

## Board of Directors Meeting Executive Summary 12 June 2023

- 1. Finance:** The final audit report was received. No issues were raised, and this was approved by the Board. 2023 continues to show a strong financial performance to date, mainly driven by the record high membership and horse registration numbers. The BD SMT and Board remain vigilant and are monitoring increasing costs, the rates of inflation, and the cost-of-living crisis, which may impact the business. An update on investments and cash deposits was received, with a full review due before the end of 2023.
- 2. Membership:** As of 31 May 2023, membership stands at 18,582 and horse registrations at 17,036. The extension to the starter levy subsidy until the end of 2023 has been well received by venues and organisers.
- 3. Marketing:** National Championships tickets are now on sale, and the National Convention headline presenter has been announced, with tickets to be available from next week. New sponsors to have recently joined BD include Horse Quest (who will partner with BD to offer classifieds advertising) and Red Gorilla (Combined Training).
- 4. Human Resources:** The results of the Staff Satisfaction Survey were presented by the Sport & Recreation Alliance. Overall, these were very positive and will help shape our staff recruitment and retention policies procedures in the future. We are currently recruiting for a Commercial Manager and a Training & Education Officer.
- 5. Governance:** The Board approved recommendations from the Nominations Committee for the election and appointment process for the Sport Operations Director, Finance Director, and Business Development Director positions. Candidate profiles and manifestos will be posted on the website on 30 June, along with the notice of AGM. The same information will then be published in the BD magazine on the 10 July, followed by a six-week voting window, which will open on 14 July.
- 6. National Championships:** CEO provided an updated on the planning and budget for the Nationals. Costs continue to increase significantly due to market conditions, driven by high inflation, transportation costs, staff shortages and supply chain issues. Work continues to bring these costs down wherever possible, but the Board agreed that the Nationals should continue to be subsidised as BD's flagship championship event.
- 7. Sport Operations:** Proposed rule amends for 2024 were presented, with feedback provided. Wording to be further developed and brought back to the August meeting for final sign-off. The latest progress on the test review was provided, with the timeline for the transition period and launch agreed by the Board. The working group reviewing BD's equine welfare policies and procedures presented their findings, with further revisions to be made ahead of the next meeting.
- 8. Training & Education:** Judge exam pass rates have been finalised and will be circulated once the appeals window has closed and all IQA processes completed. The judge education system is now due a three-year review, which will include content being added and updates included, where required. A Sport Science Day has been arranged for 24 July at the British Showjumping Training Centre, which is aimed at BD Coaches.

9. **Para:** Positive selection meeting held at Wellington, and plans outlined for the summer competitions. Para class at the National Championships to be reviewed.

10. **International:** The team selected for Aachen looks strong, with Charlotte Dujardin, Lotte Fry, Laura Tomlinson, and Annabella Pidgley all included. U21 and U25 selection meetings will be held over the next 48 hours following the Board meeting.

11. **Regional:** Further details around the BD 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary National Volunteer Awards were discussed, with the event likely to take place after the AGM in October.

11. **BEF:** White Griffin are due to present the findings of their sustainability consultancy project to the BEF member bodies on Tuesday 20 June. BD CEO and COO will be in attendance.

12. **FEI:** The FEI Sports Forum was held in April, with equine welfare being the focus on day one, this included a presentation of the second report from the Equine Ethics and Wellbeing Commission. A follow-up survey will be distributed to the Board and SMT for response.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 3 August 2023.