
Q2 REPORT FOR BRITISH FENCING BOARD: 02.11.2010

This is a summary of Quarter 2 (01.07.2010 - 30.09.2010) activities which I will expand upon at the Board with input from relevant staff:

OPERATIONS:

1. GOVERNANCE & NGB SERVICES

- Ben Champion, Graham Watts and I continue to meet with key partners and ensure necessary reporting with funding providers.
- The following agreements have been signed:
 - UK Sport Athlete Agreement Variation.
- Recruitment:
 - Chair recruitment now closed. Interview process now being set up.
 - Anika Ved has now left as Events Assistant.
 - Katie Dolan has now started as Events Coordinator.
 - Schools and Clubs Officer being recruited.
 - Competitions and Calendar Group recruitment open until the 10th November.
 - Media Officer recruitment being finalised.
 - Academy Lead Coaches being recruited.
- Database and online membership continues to be improved following feedback.
- An update on legal, disciplinary and grievance cases will follow at the Board meeting.
- Met with Peter Cadman and David King and now working to split the role of Honorary Legal Adviser and Disciplinary Chair.

2. FINANCE & SUSTAINABILITY

- Q2 Management Accounts finalised and presented to the Board.
- Comprehensive Spending Review impacts: I will update the Board at the meeting.
- Cash Flow issues with online trips preventing BF from reducing cost of trips.
- Positive avenues with sponsorship and official suppliers.
- Looking to establish a "*Fencing Foundation*" to manage athlete grants.

3. COMMUNICATION

- Website:
 - Most rankings now live through BF website
 - Home page redesign to include *Notices* section
 - Increase in widgets available
 - More Committees now taking control of their pages

- Online membership has capturing an increasing number of e-mails which is useful for *To the Point*.
- Increase in strategic media exposure due to revised press releases. Specifically swift handling of the Kruse injury.
- International Relations Committee (IRC) have met and are openly recruiting for succession planning.
- Domestic Influence: continue to maintain relationships and uphold agreements with all funding providers and key stakeholders (principally: BOA; LOCOG; UK Sport; Sport England; Skills Active; Youth Sport Trust (YST); Sports Coach UK; and Government Departments)
- Presented for Team 2012 Sponsors with Chrystall Nicholl.

DEVELOPMENT

4. GROWING THE SPORT

- Membership Review Group finalising proposal to go to member forums for comment.
- Branding for introduction to fencing finalised: GO/FENCE.
- “Grow” Group being established to draw together expertise in order to ensure our programmes link try it activities to on-going participation.
- Attended School Sport Partnership conference, 100+ positive leads for fencing in schools. Demonstrated GO/FENCE and also wheelchair fencing.
- BF in partnership with YST, have developed a video resource for the *Change 4 Life (C4L)* programme.
- *Gold Challenge* partnership arrangement, potentially 200,000 new participants to complete a taster sessions as part of a fund raising scheme.
- Membership survey undertaken.

5. COMMUNITY CLUB NETWORK

- *SwordMark* Clubs – piloting process for the remainder of 2010, *ClubMark* to be replaced by *SwordMark* in early 2011.
- C4L Clubs – initial training planned next tranche of training delivery early 2011.
- *National Fencing Plan* – work ongoing, with Beth Davidson.
- Volunteer project scoped out with Tristan Hale and Oxfordshire County Sport Partnership

6. SKILLED & ACTIVE WORKFORCE

- Referee Committee established and held first meeting.
- Referee Course rewritten and piloted at the Academy Summer Camp by referees Committee.
- 10 tutors completed the CTS/IAPS course for tutors, finalising practical assessments.
- Tutors being developed to run C4LC training programs.
- Coach Education Survey completed with over 100 responses.

7. EVENTS

- British Junior Championships successful.
- Planning for Eden Cup (Redbridge) and England Trophy (Crystal Palace) underway.

- Sheffield 2011 (S2011):
 - S2011 Stakeholder Board approved budget review due to significant reduction in funding from *Welcome to Yorkshire*.
 - Most positions appointed.
 - Local Organising Committee has now met and full plan drafted.
- Work progresses EFC to run the European Disability Fencing Championships within S2011. Working on budget with BDFA and UK Sport.
- LOCOG Ticketing update to follow at the Board.
- UKSG 2010 successfully delivered. Update on UKSG for 2011/12 to follow at the Board.
- Pilot online entry system being re-developed in order to reflect first year operational needs.

8. LONG TERM ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT (LTAD)

- The National Fencing Academy launched in August. A full update will follow at the Board.
- Regional Academy tender to universities being rolled out to North East and West Midlands over November, December and January.
- Academy Calendar plan finalised for 2011-2012.
- National Academy athlete development programmes being finalised to facilitate delivery of LTAD.
- Coach education programme at level 3 re-designed to underpin LTAD.

PERFORMANCE:

9. WINNING

- First season with new International Committee (IC) structure in place.
- GB Youth Trips centralised:
 - Huge logistical operation which has been time intensive delivering step change with people and setting up processes.
 - Online payment and confirmation allows automatic checks of Code of Conduct and other essential information.
 - Costs are not decreasing in the short term
 - Discussing improvements with the Parent Champion and the Performance Parents Group are organising a meeting.
 - A full update will follow at the Board.
- Bronze medal for Husayn Rosowsky and the Men's Foil Team at the European Juniors a direct legacy of UK Sport funding through Assistant National Foil Coach Maciej Wojtkowiak.
- GB Team very well prepared for the 2010 World Championships.
- Injury to Richard Kruse damages medal potential, but strong squad presents other possibilities.
- Full scale review of the World Class Programme after the World Championships.

Piers Martin
Chief Executive