



BRITISH FENCING

Minutes of the Board meeting held at the BOA, London, on Saturday 29th October 2011 at 15.00
Approved by the Board 22ND November 2011

Present		
David Teasdale	Director and Chair	DT/Chair
Andrew Brannon	Director	AB
Murray Morrison	Director	MM
Alp Orge	Director	AO
Keith Smith	Director	PS
Mike Thornton	Director	MT

Also in attendance (non-voting)		
Ray Stafford	England Fencing Representative	RS
Bob Turner	Wales Fencing Representative	BT
Piers Martin	Chief Executive	PM/CEO
Alex Newton	Performance Manager (part)	AN
Ben Campion	Development Manager (part)	BC

Apologies for absence		
David King	Director	DK
Libby Payne	Director	LP
Penny Spink MBE	Director	PS
Chris Hyde	Scotland Fencing Representative	CH
Jack Magill	Northern Ireland Representative	JM
Jon Willis	Athlete Commission Representative	JW

Ref	Minute	Action
100.	<u>Chair's Welcome</u>	
100.1	The Chair welcomed everyone to the British Olympic Association BOA and welcomed newly elected Director AO. The Board also minuted their thanks to Ismay Cowen, who had stepped down as a Director.	
101.	<u>Conflicts of Interest</u>	
101.1	The Chair noted no Conflicts.	
102.	<u>Minutes of the meeting held on the 4th October 2011</u>	
102.1	The Board approved the minutes of the last meeting.	
103.	<u>Additional Director</u>	
103.1	It was noted by the Board that Additional Directors (with the exception of the Chair of the Association) needed to be appointed at the first Board meeting after an AGM.	
103.2	DT proposed that PM be re-appointed as an Additional Director, with full voting rights.	
103.3	This was agreed by the Board.	
104.	<u>Chair Report</u>	
104.1	<u>a) 2013-2017 Funding Cycle:</u> The Chair informed the Board that we were in a crucial stage regarding funding for 13-17. We	

	are currently in the 09-13 cycle and planning for the next, therefore actions and results in this cycle will have a direct effect on 13-17 funding.	
104.2	Sport England will have more funding in the 13-17 cycle as they will be predominantly funded through the National Lottery.	
104.3	The Chair explained that he had concerns for UK Sport funding as they would not automatically be funding BF as an Olympic sport. Performance decisions, results, good governance and their confidence in us as partners were all important factors.	
104.4	He further explained that UK Sport continued to share concerns about governance and performance decisions.	
104.5	The story was similar with Sport England in that we were not hitting targets, especially in relation to Grow.	
104.6	He explained that the new Grow Committee, linked to the Committee Review, would be key to the future on this.	
104.7	b) Chair's Roadshows: The Chair updated the Board on his series of Roadshows. He explained that some had been organised by BF and some by individuals and clubs.	
104.8	He extended the offer to run Roadshows to the Home Countries and requested that they pass on the message to their regions and clubs.	
104.9	c) Committee Review: The Chair informed the Board that the Review Group, which included him, PM, LP and MT, were setting up a date to meet to report back at the December Board meeting.	
104.10	d) Capability Review: The Chair reported to the Board that, with the CEO, he was commissioning a Capability Review of Head Office.	
104.11	e) Bratislava: The Board received a proposal based on legal advice regarding disciplinary cases 146 and 147. The Board approved this proposal.	
104.12	f) BF/EF Merger: The Chair updated the Board on this proposal. He added that RS was meeting with the Home Countries at the 5 Nations to find a way to make the proposal work which is fair to all Home Countries and meets concerns expressed by the Board at the last meeting.	
104.13	g) AGM+: The Chair noted that the AGM+ had been a very helpful forum for communication, from which the Board needed to absorb the lessons. Communication from the Board was weak. He would prepare a summary of issues for Board discussion.	
104.14	<u>3G Strategy Update: GREEN</u>	
104.15	The Board appointed the following Honorary Officers for the year, in accordance with the articles:	
104.16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Electoral: Teddy Bourne - Medical: Dr. Clare Halsted - Insurance: Catherine Nicholl - Disciplinary and Grievance: Teddy Bourne - Welfare: Ismay Cowen 	
104.17	KS asked why a Legal Officer had not been appointed. It was noted that the Board had previously agreed to take advice from a range of lawyers as appropriate. However, pending the Board and Committee Reviews, Peter Cadman should remain in this role.	
104.18	The Board noted that Honorary Officers are voluntary and minuted thanks for their work.	
105.	<u>3G Strategy Update: GROW</u>	
105.1	BC Presented a revised Grow Plan.	
105.2	DT explained that this would now go to Sport England for discussion and would return to the Board for approval. He added that plans for the Grow Committee were underway.	

106.	<u>3G Strategy Update: GOLD</u>	
106.1	The Chair led thanks from the Board to AN for her work on the World Championships, adding that the team and support were very professional in Catania. He also thanked AN and the team for attending the AGM+.	
106.2	AN said she noted the AGM views/comments – it was disappointing for her and the athletes not to feel supported by the membership.	
106.3	In discussion, the Board noted that some at the AGM were unhappy with selection policy. Much of the opinion was based on inaccurate information and factual, uniform Board communication was paramount.	
106.4	The CEO explained that the Board and BF were bound by the frameworks set by those funders. In UK Sport’s case, this was a “no compromise approach”.	
106.5	RS added that the Board could either be popular or effective in its Gold strategic objective.	
106.6	Questions were raised about the Senior Selection Policy and also the point made at the AGM+ that the Olympic Nomination Policy may be amended.	
106.7	AN explained that the Olympic Nomination Policy published on the BF website had a different start date from the one agreed with the BOA (showing 1 st April 2010 rather than 2011) and that the Board had agreed to invoke Clause 22, which allowed amendments.	
106.8	DT informed the Board that an update would be made to the Board at the next meeting and any changes would be approved by the Directors.	
107.	<u>FIE Congress</u>	
107.1	The Board received the proposed amendments to the FIE rules from the Rules Committee and agreed to vote on them at the next meeting in order to direct the GBR vote.	
108.	<u>Any other Business</u>	
108.1	AB advised the Board that BF should be recovering the loss in relation to the Cuba flights for the Men’s Foil Team. The Board asked the CEO to write to Heather Hyman to recover this loss.	PM
109.	<u>Date of the next meeting</u>	
109.1	The date of the next Board meeting is the 22 nd November at 18.00.	
110.	<u>Close</u>	
110.1	There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 17.15.	