



DIRECTOR'S MEETING 10 September 2020, 20:00

MINUTES & PROCEEDINGS

Present: Richard Martin (chair), Dave Coles, James McIntyre, Lawrence Selby, Rodrigo Souza, Mike Williams, Neil Williams

Apologies: Nick Brooks,

Agenda:

- 1) Coronavirus/Return to Sport Updates
- 2) Elite Athlete Programme
- 3) New council and committee(s)
- 4) AGM 2020 planning and agenda
- 5) A.O.B

There being more than 3 directors present, in accordance with article 24 of the Constitution, the meeting was declared quorate

Proceedings:

- 1) Welcome from the Chairman. RM updated Board on status of Return to Sport Action Plan: Combat Sports Panel submitted to DCMS, when it was put into their "triple lock" system, consisting of DCMS, PHE and 10 Downing St. Decision is now overdue and all members of the Combat Sports Panel have expressed their dissatisfaction at the length of time taken. The Association and other Panelists have voiced their concern that it would be ridiculous to push reopening beyond the scheduled reopening in Scotland (now pushed back to 5 October) and that failure to make a decision is just leading to clubs re-opening illegally. We have also raised the question of allowing Juniors back to training, in line with schools reopening, but with no response. At present our guidance remains unchanged and gyms should only engage in socially distanced non-contact training, per government regulations. LS confirmed that England Boxing are taking the same approach. MW has updated website with latest info. LS suggested pinning latest links government guidelines to the top of Covid page. ACTION: MW to implement.
- 2) RM pointed out that Elite Athlete programme was originally only intended to run for a few months, but without it we have no power to sanction Polaris or other pro events. Decision therefore to maintain programme until grass roots return to sport. Current costs are £1500/month for data processing.
LS asked whether we could introduce a mandatory testing programme, in light of the government's plans to dramatically expand test and trace as soon as practicable. Board agreed that our intention should be to test participating athletes on a monthly basis, subject to Govt. fulfilling its promise to make tests available and accessible.
ACTION: MW to engage/retain Yorrick Von Ohlen beyond the end of this month and also re-open applications, subject to strict guidelines around qualifying athletes.
- 3) New appointments seem to be settling in well, after some bedding in issues around the Basecamp software. RM to go into committees and council and update them on objectives/mission and decision making process. LS raised question of whether Directors



should be present on committees and that there should be a clear delineation between the Board and the Committees and Committees should be given an element of autonomy in their actions and decision making in promoting the aims and objectives of the Association.

JM asked about vacant Scottish Junior Development Officer position.

ACTION(S): RM to communicate objectives to Council and Committees. RM to adjust Committees so that Directors only have access if necessary and relevant (e.g. Finance Director in Finance Committee). MW to update website with Committees, showing members and objectives and flow chart. MW to arrange interview for Scottish JD Officer.

- 4) Board expressed disappointment that not all of the actions from 2019 AGM have been implemented and expressed a desire to ensure all outstanding business is completed ahead of 2020 AGM. LS made point that Committees should be tasked with implementing decisions/actions.

2020 AGM should be an online meeting, to be scheduled for late October/ early November.

ACTION(S): MW to circulate potential dates. Board members to consider agenda and add/discuss items on Basecamp before publishing. NW to assist with updating task lists/outstanding actions on Basecamp

- 5) AOB:

- a. RM raised issue of difference between 'Equity' and 'Equality' in light of the new Equality & Diversity Committee and particularly in regards to disabled athletes. Discussion around adding members to Disability Committee to support Gina Hopkins. Board agreed that GH should also sit on E&D Committee.

ACTION: MW to contact GH and ask for her views on best structure/way forward for Disabled/Para Jiu Jitsu and potential overlap with E&D committee.

- b. NW passed on thanks from the team behind Polaris for the help UKBJJA has provided, for both the previous and upcoming Polaris events.
- c. JM updated Board on intention to chase Smoothcomp for the additional features that we have asked for. Discussion over whether we could offer to assist with finding developers to implement changes. JM to update once he has spoken to them.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 21:15