

Notes to accompany proposed Articles of Association (08.09.21)



In recent years we have updated the Memorandum and Articles of British Dressage to reflect best practice, in accordance with the Code of Sport Governance published by UK Sport and Sport England.

It is vitally important that the BD Board of Directors continues to attract high calibre individuals with the right level of knowledge, skills and experience to represent members and ensure that the sport is governed effectively.

The introduction of a Nominations Committee has provided greater scrutiny over the Director nominations process, including the appointment of Extra Directors for specific areas of expertise, and members now have a binding vote for all elected Director positions, regardless of whether or not the candidates stand unopposed.

The changes that we are proposing to the Articles of Association this year will further strengthen the process for appointing the Chairman, which will remain subject to the membership vote.

We have made two principal changes to the Articles of Association (the "Articles"), being:

1. Chairman Election Process

- Current Articles – the position of Chairman is advertised publicly, and nominations are invited from members. All applications are considered by the Nominations Committee and approved candidates are put forward for election by the members, with the final result of the electronic ballot being binding.
- Proposed Change – the position of Chairman will continue to be advertised publicly, and nominations invited from members. All suitable candidates, as approved by the Nominations Committee and the Board, will then be put forward for election by the members, with the final result of the electronic ballot being binding.
- ***Please note that in the event of only one candidate being put forward unopposed, members will still have the ability to accept or reject the proposed appointment.***

2. Term of Chairman

- Current Articles – As with all other Director positions, the Chairman can only hold a position on the Board for eight consecutive years. After that period, the individual must wait four years before they can be appointed to the Board again.
- Proposed Change – The Chairman will continue to hold this position on the Board for a maximum of eight consecutive years. However, if a Director currently holds another position on the Board, they can still be nominated and elected Chairman by the members and serve up to a maximum of twelve consecutive years in total. After the twelfth year, the individual must still wait four years before they can be appointed to the Board again.
- ***Please note that twelve consecutive years is the maximum that an individual can serve across their Director and Chairman positions combined. All appointments to the position of Chairman remain subject to election by the membership.***