

# BRITISH FENCING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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Last Updated: 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	26.11.2019
<b>Location</b>	Schroders
<b>Present</b>	Chair, JC, TC, MO, PA, TCJ, CH, JT (by phone), ACS (by phone)
<b>In Attendance</b>	CEO, KR, VB, JM, FG

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Francesca Gliubich.

Apologies were received from: CO, YH. [REDACTED]

**New Declarations of Interest:** None

**Conflict of interest:** None

**Interim Decisions:** None

Notable results: Veterans World Championship success which included 4 gold, 4 silver and 2 bronze medals and finished second in the medals table.

**Upcoming Events for Board Attendance:** Board Away Day – 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019

The BYC's to be held in May in Birmingham, the British Schools Teams anticipated to be held in March, subject to final venue confirmation.

**Action Items:** Chair and CEO went through the action list to close those actions that had been dealt with. Agenda contains updated action list.

## 2. APPROVE PREVIOUS BOARD MEETING NOTES

The minutes of September were approved.

## 3. STRATEGIC KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Chair and CEO reviewed the KPIs relating to the Board Strategy, which are found in the quarterly Balanced Scorecard prepared for Board. Chair's conclusion was that significant progress is being made. Notably we continue to have a balanced budget under the oversight of AGRC/ JT.

A short discussion followed on the KPIs. This included noting that with regards to Objective 1. the number of qualified athletes at the World and European championships has increased; a short discussion on selection strategy, development strategy, coaching delivery and qualification.

Directors will discuss more at the Board away day.

### 4. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The president briefed the Board on the 2019-20 International Relation Strategy and plan including information on the 2020 elections. The 2019 FIE congress in Lausanne will be held the following Saturday which will deal with updates to statutes and rules, with no material issues expected to arise. The BF IR/Rules group have met in advance to discuss changes and agree BF position.

### 5. SPORT FOR SOCIAL CHANGE STRATEGY

VB gave an update on progress to create the draft BF Sport for Social Change Strategy in the context of BF Objective No 5. This has been created using the Theory of Change model which is a commonly used model in this sector. Next steps – the BF Theory of Change to be reviewed over the next couple of weeks. VB to update Board more at the next meeting.

### 6. FUNDRAISING STRATEGY

Francesca Gliubich reported on the role the charity can play on supporting the sport for social change and how they will both align.

### 7. BREAK

### 8. EVENTS

BF Portfolio – will remain at its current number of weekends – we will not be expanding it until the barrier of limited resources (both staff and volunteers) can be addressed in a sustainable way.

Existing Portfolio Events – British School Teams will be extended to include an individual event. Thus becoming the British Schools Championships.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Board confirmed its support for the proposed ratings system (based on the US model) but agreed to wait until the automated rankings had been implemented.

### 9. NEW MEMBERSHIP SALES

Whilst membership has been growing for a number of years, the growth of paying members is starting to decline. The evidence points to many community clubs not enforcing BF membership for significant numbers of fencers. [REDACTED]

### 10. SUSTAINABILITY

CH has rewritten the sustainability policy. The next stage is to consult with the Board and staff for comments then write an action plan that will go out to the membership for consultation.

### 11. FINANCE 19-20 Q2 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

Board noted the Q2 managements accounts that were reviewed by the AGRC.

JT noted that we expect to end up with a small surplus.

### 12. PARIS INVESTMENT CYCLE UPDATE

CEO took Board through the Situational Analysis as updated since the last meeting and the preparation of the paperwork for the first deadline date.

There followed a discussion at Board level.

Board noted the Situational Analysis.

Board noted the Organisational Health Check (AGRC paperwork).

### 13. BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE ITEMS: AGRC

Board noted the upcoming review of the BF Expense policy discussed at the AGRC.

## 14. BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE ITEMS: NOMCOM

Results of Staff Survey 2019 had been sent around to the Board – results were considered good/very good and there were no concerns raised.

## 15. CEO INFORMATION ITEMS

Senior Programme update – recent donation of £15k to support Tokyo 2020.

Q2 balanced scorecard – as discussed in agenda item 3.

Summary of disciplinary, disputes, complaints – nothing material to update – the summary is in the balanced scorecard.

2019 Annual Governance Review –scheduled for Nov 2019 but delayed due to UK Sport submission process taking significant staff time. No current concerns about our compliance with the Governance Code.

## 16. STANDING ITEMS - SAFEGUARDING

Board were asked to note the new system that is being piloted with the support of Sport England.

## 17. STANDING ITEMS - EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

Board noted.

## 18. AOB

Board agreed the date for the Away Day as 24<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Chair and CEO to agree the other Boards dates for 2020.

CEO discussed the potential Heritage Lottery bid with the Board and the fact that volunteers were needed to put in a bid.

Board were asked to note the various Staff changes, including a new Events Administrator

Board noted the Leon Paul MOU.

Selection Policy

**Meeting closed at 20:40**  
**Date of next meeting Board Away Day 24<sup>th</sup> January 2020**