

## CHAIRMANS REPORT FOR AGM APRIL 2011

I am pleased to report that over the last year, the club membership has risen in both the junior and senior sections. The junior membership stands at 32 and the senior at 14. The club now has a volunteer helper in Hannah Presdee and our thanks go to her for her help over the last few months.

Members have been active over the year in county and local competitions: Joanne Cornish won the Kent girls U/16 foil championships and was runner up in the epee.

Mallard won the Royal Stennick trophy with 5 fencers all gaining points for the overall trophy. Harry Driscoll won both the U/15 foil and epee.

Mallard had 3 entries in the Kent U/10/12/14 championships and the best result was Harry Taylor who finished 8<sup>th</sup> in the U/12 category.

We have a new club trophy which is awarded every 6 months to the member who has contributed the most to the club over the previous 6 months. The 1<sup>st</sup> winner was Aaron Martin-Coles and the current holder is Harry Driscoll.

The club championships were all held last year and the current holders are:

Senior foil and epee – David Norman

Senior sabre – Richard

Junior foil – Harry Taylor

The club had a friendly match in December with Invicta which enabled lots of club fencers to take compete. The match was won by Invicta.

Mallard ran 2 County competitions during the year – The county epee/sabre and the 4 weapon team championships.

Jane and Kate both fenced in the British veterans epee championships in March and finished 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively. They have both been selected to fence for England in the veterans home international on April 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Jane has also been selected to fence for Great Britain veterans in the World veterans championships in Agadir in September this year.

As a clubmark accredited club we were independently assessed this year to ensure that our clubmark folder was being kept up to date. The results of the assessment were good and the assessors were impressed with our folder and the commitment and enthusiasm of the key individuals within the club. Mallard has now been award "Swordmark" which is the fencing equivalent of Clubmark.

During 2010 Mallard was awarded a bronze award by the East Kent Coastal school sports partnership, for the community club of the year, in recognition of the high quality sports sessions we have provided within the community.

Mallard now has its own club banner which is displayed in the club venue.

We now also have a set of mini fence kit which has been used on several occasions, the first being at The Picnic in the Park in the summer holidays, it has also been taken to various schools to give taster sessions.

The club now insists that all club members are individual members of the BFA, this is for insurance purposes. New fencers are allowed 2 weeks as a taster session before joining, but all existing fencers, members of the club or visiting fencers must produce evidence of BFA membership before being allowed to fence. The club also insists that correct equipment is worn at all time when fencing at the club. This is also for insurance reasons.

I would like to thank Peter Ross for his invaluable help on the desk every week, Richard for his work on the club website, Mike Pethick and David Norman for their help with the epeeists , Jane, Kate and Dominique for their coaching skills and Mike Clayton for his help keeping all of the club kit working

The club has had a successful year and I hope that 2011 will be just as successful.

Chairman

Simon Hartley