



CHAIRMANS REPORT 2022-23

The British Ju Jitsu Association GB

5 Avenue Parade, Accrington BB56PN

Given the turbulent time the world has been through in the past few years, good governance could not be more important for businesses. We need to be sure that your leadership team has the tools in place to navigate the turbulent waters of pandemics, energy crises, inflation, social activism and much more. Good governance is designed to help us and you implement best practices for leading your clubs and organisations with integrity and transparency. One of the biggest challenges to boards is understanding the shifting governance landscape

Inflation and the cost of living are hot topics right now and of course, they affect our operations just as they do with any business or household, and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. The only thing making us more 'inflation immune' than many NGBs is the fact that most of our 'labour' is carried out by volunteers, so as ever, on behalf of all BJJAGB club members, I sincerely thank those who give freely of their time to carry out all manner of tasks around the clubs. Some of those tasks are more visible than others. Many are carried out at the club itself and the results are there for everyone to see. Competitions, Gradings and Squad training sessions don't happen without dojo preparation, and the changing rooms and facilities soon fall into disrepair in the absence of a maintenance programme. Other tasks are carried out 'behind the scenes,' often at home, and even though the results are not immediately visible, without the work being done something, somewhere would break down and members would suffer in some way. Cricket, football, darts and pool matches do not happen unless someone has made all the necessary arrangements and these days, probably completed and submitted several forms before even getting into who's grading and team selection and the task of getting timely replies from everyone.

In common with many other clubs and organisations, we are finding it increasingly difficult to recruit volunteers to cover some of the tasks necessary to maintain our facilities and services. Although I understand and appreciate the reasons for this, I also hope that it's a trend we can reverse. Updating the online content of the membership platform itself turned out to be more of a challenge than expected and I must apologise for the delay in solving the problems, but hopefully we are there now and if not fully functioning, pretty close to it.

Each of the member clubs and associations report results and activities in their own way, but I want to take the opportunity of thanking everyone who volunteers their time to keep these teams going. As I noted above, this is no easy task with ever an increasing

amount

of paperwork associated with getting membership information, gradings and competitions. The economic challenges ahead will be testing for us all, but as we've already seen during the recent 'threats' thrown at us by Covid we are well-equipped to deal with those challenges, both through good housekeeping and the great services of our volunteers. I hope that you, like me, remain confident about our future.

October 2022

- Full Executive training in Equality Diversity & inclusion with Lyndon Roberts from Inclusion in Sport (Full Executive training in EDI with Lyndon Roberts face to face TRAINING EDI MEETING with Inclusion in Sport. A self-reflection activity was attached to the course to consider how you are being inclusive, as a leader in Ju-Jitsu. The team had to complete each these and bring them together at a future meeting to consider where there are any consistent learning opportunities as a leadership group.
- Are we being inclusive? An activity to reflect upon what you are currently doing at BJJAGB. Reflect on what you have done, what you are doing and what you have planned that is inclusive)
- We sent a BJJAGB team to the United Nations World Championships and Congress in Belgium.
- Northern Coaching Course 15 Qualified .

November 2022

- NEST Management business booster to help promote BJJAGB and build the new BJJAGB membership Data Base.

December 2022

- Meeting with Nest on updates of the membership Data Base

February 2023

- Black Belt Gradings North
- Midland Region coaching course 16 Qualified.

April 2023

- Exeter Coaching Course 14 Qualified.

May 2023

- Northern coaching Course 26 Qualified.
- Southend International Championships and Seminar GB, USA, ITALY, BELGIUM, DENMARK,

June 2023

- Safeguarding update meeting Description: Positions of Trust – How does the change in law affect your club? Learn about how the Safeguarding Code can help and hear from the Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU) about scenarios

affecting your club and how the Safeguarding Code can help.

June 2023

- British Championships Squad Assessment day.

July 2023

- Junior Coaching Course North 12 qualified
- Prof Parkers Funeral Essex

August 2023

- British Referee and officials course Walsall. 63 Qualified

Sept 2023

- Successful British Championships at Walsall
- New website launched
- Draft New BJJ GB Constitution finalised for approval

Plus updates on last years pledges

- Further investments into our technology.
- Sourcing a social media expert to support our marketing ambitions.
- Governance Training

AGM SAFEGUARDING REPORT 2023

REPORTED INCIDENTS

2021: 1 reported incident opened 1.12.2021 – Precautionary Suspension issued (Student) Case closed 26.08.2022 by Police/Social Services. Student has not returned.

2022: 1 reported incident opened 25.08.2022 – Precautionary Suspension issued (Instructor). This is ongoing as a 'Police case' now. Social services no longer involved. Club still open, but Instructor has been moved from the area by the Police and has no further contact with anyone from the club. DBS/SAFEGUARDING CODE have been informed. Awaiting final Police report.

REPORT FROM SAFEGUARDING CODE IN MARTIAL ARTS

MEETING 8.02.2023: Code now has over 1000 clubs, reflecting three years of continuous growth. 69 Instructors have been removed from the Register for various reasons in 2022. Overall, 159 have been removed. Of these, 25 cases are of concern.

Meetings are taking place to make Regional LADO Representatives aware of the CODE and to share information. Presentation ended with a report on ongoing work, such as Case Management, First Aid

and Qualification of Instructors (which we, as the British Ju-Jitsu Association already have in place).

There was talk about how we can share information on banned instructors with other NGB's, but this has run into some legal issues and at the moment, is not in place.

SAFEGUARDING CODE MAP: This currently shows that 85 Ju-Jitsu clubs are registered overall, of which 58 clubs belong to the BJJAGB.

Mark & Claire Fitz-Gerald
Designated Lead Safeguarding Officers, BJJAGB

Director of EDI report for BJJAGB AGM 1 October 2023

October 2022 – September 2023

- New role of EDI Officer established in early 2022 to demonstrate BJJAGB's commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion principles. Role evolved into Director of EDI. Our commitment further demonstrated through publishing of the EDI commitment statement (available in the EDI section of the Governance tab).
- EDI-related policies now available on website so all members have access to them and relevant procedures. We welcome all feedback regarding these, please email edi@bjjagb.com
- BJJAGB continuously working towards embedding EDI principles into every area and we encourage all members to view our EDI Action Plan (available in the EDI section of the Governance tab). We welcome all feedback regarding the Action Plan, please email edi@bjjagb.com
- Director of EDI is part of Sport England's EDI Leads Network to access and share knowledge, experience and good practice.

October 2023 – September 2024

- Director of EDI attending Race conference (Time for change: Tackling racism in sport) hosted by 5 Home Country Sports Councils in October.
- Make continuous progress against objectives in the EDI Action Plan, including:
 - Establish EDI Committee - identify volunteers from member organisations and clubs, ensuring they are representative of all members, in order for them to have an active role in shaping our overall EDI strategy
 - Identify EDI Leads in all member organisations and clubs to liaise with BJJAGB Director of EDI, in order to work together to identify initiatives, frameworks and strategies to help diversify BJJAGB's membership and improve representation of people of all backgrounds and abilities in all areas