

## **Executive Summary**

### **Board of Directors Meeting**

**2 August 2022**

1. Finance: Budget still showing a year-end surplus, although expenditure continues to be monitored closely with rising costs, especially for championship events. Expenditure on the Judge Education Project has been lower than forecast so far during the year to date. Clean Audit report received, with three minor internal control amendments suggested. Board agreed to sign off the 2021 accounts and letter of representation. The overall financial reserves position remains strong.
2. Membership: As of 31 July 2022, membership stands at 18,204, with Horse Registrations at 16,693. These figures show a small drop in numbers since the peak in March / April, in line with seasonal trends, but are still very healthy, particularly considering the current economic backdrop. Starter levy income has started to plateau due to the impact of the cost of living, although still ahead of budget; this will be kept under review as the year progresses.
3. Marketing: Ticket sales for the National Championships have started well, with the price freeze initiative received positively. Productive meetings held with LeMieux and NAF. Branding being developed for new Youth Professional Pathways ahead of imminent launch.
4. Human Resources: Recruitment process for two current vacancies, Training & Education Assistant (maternity cover on a 12-month fixed term contract) and Finance Assistant, is nearing completion. Marketing Manager is scheduled to return from maternity leave in early October on a part time basis.
5. Governance: The online voting for Chair, Judges Director and International Director has been open to members since Monday 4 July. All eligible members have been contacted via the independent company Mi-Voice, with follow-up emails due to be circulated in mid-August and again in September. Final independent non-Executive Director role to be advertised and recruited imminently, with expertise in HR and / or Legal sectors being sought.
6. Regional: Successful Youth Inter-Regional held at Bury Farm Equestrian in June. Youth Home International coming up on 5-7 August at Arena UK, Lincolnshire.
7. Sport Operations: Final wording on rule revisions for 2023 were agreed; these include additional guidance on extreme weather events. Update received on work undertaken by the Silver Working Group and next stages in this process.
8. Para-Equestrian: Selection confirmed and announced for the World Championships. Work continues to be ongoing on the training content for judge, steward, and coach development pathways. First Para masterclass will take place at this year's National Championships, with Sir Lee Pearson and Sophie Wells confirmed as presenting.

9. International Teams: Board offered huge congratulations to all involved at the recent successful FEI Junior & Young Rider European Championships, and thanks were offered to Hartpury for putting on such a well-run and high-quality event. Best wishes offered to our riders competing in the Pony Europeans over the coming days, as well as the Senior and Para World Championships taking place in Herning. Recruitment will commence for a new Para Selector and U21 Selector in September. The 2023 selection criteria for U21s will also be published by the end of September, with the full policies to follow by year end.
10. Judges: To date, we have had 742 registrations for the new Judge Education system. 592 registered judges have attended the online non-technical workshops and 465 registered judges have attended the online technical workshops. 346 have attended live Module 4 days. Work is underway to finalise the launch of the music bolt on module, with further development required to complete the Young Horse module.
11. Stewards: Courses continue to run over the summer, with several trainees nearing completion of their shadowing and observations ready for sign off. The Level 3 content for able bodied and Para is with the working party for their input before going live later this year.
12. Training: 164 coaches have now signed up to one of the coach packages, with further expressions of interest received. Gareth Hughes and Michael Eilberg have been confirmed as the presenters for this year's National Convention, which will take place at Hartpury on Saturday 26 & Sunday 27 November 2022.
13. Youth: Targeted recruitment, initially focused on BD Youth members, will take place for the professional development programmes, including the new BD apprenticeship scheme, which will be launched in August. Applications for the Foundation Academy have now closed, with selections being verified before announcement. Over 70 youth riders attended the education sessions provided at the Junior & Young Rider European Championships. Workforce standardisation for the Horse Care programme has now been completed.
14. BEF: Negotiations around BEF member body subscriptions and contributions to central co-funding are ongoing, subject to reviewing the budgets for 2023. Next BEF council meeting is scheduled for 20 September.
15. FEI: Feedback is in the process of being collated on the draft FEI dressage rules and regulations, which will be submitted by the end of August deadline.
16. AGM: Directors confirmed attendance for the BD Annual General Meeting, which is to be held during the Summer Area Festival Championships at Arena UK in Lincolnshire, on Thursday 6 October 2022.
17. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 11 & Wednesday 12 October at the Woodland Grange Hotel.