



Minutes of AGM of the UKBJJA

Time: 14:00

Date: 24 October 2020

Location: virtual meeting (Zoom)

Directors Present:

Dave Coles

Francis Lambert

Pete Lavery

Richard Martin (Chairman)

James McIntyre

Rodrigo Souza

Lawrence Selby

Neil Williams

Councillors Present:

Raphael Dos Santos

Stuart Forrester

Lesley Harrison

Rebeca Ramos

Nisar Shaikh

Roger Spillere

Tom Wilson

Staff Present:

Mike Williams (CEO)

Gemma Kane (Social Media Manager)

Meeting Chair: Richard Martin

Minutes Secretary: Mike Williams

Apologies for absence: Leigh Remedios, Jimmy Johnstone

AGENDA

Previous AGM minutes

1. Chairman's Update – Return to Sport & Sport England Recognition
2. CEO's Update – Membership & Finances/Accounts
3. Update on Council & Committees
4. Junior Development 2021



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5. A.O.B

Proceedings

Welcome by the Chair

0. Minutes from the Previous Meeting

These were approved unanimously without change and signed by Richard Martin.

1. Chairman's Update – Return to Sport & Sport England Recognition

Richard Martin shared a link to the [recognition process](#). RM talked through process and updated on progress made. RM noted that via its membership of the Combat Sport Panel, UKBJJA is on the actively working with Sport England. In June 2019 Sport England commended us on the depth and detail of our application. Unfortunately, decision making has been affected by Coronavirus as the department that deals with applications also deals with grant applications. The Association remains confident that a positive response will be forthcoming soon.

RM updated on the status of the Combat Sports Panel, convened by Sport England and consisting of the UKBJJA, Judo, Wrestling, TKD, Karate and Aikido. The CSP agreed on a joint plan which was submitted on 7 August [[LINK](#)]. Response on 18 August, indicating that initial signs from PHE were positive and that the approval process had started, including the 'triple lock' process (required sign off by DSCMS, PHE and No10 Downing Street). On September 22, RM emailed to ask about school-age children and facilitating a return for them (as schools have returned). This request was declined. On October 5, RM submitted an official request and action plan for <18s to be allowed to return to training. Sport England are positive and are trying to help, but it seems that we are up against it with one part of the triple-lock.

The Association is continuing to push for a safe, managed return to training, noting that many clubs have started to take matters into their own hands, starting social media campaigns, launching petitions and writing to MPs. The UKBJJA is very much in favour of such grass-roots lobbying activity.

It is unfair that we are being singled out as a sport, when we have a robust set of procedures that have been proven to work via the elite athlete programme. We are continuing to develop the data from the Elite programme and will be using that to make the case for a return to training as soon as possible.

Giles Garcia asked whether the data would be made available to members. RM replied that it had been published in previous Director's Meeting minutes back in June. MW added that we could publish more recent data, to September.

ACTION: MW to make this available via the UKBJJA website

2 CEO Update - Membership and Finances

[CEO Report Link](#)

Membership: Paid individual membership year on year is down by approximately 20% due to Covid-19.

In June, a new membership structure was introduced to allow clubs to register their members in bulk, bringing on board 6900 'associate' members. As a result the UKBJJA can claim to represent over 10,000 members.

Club memberships have increased to 301 member clubs (at 30 September 2020). As clubs have voting rights in the association, this increase is a positive for democratic accountability. Female membership has declined slightly (from 14% down to 13%) and increasing female participation remains a priority for the Association.

Finances: last set of accounts filed with Companies House to 30 April 2019 (Financial year runs 1 May to 30 April). MW explained that one of the weaknesses of the association has been around financial reporting. We have appointed a new bookkeeper to assist with creating regular management account reports. For coming financial year we intend to file full accounts, including income/expenditure.

Finances look healthy, with a 6% year on year increase in revenue to 30 April 2020. We have since seen a Covid related drop in membership, which will have an effect on revenue for current FY, but our expenditure will also have been reduced.

Cash in bank is £30k, which is static year on year.

RM commended the association on increasing membership despite the Covid crisis and also for being in a strong financial position

Gemma Kane asked for exact numbers of female members (individual and associate).

ACTION: MW to publish

3 Councils & Committees

In August 2020 the Association appointed new councillors and created new committees (for committee details, see CEO report. Councillors can be viewed [here](#)). RM welcomed the new Councillors and Committee Members and noted the very positive progress being made in Committees.

MW highlighted the fact that most council positions and board positions will be up for election at the 2021 AGM, scheduled for next October.

4 Junior Development

As Jimmy Johnstone (Youth Development Officer) was unable to attend, Neil Williams updated the meeting on progress with Junior Development. NW pointed out that great progress had been made in 2019 but obviously this was now on hold due to Covid-19. New Junior Development Officers have been appointed for the regions and we are looking to increase the Junior Development Days and Kids Leagues in 2021 and pick up the good work that was started. Pete Lavery asked about plans to run Junior Development Days in Northern Ireland. NW confirmed that we would love to as soon as lockdown is over. NW expressed a desire to share best practice across all the nations and help run events when needed.

5 A.O.B.

There being no further business, the meeting was concluded at 14:30.