

ELECTION STATEMENT FROM CHRIS MANSFIELD FOR POSITION OF DIA OF BKA 2018

I have for the last three years carried out the duties and functions of the Director of International Affairs for the British Kendo Association.

During this time I had to assimilate a broad understanding of international matters in dealings with the EKF (European Kendo Federation) and the AJKF (All Japan Kendo Federation) in affairs that concern the running and organizing of European Championships for Kendo/laido/Jodo and World Kendo Championships happening in 2018. I have also had to act as a central liaison point between the BKA and these and other Kendo Federations around the world.

I have attended the EKF General Assembly Meetings held annually throughout Europe to represent the BKA and to ascertain both European and worldwide developments affecting all Federations throughout the world.

I have maintained the integrity of the EKF database for BKA members information relating to current grades and status of membership. This is an arduous task requiring constant attention.

I process all the Association's gradings passes that occur throughout the year for all 3 BU to ensure an up to date record on the EKF site. This includes the registering of exams/events and the setting up of grading panels for all 3 BU for the approval of the EKF. It is also my responsibility to coordinate the selection of UK International Referees for EKF Championships held every year.

Where international issues such as Drug Abuse and changes in Rules/Regulations affect Federations I am the main point of contact for distributing and keeping both the NC, DRC and members of the association updated in these matters.

I deal with weekly enquiries from both individual members of the association and members from other federations who have queries about EKF membership, transfer membership from UK to other country (and vice versa). This also includes a variety of questions which come up when dealing with events, gradings, international delegations both within the UK and abroad.

This volunteer position within the BKA is one of the most demanding and challenging roles any member can take on. It is my personal view that the position requires attention to a wide range of issues and a practical sense of problem solving to deal with matters as they arise. For the last 3 years the position has required a huge amount of man hours on a regular basis. Anyone thinking of considering this role is advised that the commitment required is immense.

I am willing to stand again in this role for a further 3 years should the Association re-select me.

*Chris Mansfield
BKA 740*