

Club Treasurer's comments on 2021 Bridge Financial Report.

Membership Totals

Historically, we tend to lose around 10% of our membership per annum with new members arriving mainly from Beginners classes. Sadly, in 2020 and 2021, we were not able to attract those additional members. This is being addressed, Covid rules permitting.

Attendance

In common with other Bridge Clubs, we rely financially on table money through attendances, rather than just on subscriptions like Bowls and Golf Clubs. Our 2019 figure of 10,000 attendances took a real hit in 2020 but has recovered as well as could be expected in 2021.

2021 has shown us there is a good appetite to return to face-to-face Bridge, but as a Club we must adjust to the new reality that on-line Bridge will be just as important in the future. Once rules allow return to face-to-face Bridge, apart from Beginners Bridge there needs to be an Improvers session at the Club (Wednesday afternoon was very popular pre-Covid) and a X-imp teams session (at least once per month) to attract back the international level members.

Additional sessions require Tournament Directors. We are currently operating with 3 out of the 9 that provided services in 2019. This needs to be addressed.

Income and Expenditure

We have one of the best equipped Bridge Clubs in Wales, but to retain and maintain our premises costs money. Once Bridge expenditure has been offset against Bridge income, the surplus goes into the Club's General Funds.

Pre-Covid, the Bridge contribution reached £12,486. Although the 2020 figure was extremely low, it was offset by a magnificent response from the Bridge members to the donation request. 2021 has almost reached pre-Covid levels.

However, prices continue to rise and an additional 12% contribution to the Central Fund (putting us up to £13,000) should be the target for 2022.

Summary

Congratulations to the Bridge Committee for seeing us through the Covid situation so far and achieving the 2021 results. The target for 2022 will be difficult, but if we can offer extra sessions that target members requirements, then the Club will continue to flourish.

Brian Quinlan
Treasurer
Penylan Bowling & Cardiff Bridge Club