

British Student Taekwondo Federation AGM

Sunday 13th November 2011

1. **Welcome:** The President Master Dongjin Bae welcomed all members to the 2011 BSTF AGM.
2. **Apologies:** University of Essex, University of Leeds, Durham University and University of the West of England representatives.
3. **In attendance:** Master Dongjin Bae (Surrey), Mehdi Mirza (Oxford Brookes), Colin West (Nottingham), Trevor Page (Bucks New Uni), David Honey (Southampton), Michael Nathan-Pepple (Kingston), Julie Renard (Surrey) and Master Graham Jones (Southampton), as well as further university representatives from Leicester, Portsmouth, Surrey, UEL, Imperial College, Southampton, Nottingham, Oxford Brookes, Kingston and Bucks New Uni.
4. **Minutes of 2010 AGM:** The minutes of the previous AGM were accepted a correct record of the meeting (minutes were published and available on our website since 2010).
5. **Introductions:**
 1. Introductions of last year's committee members.
 2. Introductions of university representatives in attendance.
 3. Roles and responsibilities of committee positions described for prospective candidates.
6. **Discussions - Events:**
 1. **Three day fight camp:** Feedback from people who attended the fight camp was that they enjoyed it, comments included that they loved the training and atmosphere. Cost and timing for the event were cited as the main drawbacks for those who did not attend. Timing problems are magnified since many universities have a different Easter break, and some students have to sit exams. A suggestion was made to organise the fight camp over two days only (Friday night and Saturday) to reduce costs without losing the social aspect of the event, and to potentially organise it at a different time of the year (early February, before Student Nationals).

2. **Overseas trips:** The Hungary fight camp will probably take place next year and the BSTF will continue to advertise the event. The consensus was that the BSTF will advertise one of the existing Korea trips with the agreement of the organiser, rather than organise a separate trip.
3. **Regional tournaments:** The option for University clubs to host BSTF regional University open competitions was discussed, including the new scoring equipment, draw software, and tournament insurance that can be provided. Clubs organising these events would take a substantial amount of the benefits.
4. **Student Nationals** – Feedback from the 2011 Student Nationals was positive. Improvements suggested were to have clearer instructions about what equipment is allowed (WTF approved equipment only for safety reasons) and that these rules be strictly applied. Foot protectors were discussed and that their use or not should be advertised well in advance (current WTF rules do not include foot protectors except when PSS systems are being used). Suggestion from the committee to apply an early entry discount met with approval. Future use of online registration and payment was discussed. Our apolitical open tournament format was reiterated for new AGM attendees.
5. **ITF Events** – Student representatives from Leicester University are keen on organising ITF events. They were keen to restart a BSTF ITF committee, organise an ITF Student Open and work closely with the existing WTF clubs. BSTF is happy to help and support them as much as they wish with contacts, logistical and material assistance.

7. **Discussions – External Bodies:**

1. **BUCS** – Taekwondo not currently being awarded any BUCS points was discussed. BUCS points would lead to increased funding for most clubs from their AUs. Members were advised to discuss the issue with their athletic unions and get them to raise the issue at the next AGM with BUCS. Aim is to get BUCS points awarded for BSTF Student Nationals on the basis of its unique features including its large size, 25 year history, wide student support, and open format.
2. **BTCB** – Several clubs received an email from the BTCB executive shortly before the Student Nationals this year stating that participating in the BSTF Nationals could constitute a disciplinary offence. Members were advised that the BSTF contacted the BTCB executive, refuting several misleading claims in their letter. Students have been advised to raise the issue with their Student Union. Corner judges have likewise been informed that their BTCB judging licence may be revoked as a consequence of participating in competitions not authorised by the BTCB. The Oxford Brookes University Head of Sports contacted BTCB executive,

who then declared that BTCB members were allowed to take part in any competition and that no action would be taken if they competed at the BSTF Nationals. The BSTF has made efforts to organise a meeting with BTCB executive members, but are still awaiting a confirmatory response.

8. Discussions – Developing BSTF Support:

1. **New clubs** – Help brand new student clubs by giving them the knowledge and tools to grow. Suggestion that established clubs representatives be contacted to support new Uni club at freshers fayres.
2. **International competitions** – Going forward plan to help organise logistics for overseas competitions including shared transportation, accommodation as a team, arrange a coach to solo players. Plan to create facebook events to let people know when BSTF members are fighting abroad.
3. **Corner judge courses** – Many members are keen for the BSTF to organise corner judging courses in addition to existing events to provide students better understanding of rules, prepare them for BSTF Nationals, and generally increase the knowledge for those with an interest in officiating.
4. **Charity** – Support for charities such as Red Balloons, donation from BSTF Nationals income supported. Suggestions included organising a Kickathlon (kicking pads for 24 hours).

9. Discussions – Developing BSTF Events:

1. **Regional support** – Students are encouraged to contact neighbouring clubs, attend each other's sessions and make them aware of the BSTF and its events.
2. **College Students** – The committee are to advertise BSTF events to college participants and encourage them to join once they start university. This includes inviting them to attend one day fight camps.
3. **Promotion** – Send material to Uni clubs to help them promote student Taekwondo including posters and flyers. Send a promotional pack at the beginning of the year. Committee members will create a promotional video and a newsletter.
4. **Socials** - More social events for students to meet outside of training such as organising a BSTF trip to Thorpe Park.

10. Discussions and Motion – Change of Committee Positions:

- The 2010-2011 committee comprised the following positions: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Communications Officer, Events Officer and two

Student Representatives. A motion was successfully passed (by unanimity), reducing the number of committee positions to the following six: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Communications Officer and Universities Officer and introducing a Student Representative position at each University club.

- Student representatives will be a point of contact for the BSTF committee, particularly the Universities officer; they will help the BSTF be aware of the opinions and needs of their club, and help promote BSTF events within their club.

11. Discussions and Motion – The BSTF becoming a registered charity:

- The second motion of the meeting introduced the possibility of the BSTF becoming a registered charity. The BSTF already fulfils all criteria necessary for the change in status. Advantages include potentially greater sources of sponsorship and a useful framework for committee members to work within. The main disadvantage is the bigger workload for the BSTF committee.
- The motion in principle was passed successfully. The BSTF committee members will look in detail this year at all legal and administrative requirements before applying for the charity status.

12. Discussions and Motion – Membership fee structure:

- The fees clubs pay to join the BSTF and how these apply to smaller or newer clubs was discussed. Clubs previously paid £25, typically when they applied to the Student Nationals, irrespective of the numbers of members. It was suggested this might be a disincentive for smaller or newer university clubs which occasionally include as few as a single competitor, to attend BSTF events. When asked, there was a mix between clubs who had the fee paid by their AU, and a majority who paid out of their club funds. Three options were offered for the motion: keep the system as it is; adapt the membership fee to the club size by putting clubs into different categories, likely substantially reducing the fee for those with <5 participants; or finally waive the club membership fee and increase the cost of individual entry fees for all members.
- The majority voted in favour of the club membership fee remaining but being reduced for clubs with few participants.

13. Discussions and Motion – Any other business

- A motion proposed by a member that with the change in membership fee, Universities which paid the higher fee should receive more votes at BSTF AGMs. The proposal met with little support during discussions and was voted against.

14. Finance Report

1. A comprehensive breakdown of the previous year's income and expenditure for all events and activities was presented by the Treasurer. His assessment was that the BSTF finances were stable but that we should as ever remain careful with spending in the upcoming year. The BSTF has experienced a net loss of about £800 for the 2010-211 period, primary due to the purchase of competition equipment totalling over £1000 which should not need replacement for several years. The Aylesbury fight camp led to loss of £400; it is hoped this can be reversed with more favourable dates for attendees next year. Small fight camps are cheaper to organise, have been well attended and made a good benefit. Finances remain healthy overall, and there remains no intention to increase membership, tournament, or fight camp fees from their 2010/2011 levels.
2. Details of the insurance policy provided for BSTF members were listed. It was clarified that an individual may hold any number of insurance policies, being limited only in that you may claim on a single policy for an individual claim. The BSTF policy includes personal accident, employer's liability, public liability and member to member liability insurance.

15. Election of the 2011/2012 Committee:

- Each university club and each committee member had one vote per committee position. The elections proceeded as follows:
 1. Nominations for the position of President: Mehdi Mirza and Colin West. Position won by Mehdi Mirza.
 2. Nominations for the position of Vice-President: Colin West and Michael Nathan-Pepple. Position won by Colin West.
 3. Nominations for the position of Secretary: Michael Nathan-Pepple and Julie Renard. Position won by Michael Nathan-Pepple.
 4. Nominations for the position of Communications Officer: Julie Renard and Sheena Au-Yeung. Position won by Julie Renard
 5. Nominations for the position of Treasurer: Trevor Page. Position won by Trevor Page.
 6. Nominations for the position of Universities Officer: Sheena Au-Yeung. Position won by Sheena Au-Yeung.
16. **Thanks:** The BSTF committee thanked all attendees of the AGM and the meeting was concluded.