



# BRITISH FENCING

Minutes of the British Fencing (BF) Board meeting held at the BOA, London

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at 16.30

Approved by the Board on the 21<sup>st</sup> July 2012

<b>Present</b>		
David Teasdale	Director and Chair	DT/Chair
Andrew Brannon	Director	AB
Piers Martin	Director and Chief Executive	PM/CEO
Murray Morrison	Director	MM
Alp Orge	Director	AO
Libby Payne	Director	LP
Keith Smith	Director	KS
Mike Thornton	Director [by conference call]	MT

<b>Also in attendance (non-voting)</b>		
Ray Stafford	England Fencing Representative	RS

<b>Apologies for absence</b>		
David King	Director	DK
Penny Spink MBE	Director	PS
Chris Hyde	Scotland Fencing Representative	CH
Jack Magill	Northern Ireland Representative	JM
Bob Turner	Wales Fencing Representative	BT
Louise Bond-Williams	Athlete Commission Representative	LBW

	<b>MINUTE</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>20.</b>	<b><u>Chair's Welcome</u></b>	
20.1	The Chair welcomed all Directors, plus Ray Stafford, able to stay on for this meeting after the EGM. He noted apologies as above.	
<b>21.</b>	<b><u>Conflicts of Interest</u></b>	
21.1	The Chair noted no new conflicts and no conflicts in relation to the Agenda.	
<b>22.</b>	<b><u>Minutes of the last meeting</u></b>	
22.1	The minutes of the meeting held on the 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2012 were approved.	
22.2	There were no matters arising.	
<b>23.</b>	<b><u>EGM</u></b>	
23.1	The Chair expressed his disappointment in the outcome of the EGM, but stated that it was the right thing to do to withdraw the Board's proposals and thus allow the membership more time to consider the proposals for change. He thanked those Board members who had helped with the Roadshows but noted that these were not sufficient – even with numerous other meetings and many phone calls – to communicate fully the benefits to the sport of the changes required. In a brief discussion, Board members shared this disappointment and also his concern to get the changes through in October's General Meeting. Special efforts were required in communications. Ray Stafford noted that the issue was the Board's failure to "get its vote out"; this was agreed.	
23.2	The Board agreed to work collectively to promote the reasons behind the changes. It was agreed to ask UK Sport and Sport England to assist with this.	ALL

<b>24.</b>	<b><u>Olympic Nomination Appeals</u></b>	
24.1	The Board noted the 4 appeals received by the deadline in relation to nomination to the British Olympic Association for selection to Team GB. Additionally they noted that under Section 18 of the Olympic Selection Policy, appeals could only be submitted if the appellant alleged that the process had not been followed.	
24.2	The Board then discussed the following options: a) To ask Mike Townley to rule on the admissibility of the appeals b) To ask Sports Resolutions (SRUK) to appoint a QC to rule on the admissibility of the appeals c) To appoint a Chair from SRUK, with 2 independent sports professionals d) To ask SRUK to appoint a panel.	
24.3	The Board noted the deadlines for the process and agreed for the CEO to approach SRUK for their recommendation on either option b or c.	
24.4	The Board noted the list of possible chair and panel members, and any potential conflicts of interest that could arise. It was agreed that SRUK should be asked to appoint the panel so that there could be no question of bias.	
24.5	The Board agreed that any further process should be subject to an Arbitration Agreement which would be binding on all parties to ensure costs to the Association were kept to a minimum. Additionally, the Board agreed that BF would seek to ensure that the panel were able to recover any unreasonable costs.	
24.6	<i>[following discussions with SRUK, the Board agreed by e-mail to set up a process whereby the Chair of the panel, a QC appointed by SRUK, would determine the admissibility of each appeal and the full panel would rule on the appeal if it was deemed admissible]</i>	
<b>25.</b>	<b><u>Appointments</u></b>	
25.1	<u>Equality and Welfare Officer</u> The Board agreed for Joe Nickel to be approached, and if interested, be appointed to Equality and Welfare Officer. The Board expressed its warm thanks to Ismay Cowen for her years as BF Welfare Officer.	PM
25.2	<u>Disciplinary and Grievance Panel Chair</u> The Board agreed for Miles Bennett (currently Vice-Chair) to be approached, and if interested, be appointed to Disciplinary and Grievance Panel Chair.	PM
<b>26.</b>	<b><u>Any other business</u></b>	
26.1	The Chair informed the Board he had received a letter from Penina Bowman requesting the Board support the request to the IOC. It was agreed he should respond positively to the correspondence.	DT
<b>27.</b>	<b><u>Date of the next meeting</u></b>	
27.1	The date of the next Board meeting would be agreed by e-mail.	
<b>28.</b>	<b><u>Close</u></b>	
28.1	The Chair closed the meeting at 18.00	