

**British Judo Association**  
**Annual General Meeting – DRAFT MINUTES DUE FOR APPROVAL AT 2009 AGM**  
**Henry Ford College, Loughborough**

**16 November 2008**

**Clubs Present**

Aberdeen JC	New Star (Patchway) JC
Ashford JC	New Star Bristol
Ashington JC	Norwich Premier JC
Ashington Leisure Centre JC	Old Buckenham Hall JC
Austin Longbridge JC	Oxford City JC
Barlestone JC	Oxford Schools of Judo
Barnadiston JC	Oxford University JC
Bexhill AA JC	Pinewood JC
Bingham Judo Kwai	Plymouth Judo School
Bolton Judokwai	Pudsey JC
Budokan JC	Rainhill Rockets JC
Budokwai	Red Phoenix Judokwai
Budokwai Junior	Redcar JC
Carnegie JC	Renzoku JC
Chichester Ronin	Riverside Lancaster JC
Chichester Ronin JC (Fareham)	Rochdale JC
Chichester Ronin Selsey	Rosendale JC
Coventry JC	Ryecroft Judokwai
Croydon JC	S.K.K. JC
Dowty JC	St. Mary's School JC
Exmouth Vikings JC	St. Paul's School JC
Felixstowe JC	Stowmarket JC
Frome JC	Stowmarket School JC
Grimsby JC	Tamar Judo Centre (Saltash)
Hibari-Kan JC	Tonge Tigers JC
Huish Episcopi JC	University of Bath JC
Ippon JC	Urmston JC
Kettering Premier JC	Warrington Warjukwai JC
Lakeside JC (Ren-Sei-Kan)	Wellingborough Shudan
Lancaster University JC	Wells JC
Longnake Judokwai	Wickford Judo Ryu
Manchester University JC	Windsor JC
Meopham JC	Wolverhampton JC
Milton JC	Yate Star – Bristol
Moreton JC	Yate Star 2
Yate Star JC	

## **Individuals Present**

George Kerr - BJA President  
Densign White – BJA Chairman  
Arthur Thompkinson – BJA Vice President  
Colin Draycott – BJA Vice President  
Richard Barraclough – BJA Vice President  
Brian Davies – BJA Vice Chairman  
Dave Clarke – BJA Director  
Mac Abbotts – BJA Director  
Roy Inman – BJA Director  
Barry James – BJA Director  
Eddie Awford – BJA Director  
R Davison – BJA Director  
Mick Leigh – BJA Vice President  
Scott McCarthy – BJA CEO  
Julie Moores – Director Member Services (minute taker)  
Colin McIver – BJA Head of Technical  
Lisa Allen – Member  
Elaine Down – Member National Refereeing Commission  
Rowena Birch – England Talent Squad Manager  
Phil Mayberry – BJA Wiltshire County Chair  
Peter Crumpton – Member

## **Apologies**

Katana Special Needs JC  
Kodachi Special Needs JC  
Edgewood Judo Club  
Irfon Judo Club  
Quayside JC  
Ramsey Judo Club  
Samurai Judo Club - Kidderminster  
Thomas Deacon Judo Club  
Winchester College JC

Marina Dain – BJA Midland Area Chairman  
Mick Green – Member  
Andrew Haffner - Member  
Roger Houston - Member  
Patrick Roux – Head Coach  
Marc Thompson - Member  
Don Werner - Member

## 1.0 Introduction by the President

George Kerr (GK) BJA President welcomed and thanked those clubs, staff and Board members present.

## 2.0 Presidents address

2.1 The President asked for the AGM to stand for a moment's silence for those members who have passed away in the year.

Alan Dodd, Angie Williams and Bill Ward & Bob North

2.2 The new BJA constitution which was approved by an EGM earlier in 2008 has meant that home country Chairman now sit as full voting members on the BJA Board of Directors. GK introduced the Home Country Chairman to the meeting – Jim Feenan - Scotland, Robbie Irwin – Northern Ireland, Keven Williams – Wales. GK informed the meeting that under the new constitution the Board could co-opt up to two members who may have specialist skills to the Board. Mike Callan has been co-opted onto the Board using the new powers under the constitution.

2.3 Part of the president's address is to report on the council meeting. Mr Kerr explained that the council comprises of non-elected representatives from each area. They are convened to comment on the Annual Accounts and Annual Report.

2.4 The Council reported concerned about the change of AGM to Sunday from Saturday. They wanted to recommend that the AGM is back on Saturday. They felt the change was causing extra cost and inconvenience.

2.5 GK thanked Colin McIver for his hard work on the technical congress.

2.6 The Council felt there should be a period of for discussion of club affairs at the technical congress. The council recognised that less than 4% of the Association do elite level judo. And whilst these topics are interesting they are of limited use to the majority of the clubs.

2.7 Colin McIver stated that one of the reasons for the congress was to move technical issues away from the AGM and ease the time spent at the AGM. If we have the AGM before the technical congress would it not negate the reason for the congress?

2.8 GK stated that some of the council did not receive their paper work, and that Head Office would take steps to stop this happening in the future.

2.9 The Council were happy to note that the reserves of the Association have gone up again last year by about £38k. The BJA areas also have a considerable sum of money on deposit which indicates a healthier position.

### **3.0 Those Present and apologies**

**See list at start of minutes**

### **4.0 Minutes**

4.1 No person present had any amendments for the minutes.

*(Note after the meeting Wickford Judo Club from Essex noted they were not listed as being present at the 2007 AGM but they were positive they were in attendance.)*

Minutes Proposed by: Steve Pullen Urmston Judo Club Seconded by: Alan Rickard Croydon Judo Club

### **5.0 Matters arising from the minutes**

5.1 A Rickard Croydon JC noted that in minutes 4.33 and 4.34 the CEO promised to communicate the state of the Personal Safety Advisors situation – We have had no communications.

5.2 Scott McCarthy CEO (SM) confirmed to the meeting that the BJA had not made progress; this has been due to other priorities. The consultancy that we did do indicated that this project to do correctly would take approx £150k to launch. G4S whilst showing some interest had been very luke warm in moving forward with the BJA in this enterprise.

5.3 Matthew Clempner Bolton Judo Club recommends that the BJA need to revisit that consultant's advice, as it seems a lot of money.

5.4 SM offered to show Mr Clempner the report in order that he could see the breakdown of costs and see if areas could be scaled back. SM stated that he would be happy to share the report with a specialised group, which could be gathered to look at the project.

5.5 Alan Stanbra Higashi JC referring to the timing of the AGM stated that with a strong President the AGM could be controlled to discuss only AGM matters is held before congress.

### **6.0 Reports**

Chairman – Design White (DW)

6.1 DW Congratulate the office staff in particular Emma Griffin for the quality of the annual report.

6.2 DW reported that given the AGM is 6 months past the end of the year this AGM is for that his report on the whole his report tried to cover only those items in the 2007-08 year.

6.3 GB qualified 7 places for the Olympics

6.4 The Judo Olympic Team had the opportunity to work with Sir Clive Woodward and his Team from the BOA to add value to our team. The winning judo workshop was part of the

workshop. This Workshop was a catalyst for change and the introduction of a Director of World Class Programmes and an Operations Manager.

- 6.5 Despite not medalling in Beijing we are happy that our structure will deliver for 2012.
- 6.6 At other events during the year the team did well around the world. The World Championships in Brazil was a highlight with Euan Burton and Peter Cousins' medalling.
- 6.7 Also encouraging were the results of the U23 European Championships where GB won 5 medals. It's this age group that the core of the 2012 team will come from.
- 6.8 The GB VI team did well in the VI World Championships. Sam Ingram won a silver medal and four VI players qualified for the Paralympics.
- 6.9 GB world cup for men took place one week later than the World Championships. We were concerned that this would hit attendance but in the end the event was well attended and well organised by staff and volunteers. Craig Fallon was the highlight of the weekend with his performance. On the Saturday evening we have a volunteer's dinner to recognise the support and dedication of those volunteers
- 6.10 The British Judo Trust was set up this year. The purpose of the Trust is to help the less well off in our sport. Colin Draycott is working very hard to raise money for the trust; he recently started a monthly club draw.
- 6.11 On the technical side, the 2<sup>nd</sup> congress very well supported. That congress supported the technical grade scheme for Mon and Kyu grade.
- 6.12 The Highlight might be argued as been Dave Elred, an inspirational rugby coach who gave the congress a presentation on his coaching ethos and methods.
- 6.13 We also formed a technical working group following the congress.
- 6.14 On the Coaching side UKCC moved along and we now have the go ahead for delivery at level 1 and level 2. Level 3 work was ongoing but still pending by the end of this reporting period.
- 6.15 Recognition that people may be in the clubs who don't want to do coaching award. So we asked Colin McIver to look at a basic instructor award. The instructor award is to provide cover for clubs whilst the coaches can't run temporary run a session hence the reason for the instructor's award.
- 6.16 Bath Foundation degree continues to go from strength to strength. Congratulations for all those who graduated during this year.
- 6.17 Finances - we had a very good year again it was a bit of a surprise as Donald as always was telling us things are tight. However we managed a £38k surplus. We have had a surplus for the last 6 years; however we still have a target of 500k for our reserves. Many thanks to Donald Steel for managing our money. Donald not only manages our finances well but holds huge respect by our funding partners.

- 6.18 International Affairs – we have a new IJF president, Mr Vizar, former president of EJU. Mr Sergy is now the EJU president. We can look forward to a lot of joined up thinking from these two international bodies in the future.
- 6.19 Going forward there will now be one World Championships per year. And a new format for EJU events, with Grand Prix and Grand Slams was being started in 2008-09.
- There will be a new world ranking system, which will be the basis for the Olympic Qualification. This new system would undoubtedly be tougher than the current system.
- 6.20 As Sports Director DW travelled to about 20 events during the years. This equated to about 80 days.
- 6.21 During the year DW was elected onto the BOA Executive, was accepted onto the International Leadership Programme with UK Sport, a programme designed to help people working on an international level gain more influence for GB.
- 6.22 DW has also been placed on the IJF Development & Mgt Commission.
- 6.23 Colin Draycott- BJA Vice-President has also this year been appointed to IJF Ethics and Protocol Commission. Sheldon Franko-Rooks has also been appointed to the IJF protocol commission.
- 6.24 Finally DW thanked everybody who has contributed to making the year another successful year for the BJA. DW stated that he felt the whole of UK judo was more united than it had been in a very long time. Also thanks to our funding partners UKSport and Sport England and our other partners the BOA and G4S. DW also personally thanks the other Board members for their hard work and support of him and the BJA over the year.
- 6.25 CEO's Report**
- 6.26 Executive – SM briefed on the changes during the year in the Sport England objectives and current status as potentially our most important funding partner. The G4S Ftse 100 partnership continues and there were some major announcements during the period – including the launch of a £1m G4S commitment over 5 years to funds employees and dependents to do judo at BJA clubs. The Mems/Arts were completed during the year and approved at an EGM. Turnover for the year was \$4.4M and the number of staff was 50.
- 6.27 Development – Spoke of Clubmark and the number of clubs approved and in process. Dan Griffin hired as Schools2Dojo Officer, Wayne Lakin put in charge of the Enjoy Judo Schools programme. Club resource kit mailed in Feb 08. Volunteer support packs also sent to clubs. Secured funding from Sport England for Regional Technical Officers programme and have also secured funding from Sport England of £2.1m to date for judo facilities.
- 6.28 Membership – Licence holders up 3%. Spoke of Child Protection system and number of cases and also CRB check stats. Website hits up dramatically – driven by the forums.
- 6.29 Coaching – UKCC levels 1& 2 fully endorsed and up and running. Approved centre status obtained. Amanda Batt Hired as Director of Education and Training.

- 6.30 Technical – Technical working group established. Technical grading scheme launched. Instructor’s award piloted by Colin McIver. Dave Horton Jones was hired as Director of Examiners.
- 6.31 High Performance – Winning in Judo programme with Clive Woodward was initiated. Margaret Hicks and Karen Roberts were hired as D/WC Programmes and WC Operations Manager respectively and have added a lot of energy to the programme. Moving to a new centralised training environment in the future. Possible Centre of Excellence in Dartford.
- 6.32 Communications – Matside goes from strength to strength, with 14 issues published to date. Numerous campaigns and branding support programmes delivered during the year. Beijing Olympics media campaign started during the year and was quite hectic.
- 6.33 Events – FF GB World Cup in September 07 attracted 220 fighters. Excellent event. Competition planning in full force. We have much work to do on this front. We are looking at Structures of events, player pathways, and a regionalised calendar going forward.
- 6.34 Commercial – The British Judo Trust was officially formed and is up and running. Emma Davies was hired as Merchandising Manager and is really having a strong impact to date. We have contracted with an Agency to assist in the long hunt for a major commercial partner.
- 6.35 Corporate Affairs – Surplus of £38,295 for the year with reserves now increased to £223,139. English Areas have strong cash balances with a total of £260,409 in the bank. Rebates were paid at a new high of £83,181 for the period. Home Country financial positions are also now strong after a worrying period in Scotland. Spoke of the importance of insurance and licence holding to ensure that our insurance coverage is robust and strong.

#### **6.36 Annual Report**

**There were no questions on the annual report.**

Annual Report proposed by: Karen Roberts Pinewood Judo Club and Seconded by: Alan Stanbra Higashi Judo Club

#### **6.37 Annual Accounts**

There were no questions on the Annual Accounts.

Accounts proposed: Ray Topple Rycroft Judo Club and Seconded by: Anne Bayley Warrington Warjukwai. Account unanimously accepted by AGM

Postal voting: 64 For 0 against 1 abstention

#### **6.38 Appointment of Auditors**

Unanimous at AGM

Postal voting: 64 For 0 against 1 abstention

## **7.0 Election Results**

**864 eligible voters**

**252 cast**

**1 spoiled**

### **Results**

**CLARK Dave                    198 Elected**

**DAVIES Brian                186 Elected**

**DAVISON Reuben          170 Elected**

**PULLEN Steve                146**

## **8.0 Resolutions**

No resolutions submitted

## **9.0 Any other business**

Mr D Ghylfert a parent representative and committee member at Red Phoenix Judo Kwai in Nuneaton attended the AGM to make a statement with regards to blue suits being introduced at the British National Age Banded Championships.

I have been involved with the club for eight years in one way or another. Both my kids are competitive players. The coach at Red Phoenix Judo Kwai is a very good coach and all the players and parents hold Mick Green in high regard. I would like to say that the BJA also are on the whole a very professional organisation and seems to be run by dedicated people.

I have two points I would like to make:

As all parents are aware, the costs of running young players all over the country is huge and in the current climate more so.

My main point is not only my disappointment but also that of other parents, at the decision to insist players use a 2nd judo suit for the National Competition in Sheffield. I know of parents who did not enter due to the additional cost of buying a second judo suit. If we had not borrowed a second judo suit then we also would not have entered. The cost of getting young players to competitions all over the country is increasing more and more and judo is in danger of being a privileged sport. This in turn, means the country and the BJA will lose the prospect of a wider range of players.

Please can the BJA consider, for young players sponsored by parents or carers, the costs involved when making rules or changes to rules.

My second point

I understand rules are absolutely necessary in any sport without which there would be chaos. I agree for junior players in particular, due to health and safety, there should be technical restrictions. I also think those restrictions should be on every competition notification sheet and be clear and concise as we, and other parents, have experienced inconsistencies on a number of occasions due to a lack of clarity. This causes confusion and disillusionment for young players.

AGM closed at 14.45