

THE BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION ('BJA') ('ASSOCIATION')
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON SATURDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2023
SYCAMORE ROOM, HOLIDAY INN M6 J7, CHAPEL LANE, GREAT BARR, B43 7BG

Present:

Council Members:

| | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|------|
| Rowena Birch | President | RBi |
| Brian Davies | Vice President | BD |
| Richard Barraclough | Vice President | RB |
| Tony Sweeney | Vice President | TS |
| Robin Newett | Northern Ireland Judo Federation | RN |
| Colin McIver | Judo Scotland | CMcI |
| Peter Blewett | London Area | PB |
| John Gibson | Northern Area | JG |
| Matthew Clempner | North West Area & Police UK | MC |
| Raymond Taylor | Eastern Area | RT |
| Sarah Newbury | Midland Area | SN |
| David Rance | Northern Home Counties | DR |

British Judo Association:

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| Ronnie Saez | Chair | RS |
| Andrew Scoular | Chief Executive | AS |
| Gerry Gualtieri | Chair Designate | GG |

Apologies:

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Dr Colin Draycott | Senior Vice President |
| Mick Leigh | Vice President |
| Jim MacKenzie | Army Judo - |
| Nadia Minardi | London Area |
| Darren Dean | Welsh Judo Association |
| Rick Kenney | Judo Scotland |
| Dave Allen | Western Area |
| John Malkinson | Southern Area |
| Seth Birch | Yorkshire & Humberside Area |
| Stephen Watson | Royal Navy |

1 Welcome

RBi welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for taking the time to attend.

2 Minutes of the previous meeting held on Saturday 20 May 2023

The Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record of events.

Proposer: BD

Secunder: RN

3 President's Remarks

RBi made a short statement to the meeting. Firstly, RBi stated that she had not been able to get around too much due to her mother's illness. However, she had been honoured to host The Craig Fallon Foundation Awards Dinner, which followed the Craig Fallon Cup. This Foundation raises funds to support fighters, increase mental health awareness and also raise funds for the national

organisation, MIND. It was set up as a living legacy in memory of Craig and demonstrated how powerful the judo family was when it all pulled together. Recognition was given to Gavin Davies and Jagjit Khara, who had set up the foundation, of how strongly they demonstrated the values of judo through what they did and the way they did it.

4 Notification of people who have passed away

It was noted that the following members of the Judo family had passed away during the year.

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Derek Webster | Roy Francis |
| Brazil Walsh | Dave Lovelace |
| Ruth White | Alex Battevierio |
| Joe Doherty | Eddie Ainsworth |
| David McKimming | John Young |
| Donald Hughes | Jimmy McQuade |

5 Chair's Report

RS gave a brief update on Performance and in particular the VI World Championships in Birmingham. He also highlighted the continued good performances of our female fighters in particular Chelsie Giles and Lucy Renshall. It was noted that there were also some green shoots within the men's programme.

RS stated that this was his last meeting as Chair, as he has reached the end of his term limit. He wanted to highlight that he believed the Association to be in a good place, with the team in place deliver the strategy. As mentioned earlier, there are some green shoots from the men's programme as well as world success in the women's programme, however it is getting more and more competitive. The BJA has a small membership compared to other nations however we consistently medal, which shows the strength of the programme at Walsall. RS continued that we need to improve the pathway and grow the base with a desire to win and who want to progress to the National Training Centre.

Also, RS was delighted that the BJA were able to secure Gerry Gualtieri as the new Chair, and GG will take over at the AGM later the same day. RS wished GG every success in the role.

Finally, RS added that he had enjoyed his time on the Board and as Chair and passed on his thanks for all the support he had received from the Board, Executive and members.

RBI thanked RS for his commitment to the Council bringing with him his passion, thinking and listening. RBI also pointed out that RS took over as Chair in some of most challenging times that the Association has ever had and he leaves the Association in good health and wished him all the very best for the future with EJU and IJF.

6. Chief Executive's Report

AS gave a brief presentation (to be circulated with the draft Minutes) outlining the key areas of the annual work programme/2nd Quarter Business Plan. It was also noted that we are currently on track.

RBI requested that the presentation should be sent in advance so the individuals could study beforehand. AS agreed to look at this and would look to establish a secure portal where Council Meeting papers could be uploaded.

During the presentation the meeting stopped at 11am for 2 minutes silence for those who had made the ultimate sacrifice and also judoka who had passed. RS read out a World War I poem during the silence.

7. Any Other Business

BD gave a brief outline on the role of the Trust and that he was attending the Board in December to request an increase in funding from the membership to the Trust. It was felt that we should look at how we could make the donations more tax effective.

TS highlighted that we should make more of the opportunities with private schools through work with IAPS and HMC.

The Council with the support of the Board, approved the appointment of Colin McIver as a new Vice President. This was approved by the meeting and accepted by CMcl. This would be finalised at the AGM.

With there being no other business the meeting closed at 12.10pm.