



BRITISH KENDO ASSOCIATION SAFETY OFFICER REPORT (2018 / 2019)



Accident reporting software

Following my request, Andy Watson resurrected our on-line accident reporting software and we have now been up and running for many months. This very helpful resource allows an accident or near-miss to be reported directly from the dojo. When the software was confirmed active, our webmaster quickly posted the information on-line - many thanks! Hard copy may still be downloaded from the BKA website but the electronic format makes life much easier to report an accident or near-miss, as the software logs the incident on a spreadsheet and then sends an email to the BKA Safety Officer. This means that the Safety Officer can provide assistance more quickly and the monitoring of trends and significant aspects can be carried out much easier. It also provides us with access to BKA accidents at all times and when we are confident that reporting is sound we may be able to present a case for reduced insurance fees.

Accidents

Very few accidents have been notified during the reporting year making the BKA either a super safe association, or one that is not reporting its accidents or near missed. In a voluntary organisation such as ours we cannot instruct but where an accident has been treated, the dojo leader/first aider should offer to report, pointing out that a non-report may lead to difficulties further down the line. Should an insurance claim be sought, it will be hard to prove it was a BKA injury. In mitigation, some difficulty may have arisen when the accident reporting system crashed although all of the documents were quickly posted on-line.

Assistance

Throughout the year I have answered safety related questions and provided guidance as quickly as family and work permitted. Generally this has been within 24 hours. Over the past year I have assisted with accident related questions, safety questions on new dojo registration, risk assessment and medical questions for potential members.

Conclusion

In the safety area we have a dilemma. Ideally we do not want to have accidents and injuries to our members but on the other hand lots of accidents will provide a wealth of information to report upon. Personally speaking I seek the first option as this keeps us a safe association however, if this turns out to be a false situation, for example if accidents are not being reported by our members the reverse must also be true. Let's go for option one and be safe and also professional.

Donald A W Gordon
MSc CMIOSH FRSPH Dip2.OSH I.Eng MIET FTC
Chartered Safety and Health Practitioner
BKA SAFETY OFFICER