

JudoScotland

Board Minutes: 15 May 2012

Ref. 2012/4



JudoScotland

Notes of the Meeting of the JudoScotland Board held at the offices of JudoScotland, South Platt Hill, Ratho, Newbridge, Edinburgh, on 15 May 2012.

Present: Ronnie Saez (Chair); Graham Campbell (GC); James McBeath (JMB); Marc Preston (MP); Robert Sneddon (RS).

Apologies: Sarah Clark (injured);

In Attendance: Douglas Bryce (CEO); Dave Clark (BJA); Barry Fleeting (sportsotland).

The meeting Commenced at 1846 Hours

Welcome & Apologies

1. The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed Dave Clark, Chairman of the BJA Self Defence Commission.
2. The Chair noted that Sarah Clark would not be attending the meeting, but was available via conference telephone if required.
3. Both Graham Campbell and Robert Sneddon were expected.
4. The Chair recognised that the meeting was currently inquorate and proposed to commence the meeting and then go back over any areas that required confirmation of decision by a quorate Board.

Robert Sneddon arrived at 1849 hours, making the Board meeting quorate.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

5. Item 4 **Board Meeting Date (October 2012)**

MP stated that Destination Judo did not run camps. MP believed that he had meant the school holiday dates.

6. Item 34 **Draft Annual Accounts**

MP felt that this was not reflective of the discussion. The Chair updated the Board with regards to further information since the last meeting and contractual aspects.

Board Rolling Actions Log

October Board Meeting

7. It was agreed that the October Board meeting would take place on 2 October 2012.

Action: All Board members to note new date.

Focus Judo

8. The Chair referred to a conversation with Mr Hunt at a recent event. The Chair had provisionally agreed to meet Mr Hunt at the JudoScotland offices on 25 May 2012, at 1830 hours. The Chair requested that the Education and Development Manager (EDM) and National Grading Officer (NGO) attend this meeting.

Action: CEO to ascertain availability of EDM and NGO.

Graham Campbell arrived at 1859 hours

Honorary Vice-President

9. The Chair outlined that he had now spoken with Mr Jim Feenan (former Chairman) regarding a Vice-President proposal at the forthcoming AGM.

Correspondence

National Referee Co-ordinator

10. The Chair referred to the letter of resignation from David McSkimming (DMS) as National Referee Coordinator. The Chair and JMB offered some background to the resignation and also noted that DMS had withdrawn from officiating at the Olympic Games.

Action: JMB to speak informally to Neil Malone regarding the assumption of an interim, holding role. If NM agreeable, CEO to write formally to NM.

Action: CEO to write formally to DMS on behalf of the Board.

CGS Sport-Specific Selection Policy

Due to training requirements within the National Training Centre, David Somerville (DS), National High Performance Coach was asked to join the meeting.

11. The Chair outlined the general agreement to the selection document at previous Board meetings. The Chair proposed that DS talk through the document and take any questions from Board members if and when they arise.
12. DS referred to previous feedback from MP and the CEO and understood that the Board wished to question more around the subjective aspects to the document rather than the qualitative assessment matrix. DS believed that the current version of the document removed much of the subjective elements of the previous draft.
13. DS referred to the shift in Commonwealth Games Scotland (CGS) generic selection criteria and the mapping of the judo-selection document to this. This shift from CGS was more towards British Olympic Association (BOA) selection criteria, where any selected athletes were expected to be able to perform to a stipulated standard against the rest of the competitive field.
14. GC asked around the current selection matrix and whether a second ranked player could achieve the results currently stated. DS highlighted that a second ranked player would have to achieve results in the competition (s) included within the current matrix. GC thought it beneficial to have some options to look at other criteria below the current points matrix.
15. The Chair asked DS regarding his confidence in some of the current players – including a range of birthplace backgrounds – to represent Scotland in 2014. DS responded that whilst there were no absolute guarantees within sport, he believed that currently supported players would indeed represent Scotland at the Commonwealth Games in 2014 if selected.
16. The Board unanimously agreed the selection policy.
17. The Chair intimated that the Board had unanimously agreed the selection policy and requested that DS communicate the document to the relevant CGS working group that was meeting the following evening.

DS left the meeting at 1945 hour.

BJA Grading System

Thomas Brown (TB), National Grading Officer (NGO) joined the meeting.

18. MP had requested that this item be placed on the agenda and had discussed this with the NGO prior to the meeting. The NGO circulated a hand out with regards to the purchase of the new BJA grading diaries and talked the Board through these draft costings.
19. MP reflected on the journey to date with the new grading system and believed that we now had to plan the phasing in of the new system. MP introduced an email from Peter Gardner (Sportif), which had followed on from a telephone conversation between PG and the NGO. MP highlighted that he did not personally agree with all the points contained within the communication, however PG had stated that he was unhappy with the quality of product to children.
20. MP felt that a valid point raised was that individuals now paid for their first grading. MP highlighted that this meant that individuals joining a Club now had to pay their Club joining fee, then buy a JudoScotland

membership, buy a gi and then pay for their first grading. NGO responded that this was exactly the current situation that BJA operated in England.

21. MP responded that he felt we needed a feasibility study around this element. By way of example, MP indicated that Sportif were not currently grading new members, but that MP did agree with the charging element.
22. The Chair reflected that the previous discussions and decision of the Board had brought us into line with the current BJA system, although there may be merit in monitoring this going forward.
23. MP enquired as to whether the JudoScotland membership fee decreased over time. Both The Chair and NGO responded that it did not. Dave Clark also reinforced that there was no decrease in BJA membership fees over time.
24. The CEO referred to the current financial procedures manual and that any proposed purchase of grading resource books would require Board approval, prior to the CEO, Treasurer and Chair signing off the purchase order. Following a proposal from the Treasurer and CEO, the Board agreed to an initial purchase of grading books up to but not exceeding £19,066.50 (the draft figures presented to the meeting earlier by the NGO). This would allow an order to be placed without having to come back to the Board.

Action: CEO and Events & Communications Team to progress with ordering the initial print run of grading resource books.

The NGO left the meeting.

British Judo Association

BJA Board

25. The Chair reported on the most recent BJA Board meeting, which had focussed on a different operational view going forward, which the Chair believed could bring benefits to operational working. DC agreed and believed that the BJA could be much smarter business-wise moving forward.
26. With a view towards 2014, the Chair also highlighted the current potential financial exposure of BJA with regards to Olympic ticket purchasing.

BJA Events

27. The Chair was pleased to report that Glasgow Life was the preferred bidder for the 2013 to 2016 GB World Cups. The agreement also included a potential bid for the Senior European Championships in 2015.
28. This translated into the possibility of 6 major events to be staged between 2013 and 2016 within Scotland.

Self Defence Commission

29. The Chair introduced Dave Clark (DC), Chair of the BJA Self Defence commission who had kindly agreed to come and present to the Board.
30. DC gave a historical perspective on self-defence from Goshin-Jitsu and Kata.
31. In 2004, Goshin-Jitsu translated previous works in this area into a pictogram with 21 moves, which then translated into the BJA Personal Safety Award. This was eventually closed down by the BJA due to its unregulated nature.
32. In 2011, DC put himself forward to resurrect a Self Defence Commission and began to look at things differently:
 - a. Keeping members within judo (as opposed to other martial arts);
 - b. Developing a commercial portfolio and alluding to the potential to link with the Security Industry Authority (SIA).
33. DC alluded to a project manager commencing with the BJA the previous day, via sport England 'intervention money' to scope out and deliver this package.

Action: CEO to circulate further information when received from DC.

34. DC believed that this development could bring benefits for all Home Nations, as well as the BJA. The Chair certainly agreed that this proposal demonstrated an opportunity to advertise judo to a new/wider market.
35. DC confirmed that 3rd Kyu would be a minimum judo-technical standard to commence the programme and those current thoughts were that an individual's current *judo* grade would determine their self-defence grade. DC gave a further commitment to keep everyone involved and up-to-date with regards to developments/opportunities.

36. DC also outlined his belief of additional revenue streams in terms of:
- a. Developing the product;
 - b. Training the trainers;
 - c. Having a grading process.
37. DC highlighted the benefits of having Mr Ray Sheerin from Scotland involved in the process to date. The Chair also highlighted Marc Preston as the JudoScotland Board 'Champion' for this project and also the Education and Development Manager as the strategic/operational lead within Scotland.
38. The Chair thanked DC for his time and presentation to the Board.

AOCB

Commonwealth Tournament Working Group

39. The Chair outlined the move to get the first meeting of this Working Group scheduled.

Commonwealth Games 2018

40. The Chair outlined discussions with BJA/other Home Nations with regard to lobbying for judo to become a permanent/core sport with in the Commonwealth Games from 2018.

Competition Resources

41. The Chair also raised the state of the mats at a recent tournament staged at Meadowbank Sports Stadium (Edinburgh). The Chair wished to highlight significant concerns over the state of these and also highlighted JudoScotland's duty-of-care towards our competitors.

Action: CEO to write to Meadowbank Sports Stadium (Edinburgh) management.

Action: JudoScotland to conduct a feasibility study on the potential procurement and storage of mats.

British Judo Association Chair Elections

42. The Chair reflected on a number of approaches made to him by prospective BJA Chair candidates.
43. The CEO outlined a discussion with the Treasurer over inviting any prospective candidates to present at the AGM in an open forum directly to the Clubs.

Action: CEO to extend an opportunity for BJA Chair candidates to attend the AGM via the BJA website

The meeting closed at 2220 hours.