

Executive Summary

Board of Directors Meeting

23 July 2019

1. Finance: Budget process is underway with proposals to be developed for consideration by Directors during August. A tender process has been conducted in order to identify a preferred auditor provider, with the recommended firm now put forward for ratification by members at the AGM in September.
2. Risk Register: Document has been updated to take account of risks associated with any changes to Olympic / Paralympic programmes and our partnerships with external suppliers.
3. Board Appointments Process: Member voting is now open for the Sport Operations Director vacancy, with four candidates nominated for election. An enhanced Directors induction programme was agreed and will come in to use with immediate effect.
4. Staffing: Katie Benn has commenced her role as Sport & Membership Assistant. Mari O'Connor has agreed a fixed-term contract to provide cover as the Regional Development Officer for the Central Region, with a formal recruitment process for a permanent appointment to commence in the autumn. We will also be advertising for a Digital Marketing Officer in September.
5. IT & Website: Phase III development work is almost complete, with internal testing set to start w/c 29 July. Members with no email address registered to their account, those with duplicate email addresses, and children with no associated parent / guardian / carer have been contacted in order to update their details and cleanse our existing database. This process will continue until launch. New website design and build phase is making good progress; the office team will start populating the site with updated content in the next two weeks. Phase IV of the IT transformation project to be fully scoped, prioritised and costed as part of the budgeting process for 2020.
6. Sport Operations: The Championship Pathway Working Group presented their Area Festival format proposals to the sponsors PetPlan and event organisers, which have been well-received. The key elements for rule amends were discussed by the Board and approved for inclusion in the 2020 rule book. A member communication on these changes will be sent out in the first half of August. A separate working group to review the FEI levels at small, medium and big tour has also been set-up.
7. National Championships: An alternative venue from 2020 was discussed in-depth, with preferred options identified. Discussions will now continue to further explore logistics, availability, cost and dates before a final recommendation is put forward to the Board for approval.
8. Para-Equestrian: Proposal to run additional para classes alongside the Gold Semi Finals at Wellington was discussed and a pilot approved for 2020. Any Para rider eligible to ride in the Gold section, who meets the stated criteria, will be able to enter. Development of a new Para judge pathway is progressing well, with a stewards group due to hold their first meeting in August.
9. International Teams: Updates were provided on recent results, team selections and upcoming events. Promising results achieved in Aachen with the team finishing in fifth place overall. The final Para team selection will take place on Thursday 25 July, with Senior team selection on Monday 29 July.

10. Judges: Further updates were provided from the Judges Examination Working Group, following feedback from the recent Judges Committee meeting. Communication on potential amendments to the education and training programme will be developed and circulated to all relevant stakeholders by the end of this month.
11. Training: Individuals on the National Trainers list have been contacted, with a number already registering their interest. Ticket sales for the National Convention are progressing well and ahead of last year. New format, venue and line-up for the 2019 event has been well received.
12. Membership: Proposal put forward on membership subscription and horse registration pricing structure for 2020. This was approved and formal member communication will follow in August.
13. BEF: CEO has recently left with Iain Graham (current CEO at British Showjumping) covering in an interim capacity. Plans for the European Championships in Rotterdam being finalised. Proposal to harmonise horse registration, microchipping and vaccination rules for all member bodies was discussed, including the potential to move to six months for EI vaccination in line with FEI regulations and recommendations from the AHT and other senior veterinary experts.
14. Date of Next Meeting: 9 & 10 October 2019.