

# **MINUTES**

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 10<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2008, AT THE MARINO INSTITUTE, OF DUBLIN KENDO KOBUKAI**

**BOM Present: N. Whelan President, H. Malm VP, M. Kiosew Treasurer, B. Albertini Dir. Training**

**BOM Apologies: J. Cordero IS, G. Bridgeman Secretary.**

**1. AGENDA**

The agenda was accepted.

**2. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON**

After the opening welcome from the President, Henric Malm was voted in as Chairperson for the AGM.

**3. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

The President appealed for help from everyone in the club over the next number of events which will culminate with the running of the IIGT again next January, 2009. Training has now been organised for 4 main sessions and people should attend if they wish to see improvements in their kendo. Dublin club kendo standards reached a height in January 2007 as a result of the clubs regular sessions devised by Dir. Training. We need to get back to that situation as soon as possible. Everyone must leave OLOC before 9:55 every evening as the night alarm is set. Everyone needs to take the Hirakawa Sensei seminar as seriously as possible in order that they can benefit from the teaching of one of the best senseis practicing today. People in the Dublin club need to realise that they should be preparing to stake their claim on one of the nationally representative teams at international level.

4. REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

The VP appealed for help with the running of the club from all club members. He recognised that it is the same die hard few that run all the events in the club. Regular practice is required for people to lift the standard once more for the Dublin club. We need to be more sophisticated and professional in our approach to training. We cannot be lazing around during the rented time on the floor. We need to get the maximum return from that time. Everyone should be studying their waza and training and learning so that they can take part in the highest level training currently provided in the club on a Wednesday night.

5. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

In the absence of the Secretary (meeting clashed with work) Danny Lennon took the minutes and offered his thanks to all those that helped with the running of the Taikai in January. He is compiling his notes on the Taikai so that we can be better organised for January, 2009. Yanai Sensei provided first class instruction on how to run a seminar, taikai and grading during the event. He wants us to learn how to do this so that the Irish clubs can run these events themselves.

After a brief discussion it was agreed that the Treasurer inputs the amounts received on the web site database and the Secretary must reassign the status of newbiz to members on it. In this regard it will be essential that the Secretary, Treasurer and/or Dep Treasurer are there to register beginners on the first morning of each beginners course so that they know who has turned up from the newbiz. (often those who register online are not the same as those who turn up – 50% of those who started the most recent beginners course had not registered online)

6. REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Martin Kiosew's report was very well prepared and was the source of good news for the club. In the last number of months fees received (apart from income from beginners courses, sponsored events and equipment sales) are close to covering the hall rental expenditure which is our real measure of financial survival. With total income for 2007 running on to end of January, 2008 at €22k the club is left with a surplus on account currently at €6K. Martin will publish his report separately when he has the figures fully closed off at 31 Dec, 2007. This indicator means that large improvements have been made in beginners courses and equipment sales. Some members have availed of the payment of the full years fees a special offer which allows them to pay a reduced amount for each month. As these fees will have matching costs in the coming months these should not be calculated in the surplus. The surplus then would be in the region of €5K in real terms. Given that the Taikai in January will require up front €3K then you can see how quickly the money will be allocated. Future expenditure will be the subject of further BOM meetings.

7. REPORT OF THE IS OFFICER

Jorge Cordero was unavailable to present his report due to pressure of work.. He was informed of the election of the new IS Officer and has agreed to provide any assistance he can. He will continue to be very busy in his new job in the near future but will assist in any way he can. He has also confirmed that Monday night training suits him best at present given his timetable and he will join, Martin, Andy and hopefully Kathryn as key holders for that nights training. Best of luck to them with the new session hopefully it will be another success.

8. REPORT OF THE TRAINING DIRECTOR

Dir Training informed the meeting that the kids classes are advancing. They will also need to increase the number of sessions each week for training. They will take part in the Irish National Championships and will need to work on shiai techniques. Also Benedict has appealed for help from the senior kendoka running the training sessions for kids as two seniors ideally are required. The second kids class will be on Fridays at 7:45 pm. Wednesday training is for intermediates and advanced seniors. Fridays and Mondays will be for instructing intermediates on waza so that they ultimately can join the Wednesday night class.

9. ELECTION OF OFFICERS (BOM)

The following officers were elected or re-elected. It was decided that, due to the growth of the club it was necessary to have Deputy Officers for Treasury, IS and Training sections. These Deputies were also elected.

President	Noel Whelan
VP	Henric Malm
Secretary	Gerard Bridgeman
Treasurer	Martin Kiosew
Deputy Treasurer	Gillian Reade
Information Systems	Chris Wilson
Deputy IS	Jorge Cordero
Dir Training	Benedict Albertini (Junior Section)
Dir Training	Henric Malm (Senior Section)
Dir Training	Toru Takenaga (Senior Section)

10. MOTIONS

There were no motions.

11. NATIONAL FEDERATION

President and Secretary gave brief updates to the Dublin club in particular regarding the finalising of arrangements for the national team to the EKC in Helsinki in March, 2008.

12. DIARY OF EVENTS AND TO/DO LISTS

The complete todo lists and diary will be discussed at the next BOM meeting which will take place at 8:00 pm on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2008 in Benedict Albertini's house

13. AOB