



Executive Summary

Board of Directors Meeting

28 April 2022

1. **Finance:** The audit has now been completed with sign-off due shortly, once the final outstanding queries have been dealt with. Higher than forecast membership numbers, horse registrations and starter levies during 2021 have had a positive impact on the provisional year-end accounts. A small surplus of £34,000 has been budgeted for in 2022, to provide contingency if required. Cash reserves remain healthy with investments confirmed.
2. **Membership:** Current membership stands at 18,313 as of 31 March 2022, up from 17,950 at the end of January. Horse Registrations are now at 16,874. This represents new record highs and a further increase on our previous highest membership figure BD from January. The first of four membership forums were held with two groups of new and grassroots members; these are being externally and independently facilitated on behalf of BD.
3. **Marketing:** Successful week at the Winter Championships, including a 981% increase in Facebook video views. Three-year partnership with Cre8 Media has been agreed and the BDTV partnership with Horse & Country has also been launched. Sponsorship renewals with Baileys Horse Feed and Prestige Italia agreed, with Cavago joining to sponsor the Associated Championships and HorseHage taking on the Winter Preliminary series and championships.
4. **Human Resources:** A number of new starters have joined the BD team since the last meeting, as a result of the recruitment drive at the start of the year. These include additional roles within Membership, Sport Operations, Marketing and Communications, as well as a new Development Officer for Scotland.
5. **Governance:** The roles of Chair, Judges Director and International Director are open for nominations until midday on Tuesday 3 May. The Nominations Committee will meet to discuss all applications on Tuesday 10 May.
6. **IT:** Coach packages were successfully launched online in early April. Development work for the Training & Education team remains ongoing, with the focus now on judges, stewards and youth databases.
7. **Commercial:** detailed discussions held on the most appropriate way to support members, venues and officials affected by rising inflation and cost-of-living increases. A package of measures was proposed and agreed that will be implemented in time for the start of the new season on 1 July 2022.
8. **Regional:** A successful Regional Reps meeting was held in-person in Meriden at the end of March. It was agreed that March is a more suitable month for this type of meeting, rather than November, in order to focus on deliverable objectives for the year ahead.
9. **Sport Operations:** Further updates from the Silver Section working group, and the Fixtures and Venues working group were received and initial recommendations approved.

10. Para-Equestrian: Successful meeting held with the BEF World Class team. A number of projects are being developed, including pathways for Para Judges and Stewards, which will be launched in Q4 2022.
11. International Teams: Strong performances recorded at Keysoe CDI by our Young Riders. Planning for the U21 Europeans at Hartpury and World Championships in Herning is well underway and progressing well.
12. Judges: The new judge education system will be officially launched in May. To date, we have had 726 registrations for the new system. 552 registered judges have attended the online non-technical workshops and 433 registered judges have attended the online technical workshops. Bolt-on and Para judge modules are being finalised by the team.
13. Training: Coach packages were successfully launched with 60 sign-ups within the first month. The Young Horse Forum was a sell-out with 230 in attendance, with tickets for on-demand online viewing now on sale. Levels 1 and 2 of the steward pathways will be delivered online during May and June. The programme for the 2022 National Convention is being developed, with this year's event provisionally scheduled for 24-26 November.
14. Youth: Update provided on the youth professional development pathways, with tenders and presentations received from a number of interested apprenticeship providers. Board approved the appointment of a preferred provider, as recommended by the panel.
15. BEF: Helen Nicholls has been appointed as the new Performance Director and will commence in her new role from w/c 2 May 2022. Dickie Waygood will be retained within the World Class programme in the new role of Technical Director, to provide support across all disciplines, alongside his position as Eventing Performance Manager.
16. FEI: CEO attended the FEI Sports Forum in Lausanne to represent BD, where there were a number of important discussions around the format for the Olympics and Paralympics in Paris 2024, as well as a full review of the dressage and para dressage rules. The full consultation process with National Federations for the revised rules will take place in July / August, before being finalised at the FEI General Assembly in November.
17. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 21 and Wednesday 22 June 2022.