

All matches snowed off, one just says that the weather will change and that all remaining games will be completed. I have a bulletin to do and a great deal of space to fill up. To celebrate the mending of the duplicator (many thanks to Arthur Corrick, Secretary of the Cricket Section) I will do one of 'The Thoughts of Chairman Teale' bulletins which are guaranteed to bore, annoy or insult you.

Having watched the two 1stXI epics against Indian Gymkhana and Southgate I honestly believe we have the makings of an outstanding team. What we seem to lack are experience and belief, from which comes consistency. It occurred to me over all the bulletins I probably have mentioned least our two most consistent players, Brian Guest and Richard Chapman. If the others follow their example, next season could.....I hope the 3rdXI League comes into being. I'm not going over all the arguments for and against but I would add that running seven teams, three of which play in leagues, strikes me as a good balance..... I must congratulate Brian Guest and Stewart Waugh on their bar duty last week. Not only were they dressed for the part they played the roles of landlord and barmaid to perfection, but I'm not saying who played which.....Saddest news was that Richard Wright will be moving to the West Country. To all those who played under and with him this will be a sad loss. As one member said to me, 'A genuine nice guy, who it has been a privilege to know.' I echo those sentiments, keep in touch Richard, and best wishes to your adorable wife (who could ever forget those pies).....Having umpired numerous games from the 3rdXI down to 1stXI you all play some superb hockey but don't convert your superiority into goals. One problem is steadiness in shooting, the other is something I've been screaming for years, Corners. You must practice stick as well as handstops; variations (passing to side and using the pusher-out); and others must stop ball-watching and really attack those goalkeeper's pads. (End of class lesson). Have you noticed how many more goals at the top level are being scored from long corners?.....If anyone else complains about my typing I will (-;), &£/¢) ?"¼ -n &'7 98y% (so there).....Did you watch Pro-Celebrity Golf last Friday? Great entertainment and I thought Andy Hughes played exceptionally well (he was the one who kept changing hats).....The A.G.M. decided to raise subs next season to £25. The extra money is needed for the clubhouse improvements. The top brass are aware of our problems concerning pitches, and are appreciative of our efforts for the club, and improvements to the ground will be a top priority when the clubhouse is completed..... Have you noticed a certain 1st teamer who seems to suddenly have found a new zest and an extra yard of speed. Perhaps life does start at forty.....Six years ago the club was in a terrible state with great rifts and ill-feeling. Brian Owles took over as Secretary and by his example and organisation the club is in a healthy state today, with in my opinion greater things to come. He is retiring at the end of the season, if ever a name deserved to be added to the illustrious list of Honorary Life Members it is that of Brian Owles.....I'm awarding a small trophy to the winner of the Golden Sticks at the end of the season. At present it seems a fight between Tony Fawley, Abe Hillel and Hugh Smith. However a good run by an outsider could pip them all on the post.....I hope the captains continue next season, though we have lost Doug and one captain has told me he will not stand. We do things sensibly in this club with regular players of each team discussing the question and nominating someone to the Secretary before the A.G.M. at the end of the season. To prospective captains this is what the job entails (you can delegate a few of the jobs). Captaining the side on the pitch; attending Selection Meetings each week; dealing with cry-offs; organising umpires, balls and oranges; facing disgruntled players who feel they should be in your team or in a different position; after a bad match facing ten players who suddenly seem to think they are better captains and selectors. Put you off the job, well the rewards as a successful captain, no matter what sport, outweighs all the work and worries. Only people who have had that experience can really appreciate that point... ..Last season I was honoured to receive the Woodpecker Tankard (giving most to the club). Well if one of Y Gods would consult me I would nominate a certain person from the lower (how I hate writing the teams, and I would defy anyone to find a more deserving candidate).....I'm claiming a new world record for the club for the number of times, in the space of three months, a line marking machine can freeze up.....Will he make a comeback? Geoff having seen you play and now look the part with those superb oversized pads, I know the answer. You can stop having those nightmares.....Thanks Abe for those flattering comments. I'll let you buy me a drink next time (as long as we are nowhere near the fruit machine).....Forgot to include in the captain's functions collecting match fees and availability, though both these can be delegated.....I wonder if John got a sofa..... Well did I bore, annoy or insult you. If not I've completely failed.