



**BTCB ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING 2011**

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE
COUNCIL**

April 2010 to March 2011

It is with great pleasure that I am able to report on the achievements of the BTCB Executive and its sub-committees, as well as that of STUK Ltd.

With so many positive issues to report on that is current as of the date of this AGM, I have not restricted it specifically to the end of March 2011.

Olympic taekwondo success

To be able to proudly boast of our GB Teams success gives me enormous pleasure and I am sure you are all very proud of them. Once again, with Sarah Stevenson becoming World Champion, some 10 years after her first similar title, has to be at the forefront of our success. We are blessed with having Sarah: she is a true sportswoman, a tremendous role model for our aspiring athletes and deserves every accolade we can bestow upon her. Her astonishing performance in Gyeongju, Korea, with such personal family pressures, only goes to show what an absolute true professional and champion she is. She is undeniably the Queen of our sport, an inspiration as a sportswoman and as a person. It is a privilege to have her with us during our time.

Add to that the incredible rise of her team mates, with Jade Jones and Michael Harvey securing silver medals and Martin Stamper a bronze medal, we can rightly be eager and excited about our prospects in London next year. Now that she has such team-mates, we move toward the London Olympic Games in 2012 in superb shape.

Thanks must also go to our coaches, Nelson Millar, Paul Green and Steve Jennings, as well as the hard-working backroom staff, including Neil Parsley, Debbie Tranter, Dr Charlotte Cowie and Lee Halftek. A special mention must go to the support staff of Shelley Stout, Dianne Burke, Jennifer Ho and Dean Leake, whose planning and administrative skills help smooth out the busy schedule required of our athletes and staff. Also, of course, none of this could have been possible without the financial and managerial support of UK Sport, so a huge 'Thank you' to Paul Buxton and his colleagues.

We also have moved our events on to the highest level. This year, our national Championships had the highest entries ever. The British International Open is seen as the best in the world and we have been successful in bringing the European Championships to our shores in 2012. Special thanks must go to Ian Leafe, our Events Manager and his dedicated team who bring these events to such an efficient level. A year of increased performance results sets our team on a positive path toward London 2012. Through our Mission 2012 reporting to UK Sport, we continually review the performance of STUK Ltd and all of its responsibilities. I must also again report on how supportive UK Sport has been toward us all in STUK Ltd and the BTCB Executive. The support of Paul Buxton has been a tremendous help, giving us the ability and focus to move forward with Mission 2012 clearly and objectively. With the inclusion now of Sport England funding to attain the Excel targets, we now have in place cadet and junior programmes and coach development opportunities. Add that to the National Academy moving into a refurbished centre of excellence in Manchester, with all the latest technology to support our athletes, there has never been a better time to get involved with the sport of WTF Taekwondo, either as an up-and-coming athlete or as a club coach.

STUK

A summary from our Performance Director, with the year's results and statistics, follows;

“2010 marks yet another significant year, as the half-way point to the London Olympiad. All preparation continues to focus on the major events over the next two years. 2010's major focus was the Senior European Championships, Junior Worlds and the Youth Olympics.

I am pleased to report that progress continues to be made across all areas of the high performance and events programme while results on the field of play remain positive. This progress is fundamentally down to the Board, the staff and all the athletes whose hard work and dedication to Sport Taekwondo's mission remain steadfast”.

Gary Hall, Performance Director, Sport Taekwondo UK Ltd

FACILITIES

The office facility for the programme was relocated at the end of 2010, to the East Manchester Academy School on Grey Mare Lane. This office facility is paramount for the successful running of the business. It houses the 23 part- and full-time staff now subcontracted or working directly for Sport Taekwondo.

UK-HOSTED EVENTS

British International Open

The above took place over the weekend of 25th and 26th September 2010.

Key Statistics 530 athletes from 52 countries took part with a record number of National Teams.

STUK performance athletes achieved 3 Gold medals against world class opposition.

Budget There was a £20K increase in additional revenue through sponsors and merchandisers.

The expenditure was on-budget resulting in a net surplus on the event.

New layout A new split-venue layout was trialled to provide both a large international participation event and intimate finals presentation.

Feedback was positive.

Media SKY TV broadcast the highlights package 6 times over 3 days.

BBC sent its own camera crew and put out online red button.

5000 online viewers for the live web streaming.

MCC economic impact of the event calculated £1.07M of benefit to the city/region.

British National Championships

The above took place over the weekend of 30th and 31st January 2010. Last year's tournament had a record number of entries but this year's event surpassed those figures with 493 athletes fighting for medals over the 2 day competition at Manchester's Tennis centre.

Great Britain Team Results 2010

Event	Name	Medal	Weight	Level
British National Championships Manchester, 30th-31st Jan. (Entry and result under National Club)	Mahama Cho	Gold	+87	Snr
	Aaron Cook	Gold	-80	Snr
	Bianca Walkden	Gold	+73	Snr
	Martin Stamper	Gold	-68	Snr
	Kieron Briggs	Gold	-58	Snr
	Jade Jones	Gold	-55	Jnr
	Jordan Gayle	Silver	-68	Snr
	Michael Harvey	Silver	-63	Snr
World Junior Championships Mexico, 6th-9th Mar.	Jade Jones	Silver	-55	Jnr
Dutch Open 19th-21st Mar.	Jade Jones	Gold	-55	Jnr
	Mahama Cho	Silver	+87	Snr
	Tony Grisman	Bronze	-68	Snr
Belgian Open 10th-11th April	Mahama Cho	Gold	+87	Snr
	Michael Harvey	Gold	-63	Snr
World Para Taekwondo Championships Russia, 11th May	Amy Truesdale	Silver	-63	Snr
European Senior Championships Russia, 12th-15th May	Aaron Cook	Gold	-80	Snr
	Sarah Stevenson	Gold	-67	Snr
	Bianca Walkden	Bronze	+73	Snr
	Jade Jones	Bronze	-53	Snr
Youth Olympic Games Singapore, 15th-19th Aug.	Jade Jones	Gold	-55	Jnr
Sport Accord Games China, 2nd Sept.	Bianca Walkden	Gold	+73	Snr
European 18-21 Championships Ukraine, 9th-12th Sept.	Aaron Cook	Gold	-80	Snr
British International Open, Manchester, 25th-26th Sept.	Aaron Cook	Gold	-80	Snr
	Bianca Walkden	Gold	+73	Snr
	Tony Grisman	Gold	-68	Snr
French Open 27th-28th Nov.	Bianca Walkden	Gold	+67	Snr
	Aaron Cook	Silver	-80	Snr
	Mahama Cho	Silver	+80	Snr
	Damon Sansum	Bronze	+80	Snr

Nationals: 8 Medals

GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
60%	40%	

Internationals: 21 Medals

GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
57%	23%	19%

BTCB Sectors

Dan promotions and Technical development

A more regular meeting structure is now in place to deliver improved effectiveness of the Technical Committee's work. The Committee has undertaken a review of its work, including improved analysis of Dan Promotions as well as a new name which better reflects its status and operational activity, more in the coming months.

Technical Seminars continue to play a vital role in the education of our instructors and members, resulting yet again in an increased Dan promotion pass rate. With 354 participants, a 10 % increase, 330 were successful, a 93% pass rate. There were 200 1st Dans, 83 2nd Dans, 31 3rd Dans, 10 4th Dans, 3 5th Dans, 2 6th Dans and 1 7th Dans. The new Dan Promotion test format continues to be much appreciated, judging by the very positive feedback received from members, instructors and parents alike. The addition of a specific self-defence seminar within the year has been a welcome contribution to the already very successful Technical seminars.

Membership Services

Our Membership Services Director, Master Graham Preece, is able to report another courteous year of service provided to our membership.

Staffing and Office

In December 2010 Membership Services relocated its office from Manchester to Leeds where Sophie Threlfall was made responsible for issuing licences. Sophie has excelled in this post and licences are being returned within a week on average.

Derek Matthews has continued to provide a very efficient service, dealing with instructor enquiries, instructor insurance, club affiliation and CRB/Disclosure Scotland record checks.

Membership Sales

Membership of the BTCB continues to rise. In the financial year 01/04/10 to 31/03/11, sales rose by 12% to 14016 compared to the same period the year before.

The introduction of the expired licence application fee has seen a reduction in the number of expired licences being submitted.

Club Affiliations

Fifteen new clubs joined the BTCB.

Database Management

The BTCB continues to invest in its membership management application. From July 2010, Membership Services will be issuing BTCB Instructor Insurance Certificates, Event Certificates and Registered Instructor certificates which will replace the BTC equivalents.

It will be sending a membership list to all clubs from August on a monthly basis to encourage clubs to renew memberships in a timely fashion.

Accident Claims

No major accident claims were made this year although a few minor accidents were reported.

Tournament Audits

Tournament audits have ensured that only insured members participate, thereby preventing claims against our tournament organisers. The number of members being rejected is slowly decreasing, so special thanks to organisers for embracing the concept.

Website

The BTCB website has been updated with a new look 'find a club' section. Clubs who have registered for Activity Superstore (AS) scheme are easily identified by the accompanying AS logo in their listing.

Home Countries

Our Vice-Chairman and Home Countries Officer, Dr Bill Darlington, continues his efforts which are resulting in continued progress. The Home Countries have been well served again.

Isle of Man

Manx athletes are now enjoying the many varied opportunities of membership of the BTCB. The significant rise in membership numbers of the two clubs on the Isle of Man is a credit to their hard work, so well done to both.

Jersey

BTCB (Jersey) has now been established with Mr Andy Prime as Chairperson and was been officially recognised as a member of the Commonwealth Games Association of Jersey on 19th July 2011

taekwondoscotland [BTCB (Scotland)]

Performance sector

The new Performance Coach, Master Nikos Jakubiak, has met with the approval of all clubs and instructors. Since he was appointed there have been several competition training sessions and a seminar with Pete Adamsons. A structured programme of development is being implemented. Many more training sessions and camps are planned over the coming of months.

Scotland already had a Centre of Excellence, established by TKD Scotland Ltd, at the University of Stirling. The University has been apprised of the current situation but is keen to continue the relationship, but with the official governing body, BTCB (Scotland). Mr Jakubiak and Dr Darlington met representatives of the University to discuss this.

BTCB (Scotland) is also in discussions with the University of the West of Scotland and will be meeting the Head of Sport and Leisure and the Sport and Leisure Centre Manager on Monday 23rd May with a view to having a Centre of Excellence at the Hamilton Campus. (This is the same venue as the dan grading.) The university has facilities for video analysis, physiological, biochemical and psychological testing, and strength and conditioning. UWS is keen to make the facilities available to us. They see taekwondo as a prestigious addition to their portfolio. A new sports building is planned and we hoped to be involved and have some say at the design stage. UWS also has an active sports research programme. We anticipate that the analyses and feedback that this can provide would be of benefit to both Scottish and British teams.

Dan grading

The autumn dan grading was held in the University of the West of Scotland. This venue has proved popular with all involved, including the candidates and the grading panel.

Kyorugi Referees

A referee course was held just before the Scottish Cup and Scotland now have 16 new qualified centre referees. We plan to integrate their further training with the kyorugi performance programme. Referees will attend training session and practise their refereeing with the players in training.

Poomsae IR

Scotland has a new poomsae IR, Master David Bailey. He has already officiated at various international and WTF-sanctioned events and recently conducted a successful poomsae judge course.

Funding and Recognition

Funding is currently under review, pending renewal of BTCB (Scotland)'s recognition by sportscotland as the Scottish Governing Body for taekwondo.

Poomsae training and competition

This has developed considerably under the guidance of Master David Bailey. Scottish players have had considerable success in various poomsae competitions and enthusiasm for this sector is growing.

TKD Scotland Ltd

BTCB (Scotland) has dispensed with the services of TKDSL, its former performance arm. The senior officials were suspended from BTCB membership, pending disciplinary action. Those involved with this group have now established a separate association, outside the BTCB.

Investigation into conduct of Jim Tully, John Cullen and Mark Russell

JC and MR engaged in discussion with senior WTF officers (President, Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General). They maintain that the WTF initiated both the approach and the suggestion that Scotland apply for Associate Membership of the WTF. The WTF President, at an informal meeting on 26th January, in Chennai, clearly denied this.

JT pursued the matter with sportscotland and tried to progress an application but was rebuffed. JT and JC also approached Scottish government officials to try to progress this further.

Structural review

Following the above, the BTCB (Scotland) Executive Committee conducted an extensive Structural Review and is instituting several changes to the structure and management of the performance sector in Scotland. These changes were developed in conjunction with and with the full approval of the BTCB Chairman and the Trustee, Mr Johnny Martin.

Mr Jim Tully refused to accept the proposals (including the requirement to return all funding to BTCB (Scotland)). He has therefore been suspended from all positions. The BTCB EC has suspended his membership pending a disciplinary investigation.

Commonwealth Taekwondo Union

CGF and Commonwealth Games

Following the WTF's applications and my presentation to the CGF on 7th June 2010 taekwondo was accepted as a category 2 Commonwealth Games sport on 14th June 2010. This makes it an optional sport that can be selected for any games. Unfortunately, the bidding cities for the 2018 Commonwealth Games (Hanambota, Sri Lanka; Gold Coast, Australia) have already picked their sports but efforts to get taekwondo included are on-going.

2011 Commonwealth Taekwondo Championships, Chennai

These were held from 28th to 31st January in 2011, in Chennai (formerly Madras), in Tamil Nadu, India. The Taekwondo Federation of India had never hosted an international event and so the OC received considerable support from the members of the CTU Referee Committee.

England and Scotland sent large contingents of both poomsae and kyorugi players and both teams did extremely well. The event was well attended. Dr Choue Chungwon (WTF President) was in attendance and was well pleased with the event and with developments in Commonwealth taekwondo in general.

Notwithstanding various teething problems, the event eventually ran smoothly although there were problems, not least with the cleanliness and state of repair of the venue. The toilet facilities, for example, were not conducive to the health, welfare and peace of mind of the competitors. However, this event had the biggest 'British' participation so far, with concomitant success (below).

	Poomsae	Kyorugi
England	5 gold, 7 silver, 1 bronze; team trophy	18 players (3 gold, 4 silver, 5 bronze)
Scotland	12 players in 11 divisions (3 silver, 7 bronze)	11 players (2 gold, 5 silver, 2 bronze)

The referee sector was also well represented with 1 poomsae referee and 5 kyorugi referees (4 English, 1 Scottish).

University taekwondo

The BTCB's aim continues to be to include WTF Taekwondo in all universities across UK. We continue our efforts to raise the standard and profile of British university taekwondo and to increase awareness of the prestigious international opportunities for talented student athletes at the FISU World University Summer Games and the World University Taekwondo Championship, where we continue to send teams to compete. As we continue to work closely with British University and College Sports (BUCS), we have started to make progress in the formation of a BTCB Universities Committee, which we are hopeful will manage the annual University Championships for the benefit of all BTCB university members. We continue to start the processes whereby WTF Taekwondo can once again become a points scoring sport for universities.

BTCB University Championships

This took place on 7th November 2011. There was a small turnout but it was successful and participants look forward to more. Steve Blomeley organised seminars to raise funds. The Organising Committee was enthusiastic, decent and well-meaning.

2011 World University Games (Shenzhen, China; August)

We will be sending the following team:

Kyorugi	Dawud Izza	(SOAS University of London)	-63Kg
	Joshua Webley	(Brunel University)	-68Kg
	Lutalo Muhammad	(Middlesex University)	-80Kg
	Dave Cook	Coach	
Poomsae	Nicola Ferguson	(Nottingham Trent)	
	David Morrison	(Newcastle University)	
	Sue Parkins	Coach	

Vice-Chairperson

The office of the Vice-Chair, headed by Dr Bill Darlington, manages a wide array of responsibilities. As our resident wordsmith, his skills ensure our policies are continually monitored and updated. The introduction of our Equity Policy, improvements to the main Policy and Procedures manual, examiner guideline improvements are all testament to that work. As ever, as Disciplinary Chairman, it is still unfortunate to report that there are those within our membership that refuse to either accept or understand the rules and regulations that we all must abide by, if we wish to belong to an organisation that has to attain to the highest level of accountability and responsibility. It is hoped that such negative and time consuming disciplinary actions can be wholly eliminated, so as our members can get on with their sport, leaving behind those who wish to attempt to manipulate matters for their own personal gain.

Judging by the overwhelming support for the BTCB Executive by the instructors and coaches who recognise the hard work and effort put in by its leadership, our resolve in managing disciplinary matters is very worthwhile and will be continued accordingly. This year has seen the formation of a full Disciplinary Committee, including eminent figures from our sport and art. They include Master Kevin Hornsey, Master Kevin Jervis, Brian Tilley and Bill Humphries. Their efforts are a tremendous comfort to all our members and we thank them for the delicate and professional manner in which they have worked this year.

Health and Safety

Our Health and Safety Director, Master Guy Chatel, has played a key and active role within the Executive Committee. It is unfortunate that for personal reasons Guy has decided to step down from his role on the BTCB Executive. We should all ensure a heartfelt "Thanks" are given to him for his steadfast approach in his work on our behalf. His accessibility to all BTCB Instructors and his help in guiding them through the rigours of Risk Assessments and the like is much appreciated by all of us.

Whilst there are a small number of reportable incidents, mainly due to a sparring injury, the numbers are not significant enough to be able to draw any meaningful sample analysis, though it is being continually monitored. We are happy to report that this role will now be

managed through one of our BTCB members in a non Executive position who is able to report into Executive accordingly. The current Health and Safety policies of the BTCB will undergo a root and branch review this year so as to offer an improved service to our member clubs.

Child protection

Due to the sensitive nature of the subject, our Child Protection Officer, Bill Humphreys, is unable to give substantive evidence of his activities. Needless to say, he has advised many Instructors of best practice in this regard. The BTCB would take the opportunity to thank Bill for coming back into the role of CPO, albeit in a non-executive role. His help offers such strength to us all.

BTCB Secretariat

The work of Secretary General Master Neil Guest is closely linked into that of the Chairman, ensuring daily contact between each other, so as to manage the affairs more proactively, which is key in our organisation. The continued development of the BTCB Dan Promotion database continues to be a key feature in his many administrative duties. His personal relationships and close co-operation with Kukkiwon continue and now ensure prompt receipt of all Kukkiwon certificates, for which we are receiving them in 6 weeks at this time. The implementation of the "on line" application forms is proving successful. Kickback has been withdrawn at this time as all of our information is posted on our website and through direct email contact through Membership Services

The BTCB Dan promotion tests play a vital role in our Instructors' and members' aims and ambitions. The two-day grading format, which continues to provide fantastic reviews and results, can only be achieved through the excellent preparation prior to the event. As ever, Neil and Louise Guest play such an important part in ensuring a smooth and efficient day for everyone. Their diligence and professional ability in managing the Dan Promotion Test and results and in ensuring that the correspondence and minutes of meetings surrounding the business of the BTCB Executive are formally recorded, is one that many would find too daunting a prospect. This sometimes thankless task, done with good grace and integrity, reflects the honesty of both this husband and wife team.

Poomsae

Our Poomsae Committee Chairman sets out an upbeat report. Huge improvements have been made in UK Poomsae during this period. The number of BTCB clubs and their students being actively involved in BTCB Poomsae, whether through competitions or seminars, continue to grow significantly and we have seen a year on year increase of participants at the BTCB National Poomsae Championships.

Whilst participation in competition at Kup grade level continues to rise, which is important for the long term growth of poomsae, we have also seen the Dan grade divisions increase by over 20% with scores between competitors closer than ever. From a national perspective this is one achievement we can be proud of as it has enabled our National Poomsae Squad to grow and develop and with the increase of strength in depth in all categories it has made selection for the Great Britain Poomsae Team more competitive than ever.

The 5th World Poomsae Championships in Uzbekistan saw the UK assemble its biggest ever team to represent the country and the best ever results. The UK achieved one Gold medal secured by Master T.W Shin and one Bronze medal secured by Ali Pourtaheri. Master Shin is the UK's first ever Poomsae World Champion. the UK also finished in its highest ever position of 6th place in the World.

From a Home Countries perspective the increase in both participants and standards has also seen both England and Scotland enter their largest ever teams at the 2011 Commonwealth Taekwondo Championships in India this year. England also retained its position as best Commonwealth Poomsae Team, having also secured this at the previous event in Canada with Sydney Craven and Chan Sau becoming Commonwealth Champions for the second time.

From a grass roots level Regional Training has been provided by the most experienced Poomsae coaches in the UK to provide BTCB instructors and their students with the most up

to date information and training available. All clubs and their students have been encouraged to take part in the sessions which have taken place both in their region as well as beyond. Special mention must go to the very vibrant attendances at the Scottish training sessions. The Inter-Regional Poomsae Championships from which coaches were able to select players to represent their region saw an increase in participants as well as higher standard of competition. We have also increased the number of BTCB qualified judges this year with a number of judges courses held throughout the country which will hopefully filter back to their respective clubs and assist in their development.

Our intention for the forthcoming year will be to continue to maintain the success we have had over the last 12 months. We intend to continue to grow our squad as well as continue to try and get the very best out of our players with a long term aim to be able to have a full team represent the country at the World Championships all capable of achieving medal success. We aim to improve the standard and knowledge of our Regional Coaching structure and try to continue to encourage instructors and students to participate and grow the numbers attending the regional sessions. We also continue to recognise that our Cadet and Junior players are the future for the UK Team and as such we will be implementing a new development squad to run alongside our national squad from which we hope that the very best young talent will filter through.

In summary the future looks bright for UK Poomsae and we hope that with the support of our club instructors and students, Poomsae will continue to grow from strength to strength.

Referee Department

The Chairman of the BTCB Referee department, Brian Tilley, again details a report which makes excellent reading and reflects another very busy year, with significant results.

During the year the referee dept continued to promote courses within the member groups and associations within the BTCB membership and held courses in Scotland, Manchester, Bournemouth, London, Nottingham and Doncaster in addition to two of our own our own combined courses incorporating a class 2 centre referee course. The centre referee course, which has become an annual course held early each year, was a great success with a total of 26 candidates qualifying or renewing their qualifications on the 2 day course. The format of a 2 day residential, with practical and written examinations (as used on IR courses), is always received by the candidates very well and the majority of the successful candidates were seen putting what they had learned in to practice throughout the year at various events.

With improved communications improved dramatically in the last 2 years), the BTCB continues to provide IRs for major world-class events. During 2010/2011, UK IRs were involved in many more major events than ever before and we detail some of them below.

ETU European Team Championships, Baku	Tom Stammer
Commonwealth Championships, India	Brian Tilley, T.W. Shin, William Darlington, John Bass and Simon Johnson.
ETU Under-21 Championships, Ukraine	Chris Codling
European Championships, St Petersburg, Russia	Ian Leafe and Chris Codling
WTF Olympic Selection Training Camp, Baku	<p>For this camp it must be noted that all European and African countries were given the option of nominating up to 7 IRs to attend and from all of the nominations (which totalled over 1000), 75 from Europe and 25 from Africa were selected to attend the camp.</p> <p>Of our 7 nominations, 5 were selected</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris Codling • Ian Leafe • Tom Stammer • Brian Bell • Darren Naraine <p>From this camp, 24 would be selected for the next phase which would involve attendance at the World Championships and the World Olympic Qualification event. We would have 2 selected (see below) and narrowly missed out on 1 more being selected due to medical reasons</p>
World Championships, Korea	Ian Leafe and Tom Stammer were both selected from the Olympic Camp and participated at the World Championships.
World Olympic Qualification Event, Baku	<p>Ian Leafe and Tom Stammer.</p> <p>This event was the 2nd event of the second stage of the Olympic Referees selection process. The next phase would be selection to further Olympic Continental Qualification Events. At the point of writing this report, I am pleased to advise that Ian and Tom are both selected for the next phase and will attend the Asian and African Olympic Qualification Events.</p>

Referee Appointments

During the last year we have seen the appointment of 2 of our IRs to notable positions outside the UK.

Ian Leafe was appointed to Vice-Chair of the WTF Referee Department where he will assist the Chair, Chakir Chelbat, with arrangements at WTF events. This is a major step forward for the BTCB Referee Department as it will fortify the relations between ourselves and other referee Chairs throughout the WTF.

Brian Tilley was appointed as Commonwealth Referee Chairman shortly before the Commonwealth Championships in Chennai, India. Despite the event being very testing, the TD appointed by the WTF praised the performance of Brian in his report to the WTF. No doubt this position will aid us in the years to come.

Overseas IRs

During 2010-2011, we continue to maintain the level of support from overseas IRs at UK events. During the last 4-5 years we have built very good relations with referees from Spain, Belgium, Germany, Netherland and Norway, all of which provided top quality referees to attend our National Championships and the British Open, and in the last year we have received a massive increase in support for our events from Canada and the USA, largely due to the building relationship with the new Canadian Referee Director Eric Wah. We aim to continue this during the year and hope to attract interest from overseas referees for our prestige events.

At the point of writing this report we are preparing for the 2011 British Open and can confirm that we have again attracted some of the world's leading referees, including many who will be in the running to officiate at the 2012 Olympics. Much of this success is due to the very strong relationships the BTCB Referee Department has build with Referee Directors throughout Europe and beyond.

WTF & ETU Events

With the assistance of the ETU and WTF, we feel that the previous communication issues relating to invitations have now been resolved. At the beginning of each year we provide the WTF and the ETU a list of UK referees that are available *and* recommended for the events during the year. In the main, the referees selected for events seem to be chosen from the lists we supply to the ETU and WTF.

Relationships between the BTCB Referee Department and the ETU and WTF Referee departments are growing stronger and communication is very good at present and this is a result of very close ties with Mr Chakir Chelbat, the WTF and ETU Referee Chairman. We are sure these ties will continue to strengthen throughout the next year due to Mr Chelbat's appointment as WTF Referee Chairman.

The importance of a strong referee department that demonstrates clear policy adherence is a major influence in our partners working closer with us, so it is pleasing to see further improvements being made again this year.

Disciplinary Committee

Disciplinary matters have unfortunately again taken centre stage for many of the Executive and its subcommittees. A significant amount of time resource and BTCB funds are being spent on these matters. At a time when we are trying to focus our efforts on delivering positive development strategies into the clubs for the members, the subject of Disciplinary is seen in such a negative light.

With the formation of the new Disciplinary Committee, it is hoped the review that is planned into the whole matter of Disciplinary Policy for the BTCB will ensure that the Executive can focus on its strategy.

Constitution and policy

The review of the status of the BTCB into a company limited by guarantee having no share capital will deliver a structure of governance that is widely accepted as being the minimum standard for sporting bodies. The checks and balances through the audit structure and governance procedure systems will set the BTCB on a course of compliance alongside all the other successful Olympic sports. This will ensure we will have a voice and an opportunity to increase our presence and funding accordingly, so that we can grow as an organisation, to follow the best practice of other sports.

External relations

Commonwealth taekwondo

We are earnestly active in lobbying the countries vying to become the next Commonwealth Games city. This is a very time-consuming business. We do this in conjunction with WTF and the CTU colleagues. Success is never guaranteed, all we can do is extol the virtues and benefits of our sport to the bidding nations.

WTF trademark

Dr Darlington has been active in ensuring that the WTF trademark is protected, as WTF has requested we take a more vigorous line on the matter. This has again resulted in several unrecognised groups having to stop the illegal use of the WTF logos. This matter is very sensitive to the WTF and the BTCB will continue to protect what is rightfully the WTF's property.

BOA and the Olympics

Our BOA National Olympic Committee member, Master Kevin Hornsey, continues to make representations at the London HQ of the BOA. Our continuing excellent relationships with the BOA's Chief Executive, Andy Hunt, play a key role in our build up to the London Olympics and I would take the opportunity to thank him and his staff for their continuing help and support, especially Louisa Huddy who is always on hand to assist with a wide array of issues. The BOA hosted a meeting with Dr Choue during one of his frequent visits to London, where Team GB was discussed at length and how supportive the BOA are toward the BTCB, for which we thank them.

Member Groups

My regular contact with our Member Groups continues to play a significant part of my role and the trust between the Presidents of the Member Groups and me is at the heart of our relationship. I am happy to report that they continue to enjoy the benefits of the BTCB and I very much look forward to continuing our good work together within the UK. In recent times we have spoken at length across an array of subject matters, but specifically in relation to their status and other potential new groups joining us, as well as matters surrounding the Kukkiwon. They are all very supportive of everything that we are doing across all of our activity and have clearly indicated their trust in the office of the Chairman to act on their behalf, which shows that we in the United Kingdom are continuing to become a closer family, unified in our beliefs.

Chairman's office

As to my own activities, I am able to again report on a wide array of positive initiatives and developments that are helping build the BTCB. On several significant fronts we can judge on this progress.

Firstly, I am pleased to be able to report on significant excellent working and personal relationships with the WTF Executive. Our ability to have such improved international relationships with the most influential leaders in our sport, President Dr Choue, Secretary General Mr Yang and Vice-President Dr Lee Dai Soon, can only continue to build our reputation as a world leading Member National Federation. I have supported Dr Choue at the Sport Accord in London, the World Championships in Gyeongju, Korea, the World Olympic Qualifying Tournament in Baku, Azerbaijan and also at the Commonwealth Taekwondo Union Championships in Chennai, India. I am pleased to report that Dr Choue recognises our support and welcomes it. With the help of my colleagues across the BTCB as well as our partners, I believe we can continue toward our goals and achieve our vision.

Secondly, and continuing the theme of building the United Kingdom's reputation, my role within the ETU goes from strength to strength. It is key and crucial that our voice is heard at the heart of matters within Europe and I am pleased to be able to report that my networking is increasing and our voice is seen as being able to play an effective and crucial role within the development of the ETU. I would thank all of my colleagues on the ETU for their support, especially President Pragalos.

Thirdly, more recently I have started to build on our relationships with Kukkiwon. Having had the opportunity to spend time with Kukkiwon President Kang, Vice-President Lim Chung Gil and Chairman Kim Joo Hoon, I am pleased to report tremendous progress. This has culminated in the signing of a special Memorandum of Understanding, which sets out how both our respective organisations can collaborate and work toward improving WTF Taekwondo in the United Kingdom.

Much of my work goes to the day-to-day activity of the operational workings of the organisation and helping our members, as well as working with the committee's, Kukkiwon issues, WTF/ETU and international meetings and relationships, Commonwealth, BOA, Sport England and sportscotland, external and internal discipline issues, policy appraisal, WADA, Dan promotion, merchandise and the website. The closer we get to the Olympics in 2012, the more the intensity of the workload increases. The time management to effectively deliver such issues is resulting in a more full time role and I am content that I have performed my role at all times in a professional manner.

Finally, I am delighted to report on the work on our governance reviews. The time allocated to ensuring that the new overarching taekwondo body Taekwondo Organisation Ltd (TOL), has been immense and for good reasons. With the advancement of the various funding opportunities that are being made available to us, it was clear that such reviews would set the platform for us for the foreseeable future. I am pleased to report that the new body is working well, we enjoy a clearer status because of it and the relationship we have with our colleagues in the BTC has never been better.

To be measured against Sport England's Self-Assurance process is, in itself, a huge milestone for the BTCB, as it will mean we are being audited similarly to all the other sports that we compete for funding for, thereby giving us a tremendous boost to ensuring we are fit for purpose against a wide range of indicators. That can only result in positive outcomes for each and every club and member of the BTCB and I am immensely proud of being instrumental in its development. I wish to thank Simon Macqueen of Sport England and Simon LeFevre of UK Sport for their significant input into this, as well as Stephen Blakely of KPMG. The resultant new '*Strategy Document*' and the bid itself into Sport England have been very challenging to produce and I am rightfully proud of them. Special thanks to my colleagues Mark Threlfall and Bill Darlington for their help, as well as our Trustee, Johnny Martin, who provided superb support.

Conclusions

It has been a year of very hard work for all of us. Whether it's the governance review work, the GB Team (both Poomsae and Kyoruki), the clubs and the members themselves through more Kup and Dan Promotion success, there has been progress across everything we do, all of it showing how progressive we are. I have reported in previous years the need to invest inwardly into developing the governance and onward to the clubs. We are achieving getting ourselves into position to do that and I am convinced that we can achieve exactly what we say in our new '*Strategy Document*'.

It is impossible to bring about all of the change overnight, such matters take time to deliver, that is obvious. We are moving forward, there is a deep desire in the Executive and with the membership to effect positive change, so by working together, recognising the changes we have made are positive and in everyone's best interest, we can all benefit from the opportunities that are becoming available to us.

I must again commend and thank all those hardworking people, from the Executive to the sub-committees and Sport Taekwondo UK Ltd, who work tirelessly on behalf of the BTCB. The many and varied challenges are taken on without hesitation and at times at great personal cost and in difficult circumstances, so I would urge all members to take the time to thank the various people who do such work on their behalf.

We are an organisation that is open and available to all and we will jealously guard our members and club coaches'/instructors' best interests so that they are at the forefront of everything we do. I urge all taekwondo practitioners outside of our membership to come and discuss joining us. There is everything to gain by doing so: don't let the future pass you by.

We have made significant progress again this year, both in events within our sport and our art, and as an organisation. Not for the first time you will have heard me say, by working together, the BTCB and all of its partners can develop success and prosperity for WTF Taekwondo in the United Kingdom. This message is not unique, as WTF President Dr Choue himself places great emphasis on unity as a taekwondo family. I believe that message should guide us all and that by doing so we will achieve far greater success.

I again am very honoured to be your Chairman and I commend this report to you all.

I remain yours in Taekwondo.

Master Adrian Tranter
Chairman
British Taekwondo Control Board (WTF)