

BORDER ICE RINK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE BIR CLUB AGM

Good evening to all of you who are joining this Zoom Club AGM.

This is my first full year as Chairman of the Company and I am indebted to the support from all the Directors who have worked so hard to make Kelso Ice Rink the success it is. We were delighted too that Alistair Hodge joined the Board in January of this year and his input and wise counsel is extremely valuable.

Due to Covid-19 the season came to a very abrupt end in mid March and although this had no dramatic impact on our finances for 2019 / 20 it does raise major concerns for 2020 / 21.

At this point I would like to thank the club Chairman Keith and his fellow committee members for all their input during the past season.

It is a great disappointment to the Board that we had to take the decision not to open the rink for 2020 / 21 until 4th January 2021. This decision was taken based on feedback from a number of clubs where members had indicated that they did not wish to start curling until the New Year.

The health and welfare of all who enter the Ice Rink including our staff must at all times take precedence over financial losses and as a Board we felt that the decision we have taken is correct. Scottish Borders Council has asked for their occupation of the Rink to continue until 31st October to which we have agreed.

Sadly due to the impact of the virus progress with the Trust has been rather slow but hopefully this can be rectified during the next six months.

Graeme and Josh produced excellent ice during the season 2019 / 20 for both curlers and skaters and I am most grateful for all their input.

Thanks are also due to our catering team, to Debbie and all part time staff who give full commitment often with very unsocial hours.

We face a very challenging period in all our lives and I do hope that we can stick to our January opening plans.

In the meantime we are all making every effort to save our costs with Graeme working off site for 3 days per week at the moment and Josh is catching up on routine maintenance.

In conclusion, I would just like to say that we will get through this difficult time by us all working together as I am sure we all have the same ambition which is to see the ice rink up and operating at full capacity.

Take care, stay safe and thanks for reading the Chairman's spiel.

Andrew Wemyss

Chairman - Borders Ice Rink Ltd