



# THE BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION

## Minutes of the 2002 Annual General Meeting

Thistle Hotel, Hagley Road, Birmingham  
1400hrs, Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> October 2002

### 1. Roll Call and Apologies for Absence

#### Present:

George Kerr	President
Arthur Tomkinson	Vice President
Colin Draycott	Vice President
Gordon Mortimer	Vice President

Densign White	Chairman
Richard Kenney	Vice Chairman
Richard Barraclough	Director
Brian Davies	Director
Dermot Heslop	Director

#### In Attendance:

Scott McCarthy	Chief Executive Officer
Donald Steel	Head of Corporate Affairs/Company Secretary
Mark Beecher	Head of English Development
Dave Berriman	Development Officer
Julie Moores	Membership Secretary
Brian Slater	Admin Assistant

Udo Quellmalz	BJA Performance Director
Neil Eckersley	Junior Mens Team Manager

Kevin Moore	UK Sport
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Dorothy Chang	Minute Secretary
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#### Clubs Represented:

1st Jamestown BB	Five, Six, Seven (5004)	Ramsey JC (east)
3'ks Sandwell JC	Five, Six, Seven (5014)	Reading JC
61 Judo Club Amersham	Five, Six, Seven (5015)	Redbridge JC
Abbey College	Five, Six, Seven (5017)	Redcar JC
Aberdeen JC	Fleming Park JC	Renzoku JC
Alba JC	Ford Judo Club	Ringside JC
Alford JC	Forfar JC	Riverside JC
Alton JC	Furness JC	Rochdale JC
Anfield Youth Act JC	Glastonbury JC	Ross Judo Kwai
Anson JC	Guildford JC	Ryde JC
Anwick & Ruskington JK	Hampstead JC	Ryecroft JC



Arena Judokwai	Hastings YMCA JC	Ryu Genki
Arnold House JC	Havant Jkwai	Samurai (Kidderminster)
Austin Longbridge JC	Haydon Bridge JC	Samurai (Lee Valley)
Azami Falkirk	Heywood JC	Samurai JC (Liverpool)
Ballater JC	Hibari-Kan JC	Sea Nills (Landseer) JC
Balmoral JC	Higashi Judokwai	Shepherds Bush JC
Basingstoke JC	High Wycombe JC	Shiatani JK
Beeches JK	Holbrook JC	Skeby Royal British Legion JC
Bellshill YMCA	Holbrook JC (Sarisbury Green)	Sovereign JC
Bingham JK	Horsham JC	St Christophers JC
Bishop Challoner	Huddersfield JC	St Hildas JC
Blue Coat School JC	Huish Episcopi JC	St Marys Jkwai
Border Jkwai	Invergordon JC	St Patricks JC
Bradley Stoke Special Needs JC	Joff JC	Stockton JC (6021)
Brandeston JC	JSC Judo Club	Stokenchurch JC
Bretton Woods Sch of Judo	Kelmscott JC	Storrington JC
Bridge of Allan	Kendal JC	Strathkelvin
Brighton JC	Kin Ryu JC	Surrey Police JC
Budokan	King Edward JC	Tain JC
Budokwai	Knottingley JC	Taunton 2000 Judo Club
Bushido JK Ford	Kobayashi Kwai	Taunton School JC
Caithness JC	Kodokan (65)	Taunton YMCA
Camberley JC	Kyle JK (Drummill)	Taw Vale JC
Canterbury Judokwai	Kyu Shin Kwai	Tayside Perth
Carluke JC	Lasswade JC	Tayside Strathallan
Carnegie JC	Latchmere JK	Terminus
Castle Douglas JC	Launceston JC	TNJC (Tony Newton JC)
Castle Judo Kwai (1234)	Littleborough JC	Tokei JC
Chalkhill JK	Longeaton JC	Tonge JC
Chatteris JC	Longnuke JK	Torakan
Cherry Willingham JC	Ludlow JC	Torry JC
Chichester Ronin	Lyminge Judokwai	Turriff
Clacton JC	Maesteg JK	United Synagogue JC
Cluarankwai JC	Marlborough Pewsey	United Synagogue JC (edgware)
Coleraine JC	Micklefield JC	Univ of Bath JC
Craiglockhart	Milton JC	Ushaw Moor JC
Crathie	Moberley JC	Wandsworth Lighting JC
Crawley JC	Mudanshakai	Warrington Samurai JC
Croydon JC	Newbury JC	Wellington JC
Culloden	Northampton JC	Werrington JC
Danson JC	Northampton Timken	West Calder JC
Danson Young JC	Oak Park JC	Weston Super Mare
Deeside JC	One on One JC	Whitburn
Dodleston School JC	Paddock Wood Yth JC	Willesden JC
Dollis JC	Parkside JC	Winchester Judo MA
Downe Manor JC	Peebles JC	Wolverhampton JC
Dundee JC	Peterlee	Wolverhampton Youth JC
East March	Phoenix Judo Club Windermere	Yamabushi
Edinburgh Bushido	Pinewood JC	



Edinburgh JC	Plymouth JC
Exmouth Vikings	Pyramid JC
Ferndale 2002 JC	Pyrford JC
Ferndale Youth JC	Rainham JC (kent)

**Members in Attendance:**

Berry B	Law D
Blackburn A	Lesik S
Blewett P	Longford M
Bostock R	Lucas A
Box K	Luff R
Boyes P	Mayberry M
Chamberlain M	Pusey S
Cox C	Reith C
Cox D	Rivers M
Crompton P	Salter C
Davison R	Salter P
Ekins J	Somerville J
Hall W	Somerville N
Harrison L	Thompson N
Hawkins D	Waddington K
Horton-Jones D	Webb B
Irwin R	Webber K
Kelly B	

**Apologies:**

Haffner A  
Hawkins L  
Hunt C - Director & Japan Arts Centre JC  
Inman R - Director & Fairholme JC  
Leath J - Sen I  
McNaughton J  
Terrell B - Bondi Arndale  
Walsall JC  
Winkworth J - Coaching Commission

**2. President's address**

Mr. Kerr stated that one of his responsibilities was to report on the Council Meeting, which had taken place the night before. He asked for a minute's silence to remember those members that had sadly passed away during the year. They were John Bricknell (past Chairman of the Constitution Committee) who died on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August. Mr. Bricknell was one of the main stays of the Association in the 1950's/60's. Mr. Mel Clarke (North West) who died recently from cancer and Mr. Arthur Tansley of Leicester, who was well known for his interest in the theatre and Japan.

Mr. George Kerr informed the meeting that due to a tie in the postal election for the position of Director of the BJA (167 Reuben Davison ELECTED, 162 Brian Davies & 162 Malcolm Limrick ) a deciding vote was taken by the BJA's Council. A total of 20 votes were cast and the result was 13 Brian Davies, 7 Malcolm Limrick, therefore Mr Brian Davies elected for a further term as a BJA Director.



- 2.1 Peter Holmes asked why had the clubs received a 2<sup>nd</sup> ballot paper and why did the decision vote then go to the Council. Mr. Kerr explained that it is stated in the Bye-Laws that the Council should be responsible and this was only realised after the 2<sup>nd</sup> paper was sent out and the Ballot was therefore cancelled.

Mr Limrick asked why it had taken 9 days for him to be notified in writing of the result of the first ballot, Scott McCarthy said that it an error was made regarding notification but stated that Mr. Limrick was made aware of the result by phone immediately after the information was deemed releasable. Mr Limrick asked when the decision had been made for the decision to go to the Council. Scott McCarthy stated that the decision had been made 3 days ago and both candidates were notified by phone within an hour of the decision being made.

Mr. Limrick confirmed that on the evening of the 25<sup>th</sup> September he was informed that the Bye-Laws (Article 49, Item 8) state that in the event of a tie between 2 candidates, it should be a decision for Council. Mr. Kerr apologised for the mistake made.

- 2.2 The Council was rather disappointed with the fact that it did not receive an Annual Report. Several Council members stated that it would be difficult to comment on the workings of the various sub-committees if they did not have a report. It was stated that one of the staff had resigned and therefore the report could not be done in time. The Council expressed their disappointment and was assured by the CEO Scott McCarthy that the Annual report will be mailed out to the clubs within the next two weeks. **(ACTION: Office to Finalise & Post Annual Report within two weeks.)**

Shirley Startin (Werrington JC) said that it had been stated at the previous night's Council meeting that it was due to a member of staff resigning that the Annual Report had not been produced and as she was the only member of staff who had resigned she assumed it referred to her and stated that it was not her responsibility to produce the Annual Report. Mr. George Kerr replied that Scott McCarthy had said that someone thought that she was working on it and that nobody was accusing her. Shirley Startin responded that it had been stated that the person who compiled the Annual Report had left the Association a few weeks ago and she felt that an apology was due. Scott McCarthy stated that he was not sure whether he should apologise because Shirley Startin did work on the Annual Report last year and he had instructed her to do it this year. When she resigned, he had sent her a letter asking her what work was left unfinished and no reply was received. Scott McCarthy took it upon himself to produce the Annual Report because the office was lacking in resources, and said that it was not Ms Startin's fault since she had resigned some weeks prior to the AGM. He accepted responsibility for the delay in the report and apologised.

- 2.3 Mr. Kerr said he had also had a letter from Martin Lewis who, due to personal problems, could not attend the Council Meeting and in the letter he handed in his notice to retire as Vice-President. Mr. Lewis had been in the position for 40 years and contributed enormously, particularly in public relationships.
- 2.4 Generally, the Council discussed the various resolutions, which will come up as the meeting progressed. The main item covered was about the Election and the Annual Accounts, which the Council did not go into but it was noted that the Association had a slight deficit.
- 2.5 Mr. Densign White has been in the Chair for a year and discussions took place regarding the change to the constitution and to make the organisation more professional. There is a movement towards employing more professional staff members. Mr. Kerr stated that it was disappointing and embarrassing for Judo that the selection issue from the Commonwealth Games was played out in the press. He asked the Chairman to look into making improvements with regard to the selection process.

Peter Holme pointed out that it was not the British Judo Association but Commonwealth Games Council for England that selected the team. It was the English Areas Commission who picked the team and presented the recommendation to the Commonwealth Games Council for final approval.



Barry James (Woolwich College JC & BJA Southern Area Chairman) stated that the English Areas Commission had no difficulty in making the selection based on the published criteria that was required to make the selection. It was stated at a Press Conference in Manchester that the BJA was not involved with selections.

Mr Kerr congratulated Peter Holme, as Judo Event Manager, on the Commonwealth Games. A superbly run event where the venue was exceptionally well presented.

- 2.6 Mr. Kerr at this stage pointed out that the AGM could not discuss the matter of Mr Seth Birch and his dismissal as the matter was still at the appeal stage.
- 2.7 Mr. Kerr expressed a vote of thanks to Shirley Startin for the wonderful work she had carried out at BJA and regretted her decision to resign. Mrs Startin thanked Mr Kerr for the vote of thanks.

### 3. Those Present and Apologies

See full list at the start of the minutes.

### 4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- 4.1 Mr. Kerr asked the meeting if they accepted the minutes as a true and accurate account of the last meeting.

Mr. Kerr accepted proposal that the minutes were a true account by Ray Topples and seconded by Dave Clark.

### 5. Matters Arising

- 5.1 Karen French (Chichester JC) said that under 3.2, it was stated that Udo Quellmalz would circulate copies of the Olympic Review Report. She asked if this had been done. Mr. Quellmalz reported that he thought it had been done and was sent to the Sports Council.

Mr. Simon Hicks (Wandsworth Lightening) said the minute was clearly stating that when the review had been done, we were assured that a copy would be circulated, and asked why this had not been done, especially if the coaches had been interviewed. **(ACTION: Mr. Kerr asked UQ to circulate the report to the clubs.)**

- 5.2 Mr Topples (Ryecroft JK) referred to agenda item 3.3 where it was stated that the incoming Chair would look into the matter of the cancellation of NCF insurance and report back. Mr White stated that this had not been done but would get it done this year. **(ACTION: Staff to investigate this matter and advise the Membership in due course)**
- 5.3 Mr. Alan Stanbra (Higashi) said that it seemed as if matters were being brought up every year and nothing is done about them. He referred to item 3.4 where it was suggested that a person be named to action relevant points raised. Mr. Kerr agreed with this point and said that an 'action' column should be introduced in the minutes. Mrs. Chris Elsdale (Anson JC) asked if he could assume that this will be forthcoming. Mr. Kerr confirmed that it would. **(ACTION: In all future minutes ACTION ITEMS will be highlighted to ensure they are easily identifiable – like this!)**
- 5.4 Mr. Simon Hicks (Wandsworth Lightening JC) asked if all Staff now had job descriptions and appraisals as referred to in item 4.1.8. Mr. McCarthy informed him that these had been done but not yet forwarded to all employees to be signed. They will be forwarded to the individuals shortly. Shirley Startin informed the meeting that the contracts were prepared on the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2002 and asked what progress had been made since then. Mr. Kerr asked the Chair to comment. Mr. McCarthy stated that they will be forwarded shortly. Mrs. Startin stated that the longer serving staff had contracts and that some of the newer staff members do not. **(ACTION: CEO to forward contracts to all employees that currently do not have an updated, valid contract.)**



- 5.5 Mr. Simon Hicks (Wandsworth Lightening JC) asked if there had been any progress on item 4.1.12. Mr. Mick Leigh (Kin Ryu) said that Mr. Hunt had never contacted him, despite him trying to speak to him, Mr Hunt had not returned his call. Mr. Simon Hicks did not feel that was acceptable and that the Board should take steps to resolve this.

Mr. Dermot Heslop stated that he was the Chair of the National Promotions Commission and at the first Board Meeting some of Mr Hunts responsibilities were passed to him. Mr. Kerr asked that Mr Leigh be involved because he has spent 4/5 years pushing for Kata and nothing had come of it. Mr Heslop stated that Mr Leigh had been involved in the discussions and work that was now being done on the Senior Syllabus. **(ACTION: BOD to investigate the status of the Kata development project and report to the membership.)**

- 5.6 It was asked if Resolution 2 from the 2001 AGM under minute number 6.2 was proposed by Willesden Judo Club and seconded by Reading Judo Club had been actioned.

Mr. White said the National Squad for the veterans had not been set up because the UK Sport will not provide funding for Masters Judo, so money would have to be found from BJA. Simon Hicks (Wandsworth Lightening JC) said it is reasonable to say that the Management Committee chose to overlook the wishes of the Membership – and that the Membership asked for the National Veterans Squad to be set up.

Mr. Leigh Davies (Willesden JC) said that this was what his first resolution (for discussion later in the meeting) was about, a resolution must be acted on. He said it was pointed out last year that funding was an excuse, the cadets squad is funding itself.

Mr. John Lawrinson (Warrington Samurai JC) felt that Veterans competing at the Worlds Veteran Championships should be allowed to wear a union jack badge.

Mr. Kerr reported that the International Judo Federation would make a decision in Tokyo next year as to whether they will recognise the Worlds Masters Championships. If we are instructed to form a squad representing the country, they should wear a badge.

Mrs. Chris Elsdale stated that last year, the AGM took a decision and passed a resolution the Board was supposed to act on, they still have not. This is a member Association and we need to be sure that when a resolution is passed, the Board will actually do what they are asked to. She said the Board's duty is to deal with their resolutions in a contractual manner and not come up with excuses.

Mr. White asked that if a National Veteran Squad was set up, who was it they expected to run this? Mr. Alan Stanbra (Higashi) said that the job should be done and the Board members should decide who is going to do it and nominate the team/person. Mr. Kerr asked the Chair and Board of Directors to set up the National Squad, send a circular out, asking who wants to run it. Mr. Simon Hicks (Wandsworth Lightening) said the resolution is very clearly to set up the National Squad to decide who can wear the badge. **(ACTION: Veteran's Squad to be set up and administered by the BJA – self funded if necessary)**

Mr. Mick Leigh believed it is time to change the name to 'Masters'. In the Belgium Masters, they have every age, up to 70 and he asked if it was the intention to increase the age. Mr. White replied that they are not against the Masters and the BJA are hoping to host the first European Masters next April and are interested in hosting the World Masters event. Mr. Kerr said that there were 2,000 entries already for the Masters next year in Tokyo.

***The Meeting took a break for 5 minutes.***

## 6. Reports

- 6.1 **Chairman's Report** – Mr. Densign White reported that he assumed the post of Chair on 8<sup>th</sup> September last year and the report will cover to the end of the fiscal year, March 2002. He said it



was under difficult circumstances that he took office. The BJA needs to make changes, needs to move forward with the support from the Sports Council. Mr. White stated that he believed that the BJA has not been pro-active for a while and that was the reason why it had not been able to compete with other National Bodies with whom it should keep pace. He said the first thing he did when he took office as Chairman was to commission the Little John Fraser Report, which is a comprehensive management report. Audits in the past had been strictly financial, ensuring that money was spent correctly. The Little John Fraser report looks into every aspect of the management of the BJA. It highlighted the need to appoint a full time Chief Executive (which we have now). Mr White singled out Donald Steel for praise, if he had not been in place and implemented strong fiscal policies and cut our expense levels, we would not have passed the audit.

Mr. White stated that the Association needed to update the Memorandum and Articles and to make sure that they are relevant to the BJA. The current content is confusing, contradictory, and unclear. An example is the case of the recent BOD election – although almost all aspects of the election procedure are provided for in the Articles the procedure for breaking a tie was covered in the byelaws – without any cross reference. The current draft has evolved over many years of chopping and changing and it is a weak document.

The BJA will carry out more risk management studies and highlight risks already existing between the Governing Body and other areas.

It is a difficult financial time for the BJA, having managed the financial year with a small deficit and it will struggle for a few more years. The BJA needs to make itself more independent of the Sports Councils and should not always depend on grants. Mr. McCarthy is going to look into it and appoint someone in the fund raising role.

The role for Interim Chief Executive was interviewed in March 2002, funded and recommended by the UK Sports Council. This appointment was followed by the advertising for a full time Chief Executive Officer. 40 applications were received in total and Mr. Scott McCarthy was appointed to the post in August 2003. He has much experience in the areas of fund raising, strategic planning and communications.

The BJA is building bridges with some of our other partners – British Schools Judo Association. Schools judo is important, we need to be more pro-active in this area and should sit down with BSJA to make it happen.

We are building bridges on the international scene with the support of our President and much progress has been made on this front. Richard Kenny has been named as the Vice President of the Commonwealth Judo Association.

We had the British Open this year which was moved back to London from the Midlands. Crystal Palace is the spiritual home for of British Open. We had the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest entry this year, we used the web creatively, by involving the ippon.org team to provide continuous web updates to allow people to follow the results at home. The Championships were run for £5,000 less than the previous year.

We had some handicaps on the high performance following the Sydney Olympic Games, the Senior Men's Team Manager resigned. In the last few weeks Mac Abbotts has been appointed as the new Senior Men's Team manager. Loren Bartley has been appointed as the BJA Performance Manager.

There has been a serious lack of strategic planning in the performance directorate, Mr White stated that he was not overly impressed with some of the results for the amount of funding being spent, and to help with this we have formed high performance steering group, comprising of Scott McCarthy, Densign White, Udo Quellmalz, Loren Bartley, Mark Beecher, Neil Tunnicliffe and Dennis Edwards from UK Sport.

On the development side, as usual, Mark's team has done an excellent job supporting membership over the period. We wish Dave Duffy a speedy recovery from his recent serious illness.



The development team has met the national guidelines. 21 development clubs in plan, 7 club applications for support English awards, 32 facilities awards for working, 7 club applications to support England and 9 clubs for all the work shops free of charge. England clubs have received to date £523,000 through Sport for All awards, this year £148,000 has been given to 44 clubs. The Development team has done a tremendous job.

Chris Hunt has published the Coach Preparation pack. There is a great need to improve our technical standards and we are under consideration for a pilot project to update our coaching syllabi and structures.

Mr. White said that he had asked Scott McCarthy and Julie Moores to look at improving the BJA web site to improve and streamline communications. He said that the Association needed to get creative, maximise the money that they are spending in communications, which is in excess of £100,000 a year mainly covering postage, printing and stationery, and both Mr. McCarthy and himself would be looking into the communications strategy. The Association will be hiring a PR officer to deal with this and other communications issues.

Currently, the Association has Competitions, Refereeing, Coaching, Finance and Inclusion Commissions. Each of the commission members work tremendously hard and Mr. White stated that the Association needed to get more staff support for the activities of these commissions.

Mr. Kerr thanked the Chairman for his report.

Mr. John O'Brien said that at the last meeting, the appointment of a Chief Executive was raised and that this was the first time that a meaningful decision had been made. He had been saying for years that the BJA needed a CEO and he was glad to see it has finally happened.

Mr. Simon Hicks congratulated Mr. Densign White on his first year's office and said that although the Board was not highly regarded as a whole, it was seen that the Association was moving in the right direction.

## 6.2 Annual Report

Mr. Kerr said that the Report will be sent to all members in the next few weeks. Mr. John Lucas asked if the Annual Report could be included on the Agenda for the next General Meeting (**Action: CEO to add this on agenda for the next General Meeting.**)

## 6.3 Annual Accounts

Donald Steel said that the Annual Accounts are not easy to understand and it should be borne in mind that they are legal accounts, not management accounts.

The figures showed that income had risen by about 11% of which crucially, the direct membership contribution had increased by 16%. In February 2001, membership fees had been increased substantially and of necessity which had caused the income from this source rising by about £53,000. This contributed to a turnaround situation in which net cost savings on Central Overheads brought in almost £38,000 and on Coaching and Technical Expenses £17,000.

The net result of the increase in revenue and reduction in costs was an improvement in the financial position of the Association by over £100,000. This had been essential and was achieved despite a rise in insurance costs of £40,000.

Going back to 1998/99 and 1999/2000 when the funds from the Sports Councils began to increase dramatically, it changed the financial structure of the BJA and for a time it made it difficult to see the true financial picture. This was compounded by the hosting of the 'Worlds' in October 1999 with all the movement in funds that implied.



In 2000/01 the Association ended up reporting a break even situation. However the cost of running the central office, the coaching and technical budget and the cadet programme exceeded the related income by over £100,000. This has been brought to break even in 2001/02 as stated earlier by raising membership revenue and controlling costs.

Mr Steel said the Areas had to take their share of the cutbacks and that the 22% rebate was now running at about 12%.

The BJA should have a reserve of at least £250,000 for an organisation of its size and this year's budget was being driven to achieve a surplus of not less than £20,000 to secure the future as reserves were dangerously low at £26,000. Insurance costs were a problem and had risen again post 11 September. Two quotations on the important public liability insurance were all we were able to obtain in the difficult market place and they were very similar so that it was decided to remain with Axa for a further year.

- 6.4 Mr. Leigh Davies (Willesden JC) pointed out that in minute 4.1.4 (2001 AGM), Mr. Kerr stated that the summaries of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales areas accounts will also be included with the accounts.

Mr. Steel stated that as the Association received club membership fees from the 3 Home Countries, they are being included in the Annual Report. The accounts of the English areas are included in the accounts of the BJA because the areas are an integral part of the BJA. Scotland and Wales have limited liabilities but if the BJA becomes insolvent, the English Areas would possibly have a legal responsibility to surrender assets.

Mr Selwyn Holbrook (Chairman Welsh Judo Association) stated that the WJA would not be sending its Annual Accounts to the BJA for publication. Mr Donald Steel pointed out that he already had the WJA accounts supplied to him from the WJA Auditors.

- 6.5 Mrs Lesley-Anne Alexander asked when the financial year of the BJA ended as the Auditors' Report to the Accounts showed the date as 31st January 2002. Mr. Donald Steel replied that this was a printing error which had not been picked up.

- 6.6 Mr. Barry James (Woolwich College JC) wanted to know why it was stated on page 2, that he had resigned on the 8th September when he had not. Mr. Steel was not sure what the right term should be. Mr. Barry James said that he did not want to be seen as having resigned. Mr. Kerr suggested that the report be amended to show that Mr James had come to the end of his term as a Director.

- 6.7 Mrs. Lesley-Anne Alexander referred to the Board Meeting held on the 24th September 2002 and that she received the Annual Accounts on the 23rd September 2002. She said on page 10, the accounts were approved and signed on the 24th September 2002. Mr. Steel replied that the Chairman was asked to sign them before the Auditor agreed to take responsibility for signing and that the Chairman had spoken to the other Board Members and it was agreed that the accounts were correct, although they were not formally ratified until 24<sup>th</sup> September.

Mr Densign White stated that he signed on behalf of the Board and this was ratified at the Board Meeting which took place later. Mrs Lesley-Anne Alexander asked if the entire Board took the decision and Mr. Steel replied that he was not at the meeting, but he assumed so. Ms Alexander felt that the Board members should have been circulated.

- 6.8 Mr. Seth Birch (Huddersfield JC) stated that the first thing he looked at on the Annual Accounts was the Inter-company balance which should be the same in both companies. On page 27, the amount of £73,017 does not look correct. Mr. Steel agreed there was a difference of £750.00 which was not correct. Mr. Birch drew attention to the "administration expenses" on page 9. Mr. Steel said that he did not like the format of the accounts as they are, but it was the format that has been in use for many years and it was the auditors who regrouped our management accounts for presentation in the Annual Accounts. Mr Steel felt the management accounts give a much better picture and he



suggested a supplement to the accounts could be issued to include more information. He felt that the whole area of analysis of accounts should be changed to more meaningful accounts.

- 6.9 Mr. Steel agreed with Mr Birch that the presentation of the Accounts could be better and that it is important to convey to members, a clearer understanding of what is going on. Mr. Birch expressed his concern at not comparing 'like for like'. Although Mr. Steel said that the analysis shown is better than before, Mr. Birch did not agree. Mr. Steel stated that there was a difference in Legal and Management Accounts and that it was difficult to present it in the Management format. Mr. Birch stated the figure of £9,200 did not agree with the corresponding figure to the previous year and hence, it was misleading in the current format. Mr Leith (St Hildas JC) stated that the accounts are not a good representation of what has gone on and asked if there was any reason why the detailed figures should not be made known to the members. Mr. Steel was not in a position to agree or disagree, but felt that Management Accounts could help out and said that the legal accounts are the correct format but needed to be amplified to give a better understanding of what has happened.
- 6.10 Mr. Peter Holme stated that he did not understand accounts but felt that the Board were going to ask the AGM to approve an inaccurate set of accounts. Mr. Steel stated that the accounts did reflect the position year on year and in the correct format as before. Mr. Seth Birch said that one of the 4 accounting principles is consistency and the administration expenses did not reflect this. Mr. Steel disagreed with this, stating that the auditor prepared the numbers from the accounts. Mr. Seth Birch said the committee expenses for £10,244 had been BJA representation in the Management accounts. Mr. Steel said the committee expenses of £10,244 represents a mixture of items.
- 6.11 Mr. John Lucas (Launceston JC) referred to Page 6, Grading Scheme, showing an expenditure of approx. £55,000 and asked if this was a gross or net figure? Mr. Steel replied it was a gross figure. Mr. Lucas also looked at membership and club fees and felt that it was difficult to relate the year-on-year in absence of membership information.
- 6.12 Mr Birch made a further point on the accounts which was not understood and Mr. Kerr asked if there were any other questions and stated that there were one or two typos in the accounts including the date. He asked for the meeting to take a vote in favour of accepting the accounts.

**The results were 81 for, 94 against and 4 abstentions, therefore the accounts were not approved and will be sent back to the auditors and re-issued.**

**(ACTION: DS to have accounts reprinted, eliminating the printing errors and devising a more user friendly format, and accounts to be re-issued for approval at an EGM.)**

#### 6.13 Appointment of Auditors

The Auditors cannot be re-appointed until after the Annual Accounts have been approved.

**(ACTION: Appointment of Auditors will also be covered at the EGM when the accounts are approved.)**

#### 7. Election Results

Reuben Davison 167 ELECTED

Brian Davies 162

Malcolm Limrick 162

Due to a tie the BJA Council voted to break the tie and voted as follows

Brian Davis 13 votes ELECTED

Malcolm Limrick 7 votes

#### 8. Resolutions



8.1 The Board of Director withdrew this resolution until the Association reviewed the Dan grade situation and had decided to look at some specific points before bringing them into the AGM.  
Resolution – Proposed by the Board of Directors

- a. *The Board of Directors proposes that the normal maximum number of non-competitive promotions within the Dan grade structure is restricted to three.*

*In exceptional cases, a fourth or subsequent non-competitive promotion may be granted by the Board of Directors for;*

1. *World Class Status as an individual competitor*
2. *World Class Status as a Coach / Manager*
3. *Outstanding contribution and distinguished service*

#### **Resolution withdrawn**

8.2 *Proposed by Leigh Davies, Secretary, Willesden Judo Club and seconded by Leigh Davies, Chairman, Anson Judo Club.*

- a. *The Board of Directors implement their duty to carry out in full all resolutions passed at past, present and future AGM's and additionally only cease or change such resolutions when a subsequent AGM gives them authority to do so.*

**Mr. Kerr stated that the Chairman agreed with this resolution and it was accepted unanimously with 2 abstentions. PASSED.**

8.3 *Proposed by Leigh Davies, Secretary, Willesden Judo Club and seconded by Leigh Davies, Chairman, Anson Judo Club.*

- b. *Starting from the new financial year, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland make an appropriate contribution to BJA central costs in proportion to the individual membership fees collected from BJA members in their regions. At present 100% of individual membership fees from BJA members in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland are retained by these regions for their own use. In the nine English Areas 22% of individual membership fees are rebated to the relevant Area at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The balance of the membership fees from the English Areas is retained by the BJA to cover BJA central costs.*

Mr. Leigh Davies (Willesden JC) felt that it was time that Scotland, Wales and N. Ireland made a contribution to central fees. Mr. Richard Kenney (Vice Chairman BJA & Chairman Scottish Judo Federation) informed the meeting that a number of issues are to be looked at by BJA in six months time and he felt that it would be appropriate for the Board to undertake this thorough review.

Mr. John Lucas (Launceston JC) commented that the booklet reflects that where rebate and insurance were concerned, the English areas have approx. £200,000 running of the central costs. On the current basis of the ratio of the English members and the balance of the BJA, he suggested that the other areas should be treated similarly and that the BJA would be £70,000 better off. Mr. White stated that this matter was discussed at length at the Council Meeting and he felt that a vote against it should be taken. He said the Welsh and Scottish and N. Ireland areas might well decide to leave the BJA. England does very well with a development team serving English clubs – Sheffield, Wolverhampton, Bath, Bishop Abbey, who all have English facilities. Mr. White felt it was of no use passing a resolution that the Board cannot implement.

Mr. John Leith said that his area is one of many that are struggling and they cannot afford to not get rebates on time. Mr. White said there was nothing he could do about it and that most areas were complaining that they do not receive this. It was a fact that the BJA was struggling to pay



the full rebates, on time. It had been this way for at least the last five years. Mrs Jill West stated that she did not have anybody in the British Squad and that she received the same value for money as the Scottish, N. Ireland and Welsh areas.

Scott McCarthy stated that it was not realistic to say that Scotland, N. Ireland and Wales have a free ride. Their clubs affiliate directly to the BJA and are fully-fledged members. They do pay their individual membership fees to their respective offices but receive probably 95% of their individual services from these offices. The English Areas receive their services from the BJA Central Office – and therefore support the central costs involved to run this office. This is an area that needs further study and the Board is proposing to do just that. This is a complex issue that has no business being introduced at an AGM in a simplified manner. It is destabilising.

Mr. Tony Sweeney stated that bearing in mind that the resolution was under review, it would be best to refer the discussion to the next AGM and by that time, things would perhaps be under review anyway. Mr. Leith felt that with no decision being made, it was difficult for his area – he is only asking for a contribution. Mr. Tony Sweeney (Budokwai) said that the committee is appointed annually and they were doing a good job, it was unfair to push this point at this point of time.

**A vote was taken to pass the resolution with the result that 82 were in favour, 90 against. RESOLUTION NOT CARRIED.**

8.4 *Proposed by Leigh Davies, Secretary, Willesden Judo Club and seconded by Leigh Davies, Chairman, Anson Judo Club.*

*c. The following changes are made to the BJA National Squad system*

- i. That the number of players selected for the u20 National Squad be increased from 4 to 6 per weight.*
- ii. That the selection of players for the u20 National Squad be based on the results of both the u20 National Trials and the Junior British Open Championships.*

**Resolution withdrawn.**

8.5 *Proposed by Leigh Davies, Secretary, Willesden Judo Club and seconded by Leigh Davies, Chairman, Anson Judo Club.*

*d. That the following changes be made to BJA Competition Rules:*

- I. That band E of the Junior National Championships have an under 100kg weight category for young men and an under 78kg weight category for young women added.*

**Resolution d-i withdrawn. It has already been implemented.**

- II. That the British Veterans/Masters Championships use the official weight categories for women – u48, u52, u63, u70, u78, and o78kg.*

Mr. Leigh Davies (Willesden JC) had spoken to John O'Brien and this will be implemented at next Years event.

**Resolution d-ii withdrawn.**



- III. That a more appropriate seeding system be developed for the Junior National Championships. At present an "adult" system is used which only seeds fighters if they fought in the same weight and age band as the previous year. This results in very few junior players being seeded because they invariably change weight and/or age categories between years.*

Mr Leigh Davies (Willesden JC) stated that the Junior National Championships develop a better seeding system. Mr. Kerr suggested this be re-written and forwarded on to him. Mr. Leigh Davies suggested referring to last year's results and seed players even if they had moved age/weight categories.

Mr. Malcolm Limrick stated that the Competitions Commission do consult the Junior Team Managers on players that should be seeded. Mr. Simon Hicks (Wandsworth Lightening JC) suggested that if a player went up by more than 2 weight categories in a year that the result from the previous year should not be used for seeding purposes.

Mr. Peter Holme said that over the years they had tried various ways for seeding junior events and it became very difficult because of the age and weight. Mr. Kerr said it would be good if they could find a better system of seeding and suggested that Mr Leigh Davies devise such a system and send it to the Board of Directors.

**Resolution d-iii withdrawn.**

## **9. Any other Business**

- 9.1 Mr. Phil Fettis said that it was a consensus of opinion that the BJA pays nothing but lip service to the special needs. There were 6 places for Judo in Dublin next year and only 4 of them had been taken due to cash, each individual having to pay £850. He had approached all the funding agencies and was told that BJA have not put forward special needs and he suggested that a working committee is formed to deal with this. Mr. Richard Barraclough said that this is within his area as Chairman of the BJA's Inclusion Commission. At their last meeting the commission were told that funding was not a problem. Mr. Phil Fettis said that certain funding agencies had told him that the BJA had included visually impaired but not special needs in its strategy policy. Mr Mark Beecher (BJA Head of English Development) assured Mr Fettis that the BJA had included special needs and asked Mr Fettis to let him have the details of the agencies he had contacted in order that he could provide the correct information to these agencies.

Mr. Barry James stated that when he had been on the Board and had dealings with special needs they had some difficulty in finding a way to select a squad where funding the place was an issue and suggested that if anyone wants a player to go to such an event they should apply to the areas. The Areas may be willing to support this activity.

- 9.2 Following his retirement from the Competitions Commission and in recognition of his outstanding work in Judo, Mr Densign White presented Mr Peter Holme with a judo trophy. Mr Holme said this was totally unexpected and thanked the Board. He said he had thoroughly enjoyed all his 30+ years as part of the Association.

Mr. George Kerr closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and he looked forward to meeting them again at the Extraordinary General Meeting next year. He also thanked all the staff at BJA for their wonderful contribution and work and Dorothy Chang for her minute taking.

The meeting closed at 5.20 p.m.