



## **Executive Summary**

### **Board of Directors Meeting**

### **9 February 2023**

1. Finance: The 2023 budget has been approved by the Board. The 2022 accounts are to be finalised but continue to show a healthy surplus, with no significant changes expected to the overall figure. The audit preparation has been commenced by Mazars, with field work to take place in March and April, ready for Board sign off in June.
2. Membership: As of 31 January 2023, membership stands at a further record high of 18,431 with horse registrations at 16,878. The figures have remained buoyant over the past 12 months, which is encouraging, although participation numbers continue to be monitored closely as the cost-of-living challenges continue. Results from the Members' Competitor Survey were presented to the Board. The number of completed submissions was a positive indicator of the level of engagement from members, and provides a wealth of feedback, which will be explored in further detail, before a summary of findings is published and communicated to members in the spring.
3. Marketing: On demand ticket sales for the National Convention have been ahead of target, with streaming figures on a par with physical attendance. Tickets for the Young Horse Forum and the Principles of Judging Seminar went on sale on 13 January, with campaigns running until the events take place in March. A full tender process has taken place for a new legal partner, with the preferred firm recommended to and approved by the Board, subject to agreeing commercial terms.
4. Human Resources: Recruitment is ongoing for the vacant position of Marketing and Sponsorship Officer. A staff satisfaction survey will be carried out in the spring, run independently in partnership with the Sport and Recreation Alliance.
5. Governance: Following a successful interview process, and ratification from the Nominations Committee, Richard Lane was appointed to the Board as an Extra Director, effective from 1 January 2023. The 2023 Operational Plan and objectives have been approved by the Board. The Risk Register is undergoing an external review, and a working draft will be sent to the Board as soon as possible. Appointing Board "Champions" in the areas of Safeguarding, Equine Welfare, EDI, and Sustainability were discussed and agreed.
6. IT: The system and security update for BD Online is now with BD for internal testing, and this will take place over the next few weeks. A full review of automated communications from the CRM system will be undertaken over the next few months.
7. Sport Operations: The number of physical starters for January 2023 was on a par with expectations, after adjustments for cancellations due to the adverse weather experienced by some venues. The Senior, Para and U25 Selection Policies were approved by the Board for publication.
8. Training & Education: Overall feedback received for the online exam system for judges has been positive, and further support will be offered for anyone who needs ongoing training. There are 667 unique learners on the Horse Care Programme, and practical assessments for Tiers 1-3 have commenced. There are 12 apprentices currently working through new BD Apprenticeships programme, with further onboarding taking place.

9. Regional: The Regional Reps Meeting is taking place in Meriden on 6 March 2023, where presentations will be received on the results of the recent Membership Survey and from Roly Owers of World Horse Welfare.

10. BEF: The BD CEO attended the BEF EDI Report Presentation on 30 January. Updates were provided, with some positive findings and areas of work which will be shared in due course.

11. FEI: The first report from the Equine Ethics and Welfare Commission was discussed, including the recommendations on tack and equipment. Consultation with NFs remains ongoing, with further discussion planned at the FEI Sports Forum in April.

Date of next meeting: 18 & 19 April