

16 Queen Elizabeths Walk
London N16 0HY

29.7.80

DRAINAGE

Dear Club Member,

I would like to address a short note to you about the drainage so that you will be specifically informed about what we are doing in Committee.

As you know Peter Boizot, Stan Elgar and I, with Mike Earp, and a report from Richard Chapman looked into this drainage question last March. Our report was adopted by the A.G.M. and we agreed to do one pitch in September - if necessary doing a de-luxe job.

The Hampstead Section met last Thursday and subject to final approval from the Hornsey Committee decided that we would spend no more than £7,500 (including VAT) on the 'SCOREBOARD' pitch. This means that we do something, but not all that we want, not by any manner of means. The principal reason was finance.

To do a de luxe job on the 'PAVILION' pitch will cost approx. £15,000 including VAT. Through the efforts of the fund-raising committee we had raised just under £5,000. In addition, members of the club that I, and others, approached, were prepared to put up another £9,5000 by way of loan thereby putting us within sight of the necessary target.

We are deeply indebted to Mike Earp, Dave Walker and their committee and those members who offered money.

However the Committee as a whole took the view that to commit ourselves to a repayment programme of £10,000 to members, past and present, would be an act of financial folly. We therefore reduced our sights to spend within our anticipated fund-raising means, expecting to raise £2-3,000 (approx) from members who have offered loans - and others who have not been spoken to should they so wish - to lay pipe drains on the 'SCOREBOARD' pitch.

We have decided to concentrate on the far pitch because a large majority of the Committee felt that we would have (on the best available evidence) a more likely return in the way of matches played than if we were only to lay pipe drains on the 'PAVILION' pitch.

We now intend to start work as soon as we have confirmed the price, and hopefully not later than September.

I personally wish to express my great thanks to all those concerned with fund-raising and loans and to say that at least we are getting somewhere with the drainage.

The work must continue however because once pipe drains are laid we need to lay slit drains and sand on the playing surface.

I hope therefore that you will give future fund-raising activities your greatest attention to pay back the loans and raise mancoey for the future programme.

Best wishes for the season

NICK COLEMAN (Club Captain)