



WAKO GB General Meeting

5th November 2022 @ 4:00pm

Minutes

Attendees:

Independent Chair: Leanne Sowersby (LS)

WAKO GB Exec. – Peter Edwards (PE) - President; Neville Wray (NW) - Vice President; Lucy Edwards (LE) Secretary; Dev Barrett (DB), Billy Bryce (BB); Phil Wetten (PW); Brian Beck (BWB).

WAKO GB Club Members

1. Welcome, introduction and ground rules

(NW) welcomed everybody.

(LS) introduced herself and explained her background experience/qualifications in Governance. Explained the reasons for having an independent Chair. Explained that the GM was being recorded to enable the minutes to be done after the event – and would be destroyed following.

2. Sport England Recognition Update.

After the announcement that WAKO GB has Sport England, Sport Scotland & Sport Wales recognition (LE) gave a presentation on the 12-year journey WAKO GB had to get the recognition.

A detailed discussion was had over why it took so long; what the recognition meant for clubs now.

Suggestions were given on whether WAKO GB could have a page on their website for Sport England information. The committee was in agreement that once there was any relevant information, it would be posted on the Website for transparency.

3. Rsportz – *the membership platform for all WAKO kickboxing clubs worldwide.*

Discussions led onto Rsportz. (LE) expressed that WAKO IF require all club students – competitors and non-competitors alike – to be added to Rsportz with a deadline of January 2023 before sanctions are imposed.

(BWB) confirmed that all referees must also be entered onto Rsportz.

Concerns were heard from club owners who reported that putting competitors onto Rsportz was not a problem, but non-competitors were more of a challenge. Ideas were discussed on how to entice more members and how club owners could engage their students more into the advantages of Rsportz. Suggestions were explored i.e. have more Grassroots tournaments; include the Rsportz fee into annual club membership; educate people by social media; to be added as part of the grading criteria.

4. Committees

Discussions were had regarding committees and how to be a part of them. The committee agreed that quarterly meetings must be run for each individual committee where they submit a report on the activity that has taken place in that time. The suggestion of having small working groups/consolation groups was discussed.

5. Annual General Meeting Update

It was proposed that due to new information stated on Rsportz and Blue Grading books, the criteria of what a 'member' is has changed. Therefore, it was agreed that the AGM should be delayed to give time to clarify the situation. This will be done with legal representation and at the same time, a review of the Articles of Association will be done to be in-line with Sport England regulations. Once this has taken place, which would be after the new year, an announcement of the date of the AGM to all members will be made, as per the Articles.

6. AOB

Summarised discussions were had on the following:

- updating the WAKO GB 5yr strategic plan now that recognition has been achieved;
- moving forward with transparency and inclusion;
- aligning to WAKO IF committees;

(LS) concluded the meeting by thanking everybody for attending.

Meeting Close @ 5:25pm