

Executive Summary

Board of Directors Meeting

9 & 10 October 2019

1. Finance: August accounts show a projected surplus of £86,000. This is mainly due to savings on our music licence and staff overheads, along with an increase in horse registrations and starter levies. Initial draft of 2020 budget was discussed, further work with Senior Management Team to take place ahead of final submission to the December Board meeting.
2. Board Protocol: Document circulated to outline the process for future production of Board papers and meeting protocols, including clarification on minute taking, action logs and decision making process on policy decisions from Technical Committee to Board level.
3. Staffing: Jessica La Rosa joins BD on 1 November as Officials Education Supervisor. A new role of Digital Marketing Officer will be advertised imminently.
4. IT & Website: Phase III and the new BD website are due to be launched on Tuesday 15 October. Scoping for Phase IV is underway and will be included in the 2020 budget. It was noted that the depreciation of capital investment for Phases I, II and III will also be incorporated in the 2020 budget.
5. Sport Operations: Board agreed that dispensation requests for the six monthly EI boosters for horses that have serious adverse reactions should be escalated to the Welfare Panel for consideration. Owners will need to provide evidence from their vet, which would then be reviewed by an independent panel of veterinary experts. However, Board rejected the idea of having six-month horse registrations due to concerns around qualifications lapsing once the registration period had ended. The Fixture Allocation Panel had recently met to consider the Area Festival tenders and dates / venues for 2020 would be announced shortly.
6. BD Forum: Alternative options for the BD Forum were discussed at length. However, the original decision to discontinue the Forum once the new website goes live was upheld. Alternative solutions will be put in place to encourage member engagement, with a new 'BD Info' section on the new website that enables members to submit questions, as well as 'Hot Topics' and FAQ pages. In addition there will be 'Ask the Expert' sessions, and opportunities for members to interact with BD via Facebook Live and Twitter Q&As.
7. Para-Equestrian: the Judges Pathway is now in place with healthy numbers coming through. The Stewards Working Group have now met and progress is being made. The Coaches' pathway will be worked on in partnership with the BEF.
8. International Teams: Under 21 training and viewing days have been reviewed, with changes to the format and structure put in place for 2020.
9. Judges: Further updates were provided to the Board on progress achieved to date by the Judges Education Working Group, with four sub-groups formed to focus on building different elements of the new system. Principles of Judging seminar was well attended and the feedback has been very positive.

10. Youth: Academies have 50 candidates registered and have begun coach shadowing. Advanced Apprenticeship in Sporting Excellence (AASE) has its first camp next week with 27 attendees.
11. Training: 41 senior coaches have confirmed their interest in being involved in the National Trainers list to date. Ticket sales for the National Convention continue to progress well and are ahead of the same point in the last two years. A meeting is planned to look at the stewards' role and training pathway.
12. Membership: Horse registrations have increased, although there has been a small dip in membership. An uplift is anticipated with the winter membership included in next month's figures. With the launch of the new website, the marketing and membership teams will be preparing a campaign calendar and refreshing BD marketing material for roll-out in 2020.
13. Youth Home International 2020: Proposal received whereby the Wales RDO will take on the organisation of the YHI to be held at Mount Ballan EC in 2020, supported by the other RDOs as required. Board agreed to this as a one-off for next year.
14. RDO / Regional activity: Proposal received on potential changes to the RDO remit and geography of existing English regions. Board requested this be brought back to the December meeting once the impact of the new BD strategy had been taken into account.
15. BEF: New strategy document was circulated for discussion, ahead of BD strategy session.
16. FEI: BD CEO to attend the FEI General Assembly in Moscow from 16-20 November.
17. BD Strategy: Day Two of the Board meeting was spent looking at the draft strategy, including discussion on the vision, mission, values and strategic imperatives for the next five year cycle, from 2020-2024.
18. Date of Next Meeting: 10 December 2019.