

JudoScotland Board Minutes:

23 August 2016

Ref. 2016/5



Notes of the Meeting of the JudoScotland Board held at the Edinburgh International Climbing Arena (EICA), South Platt Hill, Ratho, Newbridge, Edinburgh, on 23 August 2016, commencing at 1830 hours.

Present: Ronnie Saez (Chair); Sarah Clark (SC); Peter Gardiner (PG); James McBeath (JMB); Marc Preston (MP); Robert Sneddon (RS).

Apologies: Graham Campbell (GC)

In Attendance: George Kerr CBE (Honorary President); Douglas Bryce (CEO); Tony Penfold (TP); Ewen Cameron (sportsScotland); Andrew Scoular and Colin McIver (both British Judo Association).

Welcome and Apologies

- 1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and in particular the guests from the British Judo Association (BJA): Andrew Scoular (Chief Executive Officer) and; Colin McIver (Sports Director).
- 2 The Chair noted that apologies had been received from Graham Campbell due to business commitments and – following a late message – noted that both MP and George Kerr (GK) were on route, but were currently stuck in traffic.

Declarations of Interest

- 3 The Chair believed that due to the specific nature of the Board meeting, there were no declarations of interest to be made by any JS Board members.

Leadership and Governance

Minutes of the Meeting of 3 May 2016

- 4 The CEO highlighted that the Board had been unable to approve these Minutes previously. This had been due to the original meeting not being quorate and the difference in Board members attending meetings. The CEO highlighted that the only action required was to approve this set of Minutes, assuming that they were indeed an accurate record. The Board approved the Minutes of 3 May 2016.

Performance Development

Rio 2016 Olympic Games

- 5 The Chair introduced a Discussion Paper (2016/5/1) that he had requested be drafted by the CEO at relatively short notice following a number of reflections and conversations around the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.
- 6 The CEO highlighted that the Rio 2016 Olympic Games had seen TeamGB:
 - 6.1 achieve their most successful 'away Games' ever;
 - 6.2 win more medals than at any other Olympic Games in over 100 years and;
 - 6.3 finish second overall in the final medals table.
- 7 Supporting TeamGB at Rio 2016 was a record number of Scots at an 'away Games' – including Sally Conway - with 50 Scottish athletes selected across 15 different sports.
- 8 The purpose of this paper was to seek approval from the JudoScotland (JS) Board to deviate from the current JS Reserves Policy (as contained within the Financial Procedures Manual) to enable an appropriate response to the attainment of an Olympic medal by Sally Conway.

1815 Hours MP and GK arrive

- 9 In particular, it was reflected that the evening of Wednesday 10 August 2016 was of particular importance for Judo-in-Scotland, when judoka Sally Conway made history by winning Scotland's first ever Olympic Judo medal. The Board recognised that the attainment of her Olympic Bronze medal was the culmination of many years of personal sacrifice and dedication by Sally, supported by her Club (Edinburgh Judo), JudoScotland and the sportsScotland institute of sport.
- 10 The achievement by Sally offered her Club, JudoScotland and Judo-in-Scotland the opportunity to:
 - 10.1 Formally recognise and celebrate Sally's achievement and those that have supported her on her journey;
 - 10.2 Engage JS members and provide an opportunity to be associated with Scotland's Olympic history;
 - 10.3 Recognise significant individuals in the performance story (heritage) of Judo-in-Scotland to date.
- 11 The CEO highlighted that the underlying purpose of the Paper was to seek approval from the JudoScotland (JS) Board to deviate from the current JS Reserve's Policy - as contained within the Financial Procedures Manual - to enable an appropriate response to the attainment of an Olympic medal by Sally Conway.

- 12 PG asked regarding the potential for an additional Rio 2016 Paralympic medallists. The CEO referred to the last point in the Discussion Paper (17.1) where the Paper did allude to the "*possible future achievements by additional judoka at the 2016 Paralympic Games*". The CEO accepted that the Paper was very much written based on facts that were known at the present time (i.e. the medal won by Sally Conway), rather than hypothetical information. The CEO also alluded to the fact that he did not wish to "tempt fate" by including any potential result at the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games.
- 13 Some general discussion ensued with regards to potential collaborative work with Sally.
- 14 Overall the Board were supportive of the broad proposals and agreed to deviate from the current JS Reserves Policy (contained within the Financial Procedures Manual: 2016/2) and to commit to a maximum of £15,000 into potential Olympic (Paralympic) Legacy activities – subject to further details being worked once a conversation with Sally has taken place.

British Judo Association

Strategic Plan

- 15 Andrew Scoular (AS), Chief Executive Officer, British Judo Association (BJA) thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend the meeting and present on the BJA Strategic Plan globally and more specifically, the performance plan leading into Tokyo 2020. AS provided an overview to the current BJA strategic plan, utilising a previously prepared PowerPoint presentation.

Tokyo 2020

- 16 AS subsequently provided further detail around the performance-specific element of the BJA strategic plan leading into Tokyo.
- 17 MP asked regarding the concerns highlighted by AS for Visually Impaired (VI) athletes moving forward towards 2024? AS responded that although BJA had had a development post for VI Judo, the reality was that the individuals probably ended up actually coaching on the mat, more than engaging in development work. AS continued that there was some work around visiting blind schools currently – but that BJA could probably do more.
- 18 MP continued by asking regarding other disabilities? AS responded that currently only VI Judo had a competitive outlet at Paralympic/World level and therefore this was the priority for BJA. Should other disabilities be recognised by IJF/IPC then BJA would review the situation.
- 19 PG asked regarding the number of residential spaces at Walsall? AS replied that there were currently up to 35 people accommodated residentially (BJA could potentially access 40 rooms). BJA were looking at the situation similar to a college/university accommodation scenario, where an individual's first year at the centre would require the individual being accommodated on-site, with second and subsequent years seeing the athlete move out to a flat/house/own accommodation.
- 20 The Chairman thanked AS for his attendance and presentation to Board.

Date of Next Board Meeting

- 21 The next scheduled meeting of the Board was due to take place on Tuesday 6 September 2016. Following a subsequently circulated 'doodle poll' this was changed to 20 September 2016.

Meeting closed at 1935 hours