

AGM July 2019

Chairman's statement to the Membership

Dear Members,

I should like to thank you for responding so well to the request for "Peace" - made at the 2018 AGM consequent upon the previous 4+1 years of activity within the Association. Without this peace (and continued for another year please) there was and is a real possibility of the Association being Dissolved. Of course, legacy negatives may well persist "beneath the surface". Those involved have survived a year without such negatives and can therefore continue in that vein.

Hmmm...Ouch! Why would I start with such a strong statement?

Ah! I can just hear you thinking... *why wash our dirty linen in public?*

Well, let's not kid ourselves. *EVERYONE* knows of the negatives of the previous "4+1 years". It was in the public domain in the social media. The perceived damage is done.

The good thing that we should appreciate is that our Association is so structured and the Membership so committed to the principles of fairness, that we can and do cope with such negatives in a peaceful and democratic manner and this we have done! Thank you!

I make the opening statement to remind us of what we are and what we have to lose - if we are not realistic and truthful to ourselves about our Association.

In my view, our Association has only one objective - "*Existence*": The "*existence*" of an honourable Association which enables its members to train in their chosen Art(s) in a warm, harmonious, legal and democratic environment and whose members behave with honour and integrity.

For those who desire more, the Association is so structured that *members* can drive the nature and magnitude of its objectives per Art, via the election of Officers to their BuECs and the DRC. Consequently, I urge all members to monitor the activities of their Bu and to contribute to their policies. You can always email your ideas to your Bucho at Kendobucho@britishkendoassociation.com; laidobucho@britishkendoassociation.com; jodobucho@britishkendoassociation.com.

What has the Association been up to in the last year?

What does it take to make the Association work?

Basically, your 18 elected Officers and some 19 Officers co-opted for their specialist expertise and countless volunteers at events have been busy just trying to ensure that 1,800 of us can turn up to training in our chosen Art(s). Table Appx 1 below lists the Officers it takes to run the Association and some measures of their workload. It makes interesting reading - just have a look. The amazing thing is that they do all this for FREE and after accommodating their jobs and families. THIS in my view is the achievement of 2018/9 and of every year and we should not lose sight of it. I should like to record our gratitude and thanks to all our Officers/volunteers at events for keeping the Association going.

What has the National Committee been up to in the last year?

Well, in my first period of service as Chairman (10 years ago for 5 years; Dream Team 1!) I tried to update you periodically. This time I have not communicated with you since the July '18 AGM as to what is happening etc. This was a deliberate decision on my part and is based on the assumption that - in a period of recovery - the least said the better! I preferred to focus on basic administration and minimise any exposure to negatives. Such is the inherited state of our Association! Hence my appeal for another year of peace - please.

This does not mean that the National Committee has been inactive. Far from it. Table Appx 1 illustrates some of the *volume* of work carried out. Table Appx 2 shows the *nature* some 60+ non-routine tasks addressed by the National Committee and co-opted specialists. Have a look... these tasks take time and energy and brain cells and the kind of specialist knowledge that would cost us £100,000+ if we had to pay for it. Have a look at the "Lead initials column" i.e. those who have made major contributions to the task. It's not the "same few". I am delighted to report the huge range of people with differing specialities who have contributed to keeping the Association going by researching, writing Discussion papers, feeding back good/bad points to things etc. This is the kind of Membership we have - willing to give. This has made the past year worthwhile and rewarding as your Chairman. It's a pleasure to work with such people. Thank you Dream Team 2!

What about the new Constitution?

The revised BKA Constitution has been approved by the National Committee under Emergency Powers and published to the Membership. It is effective immediately. You will be asked to ratify the decision of the National Committee at the July '19

AGM. I recommend that you ratify the decision and adopt the new Constitution. Please read it at <http://www.britishkendoassociation.com/bka-management/> and form an opinion ready for voting at the AGM. As you form an opinion about this, I can only suggest that you bear in mind the following: *our Constitution is what it is because of the observed behaviour of our members.*

The current National Committee team. Dream Team 2

As an individual I am extremely happy with the current administration team (Dream Team 2). As the team changes in the normal process of elections, I shall consider whether I can sustain a working relationship with fellow Officers and consider my position accordingly. I make this statement because I have no intention of enduring the behaviour of some members in the past 4+1 years.

Well, there you have it.

What else is there to say?

We have a rather good system - given the observed behaviour of our members. But, it takes people of honour and integrity to make it work. No set of rules will work if members behave without honour & integrity.

I should be most grateful for another year of "Peace".

Regards,

Errol Baboolal Blake

Chairman, British Kendo Association

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Table Appx 1: Officers of the Association and some workload estimates (emails)
(Does take account of the numerous events organised etc).

			Email estimates (sent + received) from July '18 to present	Number of Events estimates for 2018 (Taikai/Gradings/Seminars)
NC				
Chairman	Errol	Blake	5,375	
Vice-Chair	Hilary	Hadley	936	
NC Secretary	Debbie	Bevan	Y	
Treasurer	Paul	Gledhill	Y	
Deputy Treasurer				
Membership Secretary	Roger	Pimlott	2,583	
Assistant Membership Sec.	Fides	Desacada	Y	
DIA	Chris	Mansfield	1323	
Kendo DRC	John	O'Sullivan	0	
Iaido DRC	Keith	Rose	Y	
Jodo DRC	Jock	Hopson	1242	
	<i>Co-opted Officers</i>		Y	
Safety Officer	Donald	Gordon	250	
Complaints Officer	Vince	Reynolds	143	
Equality & Diversity	Edward	Marshall	Y	
Insurance Officer	Jonathan	Blair-Sloan	Y	
InsuranceOffice r2	Angharad	Jones	Y	

DataProtection Officer	Brian	Collins		Y	
Anti-Doping Officer				Y	
Child & Vulnerable Persons Officer	Leslie	Drewe		Y	
Publicity Officer ???				Y	
Online Payments Officer	Malcolm	Smalley		Y	
Webmaster	David	Street		284	
Kendo Bu					
Bucho	Gary	O'Donnell		Y	
Grading Officer	John	Gale		Y	7
Events Officer1	Stephen	Martin		Y	Y
Cashier & IT Dogsbody	Malcolm	Smalley		1167	Excl 1000s auto-emails & tasks
Squad Coach	Yasuyuki	Hiyama		Y	
Squad Manager	Nigel	Collins		Y	
Kendo DRC	John	O'Sullivan		Y	
Student Ambassador	Hamid-Reza	Danesh-Arari		Y	
Iaido Bu				Y	
				Y	
Bucho	William	Heal		2600	
Grading Officer				2000	Y
Events Officer	Martin	Chambers		866	17
Cashier	Hugh	Darby		355	
Squad Coach				Y	
Squad Manager				Y	
Iaido DRC	Keith	Rose		Y	
Jodo Bu					
				Y	
Bucho	Stojanka	Vidinic		Y	
Grading Officer	David	Parker		Y	Y
Events Officer	Mark	Thurman		1870	Y
Cashier	Rob	Colson		1300	

Squad Coach	Harry	Jones		Y	
Squad Manager	Ally	Mihaylova		Y	
Jodo DRC	Jock	Hopson		Y	

Table Appx 2: Some longer term tasks undertaken by the National Committee in 2018/9.

(This excludes the routine tasks of day-to-day management).

BKA Admin	<i>To Do</i>		
	BKA NC Admin Tasks		
Admin Items Numbering	<i>Subject area</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Status</i>
Admin nnn			
Admin 001	Bank account - Trying to add 3xNC=transactions	FG EB MJF EU	Completed
Admin 002	Remote card payment machines x 6	MT ,MS	Completed
Admin 003	NC meeting	DB	Postponed due to weather
Admin 004	All-Officer meeting & training all-officer meeting in DEC Why? > time policy, emergency powers disc, training E&D, safety, Constitution.	DB EB	In progress. Postponed
Admin 005 [038]	E&D	?EB or HH	In progress
Admin 006	Insurance	EB	Completed
Admin 007	Deputy Treasurer	All; finance team	Completed
Admin 008	Website	DS; EB	Completed. New website approved and being prepared for release to members
Admin 010	Request To Do List from Bucho	EB	Not yet executed
Admin 015	AGM 2019 date&venue	DB	Completed
Admin 017	Agm minutes asap - Dave Fanning	EB DF	Completed
Admin 018	[member] complaint Appeal	?? EB	Completed
Admin 019	IT Provision	EB DS GK MS DP MJF+	Completed

Admin 021	Opendrive access tidy-up. ? Change to GoogleDrive?	AW, MS, MJF	Completed
Admin 022	Ask Treasurer to construct better Bu based accounts as per MJF style 2014?	EB, MJF, PG	Completed
Admin 026	Offensive Weapons Act - need for card/id	AA	Completed
Admin 029	stop print runs for Kihaku	EB	Completed
Admin 030	renewal of CT tax exemption	MJF EU	Completed
Admin 033	Approve previous NC Minutes	NC	Completed
Admin 036	DPO report & Constitution changes	Brian C	Completed
Admin 037			
Admin 038 [005]	EDI E&D&I Policy Development. Equality Diversity Inclusion	Ed M	In progress
Admin 039	DPO ICO Query [Ref. RFA0767454]	Brian C	Completed
Admin 040	Advertise for an anti-doping Officer	EB	Not yet executed
Admin 041	inform members re co-opted officers; agree preferred email address	EB	Completed
Admin 042	PG to test transcation rights	PG; EB	Completed
Admin 043	Dojo registration info pack, DBS funding	R P	Not yet executed
Admin 044	Expenses for grading panelists - query	1001 & 1002	Completed
Admin 045	Update Worldpay re contacts & logins	EB; MS	Completed
Admin 046	Shogo Policy	EB; JO'S, FG	Not yet executed
Admin 047	Event Code, Expenses Claiming	PG; EB	Completed
Admin 048	Anna Stone OpenDrive; transfer access & control	EB	Completed
Admin 049	NC AGM Minutes	DB	Completed
Admin 050	Voting handsets	EB	Completed
Admin 051	DBS panel decision	EB, HH, LD	Completed
Admin 052	recruitment of coaches and DBS check guidance etc	AA, LD	In progress
Admin 053 & 058	Financial Data of the BKA 1	PG, MJF, EB	In progress
Admin 054	Sam McKay. Hyoshosho	NC	Completed
Admin 055	NC meeting 24 March 19	DB	Completed
Admin 056		NC	
Admin 057	[member] travel insurance claim	JBS	Completed
Admin 058	End of Year 2018	MJF; PG	In progress
Admin 059	DPO dojo query - advice to dojo	BC	In progress

Admin 060	Disc Paper 060 British Kendo Association Financial records & reports	EB	In progress
Admin 061	AGM 2019 - Preparation	EB & ALL Officers	In progress
Admin 062	Worldpay penalty charges?	Malcolm S	In progress
Admin 063	DBS updates from all coaches	LD, Roger P	Not yet executed
Admin nnn			
Admin 1001	Emergency Powers 1	EB & NC	Completed
Admin 1002	Emergency Powers 2	HH & NC	Completed
Admin 1003	Wider Constitution Amendments	This sub-Committee is no longer active	Completed
Admin 1004	Code of Conduct; Drop	NC	Completed
Admin 1005	Review Shogo policy - authorship impression??		Not yet executed
Admin 1006	Electronic voting	NC	No change in policy. Await member contribution?