

# Board Minutes – May Board 2014

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<b>Date of Meeting</b>	15/05/2014
<b>Location</b>	Beazley
<b>Present</b>	Chair, CEO, P Abrahams, T Cadman, C Halsted, A Orge (by phone), G Paul (by phone), W Pitt (by video link)
<b>Absent</b>	J Campbell, J Troiano
<b>In attendance</b>	J Magill, D Moseley (items 1-3 only), K Robinson

## Introductions & Apologies

14. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed that the meeting was quorate.

The Chair announced three extra items that were not on the Agenda:

- a) Elections
- b) A letter from Lawrence Burr
- c) The Waterloo pop up event.

There was an apology from Janet Campbell.

## Declarations of Interest/Risk Management/Catch-up

2. There were no new Declarations of Interest.

There were no new Risk Management items.

There were no urgent catch up items.

The Chair asked to deal with the three extra items during the meeting, starting with the L Burr letter. Burr noted that at the May 2013 General Meeting he and P Jacobs raised queries on the BF Articles' use of "Honorary" when describing the role of the President. There was also a request to change the President appointment to a four-year period based on the Olympic cycle. In discussion, TC advised that the Board would have to decide how the articles are to be so amended and proposed to the membership at the AGM. Directors agreed that in principle the two changes should be put to the membership. GU suggested two resolutions; Honorary being removed from the President title, and removing the 1-year renewal process in favour of following the Olympic cycle. The Board agreed and asked TC to begin the necessary drafting and arrangements.

## BF Finance/Budget

3. DM briefed the Board on the circulated Finance Report. The key points to note were that with the preparation for year-end accounts the final figures were likely to change.

*England Fencing funding* was not shown in the figures because it was received at the end of the financial year and has now been deferred to the next year as none of the projects the money was given for had been started.

*Events*: it was stated that events should be delivered at a surplus on an ongoing basis.

AO asked if the *competitions for next year* could be spread out throughout the year more. GU noted this request to be incorporated into the review to be undertaken by Katie Rhodes.

*Corporate Services:* Corporate services report had been broken down to see variances of more individual items. It is hoped that going forward Corporate Services would have a balanced budget.

## CEO Report

4. CEO circulated the CEO's Operational Report to the Board for April 2014 - this is intended to be used for reference and briefing, but with specific items for discussion with the Board at the meeting.

*Media:* The Board was informed that Malcolm Fare had resigned as Editor of the Sword magazine, his last issue to be for July. The Board recorded grateful thanks to Malcolm for his many years as editor.

*Events:* BF ran its first merchandising stand at the BYCs in May. Events is looking to appoint a voluntary volunteer event coordinator.

*Membership:* any increase in membership fees would have to be put forward at an EGM, after discussions with the Home Countries with whom there must also be discussions of efforts to grow membership. BF cannot move forward with the membership scheme until a new IT system is in place. JM suggested BF makes progress with the new membership scheme then look at increases in the fees.

*Performance:* GU repeated the invitation from Alex Newton to visit Lee Valley. She asked WP to give possible dates for when next in UK, then to be offered to the rest of the Board.

*Irish nationality issue:* N.Ireland Fencing disputes a decision by BF that disallows Irish fencers who hold FIE licenses to compete at the National Championships. Northern Ireland say the decision goes against the Good Friday Agreement. The Board agreed GU's proposal to seek advice from UK Sport.

## Grow Update

5. CEO reported on Grow as follows;-

**Development Director:** two or three candidates will be interviewed on 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

**Market Map Analysis:** the Market Map analysis brief had been approved by SE and was currently out for tender with Deloitte and PWC. Results are expected back from them on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May. A Tribal survey was created and carried out at the BYCs. There is also a competition data analysis underway.

GU briefed the Board on various options being worked through for future strategy, leading to a lengthy discussion of alternative approaches, to be considered by the Grow Group. She said the SE deadline was extended to December.

## Disciplinary

6. On the Chair's proposal, the Board agreed to a short review of the BF Disciplinary system, by a Board sub group of TC, DT and GU.

### Extra items from Chair -

#### 6 a. Elections

Following advice from Electoral Officer Teddy Bourne it was agreed that the Chair would inform the members that no nominations were received for the latest elections for Board

Directors. It was also agreed that the Nominations Committee would meet to decide the next steps.

6b. **Waterloo**

DT thanked everyone for all the work that had gone into the organisation of the Waterloo pop up event. He also thanked all staff and Board that had helped on the day

*At 8:20 WP left the meeting. DT thanked him for the excellent Beazley hospitality.*

**Any actions off line**

7. There were no actions off line

**AOB – Matters arising**

8. Communications and Honours to discuss at next meeting.  
DT to send marketing email to the Board.  
Any Work Group to give reports to GU for her CEO Operational Report .

**Date of next Board Meeting – 17<sup>th</sup> June, at Beazley, at 5pm**

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