

JudoScotland

Board Minutes: 20 August 2013

Ref. 2013/5



JudoScotland

Notes of the Meeting of the JudoScotland Board held at the offices of JudoScotland, South Platt Hill, Ratho, Newbridge, Edinburgh, on 20 August 2013.

Present: Ronnie Saez (Chair); James McBeath (JMB); Graham Campbell (GC); Sarah Clark (SC); Peter Gardiner (PG)

Apologies: Marc Preston (MP); Robert Sneddon (RS); Gemma Fay (sportsotland)

In Attendance: Douglas Bryce (CEO)

Welcome & Apologies

1. The Chair opened the meeting and noted the apologies received. Due to GC having to depart early, the Chair wished to alter the agenda somewhat to ensure that all financial-related matters could be covered early in the meeting.

The Gathering

2. GC referred to previous conversations with MP and distributed a letter around the financial support for The Gathering. The first year of The Gathering had been cost neutral, but the proposal from MP was to increase investment in this project to £2,500 for 2013.
3. The CEO referred the Board to the original budget for 2013 approved at Board, which had reflected a small surplus. Taking into account subsequent Board decisions, there was now a projected operational deficit for the current trading year. There would also no doubt be additional expenditure asks around Glasgow 2014 and the CEO asked the Board to be cogniscent of the projected operational deficit and the current JudoScotland (JS) reserves policy.
4. Discussion followed as to the pros and cons of additional investment in this area. The Board agreed by a majority decision to approve additional investment extending up to £2,500 for the event for 2013.

Performance Working Group / Glasgow 2014 Ticketing

5. SC distributed notes from the most recent Performance Working Group (PWG) and wished to bring to the Boards attention a matter raised at that meeting around the purchase of Glasgow 2014 tickets for selected athletes friends and family. There was a general feeling of wishing to support this initiative and also a recognition of potential sponsorship/good-will opportunities around such a move.
6. It was agreed that JS would underwrite the purchase of 4 Glasgow 2014 tickets per selected athlete, via Commonwealth Games Scotland (CGS).
7. PG asked whether any surplus from the proposed Judo Ball could help support such an initiative. The Board felt that when questioned, the destination for the potential Ball surplus had been somewhat vague. GC asked for an update on this at an early juncture.
8. SC also raised the issue of JS purchasing tickets for previous members of the JS performance programme.
9. The CEO referred to items of correspondence contained within the Board papers on this issue and took the opportunity of updating the Board with regards to the current situation with regards to the process of purchasing tickets via CGS. The CEO also wished the Board to confirm the strategy for ticket purchase/distribution.

World Kata Championships

10. The Chair outlined the current challenges faced by Paul Laverty and Alex Reid in gaining support from the BJA to attend the World Kata Championships. They had now been selected by BJA to attend the event but only offered £1,000 in support due to BJA budget constraints.
11. The Chair was seeking support of £1,500 from JS to augment the £1,000 currently offered by BJA. This would leave the two players around £1,000 to contribute personally. This was agreed by the Board

Minutes of Previous Meeting

12. The Minutes were proposed by the Chair and seconded by JMB.

Matters Arising

13. The CEO referred to an updated rolling actions sheet that had been distributed.

BJA Club Membership: Checking/Verification Processes

14. CEO confirmed that he had written to the BJA CEO but probably due to the holiday season had yet to receive a response – hence the amber status colour (as opposed to green).

High Grades Working Group

15. In the absence of MP, the CEO informed the Board that the HGWG had met on Friday 16 August.
16. The Chair updated the Board that the BJA had recently stiffened the criteria for high grades. The future will be significantly different to the status quo. In particular, international experience will become more important in any submission. It was noted that this may well exclude many potential worthy recipients who did not have the requisite international experience.
17. SC raised the prospect of Billy Cusack's (BC) 7th Dan, which should be coming up soon and wondered about a presentation at the European Open? The Chair suggested that if no application had been submitted at the current time, this would be very doubtful for 2013. The Chair proposed that a submission by BC be presented to MP/the HPWG and the BJA at the very earliest opportunity.

Key Policy Documents: Equality

18. The Chair believed that there would be no adverse feedback from the Board and proposed that this document be circulated.

Annual General Meeting 2013

19. The CEO highlighted that he had still to receive some 'Register of Interest' Forms back from Directors and would forward a copy of the form to those yet to respond.

Kai Grade Resource

20. PG introduced a draft exemplar of the Kai resource and thought that the finished product was really good. PG referred to previous concerns regarding the roll-out of the grading resources/diaries and believed that the work already done by the Education and Development team would overcome the previous issues.
21. The Chair wished to pass on his appreciation to the Education and Development staff.

Correspondence

22. No correspondence had been received.

Corporate Governance

Vice-Chair

23. With no other Director seeking nomination, MP was re-appointed as Vice-Chair for a further year.

CEO Update Paper (2013/5/1)

24. There were no questions arising from the CEO updates.
25. The Board noted the forthcoming induction of the Honorary President (George Kerr, 10th Dan) into the IJF Hall of Fame and felt it appropriate to mark the occasion with a presentation to George at the Gathering – possibly presented by Nakanishi.
26. The CEO also gave a brief verbal update on the appointments of the two Regional Development Officers for the East and the West. Verbal offers and acceptances had been exchanged and JS were now awaiting written confirmation from the preferred candidates.

Board Child Protection Champion

27. The CEO referred to the outstanding job that Colin Aitken had been doing in this area. The Chair agreed to remain the Child Protection Champion at Board level.

Working Groups

Performance

28. SC had distributed the notes from the last PWG meeting earlier in the meeting. PG volunteered that he thought the meeting had been very good. One of his concerns had been the perception of a very Edinburgh Club-focussed programme – but felt that this had been changed.

Education

29. Are due to meet shortly.

Corporate

30. GC will proof notes from last working group meeting and distribute for next Board meeting.

BJA Working Groups / Commissions

31. The Chair referred to recent discussions/papers at BJA Board and noted the currently sparse Scottish representation on BJA Commissions/Working Groups. This was something that he would like to see rectified and passed a document regarding BJA Working Groups to the CEO for consideration of nominations.

Development Planning

32. The CEO referred to the length of time that had transpired since trying to pull together a first meeting to look at some forward planning/development. Looking ahead at the JS events calendar, it would appear that there are only some 7 days (Fridays/Saturdays) prior to the end of the year that would be available due to planned events (competitions/trainings/education etc.). JMB proposed a day during the week as an alternative to progress this important issue.

GC left the meeting

Support, Development and Training of Referees, Officials and Volunteers

33. PG circulated a hand-out of his original email to Paul McGuinness that had been copied to the Board. PG reinforced the notion of not wanting a resolution to the matter at the meeting, but wished to start the discussion process. PG had concerns that JS was almost at a 'tipping-point' with regards to referees and officials and wished to enthuse and inspire a younger generation.
34. The Board engaged in some wide-ranging discussion covering historical aspects to officiating/volunteering, current developments (i.e. the emerging mentoring programme) and future aspirational delivery and support.
35. The Chair reported that he personally had a much greater appreciation of the role of the Referee, since attending more events in his capacity as a parent.

Events and Communications

JS Supported Events Paper

36. The CEO tendered apologies from the Events and Communications executive (ECE), due to her being on annual leave. The CEO also reflected on the number of times that the paper had been tabled – but never discussed previously due to time-constraints.
37. The CEO also believed that rather than look at the two papers in isolation, the Board should look at these in light of the previous discussion on support the development of referees/officials and providing appropriate opportunities for an individuals' development.
38. The Chair highlighted that he would have welcomed some further financial information around the paper – particularly where he believed that some events were already turning a profit by being involved in the Grand prix circuit.

JS Regional Rumbles

39. Fundamentally, PG believed that coaches/Clubs would welcome the 'Rumble' concept, although believed that further refinement was required prior to sign-off.

BJA Update

40. The Chair reported that the BJA were keen that JS take a table at their annual awards dinner on 16th November. The Chair had some reservations over inviting people to attend, but not being in a position to cover the costs of their travel and accommodation. The Board agreed to take a table.

Date of Next Board Meeting

Tuesday 1 October 2013

The meeting closed at 2147 hours.

Web Version