

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT 2018**

FOR ONCE, WE HAD A GREAT SUMMER FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE SEASON WHICH RESULTED IN MATCHES BEING PLAYED ON FAST GREENS BUT THIS TOOK IT'S TOLL ON OUR GREENS WHICH WERE BAKED UNDER THE SCORCHING SUN LEADING TO NEAR DROUGHT CONDITIONS FOLLOWED BY NEAR MONSOON RAINFALL THROUGHOUT AUGUST RESULTING IN THE MAJORITY BEING IN POOR CONDITION TOWARDS THE END OF THE SEASON WITH SEVERAL HAVING TO BE CLOSED EARLY FOR EMERGENCY MAINTENANCE.

THE LEAGUE HAD ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SEASON, WITH ALL FIXTURES BEING COMPLETED AS SCHEDULED.

IN THE HISTORY OF THE LEAGUE, THIS WAS THE MOST CLOSELY FOUGHT & EXCITING 1ST DIVISION TITLE RACE EVER, WITH THE WINNERS NOT BEING KNOWN UNTIL AFTER THE LAST ROUND OF MATCHES AS THREE TEAMS STILL HAD A CHANCE OF TAKING THE TITLE ON THE FINAL DAY, BANKS ST STEPHENS, BRETHERTON & BURSCOUGH RBL A BUT BRETHERTON SECURED THE POINTS THEY NEEDED TO TAKE THIS TITLE FOR THE FIRST TIME.

THE 2ND DIVISION WAS ALSO CLOSELY CONTESTED THROUGHOUT THE SEASON, WITH CROSTON SUBSCRIPTION BECOMING CHAMPIONS TAKING THE TITLE FOR THE 3RD TIME.

WHILST, THE 3RD DIVISION WAS DOMINATED BY MERE BROW AFTER RE-JOINING THE LEAGUE IN 2017.

CUP WINNERS WERE: KO CUP – BANKS ST STEPHENS, 2<sup>ND</sup> DIVISION CUP – HESKETH ARMS VULTURES & 3<sup>RD</sup> DIVISION CUP – LONGTON VM B. CONGRATULATIONS SHOULD ALSO GO TO DARREN EVANS (BURSCOUGH RBL A) ON WINNING THE 1<sup>ST</sup> DIVISION MERIT, GORDON BUTLER (CROSTON SUBS) ON WINNING THE 2<sup>ND</sup> DIVISION MERIT & JOHN GREENWOOD (MERE BROW) ON WINNING THE 3<sup>RD</sup> DIVISION MERIT. COMPETITION WINNERS: STEVE MCCALL (BRETHERTON) – 1<sup>ST</sup> TIME PRESIDENT'S DAY WINNER, STEVE RIMMER MEMORIAL SINGLES WINNER - MATTY GREENWOOD (MERE BROW), WHO WAS BOTH THE YOUNGEST COMPETITOR AS WELL AS BEING THE ONLY 3RD DIVISION PLAYER EVER TO WIN THIS TITLE. CHRIS & MARK THOMPSON (BANKS & CROSTON SUBS – 2<sup>ND</sup> TIME PAIRS COMPETITION WINNERS.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FOR THEIR HELP & SUPPORT THROUGHOUT LAST YEAR, ESPECIALLY TO DAVID TAYLOR WHO HAS ONCE AGAIN DONE A SUPERB JOB AS CHAIRMAN. TO ALL DELEGATES FOR ATTENDING MEETINGS & PERFORMING THEIR DUTIES PROFESSIONALLY, TO HESKETH BANK & TARLETON BOWLING CLUBS FOR THE FREE USE OF THEIR ROOMS FOR MEETINGS, TO ALL CLUBS WHO ALLOWED THEIR GREENS TO BE USED FOR & ORGANIZED LEAGUE COMPETITIONS, TO ALL CAPTAINS FOR THEIR HARD WORK, FLEXIBILITY & COMMONSENSE TO ENSURE THE SMOOTH RUNNING OF THE FIXTURES, TO ALL GREENKEEPERS FOR THEIR HARD WORK IN MAINTAINING THE PLAYING SURFACES TO THE HIGHEST STANDARDS, TO ALL PLAYERS OF THE LEAGUE FOR THE FRIENDLY & SPORTING MANNER THEY HAVE CONDUCTED THEMSELVES THROUGHOUT THE SEASON IN MAKING THIS LEAGUE THE FRIENDLIEST & MOST COMPETITIVE LEAGUE IN THE AREA.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO CONGRATULATE EVERYONE WHO WON LEAGUE TROPHIES & PRIZEMONEY LAST SEASON.

I LOOK FORWARD TO RUNNING ANOTHER REWARDING SEASON & I HOPE EVERYONE WILL ENJOY PARTICIPATING IN THE LEAGUE WHETHER THEY ARE SUCCESSFUL OR NOT.