

JudoScotland

Board Minutes: 19 November 2013

Ref. 2013/8



JudoScotland

Notes of the Meeting of the JudoScotland Board held at the offices of JudoScotland, South Platt Hill, Ratho, Newbridge, Edinburgh, on 19 November 2013.

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

Apologies: Dr George Kerr, CBE, Honorary President; Gemma Fay (sportsotland)

In Attendance: Douglas Bryce (CEO); Bill Berry MBE (BB) Hon. Vice-President; Rick Kenney (RK) Hon. Vice-President; Jim Feenan (JF) Hon. Vice-President.

Welcome & Apologies

1 The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed the Honorary Vice-President's.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

2 These were approved.

Matters Arising

Rolling Actions Sheet

3 The Board referred to an updated rolling actions sheet (version 19/11/2013) that had been distributed.

The Gathering (Report)

4 The CEO circulated a report on 'The Gathering' event that had been requested at the previous Board meeting. The CEO further elaborated that advance planning for the 2014 event was focussing on using Glasgow 2014 as an underlying theme.

Correspondence

New Club Applications

5 Further to previous electronic approval, the Board formally minuted and approved Club applications from: Barrhead Judo; Revolution Judo; Judo Club Esprit; Titan Judo (Paisley).

Letter of Complaint

6 The Chair believed that there were a number of issues raised within the complainant's letter. Referring to previous actions and decisions made at Board – and also delegated to JudoScotland (JS) Disciplinary Panels – the Chair believed that JS had followed its Articles of Association, embraced the concept of natural justice, independence & transparency and had adequately discharged its duty in terms of previous complaints.

7 At the time (in the absence of the Chairman), MP – as Vice-Chair - referred to conversations that he had had with the CEO around the complainant's letter on the day that it had been received. MP reflected on the balancing act between safeguarding JS and also safeguarding the rights of individual members to attend and participate in JS events.

Matside Publication

8 The CEO introduced a recently received email with regards to the BJA publication 'Matside'. The Board were of the belief that individual Clubs that are in membership of BJA received a copy and not individual members/coaches.

Complaint Regarding a non-Member

- 9 The CEO referred to a telephone call received from a member earlier that day and distributed a copy of an email containing an alleged social media post by a non JS-member. Although the alleged posting was at best undesirable, the Chair believed that this particular post did not constitute action(s) that could be regarded as bringing the sport into disrepute.

Corporate Governance

CEO Update (Paper: 2013/7)

- 10 The CEO referred to the previously circulated CEO Update.
- 11 The CEO also updated the Board with regard to an impending change in sportscotland Partnership Manager for JS. JS were currently awaiting advisement on GF's successor.
- 12 The CEO further reported on the Commonwealth Games Scotland (CGS) half-yearly meeting the previous evening and in particular the forthcoming Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) Sport Programme review.

Board Meeting Dates/Business

- 13 This was deferred until the January 2014 Board meeting.

Equality Questionnaire

- 14 The CEO reminded the Board that the work JS was engaged in with regards to Equality was linked with its sportscotland investment conditions. The CEO further thanked the Corporate Services Executive (CSE) for updating the questionnaire and taking it through the CGWG. The Board noted the new Equality questionnaire.

Key Policy Documents

- 15 GC introduced the Cash Handling Key Policy Document (KPD) and the Board approved this.

Operational Budget 2014

- 16 GC introduced the first draft budget for the 2014 trading year. GC highlighted that there were still a significant number of clarifications required – not least of which would be confirmation of investment from sportscotland.

Non-Executive Directors

- 17 MP wanted to see 1 or 2 non-Executive Directors join the JS Board. He believed that this worked well with BJA and that JS could adopt a similar system. The CEO reminded the Board that such a change would require a change to the current Articles of Association (Articles).

Electoral Reform Society

- 18 MP believed that this had been agreed previously by the Board and would like to see this actioned in the lead-in to the 2014 AGM. MP cited the BJA use of this system. GC was unaware of the specific costs involved and would like further information before a decision is made.

Working Group Updates:

CGWG

- 19 GC circulated copies of the most recent CGWG meeting notes and talked to these.

Working Group Updates: Membership and Grading

- 20 RS circulated the notes/action points from the most recent meeting of this group and updated the Board. The Chair reflected on the recent increase in BJA grading fees. Although this had generated some negative social media activity, this was relatively short-lived however. The Board considered that, as it has been some considerable time since the last review of grading fees, JS should undertake an exercise to examine appropriate grading fee levels and to report back accordingly.

Corporate / Development Planning

Membership Services: Database (Paper: 2013/7/2)

- 21 The CEO introduced a paper from the Senior Administrative Executive (SAE) with regards to the JS database. Although there was general support for the proposals, GC and the CEO were requested to incorporate the costing into either the current or 2014 budget.

Strategic Planning Development

- 22 The CEO thanked those that had attended the recent first planning event. The CEO then introduced a first draft strategic planning-journey document to begin the production of the next JS Strategic Plan.

Judo Foundation in Scotland

- 23 JF introduced the outline proposal of setting up a Judo Foundation within Scotland and spoke to a PowerPoint presentation and circulated hand-outs. Following some general questioning around target market(s) and investment, GC proposed that the Board should be supportive of the project going forward.

Glasgow 2014

JudoScotland/TeamScotland Selection Process and Timelines (Paper: 2013/7/3)

- 24 The CEO introduced the previously prepared Board paper (2013/7/3) surrounding the JS/TeamScotland selection processes and timelines. RS raised a potential interest in terms of this item and removed himself from consideration to sit on either selection or appeals panel.
- 25 The CEO also highlighted the offer by the sportscotland institute - following request by JS - to provide a Selection Workshop (to be run by Harper MacLeod LLP) on the 15th January 2014, for those involved in selection/appeals processes.

CJA Tournament 2014

- 26 The Chair reported on a Working Group meeting that taken place immediately prior to the Board meeting. The Chair referred to the challenges around the timescales in getting sanctioning for the event from the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF), which had undoubtedly had an impact on advertising, planning and budgets for visiting countries.
- 27 Although a number of countries had responded positively, many of these indications were of teams of less than 10. The majority of CJA-member countries had not responded to date. England (BJA) would not be sending a team – but had offered the opportunity to the English Areas on a self-funding basis.
- 28 Further communication regarding the event would be sent out the following day, with a cut-off for responses by 29 November. The next meeting of the Working Group was scheduled for 3rd December and a decision on progressing with advertised event, or looking at a Legacy event in 2015 (including a Senior category) would be considered.

British Judo Association

- 29 The Chair reflected that the recent AGM appeared to go extremely well with no real business of any substance presented and no challenges from the floor.
- 30 The Chair also highlighted the recent opening of the new BJA Performance Centre and its impressive facilities. It was noted that there were some 22 funded players training at the new Centre.

AOCB

Mr Bob Christie

- 31 Bill Berry (BB) wished it recorded that Mr Bob Christie – a founding member of Aberdeen Judo Club – had sadly passed away recently.

Historical Archiving

- 32 Rick Kenney (RK) highlighted that there was currently no historical archive of Judo-in-Scotland. With the now advancing years of many of those originally involved within the sport in Scotland, there was a diminishing opportunity to gather information and memorabilia from the early days of the sport.
- 33 RK proposed producing a one page proposal on the historical archive concept and to submit this to the Board for its consideration.

The meeting closed at 2158 hours.