**Commentary on the draft results for the year ended 31 May 2023 and the budget proposals for 2023/24**

**A note about the 2022/23 financial year:**

When generating the 2022/23 budget, we built up a full budget, assuming there would be no curtailment of activity and we could return fully to pre-COVID levels.

We proposed a budget based on £64k membership income (compared to £59k actual income in 2021/22) and increased costs, as activity was expected to return to normal levels. This was based on a ‘standard’ year, with the only increase in budget being allocated to the Performance Programme to support the transition to a new strategy.

In terms of the membership income, we made some assumptions about the number of teams that would be entering competitions, in order to model the membership income. On balance, we assumed that participation would remain at the same levels as per 2021/22, although based on experience this has not always been the case. Our intention was once again to be cautious in our financial modelling in order to ensure that the budgets could be met.

We used as a basis for membership fees, the 2022/23 fees agreed at the AGM July 2022.

Due to the cautious approach to budgeting and a significant increase in the number of teams affiliating in 2022/23, we can report that the draft results for the year ending on 31 May 2023 show a small surplus of £1,158 against a budgeted deficit of £10,435.

The main variances between the draft results for 2022/23 and the original budget come from the following budget lines:

* Competitions – net underspend of £2,855 (partly due to including in the budget a cost for drug testing which did not take place)
* Performance Programme – net underspend of £1,474 (due to reduced level of the roll out of the strategy, some elements of which are still to be set up in the 2023/4 season)
* Priorities – net underspend of £1,421
* PR and Marketing – net underspend of £881
* Administration – net underspend of £4,962 (due partly due to the increase in the number of teams affiliating for 2022/23 and consequently the increased affiliation income being achieved).

The funding from the 200 Club was utilised to contribute to the costs of the Covid tests for the England Senior Squad in October 2022 and the U19 trip in 2022/23.

**2023/24 budget and fees proposal:**

In generating the 2023/24 budget, we have once again built a full budget.

As previously, we have taken a rigorous approach to each budget line, only prioritising what we considered to be essential spend. The chairs of each Sub-Committee also provided detailed budget requests for funding for their areas.

Overall, we are proposing a budget based on £77k membership income (compared the £65k in the 2022/23 budget and the £67k actual income in 2022/23). The total expenditure for 2023/24 is based on a ‘standard’ year, with two additional spends expected. The first being for the extension of the additional support to the performance programme as a result of the expensive nature of the World Championships event in Taipei in October 2023. The second additional cost relates to a provision for the cost of obtaining external support in the recruitment of a new Chair.

In terms of the membership income, we have assumed that participation would remain at the levels achieved in 2022/23

We have used as a basis for membership fees, the 2023/24 fees agreed at the AGM in July 2022.

**This table sets out the proposal:**

|  | **Proposed fees** |
| --- | --- |
|  | Adult team (full) | Adult team (in second season) | Adult team (in first season) | College/ university team | Junior team (8v8 in junior competition) | Junior team (4v4 in junior competition) | Club affiliation | Areas |
| Original indicative 2023/24 rates | 376 | 281 | 180 | 180 | 30 | 15 | 21 | 129 |