

BKA Jodo bucho report AGM 2021

24 July 2021

Dear Jodobu members,

It has been a long year and a half with no seminars and gradings or training and sadly we had again to postpone hosting the EJC, but with a well advanced vaccine programme and Step 4 in place, I have hope we can start organising seminars and gradings again very soon. The buEC will be meeting next week with the laibuEC to discuss these possibilities.

I would like to thank Amanda for her hard work in making sense of the government's various regulations and guidances and setting up the recommendations to the jodobu and the BKA. The updated documents can be found on the members document page of the website.

At the time of writing the jodo membership stands at 195 members, a loss of 12 compared to last year. There are 40 Jodo dojos registered. As predicted we are seeing a loss of members, but I hope that with the reopening of dojos we will be able to gain new membership over the coming year.

As predicted the funds have grown. On the 31st December 2020 the closing balance was £19K, inclusive of the £4.5K from the Ishido sensei fund. The true bu fund now equals the 2019 year's expenditure, which is a positive result as this is the recommended ideal level of bu reserves. I expect that the bank balance is now a little greater with the 2021 membership renewals and I would like to thank you, the members, for supporting the bu during this pandemic. Hosting the EJC in 2022 should secure the good health of our fund, but I would like to advise caution as our membership is small and we have lost members over the last few years.

I would like to finish this report by remembering the long-standing members of the bu and Japanese sensei, guest teachers at BKA seminars, who have left us in the last year:

Greg Drewe sensei, Iaido Renshi 6 dan, Jodo Renshi 6 dan, Kendo 2 dan

Jim Jones sensei, Iaido 4 dan, Jodo 5 dan, Kendo 2 dan

Namitome Shigenori sensei, Shintō Musō Ryū Menkyo-Kaiden, ZNKR Hanshi 8 Dan Jodo, Hanshi 8 Dan Iaido, Kyoshi 7 Dan Kendo

Yoshimura Ken'ichi sensei, Iaido Kyoshi 8 dan, Jodo Kyoshi 7 dan

They are all sorely missed.

In the hope we can meet again soon.

Stojanka Vidinic.