



Executive Summary

Board of Directors Meeting

5 August 2021

1. **Finance:** The audit of the 2020 accounts is almost complete, with the Annual Report due for publication along with the Notice of AGM in early September. The finance team is currently being overseen by Andie Derry, COO at British Showjumping, ahead of recruitment for a finance lead in the autumn.
2. **Membership:** Current membership stands at 17,017 as of 31 July 2021, up from 16,578 at the end of May. This is hugely encouraging and takes membership numbers to the highest level since January 2018. With the success of our Olympic athletes, we hope to see these numbers potentially increase further. Proposed changes to the membership structure were discussed, and a fully scoped paper will be presented to the October Board meeting for consideration.
3. **Governance:** Voting is open for members to elect a new Para Director and Training Director; the ballot closes on 8 September. The online members Q&A did not take place in July as planned, due to staff illness with Covid and self-isolation. However, the intention is to run an in-person members' meeting at the Area Festival Championships at Arena UK in early October. Members will also have the opportunity to formally submit questions at the AGM on 12 October. Board was presented with options to amend the BD Memorandum and Articles which will be communicated to the wider membership as part of the Notice of AGM.
4. **Marketing:** The launch of the BD clothing range has started very well, with a good number of orders and positive feedback received since launch at the Winter Championships. The BD coverage of the Olympics has also been well-received, with a reach of over one million on Facebook alone – this is a huge increase on previous Olympic Games. Nationals ticket sales are now the focus for the team, with the early bird ticket offer running until the end of August. Further marketing activity is planned through BD channels and via external partners.
5. **Human Resources:** The appointment of a U21 Performance Manager has been confirmed, with the role due to commence in early September. Recruitment for volunteer vacancies across Technical Committees and Selectors for Seniors, Paras and U21s will take place during September. The Board also approved the introduction of a hybrid working policy on a trial basis from October 2021.
6. **Regional:** A review of the regional team competitions will take place in the coming months involving key stakeholders.
7. **IT:** Enhancements and upgrades to our internal systems have now been completed and are live on the system. Initial scoping meeting held with the Training & Education team and Horse Monkey to agree Q3 and Q4 development work, including the events booking system.
8. **2021 Operational Plan:** Updated version was presented to the Board, including progress ratings across each objective by department.

9. Sport Operations: A total of 3,339 riders / horses have qualified for Summer Regionals, which is 1,300 more than 2019 figures. The Area Festival Championships schedule has just been published. Planning for the National Championships is progressing well; the timetable has been published and tickets are now on sale, with the full schedule in its final planning stages. The 2022 rule change proposals were also presented and discussed.
10. Para-Equestrian: National Gold Qualification emails have been sent, with 20 direct qualifiers and reserve lists for each Grade. Numbers for the Summer Bronze and Silver Championships are up overall against 2020. Para Championship tenders for 2022 are in progress and will be signed off by the Para Committee on 9 August.
11. International Teams: Excellent performance from our Olympic team and the Board passed on their congratulations to all involved. Nominations confirmed for the U25 and Senior European Championships, with the final team to be selected on 17 August. The Pony team departs tomorrow for the Europeans in Poland. Three riders have been selected to attend the World Breeding Championships for Young Horses.
12. Judges: Training dates for the FEI exams have been confirmed and will be completed at Bury Farm and Keysoe High Profile Shows, with all wishing to come forward in the old system at FEI level completed by December. Uptake on the new judge education pathway has been excellent, with a large percentage of the 500+ registered having already booked places.
13. Training: Feedback provided on the coaches' survey and a summary paper submitted to the Board. The results will now be shaped into a formal proposal for the October meeting. Currently sourcing alternative presenters for the National Convention due to a change in circumstances; this is being managed by the Training Director and T&E team.
14. Youth: National Academy has just taken place over the previous weekend at Kilbees Farm. Presentation received on a youth professional development strategy that could encompass elements of DiSE, AASE and YPP. Further scoping to be undertaken ahead of October meeting.
15. BEF: BD staff reported back from the recent BEF Participation Group meeting headed by Mandana Mehran Pour, the new BEF Head of Participation.
16. FEI: Directors requested to review and provide feedback on the proposed FEI rule revisions; deadline for submission is later this month.
17. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 13 October 2021.