

Cambridge University Karate Club

Meeting Minutes

July 12, 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

Christoph Hess, Secretary

Agenda

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

1. Confirmation of previous meeting minutes
2. Training for Varsity

3. Nationals on September 4th
4. Training fees
5. Training

The order was approved by the Committee.

Ad 1) Approval of May Committee meeting minutes

Decision: The minutes were approved.

Ad 2) Training for Varsity

Discussion: Danielle raised the problem that the postponement of Varsity into early autumn would make it difficult for the team kata groups to organise their training, since many individual members are abroad over the summer. An early return of the team kata competitors at least one week before the Varsity match would therefore be desirable, but might impose a significant financial burden on the club members concerned. Fizz suggested renting an Airbnb, either individually or as a group. Christoph added that organising a structured training program over several days might make it more attractive for people to return early. Such a CUKC ‘summer camp’ would ideally include a weekend, to make it possible for instructors with day jobs to attend or lead sessions. Danielle supported the idea and suggested that the ‘summer camp’ might take place from Wednesday to Sunday (e.g. from September 29th to October 3rd). It is hoped that accommodation might be secured from club members resident in or around Cambridge to keep the cost to those attending the summer camp low.

Decisions: The Committee will send out two forms soon, one for team kata competitors to indicate their availability for an early return to Cambridge, and a second one to gauge how many private places in club members’ homes there might be available.

Ad 3) Nationals on December 4th

Discussion: Danielle reminded the Committee that the KUGB National Championships, scheduled for September 4th, are bound to be the first major competition after lockdown. The competition is of a very high standard, which is why the club usually only sends a small squad to this competition. Additionally, attendance might be limited this year because the competition is falling into the holidays. Nevertheless, the Club will try to encourage as many people as possible to attend to be represented by an excellent squad at the Nationals.

Decisions: No further decisions were necessary regarding this point.

Ad 4) Training fees

Discussion: The Club is facing a choice whether to bring the old fee structure (or the new one designed by Alex and Olivia last year) back, or whether to stick with a pay-as-you-go model for Michaelmas term. Christoph suggested to make the final decision shortly before term starts, e.g. in late September. A clear fee structure would set desirable incentives to train frequently, while a pay-as-you-go model would be more resistant to possible disruption during Michaelmas term. Danielle agreed to make a final decision in late September, when the prospects for Michaelmas term might be weighed better than is possible now.

On the related issue of payment for training sessions, Danielle noted that a few people have been paying in cash for the holiday training sessions, which makes invoicing difficult. She suggested to switch to an invoicing-only model again, to which the Committee agreed.

Decisions: Sensei Richard will be updated about the planned change to an invoice-only model, and the changes be implemented following his approval.

Ad 5) Training

Discussion: Danielle noted that the possibility of renting college venues for training in Michaelmas term was still uncertain, while the past record indicates little enthusiasm for outdoor sessions. If no sufficient venue capacity can be secured, it might therefore be preferable in the future to simply operate a more limited training schedule, rather than filling the gaps with outdoor sessions. Regarding training during the holidays, if the demand for outdoor training

sessions continues to be low for the next couple of weeks, the remaining outdoor training sessions might be cancelled altogether as well.

Decisions: Tom and Maeve will ask their respective colleges (St Catharine's and Jesus) for venue availability, and Sam will additionally liaise with the remaining colleges with possible training venues, as listed on the Google Drive, to secure as many training venues as possible for Michaelmas term. The Club will monitor attendance at outdoor sessions with the possibility of cutting back on these sessions if demand remains low.

The Committee Meeting was closed at 2.50 PM by the Club President.

Minutes submitted by:

Christoph Hess

CUKC Secretary

2021/2022

Approval: pending