

## 31 MARCH 2015 BOARD MEETING: KEY DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

**Grading System:** The Kyu system had been surveyed and the Mon and Dan grades would be included in due course. Further comments from the Senior Examiners' Conference would be considered.

### EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Working Group had met by conference call a number of times; activities were now slowing. Key elements had been circulated in the Action Plan and Risk Register specific to the European Championships.

- Some costs will not be known until after 12 April 2015.
- A meeting has been arranged with Glasgow City Council in Glasgow on 17 April 2015 and the Chief Executive had spoken with UK Sport in order to keep them briefed and up to date with activities.
- The Chairman had been invited at very short notice to a meeting with EJU representatives and regretted that he was unable to attend. Efforts would continue to be made to meet with EJU.
- The insurers and legal team continue to liaise; the Maltese lawyers will be consulted with regard to EJU's contractual obligations.
- A decision on the insurance claim is expected on Thursday.
- Negotiations continue with UFC; a meeting is planned to discuss sponsorship so far.
- The Association is currently in the process of negotiating with other companies to settle out of pocket expenses and accommodation costs.

### Independent Review

- The Review is a joint BJA/UK Sport Review which is practical, rather than two separate reviews.
- Terms of Reference had been drafted and required the approval of the Chair of the Panel, when appointed.
- Although the input of a firm of accountants had been requested, this would significantly increase the costs of the review; the Association is well placed to collate and provide all the necessary information, much of which has already been presented to the legal advisers and insurers. The total cost of the Review should be between £5,000 - £10,000.
- A formal announcement will be made when the Chair has been appointed and the agreed Terms of Reference will be made available.
- A draft statement for the membership regarding the independent review which would be placed on the BJA website.
- A communications plan would be produced outlining the process and including key actions and a timeline over the next five weeks.

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- Midland Area Coach to Coach: 86 coaches attended.
- Master Class in Wales: 60 juniors, 30 coaches and some referees attended.
- Sara Hayes was re-appointed to the Board.
- The role of the British Schools representative on Board would be clarified in the Association's Memorandum and Articles.

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

- **Data Protection:** Thursday, 26 March 2015 Visa contacted Head Office having identified fraudulent activity and identifying the BJA as the central purchase point. The new automated membership system was identified as having been breached. The system was closed immediately and an internal investigation took place; three lines of code had been inserted into the programme which relayed credit card details to 'Dave the Mole'. Those members whose credit card details had been taken were contacted immediately, a statement was put onto the website and circulated to all members to

ask them to be vigilant. The implementation of the automated membership system was put on hold until it was confirmed as secure. Members who were affected have been reimbursed by their card provider. As a result, automated systems have been professionally and independently investigated and the Association been assured that all BJA systems are DSS and PCI compliant. Additional levels of security have been implemented. The investigator commented that all systems are at risk of being hacked and there can be no guarantee that this will not happen again.

- **Conduct and Complaints Commission:** A Commission Chair was appointed. The Selection Panel, including the appointed Chair, discussed applications for Commission members: five candidates will be interviewed for four places; the skill set required includes mediation, investigation and breadth of knowledge. Keith Eldridge has agreed to remain on the Commission for a year to ensure a smooth transition.
- **Sport England Review:** Takes place on 23 April 2015; this is a critical meeting as a decision will be made on further funding. Membership in the 14+ category has certainly reduced and retention in this age category continues to be an issue.
- **Stock:** the Association has a significant amount of stock that was bought in the previous Sport England cycle which has been written off. This would be offered firstly to officials and volunteers and those who help out at events and then to clubs and the membership.
- **Board Elections:** Three Board members would step down this year: Dave Clark, Andrew Haffner and Peter Blewett, all were eligible for re-election. Notification of the AGM and Board positions available would be made in the next edition of e-Matside. Comment was made that three retiring members did not provide for continuity of business and Board agreed to consider changing terms of office so that only one member position is elected each year.
- **Destination@BritishJudo:** The retention rate is good; the first three months membership is complimentary to cover insurance and 74% become members of the Association. Growth in Sunderland has been significant (28% in the last three months) It is hoped that Birmingham and North London will join the Destination@BritishJudo brand.

#### **BRITISH OPEN–EJU SENIOR EUROPEAN CUP LONDON ‘BRITISH OPEN’ –JULY 2015**

- The financial position can only be definitively determined when the ongoing legal and insurance issues associated with the European Championships are resolved; a significant element of which relates to the insurance cover.
- Licences have already been purchased for both competitions: €3,000 for the European Open and €1,000 for the British Open–EJU Senior European Cup London.
- The Association was under some pressure to sign the contract for the Wembley venue in order to take advantage of free marketing.
- Board would be informed of the insurers decision on the European Championships in order that they could make a fully informed decision as to whether the British Open should go ahead. Comment was made that this was a key event in the BJA calendar and would prove to members that the Association had bounced back after its disappointment and was more than capable of running a key competition professionally. The Chairman stated that hosting the European Open would be the Association’s opportunity to show the EJU and the rest of Europe the British Judo Association can run an excellent event and will strengthen the relationship with the EJU.

#### **FINANCE/OPERATIONS REPORT**

- **Automated Membership:** Went on line at 4.15 (am/pm when) and within two minutes, the BJA had its first online membership. To date, 180 members have processed memberships using new system.
- **Signatories:** Would be updated following the resignation of the Management Accountant.

## **STRATEGIC PANEL: TECHNICAL STANDARDS**

- **Tournament Handbook:** The current version of the Tournament Handbook will be run as a pilot until the end of December 2015 after which it will be amended as necessary. The main change was the inclusion of Special Needs judo. A definitive Tournament Handbook will be launched early in 2016.
- **U8S Competitions:** A flyer was tabled promoting an U8s event at a judo club; although entitled a 'Preparation Event' it clearly stated that players would fight each other. The flyer also stated 'All competitors MUST hold a current membership licence. No Licence, No Contest' presumably referring to BJA membership. U8 players are not insured for competition. The matter was discussed in detail. Investigations will continue and a summary prepared for Board. There is a need to educate clubs with explanation as to why U8s should not compete; Technical Officers will be briefed and will have discussions with clubs running such events. Information will also be included on the website.