

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Good evening and welcome particularly to clubs joining us for the first time, also to members of Dorset County FA who will be speaking later in the evening.

By and large we had another successful season with several of our clubs winning their respective county cups, congratulations to them all.

Last season was the first that the former Bournemouth Sunday league teams came under our umbrella. It is fair to say that we had expected a few challenges for ourselves as a committee, also for the clubs themselves and that has proved the case. The aim was to ensure that all the leagues ran in exactly the same way and I think that we have almost achieved this.

Again, I am pleased to report that there has been a sizeable number of applications for season 2026/27 and long may this continue.

As you are aware, we lost our President, Geoff Pike, during the season who had been a great contributor to Dorset Football for many years, which created a vacancy. I am pleased to confirm that, having stepped down from the role of treasurer, John Joyce has agreed to become the new president. John has also served Dorset Football in many guises for a number of years and it is good that he will still be involved with the Dorset Football League. I would also like to welcome Connor Gates, who will be joining the management committee in the role of referee liaison, as I feel that it is especially important to continue improving the relationship between the Dorset Football League, our clubs and match officials.

Particularly pleasing was the success of the Women's Cup Final which was staged in the new format and held at Hamworthy Recreation for the first time attracting a large crowd.

I would like to thank you all for the time and effort that you devote to your respective clubs.

Finally, for the support I have received from my colleagues on the management committee.

Malcolm Maidment