



**PROPOSAL TO THE  
NATIONAL COMMITTEE (NC)  
ONLY OF THE BKA  
TO PROPOSE NAGINATA  
AS A 4TH BUDO**

13 January 2017

**Unfamiliar Acronyms in this document**

AJNF = All Japan Naginata Federation  
BNA = British Naginata Association  
ENF = European Naginata Federation  
INF = International Naginata Federation

**BRITISH NAGINATA ASSOCIATION**

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## REVISED PROPOSAL TO THE NC OF THE BKA TO PROPOSE IN NAGINATA AS A 4<sup>th</sup> BU INTO THE BKA

- We would like the BKA NC to consider proposing at the July 2017 BKA AGM membership taking in a very small but dedicated Naginata association under the BKA umbrella on the date of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018.
  - ➔ **The motion would be: to ask the BKA membership to vote in Naginata as a 4<sup>th</sup> Bu into the British Kendo Association**
- We would anticipate if this proposal is successfully accepted the BKA's quorate membership would vote in the BKA AGM 2017 whether or not to accept Naginata as a 4<sup>th</sup> Bu.
- The vote at the July 2016 AGM was to ask the quorate membership to accept the NC would consider this proposal presented now, on their behalf ahead of a quorate BKA membership in July 2017.

**This proposal document is 2 pages.** There are Annexes for this submission plus three years financial figures.

An additional comparison of European Kendo Federation's membership numbers for all 3 budo alongside Naginata numbers as a sense of comparison and scale are also submitted to the BKA NC. European Kendo federations that have Naginata as Bu discipline are identified.

### GROUNDWORK

- We are proposing Naginata's inclusion and BKA expansion, knowing that out of the 10 official European countries that have Naginata, 6 out of those 10 countries, either have Naginata as another Bu discipline or they support it under their overall Kendo (or Budo umbrella) federations.
- The structure and established BKA entity would help strengthen a tiny but dedicated related Budo discipline, that is consistent with other European countries choosing to do the same.
- We are not proposing a drastic Constitution change, the 6 European Kendo federation umbrellas merely made *minor* modifications and included Naginata as an additional discipline.
- In order to manage expectations we asked the BKA NC read the comparative context of low European numbers/dojo for Naginata in the other European countries (two are micro-federations), against the European Kendo Federation originated figures for numbers across the Bu disciplines. We ask the NC to consider the minor impact forecast given those small Naginata numbers in Europe.

### BKA AGM VERBAL PRESENTATION

- As per above, representatives will be available to present at the July 2017 BKA AGM.
- It is anticipated and will be prepared for, current BKA members may request a Q&A agenda item.

### MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- The modest size of the BKA (by comparison to France, Germany and other sizeable European countries), small numbers practicing Naginata and precedent in other European Kendo (or Budo) federations that provide a safe umbrella for the modest Naginata numbers, would provide:

- long-term security for Naginata players in a well established association, with equally established policies and protocols that benefit 3 other budo;
  - a buffer in structure and processes, for Naginata to adhere to;
  - The BKA's coaching structure and course is admired, and will be of huge benefit to those members who've achieved Dan ranks, who aren't already part of the BKA;
- We firmly believe the bogu aspect of Naginata, the isshu-jiai (shinai against shiai-naginata), and importance of kata (wooden) training naginata, puts Naginata as a better fit into a Kendo association than say a multi or single discipline martial art like Ju Jitsu, Kobudo or Katori Shinto Ryu (all of whom have offered to accept Atarashii Naginata in the past).
  - The common bogu-wearing aspect promotes an inclusive and embracing Japanese Budo
    - This commonality also enables the opportunity for isshu-jiai, i.e. Kendo vs Naginata, safely with the addition of sune-ate (shin-guards).
    - Local Kendo feedback has been extremely positive, especially Sandan and above to hold more opportunities for isshu-jiai practices
  - The focus up to Nidan rank, on the kata only aspect, makes it a natural fit with the kata aspects of the Kendo syllabus and kata only budo of laido and Jodo.
  - We would also have improved strength at the international and European forums.
- For some Naginata students, Naginata would be an extension of their BKA membership to other BKA disciplines that they already study, and therefore the familiarity and comfort of the BKA structures.

#### FINANCIAL AUTONOMY OF EACH BU DISCIPLINE - ASSURANCES

- The modest size and voluntary nature of the BKA compared to other European Kendo federations, makes handling modest numbers of Naginata players, manageable on process and financial autonomy.
- We are prepared in person, supported by financial figures to give firm assurances the 4<sup>th</sup> Budo would not drain nor draw upon financial resources of another Bu discipline in the BKA.
- We would provide more assurances, that the Naginata Bu would only ever ask for only a loan or underwriting if the Naginata Bucho was asked to host an international event for the INF or ENF, where significant upfront payment was demanded.

#### DECLARED NAGINATA NUMBERS

1. We have declared only 9 British passport holders as Naginata students to the ENF and INF for 2016.
2. With non-British passport holders practicing here, experienced Dan and Kyu, including transient foreign players, Britain counts 19 players in total residing in Britain.
3. These would be the figures if projections on income fee for 2017-18 are made.

## **Here ends the BNA proposal to the BKA**

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Annexes and figures submitted to the BKA's NC were not intended to form part of the formal proposal.

## **FORWARD PROJECTION OF IMMEDIATE TIMES**

If the NC proposes to the BKA July 2017 AGM, and the vote is accepted as affirmative inclusion, the below outlines a prediction of timelines and actions. It is not comprehensive but a summary vision.

### **COMPREHENSION OF BNA TO BKA TIMELINES – ADMINISTRATIVE TIMELINE**

4. We would use 6 months (Aug to Dec) and pay pro-rata for central administration to help prepare BKA and merge our processes and IT machinations, and allocate from our 9 people, the minimum positions the BKA requires for a Bu (we believe there are only 3 as a minimum).
  - Budo CV's are attached as separate submission to this Proposal
  - (new) Bucho, Events Officer, Grading Officer and Cashier
5. We stress Naginata players have paid for insurance until 31 Dec 201x, we would not going to ask them to pay for BKA membership (which includes insurance) until the start of 1 January 2018.
6. But all other Naginata bu newcomers, will however start their BKA calendar years when they join, just like Kendo, Iaido and Jodo Bu – in the July-December 201x period.
7. Some Naginata members are already BKA members (Kendo and Iaido), so IT and administratively they would be ticking another box in the membership renewal, if we can set up Naginata as fourth to tick.

### **IMPACT OF POSSIBLE ACCEPTANCE**

8. The ENF AGM in November 2014 was informed of the impending BNA proposal to join the BKA. They were informed again, of the acceptance of the BKA NC to consider a Proposal only, in November 2016.
9. Should the BNA be accepted into the BKA, the INF and ENF will be formally informed of the decision, and that respective annual fees of 2018, be paid from the new Naginata Bu in January 2018.
  - The Kendo Bucho has informally raised the Naginata Bu retains its logo and website until both new Naginata Bu and the BKA transition is completed.
  - The BNA then 'loose' its independent identity and logo 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 and effectively cease.
  - If accepted, full incorporation (members, finances) under the BKA begins 1st January 2018.