

Cambridge University Karate Club

Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2021

Opening

The regular meeting of the Committee of the Cambridge University Karate Club (CUKC) was opened by Danielle Ball at 2.00 PM (London time) and took place online via Zoom.

Present

Danielle Ball, President

Tom Xu, Men's Captain

Millie Johal, Women's Captain

Sam Hill, Vice President

Abby Wheeler, Welfare and Safety Officer

Fizz McNally, Social Secretary

Maeve Brittle, Publicity Officer

Fei Yuan, Webmaster

Christoph Hess, Secretary

Axel Boerrigter, Treasurer

Agenda

The President suggested six topics for discussion, in the following order:

1. Confirmation of previous meeting minutes
2. Varsity
3. Annual Dinner
4. Training
5. Training Fees
6. Website

The order was approved by the Committee.

Ad 1) Approval of January Committee meeting minutes

Decision: The minutes were approved.

Ad 2) Varsity

Discussion: Danielle informed the Committee that although legally we can touch each other, and hence kumite would be allowed, the national body does not yet allow kumite to go ahead. She had conferred with the Senior Treasurer Jane Blunt whether this policy was likely to change before the planned Varsity date of 19th June, but Jane does not believe that this will be the case. Danielle therefore asked the committee whether the event planned for 19th June should be cancelled now or whether we should wait. Whether the Club would incur a cancelling fee for the venue booked at Linton for Varsity is unclear, since Sam has not yet heard back from the venue. Even if Varsity were held at a later date, for which the availability of the Oxford Karate Club suggests that only dates from mid-September onwards are viable, the Varsity squad could remain relatively unchanged. Individual Committee members voiced their approval for postponing the event. To keep people motivated, however, Christoph suggested that the Club might hold an internal Club Competition, perhaps only including kata, around the original Varsity date of 19th June.

Decisions: The Committee unanimously agreed to cancel Varsity for 19th June and to work towards a later date, which might either be in mid-September or in the first week of October. Additionally, the Club might organise a Club Competition in June.

Ad 6) Annual Dinner

Discussion: The current plan for Annual Dinner is to have a garden party in a private garden with an informal barbecue, for which according to the current roadmap of the government no restrictions on attendance will need to be imposed. If the roadmap gets pushed back, the event can still go ahead, but there might be a limit of 30 people for the garden party. Maeve suggested that this could be dealt with by having people sign up in advance for the event. Fizz additionally suggested that certain groups might be prioritised if capacity for the event is seriously limited.

Decisions: The Club will look at College venues if a private garden party does not work, but the consensus pointed towards an outside event after Varsity.

Decisions: No further decisions were (yet) necessary regarding this point.

Ad 4) Training

Discussion: Tom updated the Committee that the Captains had currently secured two regular venues (the Ross Street Community Centre and the Sports Centre) but that they were trying to secure additional ones to maximise the number of possible indoor sessions. In terms of training times, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday are all settled what kind of session will be held on Mondays is still unclear. The starting time for the evening sessions, currently 6pm due to the need of finishing outdoor sessions before sunset, might be pushed back towards the original timing of 8pm. This will allow instructors with daytime jobs and a long journey to lead some of these sessions. In addition, Millie suggested holding additional beginners' sessions on dates for which no indoor training venue could be secured, since beginners' sessions would be less dependent on having a gym floor to train on.

Decisions: The starting time for evening sessions will be pushed back while the Captains will continue to secure additional indoor training venues.

Ad 5) Training Fees

Discussion: Axel outlined the options concerning training fees for the rest of Easter Term. First, there might be a fixed fee per month, which however is unlikely to be a successful model at the height of exam season. Second, the Club might continue its current pay as you go model with or without a cap. If there was a cap on the amount paid, it might be fixed either at £60 or £80. Axel suggested that the pay as you go fee remain unchanged at £5 and to put the cap at £60, given that nobody is likely to reach a cap of £80 in any case. Danielle added that financially the Club has done well for the last couple of weeks, given that the outdoor training venues were all free, but pressure will increase as the number of indoor venues increases.

Decisions: The pay as you go fee will remain unchanged at £5 and training fees for each individual member will be capped at £60. This information will be included in the next bulletin.

Ad 6) Website

Discussion: Fei suggested changing the ‘news’ item into ‘news and stories’, to which individual club members might be asked to contribute personal stories about karate. Christoph added that as long as traffic on the website was still low before a return to full normal training, the Club might consider relaunching the website with a new layout and colouring scheme. One or two additional committee members might support Fei in redesigning the website over the summer if this is possible.

Decisions: No further decisions were necessary regarding this point.

Ad 7) Additions to the Agenda

Bob Poynton Memorial Trophy

Discussion: Given that the Most Improved Student Trophy is already awarded yearly by the Chief Instructor, Danielle suggested to have someone else, preferably a different person every year, award the Bob Poynton Trophy. One option would be to have the President award the trophy, but Danielle said she was hesitant because she had never met Sensei Bob in person. Instead, she suggested to have Chris award the trophy this year, since he knew Sensei Bob well and has trained with the KUGB for many years.

Decisions: The Committee agreed to Danielle's suggestions

The Committee Meeting was closed at 2.45 PM by the Club President.

Minutes submitted by:

Christoph Hess

CUKC Secretary

2021/2022

Approval: 12 July 2021