn to approve.
2. A very tricky year to make comparisons. Headlines are all unspent funding from Feb onwards has been diverted to Covid-19 fund to support clubs and the value of investments has drastically fallen.
3. A **deficit** of £11.7k, down on 1819 (by £20k)
 - a. More money received from RFU (up £18k) vs 1819, all as a result of Covid-19 and as a condition the CB had to match the extra funding to go to clubs which it has.
 - b. £10.7k loss of FV of investments.
4. The way in which the County funded clubs this season changed drastically in March when all outstanding funds from the RFU not distributed at that point was reallocated to the Covid-19 grant pot.

Up to that point the CB had provided £22k of funding to clubs, including £11k R&R grants, £3.4k coaching courses funding & £5k for club development. We then distributed £31k to clubs in April as an initial cash benefit and we still have £30k left to distribute which has been taken into account in the figures shown in the accounts.
5. **Senior Men** – no games played. Any funding received moved to the Covid-19 grant pot.
6. **Webb Ellis Cup** – not run this year.
7. **Investments** - decrease in market value of assets from £163k to £137k reflected in FV profit in accounts sent to auditors.
8. **Bank** – showing £20k cash in hand at investors & £30k of Covid-19 grant funding due to be distributed to clubs before Xmas and provided for in the books. Balance of £48k is 'real' value
9. The RFU has advised that funding to CBs will be approx. 1/3 of what it was in 19/20 so we are going to have to be very careful how we can best support our clubs as well as run the CB as efficiently as possible.

Appointment of Auditors

No change to current auditors, Haines Watts of Bristol.

Treasurer invited questions from the meeting.

Simon Charles, Cheddar RFC asked if the proposed cut to club subscriptions would be beneficial to clubs. This had been decided by the SCRUFU emergency covid group and although a small amount felt that overall, it would show the county was trying to assist clubs. Individual members subscriptions remained unchanged.

The vote to adopt the recommendation for SCRUFU subscriptions for the 20-21 season was unanimous.

County Secretary's Report was printed in the Annual Report.

Competitions Committee's Reports were printed in the Annual Report.

Disciplinary Secretary's Report was printed in the Annual Report.

Playing Sub Committee's Report was printed in the Annual Report.

Club Development Sub-Committee's Reports were printed in the Annual Report.

Somerset Referee's Report was printed in the Annual Report.

RFU Local Delivery Team Report was printed in the Annual Report.

All of the above reports were accepted en bloc without further comment.

Proposed by Simon Charles, seconded by Neil Prescott unanimously accepted.

Elections:

Officers

President	Mr S Mead
Past President	Mr M Hawkes
Secretary	Mr G Chew
Honorary Treasurer	Mr M Wicks

Committee

Division A	Mr S Mead, Mr J Wheatley & AN Other
Division B	Mr J Harding, Mr B Briffitt
Division C	Mr S Arnold & AN Other
Division D	N Robins, Mr N Prescott & AN Other
Division E	Mr H Davies, Mrs A Bennett & AN Other

Somerset Referee's TBA

All of the above were elected en bloc.

Proposed by Graham Buller, seconded by Paul Kirby, unanimously accepted.

Mark Hawkes thanked everyone for their time and handed over the Presidency and Chair of the meeting to his successor Steve Mead.

Steve thanked the Past President for his service to the county and hoped he would stay involved with the CB.

He also thanked Mr Andy Shorney for his many years of service, not only to the county but also to him personally.

Steve has now replaced him as the RFU Council representative for the Somerset constituent Body (CB).

The Chair reiterated that we are currently at stage "C" in the RFU's return to rugby roadmap.

Any Other Business

The County Secretary had not received any questions pre meeting. Chair advised that

a Zoom meeting would be arranged for later in the year to give clubs the opportunity to ask any questions.

With no other business the new President and meeting Chair, Steve Mead thanked those present for attending and brought the meeting to a close.

Meeting Closed at 7.58pm

Minutes of the Financial General Meeting held on Wednesday 10th February 2021 via Zoom @ 7.00pm

Present: Mr Steve Mead (Meeting Chair), Mr Gareth Chew (County Secretary), Mr Mike Wicks (County Treasurer) 9 Individual Members and 21 representatives of clubs, there was 1 apology for absence (1 Member).

Meeting called in accordance with rule 8.2

To adopt the audited accounts for the 2019-20 Season.

Chair opened the meeting and thanked those present for their attendance. Single item on the agenda was to adopt the SCRFU accounts for the 2019-20 season.

There was a minute silence observed in memory of John Pullin (Bristol) and Dave Egerton (Bath) who had both passed away recently; they were both well known by the local rugby community and will be missed.

A copy of the audited accounts was sent to all Clubs and Members with the calling notice in August as per rule 8.3 prior to the first Financial AGM meeting in December that was unable to field a quorum. (20 required).

Those present voted online via google forms unanimously to adopt the 2019-20 audited accounts.

The Chair then updated those present on the upcoming Government Winter Grant funding of £23 million to the RFU and allocated for Community Rugby.

All clubs were notified by the RFU this evening and full application instructions will be published on Friday 12th February.

Clubs will be advised they will need to make any claims directly with the RFU as CB's would not be allowed to assist. It's a very short window and not all clubs will be eligible.

Closing date is the 23rd February.

There will a further announcement regarding a separate Government Loan Scheme next week.

It was then asked if clubs would be interested in having a Zoom cluster meeting with the new RFU South West Admin team, the silence was taken as a no. There is no return to rugby plan currently but clubs should share the CGU within their clubs as much as possible to keep everyone informed.

A bit of good news that clubs at level 3 and below will not have to make payment of player declarations this year which means all Somerset clubs will be eligible for RFU funding.

The floor was open to any questions; none were forthcoming.

He thanked all those for attending yet another virtual meeting and for their efforts at their clubs during the difficult times we are still facing.

The meeting was closed at 19.20

