

Executive Summary

Board of Directors Meeting

21 June 2022

1. Finance: Updated budget presented, with a small surplus forecast. IT depreciation figure has been reduced to reflect updated accounts. Draft of the annual report received, with some amends to be added before final version is ready for sign-off in August. Investments are being negatively impacted by the current levels of inflation and the cost-of-living crisis. However, this is relatively low impact at present and under regular review, The financial reserves position remains strong.
2. Membership: As of 31 May 2022, membership stands at record high levels 18,313, with Horse Registrations at 16,706. These figures are hugely positive, particularly considering the current economic backdrop. Starter levies are ahead of budget for the year, although April and May were marginally down on 2019 levels. Presentation received on the results of the recent Member Forums; this feedback will help shape the member survey, which is scheduled to be conducted during Q4 of 2022.
3. Marketing: Ticket sales for the National Championships have recently been launched, with a new brand identity for the event. Marketing activity around the domestic CDI shows, Premier Leagues and Regionals remains ongoing throughout the summer.
4. Human Resources: Steve Mills (IT Support Supervisor) and Amii Dyne (Executive Assistant) have joined the BD team in recent weeks. Two vacancies remain at the recruitment stage – Training & Education Assistant (maternity cover on a 12-month fixed term contract) and Finance Assistant.
5. Governance: The nominations for Chair, Judges Director and International Director have been announced, with voting due to open to members on Monday 4 July. All eligible members will be contacted via the independent company Mi-Voice on this date, with instructions on how to cast their vote. Draft changes to the Memorandum and Articles were approved.
6. IT: The work to develop the Judges database on BD Online is nearing completion, with launch due by the end of June. Following this, the remaining two elements for Stewards and Youth will be live shortly afterwards. Work with external competition entry and results providers continues, with an API specification provided to enable these systems to link to BD Online.
7. Regional: Successful Senior Inter-Regional and Para Home International held at Bishop Burton in May. Youth Inter-Regional coming up on 25-26 June at Bury Farm.
8. Sport Operations: Draft rule changes for 2023 were discussed, with the final wording to be developed ahead of August Board meeting for sign-off. Update received on plans for the National Championships, including pricing strategy and timetable.
9. Para-Equestrian: Selection meeting for the World Championships has been held, with the long list now announced. New Bronze tests have been written and will be published and in use for the 2023 summer qualification period (1 Jan 2023-31 June 2023). There will be additional walk

and trot only tests for grades 4 and 5, these will be non-qualifier tests but provide further options for riders.

10. International Teams: Selections were confirmed for Pony, Junior and Young Rider teams and the Board agreed to fully fund teams for all age groups, including sending a team to Poland to compete in the FEI Pony European Championships. Additional funding was also agreed to support international officials at the FEI Junior and Young Rider European Championships at Hartpury. BD will have a full presence at the event, hosting riders, parents, owners, home teams and officials, with a marquee overlooking the main outdoor arena.
11. Judges: 742 registrations for the new judge education system. 581 registered judges have now attended the online non-technical workshops and 460 registered judges have attended the online technical workshops. Following the success of the first face to face Module 4 day, the regional team have organised days throughout 2022 across the non-FEI levels.
12. Stewards: One steward upgrade training has been delivered so far, with candidate stewards progressing onto shadowing throughout the summer. Further courses are planned for the end of June and July.
13. Training: 145 coaches have now signed up to one of the coach packages, with further expressions of interest received. The presenters for the 2022 National Convention have been confirmed and will be announced in July, along with ticket information. This year's Convention will take place over two days at Hartpury on 26 & 27 November 2022 as an in-person event.
14. Youth: Update was provided on the youth professional development pathways, with work underway with Sport Structures as the preferred delivery partner. Applications for the Foundation Academy close on 1 August. Practical assessments for Tiers 1-3 of the Horse Care programme will be available from the summer holidays onwards.
15. BEF: Negotiations around BEF member body subscriptions and contributions to central co-funding are ongoing, subject to reviewing the budgets for 2023. The next BEF Council Meeting is due to take place on Wednesday 29 June 2022.
16. FEI: Draft dressage rules to be published in early July, with NF feedback due to be submitted by the end of August. BD Para rider, Erin Orford has been nominated for the FEI Athletes Committee, with the outcome announced at the General Assembly in November 2022.
17. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 2 August 2022 by Zoom.