**Bath Buccaneers HC – Financial Statement to member’s / explanation of increase in membership fees.**

**Junior Academy subscription fee**

In line with the audit of the club the Junior Academy Director was asked for an overall explanation to indicate increase in subscription fees to members.

**Coach Development and Training of existing and new member’s**

Substantial and on-going investment has been put in place to ensure that children are in a position to receive the best training available in England and Wales by paying our coaches training fee’s. This investment is essential to the long term future of the junior section. This will implement the correct and current coaching methods throughout the club.

It was recognised that the current coach numbers in the club were limited. With growing numbers of junior member’s it was vital that our coach numbers increased to manage this increase in players.

This decision was taken after years of member’s paying for their own coaching qualifications or receiving part payment from the club. This approach to member’s, over time, had a big impact on how many people actually took up training. To recognise their time and effort the club made the decision to pay a greater % of training fees.

**Payment of coaches.**

To address the decline in coaches in the club, mainly in the junior section, is to pay coaches for their coaching contribution. This payment, rewards individuals based on the coaching qualification they possess as well as rewarding coaches for weekend match coverage. The hardest aspect of engaging coaches over many years is having a coach to oversee a weekend fixture.

**EH Cup entry**

Increase in numbers in certain year groups has implemented additional teams entry into the EH cup / league tournament. These tournaments have fees for entry.

**Festivals & entry fees**

This is another aspect of the junior academy that requires payment.

**Transport costs**

We try, as best we can, to keep these costs to a minimum, however there are occasions where we have to pay individuals to cover the cost of travel to certain venues, these costs continue to rise as the market price changes

**Catering**

Catering costs are continually under the microscope, the club continually seeks to find the best deal from a provider. The Lime tree arrangement is, unfortunately, under review, with sharp increase proposed by the provider.

**Pitch Hire**

A major cost to the club, across Junior & Senior member’s is the payment for pitch hire. This is a substantial cost to the club. The clubs contract to the University of Bath is coming up for renewal and we are bracing ourselves for the inevitable increase of pitch hire to follow.

**Umpire Fees**

The club has to pay appointed umpires for certain events/tournament. This is a cost that has to be met.

**Junior Equipment**

Ongoing maintenance and replenishing equipment through wear and tear, loss, damage as well as changing styles of equipment ensures that equipment is an ongoing business expense.

**Goal Keeping Equipment**

Currently the equipment for goal keepers is posing challenges. Increase in member numbers, increase in the number of team’s being created demands that we have additional goal keepers. At present the club is unable to cater for all keepers in the junior section. This is a priority, however it is very expensive. At present, the club is, in some instances, dependant on fund raising events to inject cash for the purchase of goal keeping equipment.

The club has recently introduced a scheme to help parents by reduction in fees, thus acknowledging the commitment to parents if they choose to purchase their own equipment.

The concern to the club is that purchasing equipment is so specialised and bespoke to individual players that any purchase of equipment is very restricted to an individual, thus restricting the re use of any equipment back to other member’s coming up through the system. In effect making the items purchased obsolete the moment they are purchased.

**Sponsorship**

The junior academy is still reliant on the additional financial support of sponsorship. This injection of funds offsets the development plan of coach training and payment as well as equipment purchases.

**Preferred rate to Junior membership to Senior playing**

We continue to endeavour to support our younger player and the transition into the senior playing environment. We do this by reducing membership paid by these players, thus enabling them to compete in the junior arena as well as the senior stage. This reduction, we hope is acknowledged by member’s.