

AGM Jodobu meeting minutes

6 July 2019, Walthamstow Academy

Chair: Stojanka Vidinic

Apologies: None

Meeting opened at 0934

Meeting was declared quorate (27 members in attendance).

M. Chambers proposed to accept the minutes of the Bu AGM 2018. Seconded by O. Jarvis. Passed, 26 for, 1 abstention and 0 against.

Matters arising from the 2018 Bu AGM

A. Allen asked whether there had been any developments regarding potentially joining NAKMAS to gain insurance for beginner's classes. S. Vidinic responded that she had been unable to contact them. However, she noted that the BKA does provide cover through temporary membership.

S. Vidinic reported that S. Knight had been unable to take up the co-opted role of PR advisor for personal reasons. S. Vidinic will attempt to obtain her help for EJC planning and sponsorship.

Bucho's report

S. Vidinic summarised the Jodo Bucho's report, which included the fact that seminar attendance was down without any obvious reason. A. Watson noted that attendance was down at seminars internationally, and raised the possibility of combining events, reducing the number of events or enhancing events. He suggested polling the membership to see which solutions were popular.

H. Jones stated that there was little slack in the calendar – all the seminars are needed as they serve the different regions of the UK.

J. Hopson suggested that there were too many gradings throughout the year. M. Chambers suggested that the Spring seminar and West Midlands seminars could have one grading between them. D. Silk suggested that the non-grading seminar could have a Koryu focus. H. Jones noted that Koryu seminars had been tried before with little success. O. Jarvis said that more variety at seminars, whether Koryu, taikai etc would be motivate attendance.

M. Chambers raised the possibility of a discount for booking both the Spring and West Midlands seminars. A. Sahla suggested that they could be combined.

M. Thurman suggested that beginners can be scared of attending their first seminar, and suggested the possibility of holding a low grade seminar. A. Watson noted that limits the potential attendance, but suggested that support for beginners should be advertised.

S. Vidinic reported that the main seminar of the year, usually held in August, could be moved to May to lower flight costs.

A. Allen asked whether there could be an explanation of taikai process before the national competition to encourage beginner participation.

R. Townson reflected that seminar attendance from a given dojo depends upon encouragement and participation by the dojo leader.

S. Vidinic raised the possibility of Darlington moving to an alternative venue in 2020 due to costs and attendance drop.

J. Hurst stated that an assessment of the financial benefits and impact for the membership should be undertaken before the potential removal of a seminar.

R. Colson noted that the surplus/loss made from seminars was small relative to other costs to the Bu.

S. Vidinic thanked the officers for their hard work during the year, and also thanked A. Watson for his help organising the summer seminar, M. Smalley and D. Parker for their help with online issues, Y. Shima for designing the EJC logos, and teaching faculty who had donated expenses.

Officer reports

The EO, GO and squad manager presented their reports.

Membership fees

S. Vidinic proposed that the fees be kept at the same rate. H. Jones seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

The recommendation to keep fees the same was based upon the fact that overall membership is up, and financial savings are expected due to holding the EJC in the UK in 2020.

S. Vidinic noted that there was an error in the proposed fees in the budget document.

DRC feedback

None.

AOB

A. Watson stated that the EJC budget can vary by £1Ks each year, and that it is important that the EKF are pushed to challenge host nations about their budgets. He noted that many federations are finding it difficult to attend due to costs.

H. Jones noted that surpluses are often made from hosting the EJC, and that value for money must be ensured for participants.

A. Watson suggested that the UK proposes to hold a joint EIC and EJC event to demonstrate the benefits to the EKF.

A. Mihaylova reported that the late referee selection for the EJC is causing a logistical nightmare, and that this needs to happen earlier during the year.

Meeting closed at 1034