

DRAFT

THE BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION ('BJA') ('ASSOCIATION')
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON SATURDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2020 AT 11:30AM VIA ZOOM

Council:

Dr George Kerr CBE, President
Colin Draycott, Senior Vice President
Richard Barraclough, Vice President, Chair
Tony Sweeney, Vice President
Brian Davies, JP, Vice President
Rowena Birch, Vice President
Nadia Minardi, London Area
Alan Stanbra, Yorkshire & Humberside Area
Dave Stanley, Southern Area
Dave Allen, Western Area
Denise Oates, Eastern Area
David Rance, Northern Home Counties
Garth Illingworth, Northern Area
Marion Woodard, Southern Area
Andy Scott, England Area Chair Western
Matthew Clempner, Police Sport UK

Board:

Ronnie Saez, Chair
Peter Blewett
Andrew Haffner
Bill Taggart
Claire Lish
Alex Slade
Neil Fletcher
Loretta Cusack-Doyle
Malgorzata Grzyb

In Attendance

Andrew Scoular, Chief Executive
Colin McIver, Sport Director
Joyce Heron, Deputy Sport Director
Sajid Hussain, Financial Controller
Nigel Donohue, Performance Director
Karen Roberts, Head of Performance Operations
Justine Lynch, Executive Assistant

Other Attendees:

Martin French	Peter Holme	Jo Hunt
Rick Kenney	Mick Murphy	Jo Crawley
Lisa Rivers	Mike Draper	Dave Duffy
David Martin	Kevin O'Reilly	John Horrigan
Dave Horton-Jones	Mercedes Monroy	Graeme Allen



Peter Salter
Kerry Tansey
Dave Clark
Tony Weaver
Jenny Jones

Paul Grady
Ricky Haynes
Gail Allen
Karen French
Sarah Franks

David Francis
Siobhan Tierney
Robert Parker
Jad Harris

Clubs Represented:

Budokwai
Weston Super Mare
Jersey
Stowmarket
Reading
Wolverhampton
Bedford
Metro
Portland
Pudsey
Peterlee
Kelmscroft
Rochdale
Renzoku
Exmouth Vikings
East Yorkshire

Rainhill Rockets
Aireborough & Wharfedale
Alton
St Albans
Felixstowe
Norwich Premier
Clyde
Kin Ryu
High Wycombe
Katana
Avon
Hackney
Solihull
Kumo
Chichester

Newburn
Torakan
Hosaka Kwai
Yamano
Kendal
Dowty
Kyu-Shin-Ksai
Bedford
Abingdon
Osterley
Pinewood
Bangor
Samurai
Middlesbrough
Winchester

1. Welcome

GK welcomed everyone to what was the first ever AGM to be conducted via Zoom, adding that he hoped everyone would still get everything out of the meeting that they would do normally.

2. Apologies

GK advised that apologies had been received from:

- Fred Prosser, BJA Board
- Mick Leigh, Vice President
- Paul Tansey, Croxteth Judo Club

3. Respects for friends and colleagues who have passed away

The meeting was advised that the following persons had sadly passed away during the last 12 months. GK expressed his sincere condolences to their family and friends. They would all be remembered with respect and fantastic contributors to the sport and the BJA. The meeting then observed a one minute silence.

- Danny King
- Frank Jones
- Dennis Aris
- Fred Miles
- Tony Barton
- Jean Lingham
- Alan Petheridge MBE

4. **President's Address**

GK reflected on the current situation due to Covid and being in lockdown for a lot of the year, adding that this has been a very difficult time for the Association with a loss of income. GK also added thanks to RS and AS who he felt reassured were coping with these difficult times extremely well.

5. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 2 November 2019**

The only amendments raised were that Rick Kenney and Andrew Haffner sent apologies for the meeting.

The Minutes of the 2 November 2019 Meeting were:

PROPOSED by: Garth Illingworth

SECONDED by: Mick Murphy

and were **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** by all Members present.

6. **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 7 November 2019**

No matters arising.

7. **Reports**

7.1 Chairman's Report

Ronnie Saez (RS) thanked everyone for their attendance.

RS went on to highlight the highs and lows of the previous year:

- Positive feedback has been received from UK Sport (UKS) in regard to the improvement plan that has been put in place in Performance following the Walk the Floor exercise and the "British Judo Way" initiative launched to further develop and implement this;
- We met with our newly appointed UKS Governance Manager to discuss implanting the 2018/2019 Governance Action Plan;
- Quarterly meetings have been held with Council members who remain supportive of the BJA Board and Executive;
- There had been a UKS led review of both the Finance and Governance functions of the NGB and the results had been very positive for both reviews with a few recommendations to take forward
- The Commonwealth Judo Association Championships that were staged in Walsall in late September attracted an exceptional number of countries and fighters and the event was a great success
- There had been excellent medal success at European Games and at Grand Prix competition

RS concluded that there had been a lot of activity planned but due to Covid this was now on hold. However, he very much hoped that judo would commence again soon. RS added that he would like to pass on his thanks to everyone who continued to support British Judo.

7.2 Chief Executive's Report

AS shared his presentation (which will be added to the AGM section of the website, along with these minutes) with the meeting attendees and highlighted the following points:

- Building good links with Wolverhampton University including Commonwealth Championships; Performance Centre extension and looking at future opportunities;
- There has been a reduction in staffing and overheads
- Several reviews: 2 by BDO on Governance and Finance; Sport & Recreational Alliance Board Evaluation; Safeguarding by Lime Culture; CPSU annual review and an internal skills audit;
- In the year 2019-20, British Judo membership was up by 1,872 with the gender split remaining fairly static at 72%/28% and the age profiles have also remained relatively unchanged;
- Launched a Member Benefits package that provides discounts on retail outlets, restaurants and entry to theme parks and activities;
- Generally grading figures have remained in line with the previous year but Mon grades were down by 365 and Dan grades increased by 382;
- Education and training for Officials did see a dip in the figures, most significantly 86 less Timekeepers attending training
- Education and training for Coaches saw a large reduction in Level 1 Coaching qualifications by 306 and for Level 2 by 163
- Education and training for Referees has remained static through all the levels
- DestinationJudo had 1,916 children participating in 7 hubs with a 36% female and 64% male gender split (this programme has subsequently had to be mothballed due to Covid)
- The Regional Development Squads (REDS) has been launched successfully, which offers access to Judo for more young people from multiple backgrounds
- The Para potential group with England Talent is also growing and being lined to adaptive judo sessions
- As of December 2019 the England Talent Department has joined the BJA Performance Programme with Tim Ellis, Performance Pathway Manager, leading the programme
- There have been many medal successes throughout the year and
- We have been working on promoting British Judo via our social media platforms with the intention of moving more of our operations to be digital and producing a comprehensive Digital Strategy

AS concluded that Covid has brought with it a lot of challenges including membership and gradings income reducing significantly but he hoped that it was felt that the BJA were doing what they could to support members and clubs via our social media/Covid 19 Microsite.

8. Resolution

No Director elections to be voted on.

9. BJA Consolidated Accounts 2019/20

AS informed that the accounts were included in the Annual Report.

PROPOSED by: Garth Illingworth

SECONDED by: Peter Blewett

10. Appointment of Auditors

As advised at the previous year, there would be an auditor tender process every 2 years and therefore Sedulo had carried out this audit as they had been approved at the previous AGM.

11. Any other Business

No items for Any Other Business were raised.

12. Close

GK thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting closed at 12:35.