

3

1950/51

Members are admitted to the meeting only on production of this
Official Balance Sheet and Report.

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB
SEASON 1950-51
REPORT and BALANCE SHEET
for period ending 31st March, 1951.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held in the LARGE HALL, KING
STREET STORES, on THURSDAY, 17th MAY, 1951. Chair to be taken at 8 p.m.

BUSINESS:

1. Acceptance of Standing Orders as circularised.
2. Minutes of the last Annual Meeting.
3. Secretary's Report.
4. Passing of the Balance Sheet.
5. Proposed alteration of Rule.

Proposed by Mr. A. Cordwell, 22 London Road, Oldham.

Seconded by Mr. P. G. Carter, 4 Pierce Street, Oldham.

Rule 5. Delete from the word "held" and insert "each week on a day selected
by the Committee and to commence at 7 p.m., for conducting the general
business."

6. Appointment of Scrutineers.
7. General business.

NOMINATIONS FOR COMMITTEE :

	PROPOSED BY	SECONDED BY
PRESIDENT :		
CORDWELL, A., 22, London Road, Oldham.	P. G. Carter, 4, Pierce Street, Oldham.	A. F. Campbell, 3, Abbey Hills Rd., Oldham.
ACTING VICE-PRESIDENT :		
CARTER, P. G., 4, Pierce Street, Oldham.	F. Knowles, 107, Queens Road, Oldham.	F. S. Holt, 314, Abbey Hills Rd., Oldham.
HON. TREASURER :		
COULTHARD, J., 10, Baytree Avenue, Chadderton.	J. W. Lewthwaite, 22, Middle Gate, Oldham.	F. W. Ashworth, 109, Haven Lane, Oldham.
COMMITTEE (3 required) :		
EDWARDS, R., 7, North Gate, Hollins, Oldham.	J. N. Sharrocks, 23, College Road, Oldham.	D. MacCorquodale, 16, Green Lane, Oldham.
ERROCK, J., 207, Waterloo Street, Oldham.	J. W. Lewthwaite, 22, Middle Gate, Oldham.	F. L. Ridgway, 53, Henshaw Street, Oldham.
HANLEY, T., Shakespeare Hotel, Horsedge Street, Oldham.	A. Gartside, 16, 17th Avenue, Abbey Hills, Oldham.	C. L. Ward, 47, Kenwick Avenue, New Moston, Manchester 10.
HODGSON, T., Auld Lang Syne Hotel, Chadderton Road, Oldham.	H. Sutcliffe, 112, Bamford Street, Chadderton.	E. Wrigley, 29, Manor Road, Shaw.
*HOLT, F. S., 314, Abbey Hills Road, Oldham.	F. Knowles, 107, Queens Road, Oldham.	A. F. Campbell, 3, Abbey Hills Road, Oldham.
*HURTLEY, T. W., Wellington Hotel, Ripponden Road, Oldham.	J. Coulthard, 10, Baytree Avenue, Chadderton.	T. Hoyle, 167, Grange Avenue, Oldham.
KERSHAW, B., 2, Cummings Street, Hollinwood.	F. Holmes, Gardeners' Arms, Cross Street, Oldham.	T. Kershaw, 2, Cummings Street, Hollinwood.
LAWTON, J., 40, Orme Street, Oldham.	R. Pennington, 210, Waterloo Street, Oldham.	E. Harrison, 47, Pitt Street, Oldham.
SELLARS, S. M., 35, Byrom Street, Hollinwood.	G. Mills, 672, Hollins Road, Oldham.	H. Braddock, 9, Alexandra Road, Oldham.
SHERIDAN, T., 103, Kolverlow Street, Oldham.	A. F. Campbell, 3, Abbey Hills Road, Oldham.	J. S. Parkinson, Regent Hotel, Market Place, Oldham.
*THOMAS E., 139, Oldham Road, Springhead, Oldham.	F. W. Ashworth, 109, Haven Lane, Oldham.	J. W. Lewthwaite, 22, Middle Gate, Oldham.

* Denotes retiring Committee.

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB. CASH ACCOUNT for the year ended 31st March, 1951.

	1950 (47 weeks)	1951 (52 weeks)		1950 (47 weeks)	1951 (52 weeks)
INCOME.			EXPENDITURE.		
Period 1950 (47 weeks)	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Period 1950 (47 weeks)	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Mar. 31st.	35 2 6	43 12 1	Mar. 31st.	3743 16 7	5192 18 5
1951			1951		
Mar. 31st.	3963 3 0	4057 5 6	Mar. 31st.	5469 7 0	6466 10 0
To Ordinary Subscriptions	30 0 0	—	By Players' Wages and Bonuses	2351 15 10	2795 14 4
Life Members' Subscriptions	13349 2 9	16307 12 11	Ground Staff, Checkers and Police	256 8 8	333 15 5
Gate and Stand Receipts	1114 3 6	1702 13 9	Referees and Touch Judges	684 14 2	732 15 3
Share of Gates away	470 0 0	562 0 0	Hotel Bills and Refreshments	959 16 1	810 17 7
Rent Received—Stadium	1750 0 0	2200 0 0	Ground Accounts	233 10 0	276 1 0
Transfer Fees Received	5 2 6	3223 13 7	Insurance—Players, Stands, etc.	513 6 4	499 19 0
Donations	300 0 0	—	Printing, Posting and Advertising	1852 1 2	2261 5 3
Donation—Supporters' Club	201 1 7	203 13 7	Share of Gates to Visiting Clubs	9 9 0	10 9 0
Charity Match	38 15 10	196 11 9	Rugby League Subscriptions	375 18 3	498 7 5
Programmes	746 16 2	945 13 0	Players' Outfits and Laundry	221 19 7	185 10 10
Income Tax—P.A.Y.E.	111 0 11	124 5 6	Bank Commission & Cheque Books	399 10 8	364 17 3
Rents Received	—	287 11 0	Railway Fares and Conveances	338 14 8	393 10 8
Income Tax Repayment	—	154 1 0	Deputations	1057 13 3	1144 7 5
Wembley Tickets	—	4233 9 3	Players' Expenses	173 16 0	173 16 0
Cash owing Bank	5192 18 5	26 10 0	Rates	118 9 7	181 13 4
Loan to Players Repaid	—	—	Telegrams, Telephones & Postages	118 16 1	184 11 9
			Medical and Chemists' Accounts	1220 18 6	1716 15 8
			Entertainment Tax	25 4 0	30 9 0
			Audit Fees & Accountancy Charges	54 17 7	28 10 10
			Sundries	7 16 0	6 18 0
			Registration Fees	62 12 6	112 19 6
			Gas, Coal and Coke—Pavilion	4425 0 0	7275 0 0
			Transfer Fees	109 14 10	257 6 11
			Protection of Ground	7 2 0	25 4 0
			Donations to Charities	154 1 0	152 7 6
			Wembley Cup Final Tickets	870 6 1	944 16 0
			Income Tax—P.A.Y.E.	27 16 0	32 0 6
			British Playing Fields	309 3 0	303 1 6
			Income Tax	522 12 9	391 12 0
			Stands, &c.—Reconstruction	201 1 7	—
			Grant to Junior Organisations		
			Do.	202 16 0	
			Balance to Charity		
			Match Bank A/c.	17 7	
					203 13 7
			H. G. Ambler's Benefit	243 14 6	
			Charges on Property Let	121 3 1	133 0 5
			Mortgage Repayments	21 8 9	63 11 8
			Corporation Duty	—	4 5 4
			Bowling Green Expenses	—	17 2 6
			Loan to Players	—	50 0 0
			Cash in Hand	43 12 1	12 0 6
			Cash at Bank (Charity Account) ...	—	17 7
				£27307 7 2	£34268 12 11

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB PAVILION ACCOUNT
CASH ACCOUNT for the year ended 31st March, 1951.

[illegible]

BALANCE SHEET as at 31st March, 1951.

1950		LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
1950	1950	£	s. d.	1950	£
17 2 0	Creditors	—		461 19 10	249 10 10
4864 18 1	Balance of Assets over Liabilities	4995 11 0		4170 0 4	4170 0 4
					3 6 2
				214 19 10	527 5 11
				35 0 1	45 7 9
4882 0 1		£4995 11 0		4882 0 1	£4995 11 0

I have audited the above Balance Sheet with the books and vouchers, and have obtained all the information and explanations required. I certify that, in my opinion, such Balance Sheet is properly drawn up, so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of affairs, in accordance with the information and explanations received, and as shown by the books.

P. OGDEN, F.A.C.C.A.,
Certified Accountant,
15, Queen Street, Oldham.

25th April, 1951.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

I herewith present the Annual Report and Financial Statement of Accounts for twelve months ending 31st March, 1951. The statement of Accounts shows a profit of £1853 18s. 4d. and this amount includes the profit of the Pavilion Account of £130 12s. 11d.

The past year has been one of ever-increasing expenditure, and the result shown must be considered satisfactory. Observation of the Financial Statement shows the amount of £3223 13s. 7d. being received as donations. Of this amount the sum of £3216 10s. 7d. was a legacy left the club by the late Robert Wolfenden, of Henshaw Street, Oldham.

The increased charges for the popular side — the Paddock — has brought increased revenue to the amount of £611 4s. 6d. from 14 first team matches for the period the increased charges have been in operation, and the Committee must feel justified in bringing the popular side charge up to a line comparable with other clubs. In comparison with previous Statement of Accounts for the period of 1949-50 consists of 47 weeks against 52 weeks for the current period.

The attendances at our matches at Watersheddings, in view of our playing record and indifferent displays, must be considered excellent and speaks well for the sporting public for the manner we have been supported.

Comparison of our first team matches attendances (ex members) during the past three seasons shows consistency as follows:

1948-49	...	8125
1949-50	...	8500
1950-51	...	8227

Twenty-two first team matches, league and cup ties have produced £15268 9s. 1d., gate receipts, being payment through the turnstiles, showing an admittance of 180,994, average being £694 and attendance average being 8227.

Sixteen "A" team matches have produced £645 8s. 11d. gate receipts and attendances of 29,589; showing average gate receipts of £40 and average attendance of 1849. The above figures do not include members.

Junior and other matches played on our ground have been watched by 11,298 spectators who paid £393 14s. 11d.

Playing Records.

It is regretted that the season has been one of inconsistency, and when we had hopes of having a successful time the team appeared to lose their grip on many matches. Matches have been won by good play and in some matches, which we fully expected to win, we were beaten.

In the first ten matches we appeared to be set amongst the leaders, having won seven, lost two and drawn one. Mid-October appeared a slump in our fortunes and through injuries and team changes our team gave indifferent displays and bad luck always appeared to be with us.

The 1950-51 campaign has brought in its train hopes and disappointments and perhaps some regrets, but there appears to be the nucleus of a good team in the making. It is admitted that there are certain weaknesses in our playing ranks and your Committee, still persistent in their endeavours to strengthen the team, are making strenuous efforts to provide a team worthy of the club and town of Oldham.

Our position in the Northern Rugby Football League shows very little difference from our position at the end of the 1949-50 season—just a slight gain:

	Position	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Against
1949-50.....	18	36	15	4	17	395	411
1950-51.....	15	36	17	2	17	403	347

In season 1949-50 we finished as No. 8 Lancashire club and the season just concluded No. 7, and if the present formula of R.L. allocation of fixtures is carried out we shall have Yorkshire fixtures with the following clubs: Batley, Huddersfield, Hull, Hull K.R., and York.

Lancashire Cup.

We progressed to the semi-final of the above competition. Our progress to the semi-final was as follows:

Rochdale Hornets	H	won	14—2	match
do. do.	A	won	21—5	2-leg
Workington	A	won	15—8	
Warrington	H	lost	0—5	

Our win at Workington is considered one of the best performances of the season—a great win against a full Workington team when our team consisted of several reserves. Unfortunately our progress to the final was ended by Warrington, who defeated us by 5 points to nil at Watersheddings, in weather conditions that could not have been worse.

Challenge Cup.

Our early exit from the Rugby League Challenge Cup in the first round was a great disappointment to our supporters.

Drawn against Leeds on the two-legged system we realised we were up against a stiff proposition and the first match, played at Leeds, we lost by 23 points to 5 points, a deficit of 18 points, which proved too much for our team in the return match, which we won by 13 points to 10 points. Aggregate points in favour of Leeds, 33 to 18. The match at Leeds was played with heavy fog hanging over the ground, much to the detriment of spectators, who at times could not follow any of the play.

Players.

The following players have been signed during the season:

E. Riding...	...	Out-half	...	...	Leigh Spinners (Leigh)
A. Davies	...	Centre	...	...	Dootson's (Leigh)
H. Lomas	...	Forward	...	...	Lowermoor
T. O'Grady	...	Wing	...	...	St. Mary's (Oldham)
A. W. Hooper	...	Wing	...	...	Wigan St. Joseph's
W. Ratchford	...	Full back	...	...	Belle Vue Rangers
B. Day	...	Forward	...	...	Belle Vue Rangers
R. McCormick	...	Wing	...	...	Belle Vue Rangers
F. Stirrup	...	Out-half/scrum	...	...	Salford
E. Ward	...	Centre	...	...	Wigan
H. Goodfellow	...	Scrum-half	...	...	Wakefield Trinity
W. Nicholson...	...	Wing	...	...	Rochdale Hornets

The undermentioned players have been transferred to other clubs:

A. Fearnley	...	Forward	...	...	Halifax
L. M. Tate	...	Wing	...	...	York
I. Barraclough	...	Full back	...	...	Castleford

Committee Meetings.

There have been 48 Committee Meetings and the attendances have been as follows:—

	Possible	Attendance	Sick	Absent
A. Cordwell	48	46		2
P. G. Carter	48	48		
J. Coulthard	48	47	1	
F. W. Ashworth	48	48		
A. F. Campbell	48	47		1
T. W. Hurtleley	48	46	1	1
F. Knowles	48	46	2	
J. W. Lewthwaite...	48	47		1
F. S. Holt	48	47		1
F. Ridgway	48	47		1
E. Thomas	48	48		
R. L. Thomas...	48	48		

Charity Match.

The Annual Charity Match against Rochdale Hornets was played on Saturday, August 12th, at Watersheddings and our team was successful by 10 points to 9 points. The game was an unfortunate one from injuries received by our players—accidental injuries—and we finished the game with ten players.

The gate receipts from this match amounted to £489 17s. 9d., less expenses. Tokens for players, Rochdale Hornets share amounting to £366 13s. 9d., leaving us with a disposable balance of £123 4s. 0d. To this must be added the sum of £80 9s. 7d. balance from previous year's match and making £203 13s. 7d. for distribution, which has been made to the undermentioned organisations:—

	£	s	d
Oldham Junior League	28	9	0
Oldham Intermediate League	28	9	0
Oldham Continuation League	48	9	0
Oldham Schoolboys' League	48	9	0
B.L.E.S.M.A.	8	3	4
Mayor's Distress Fund	8	3	4
St. Dunstan's	8	3	4
Oldham Blind Children	8	3	4
St. John's Ambulance	8	3	4
Rugby League Secretaries Benevolent Fund	8	3	4

There is a balance of 17s. 7d. to carry forward to next season.

Membership.

The membership of the club is 2182, which shows a decrease of 470 from the previous year. The fact of membership being down by 470, members' subscriptions are £4057 5s. 6d. against £3963 3s. 0d. for the previous year, a cash increase of £94 2s. 6d. This can be accounted for by the increased charges for membership. It is to be regretted that our membership has declined during the past two years as per comparison table herewith.

	1945/46	1946/47	1947/48	1948/49	1949/50	1950/51
Life Members	88	92	97	93	91	91
Enclosure and "E" Stand	80	476	826	958	890	776
Centre Stand	80	506	762	910	716	373
Side Stand	70	371	543	550	491	526
Ground	173	366	470	423	366	168
Juvenile		66	82	120	98	95
Paddock						153
	491	1877	2780	3054	2652	2182

Election of Committee.

Your attention is drawn to Rule 3 of this club regarding marking of ballot papers, as follows:—

"Each member shall have one vote for each vacancy as an official or on the Committee and any voting paper marked with an excess number of votes shall be deemed to be spoiled and none of the votes counted thereon."

Ballot papers must be returned in the enclosed envelope not later than 4 p.m. on Thursday, 24th May, 1951, on which date the votes will be counted according to Rule. There are three vacancies on the Committee and the first three persons elected are in office for a period of three years. Each ballot paper returned **must not contain more than three votes**, otherwise same will be void.

It is essential that members should exercise their privilege in recording their votes for Committee, as the selected representatives are the members' choice, and upon whom the management of the club is vested. The ballot papers will be opened and counted at the Pavilion, Watersheddings, Thursday, 24th May, at 7 p.m., and the result declared the same evening.

Nominations for Scrutineers.

Nominations must be made by members on their entrance to the Annual Meeting. Slips will be provided, to be filled in by each proposer and seconder. No other nominations will be received.

Supporters' Club.

Although no grant has been made from the Supporters' Club, which club has been going through a reorganisation scheme with a limited amount of success, they are still a very active body in their efforts to secure more members. May I appeal to the members to rally round and become members of the Supporters' Club; the more members secured the greater activities and greater encouragement for the Supporters' Club Committee in their efforts for financial aid to the Football Club. This is your club, so please give that little bit extra to a section of willing workers who run the Supporters' Club.

Conclusion—Thanks.

Again it is a privilege, year after year, to thank Dr. John Oliver, our Hon. Surgeon, for the splendid service he has rendered this club; and also the members of St. John Ambulance Brigade for their voluntary services, not only to the players but to the public. I do not know what we should do without the able assistance of these gentlemen, and I am sure the whole of our members appreciate the efforts put forward on our behalf. To our Hon. Solicitor, Mr. W. Buckley, many thanks for ever-willing advice on the legal matters connected with our club. To others who have given that little voluntary assistance to the club in various capacities I express my personal thanks.