

# ACC Report 10-11

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*Monya Zard, ACC Chair*

## **Financial Report**

The ACC was awarded £147,154.88 last year in budgeting. The current Grant left to all ACC clubs is £52,474.15 with a total of £169,509.46 when all funding categories are taken into account. This means that since the start of term, 64.3% of total Grant awarded to all ACC clubs has been spent. Bearing in mind that spending falls in Term 3, we anticipate that there will be minimal grant surplus this year (this is especially due to the budget cuts to all ACC clubs last year).

One of the problems which occurs each year is Ground Hire charges from Sport Imperial for use of Ethos etc. These are charged at the end of each term, and happen automatically without the knowledge of the ACC Chair or Treasurer. Therefore it is quite easy for a club which looks financially healthy to suddenly be in debt and if clubs are not managing their finances well this can be a real problem for them. I intend to propose to Sport Imperial that they invoice at the start of term, so that clubs know how much money they have to pay.

The one club with especially high levels of Grant left is ACC Boat, with £8,995.10 remaining (82% of the total awarded). Whilst I am aware that the majority of their competitions take place in the summer, despite repeated assurances that they would spend their grant last year they still finished the 09-10 year with a surplus of £3,329.98. The situation this year will be monitored carefully and it is anticipated that there will be cuts to their budget in the Competition Entry Fees category particularly. They already receive large amounts of funding and the £3,330 could have been well spent on smaller clubs who struggle to fund their activities.

ACC Ju Jitsu also raised issues over the debt their club was left in. Two years previously their committee failed to pay any of the invoices they received with the result that the club was left in almost £1,600 of debt. They recouped £800 of this last year and intend to do the same this year, hopefully leaving next year's committee financially stable. In July last year they did ask for contingency money for this debt but it was refused on the grounds that the expenses were budgetable, although it was regrettable that the club had been handed over to them in that condition.

## **Club Membership**

Current ACC Membership for all clubs stands at 2,611 people, with an average membership target achievement of 96% per club. There are 26 clubs who have exceeded their membership target (some by an impressive margin, for example ACC Squash with 164 members with a target of 100). On a case-by-case basis, some of these clubs will be advised to raise their membership targets for next year during budgeting which may give them a larger budget to fund activities with. There are 12 clubs with between 80% and 100% of their membership target achieved; most of these will be able to achieve their targets with ease by the end of the year.

There are 15 clubs below this threshold. While some of them are nearing 80% of their target membership there are others that I am concerned about. Some of the clubs with the lowest membership rates are poorly managed- deadlines for documentation are ignored, ACC General Meeting attendance is poor. These clubs are detailed in the Naughty Clubs section and action will be taken.

### **Exec Meetings**

These have been well attended by most clubs, nobody has raised issues with the meeting time so I am trying to keep them on Mondays from 5-6pm. Some clubs do send apologies and there are always a few absentees who receive emails about attendance. We have not had any issues with achieving quorum and have been able to keep the meetings brief, covering all issues from Barnights to Contingency Claims.

### **Constitution Changes**

The ACC Standing orders were revised to bring them up to date since they had not been updated since 2007. They were approved by the ACC at our meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2010 and subsequently passed at CSB on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2010. There were no major changes to the Standing orders, but an omitted section on the creation of clubs was added as well as further details on the arrangement and running of General Meetings.

In addition we have two new clubs- ACC Fives and ACC Cheerleading. Fives club submitted their new constitution on 15<sup>th</sup> November and it was approved by the ACC. Cheerleading have just presented their constitution at the first ACC meeting this term at 5pm today.

ACC Squash presented a constitution change to add Web Admin to their committee; they already had a person elected to the position who was working on their website. The ACC voted to accept the changes on 11<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Contingency Awards**

At the start of the year, the ACC contingency fund stood at £520.36. After one successful claim it now stands at £220.36.

#### **ACC Hockey- Claim Partially Approved = £300.00**

As a result of the disaffiliation from ULU, Hockey Club are required to pay double the match fees they were paying two years ago. In addition, because of the lateness of the ULU invoicing, they were unable to account for the fees rise in their 2010-2011 budget and accordingly have been charged an additional £576.80 this year. They initially applied for the full amount but it was judged that they are a large enough club to be able to fund part of the claim themselves.

#### **Upcoming Contingency Claims**

Both Judo and Cross Country Club lost money on entry fees last term when events were cancelled due to weather conditions. At time of writing, neither of them have submitted contingency claim papers to me although I anticipate at least one more claim before the end of term.

It is worth noting that the ACC has historically had a very low number of contingency claims approved and passed. The higher number of claims this year is likely due to the budget cuts undertaken last year leaving clubs with less flexibility in their budgets. While this may in part be a good thing, forcing them to be more careful with budgeting, it undoubtedly leaves them more vulnerable to unexpected expenses. Accordingly I will ensure at budgeting that the ACC has a similar sized contingency fund next year.

## **Tours**

There have been numerous Tours undertaken by ACC Clubs since the last report which I will not list here. Tours have been on the whole successful, with the exception of ACC Rugby who were left in large debt after their Summer Tour to Japan. However they have made much progress in recouping this debt after meeting with Aziz and the DPFS and should be debt free by the end of the year.

One problem I have noted is that at the last Tour meeting there was much confusion over Tour dates with different dates found on different sources of information. This led to several Tours being proposed which were not strictly within the Tour period. This issue appears to be resolved now with clearer information given to clubs about Tour periods. In addition since suggesting that clubs show me their applications before submitting them more clubs are coming to me with questions, hopefully leading to better applications in the future.

## **ACC Barnights**

The first ACC Barnight was extraordinarily well attended, with clubs from other CSCs attending too (RCC Ice Hockey, ICSMU Lacrosse). Despite the extension of works in Metric, the Union kindly agreed to allow us to host it in FiveSixEight and the UDH. Feedback from all clubs was positive at the next ACC General Meeting. The event also turned a larger-than-expected profit of £1,475.69. This money is used to fund pre-season training and travel to trials at Harlington during Freshers' Week.

The ACC would like to thank the Union for helping to make the event such a success and allowing it to proceed despite the difficulties of hosting the event in an area not specifically designed for that purpose. Hopefully they feel the event was as successful as we do.

The second ACC Barnight was also well attended but turned a much smaller profit of £267.51, due to us ordering a larger supply of alcohol. The profit from this event will be used to improve our upcoming Barnights, the next of which is on 26<sup>th</sup> January. Everyone I spoke to was incredibly impressed with the new venue and the reduction in queues from the larger serving capacity in Metric. The two negative comments I received were that there were not enough tables early in the evening, and that the tables got in the way later in the evening. We had planned to remove the picnic tables at 10pm, but due to the fullness of the venue this proved not to be possible.

Historically attendance at our Barnights is lower in Term 2 as people have less free time and exams are approaching. Accordingly we will be reducing the amount of alcohol we purchase to ensure that the event at least breaks even, but also creating a stronger theme at our next event with the promise of a UV rave to try to keep attendance as high as possible.

## Naughty Clubs

There are currently four ACC Clubs earmarked for Dormancy or Closure. This is decided using a combination of factors- membership, meeting attendance, meeting documentation deadlines and financial situation. The clubs are tabled below and have been reviewed for dormancy or closure at the ACC Meeting today.

Club Name	Code	Membership Target	Percentage Achieved	Notes	Current Balance
Capoeira	055	25	20%	Frozen	-£213.59
Indoor Hockey	061	20	20%	Dormant 09-10	-£1,709.58
Shaolin Kung Fu	024	20	35%	Frozen	£447.13
Ten Pin Bowling	030	20	40%		£1,154.63

## Other Issues

### ACC Dance

After budgeting last year, ACC Dance were left with a budget cut of £3500 which they subsequently appealed and were awarded an extra £2717 which was taken from various other ACC clubs. The appeal was passed by a close vote in an ACC General Meeting last year, but the money was not transferred. The transfers therefore had to take place this year which was not ideal for the clubs involved. However the situation was explained to them and ACC Dance now have their full budget. In future the ACC will ensure any transfers like this take place in a more timely fashion.

### Store Rooms

With the help of the DPCS, we are trying to make sure that storage within the Union is utilized well. Storage spaces become untidy remarkably quickly and this means clubs cannot access equipment, but progress has been slow. In particular Store Room 5 is used by many large clubs including ACC Hockey, Rugby and Gaelic Athletics and becomes untidy days after being cleared out. Hopefully regular inspection will keep the situation under control, but it is an ongoing issue. In addition ACC Gaelic Athletics reported two occasions when they were unable to access Store Room 5 because the key had been taken and not returned in a timely fashion. A reminder about key etiquette was sent via email and I also raised the issue at the last ACC General Meeting. If it happens again I intend to ask the DPCS to remove repeat offenders from key lists.

## Large Events

Although it is not an ACC event, Varsity 2011 is rapidly approaching with matches between the ACC and ICSMU in a variety of sports. Varsity is an entire day of matches culminating in a the 1<sup>st</sup> Team Rugby match in the evening. Sport Imperial have secured an impressive venue for the Rugby and it is always great fun to watch (even if we lose!). Ticket details should be coming out soon, and you should be able to see ACC Cheerleading in their first official capacity as Imperial College cheerleaders.