

British Kendo Association
2017 BKA Membership Report

The first year of the conjoint structure of the Membership has seen a steady positive progress. Myself and Roger Pimlott had been easing to our roles with support from a few BKA personnel to address issues of a technical (eg. online membership) and legislative (eg. grading policy) nature to best assure all members' are given the support they require. The main prerogative for this year was to see the update of membership related structures such as the BKA forms for dojo membership and new member's welcome pack, information on the website on membership matters and most recently the system database. The aim is to establish a clearer, accessible and accurate information for members. It is an ongoing process by which we aim to have set this coming year.

Membership numbers to date that includes all registered persons; temporary, full, concessionary, student, affiliate, associate and juniors for all 3 Bu's are as follows:

	Male	1045	+33
	Female	206	+22
Kendo	Male	685	
	Female	130	
Iaido	Male	409	
	Female	85	
Jodo	Male	159	
	Female	39	

** please note members practising more than 1 martial art are counted as 1 on the overall figure and also counted as 1 for each Bu that they practice*

This year saw the registration of 8 new BKA dojos; 6 Kendo, 1 Jodo and 1 Iaido.

The distribution of the BKA Membership books have been successfully set in motion and monitored by Roger Pimlott. Membership queries mostly relate to the navigation of the online membership account are helped by YouTube videos created by Neil Andriot, previous Membership Secretary. These are being updated to reflect the current membership role division. The nature of the Affiliate, Associate and Student memberships was in need of clarification following individual cases received this year and will be addressed by providing additional guideline on the website. Provision of hardcopy membership application has been made unavailable due to the logistical issues of having to continually change the receiving address based on the incumbent officer's location. All applications are now exclusively online and we are at the members' disposal in supporting them to be able to navigate successfully. Dojo administration especially those that relate to DBS checks and insurance I feel are in need of further support in terms of being given the correct information and a close liaison with the Child Protection Officer. This will be taken into account and reiterated in documentation for dojo memberships and a subsequent guideline for all other established dojos. Coaching qualifications have been updated this year following the two successful coaching courses and will continue to do so to also apply to those that have already gained this qualification. It is again an exercise of providing clearer information to members so that they are aware of their responsibilities for their membership ie renewals, duties and insurance cover.

The coming year we are determined to continue providing as much support as needed for all members and ensure all information required membership wise are made clear and accessible.

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