

Kendo na hÉireann
Annual General Meeting 2019
Saturday 25th January 2020

Attendees

1. D. Bakker
2. J. Doherty
3. I. Vrachnis
4. M. Kauffman
5. P. Xin
6. M. Kawa
7. C. Tuta
8. R. Fernandez
9. K. Cassidy
10. B. O'Brien
11. J. Turbinska
12. N. Hanzlikova
13. O. Breathnach
14. J. Kennedy
15. S. Tokdemir
16. M. Lluch
17. M. Kiosew
18. D. Nunn
19. M. Kaczor
20. G. Planeta

With over half of clubs represented, the meeting is quorate.

Appointment of meeting chair

Kathryn Cassidy was appointed meeting chair.

Annual Report

Kathryn delivered the Annual Report highlighting some of the events and achievements that had taken place during the year. The report is included in Appendix A. It was accepted unanimously.

Financial Report

Martin delivered the Financial Report which is included in Appendix C. He pointed out that the figures in the report may not show the full picture as some things are paid by individuals or covered by the clubs even where a federation event is being organised. Some concern was raised that if the full figures were shown then the financial situation of the Federation might not look so stable, but it was agreed that we should make sure we capture the full cost in future and look at ways to get funding for these.

The registered member count for 2019 was 78, but we believe that there are members missing. Please remember to register and pay to your dojo (not directly to the federation account).

There was some discussion about the possibility of repeating the kind of sponsorship corporate event as done in 2018.

Martin finished with a thank you to individuals who are doing work behind the scenes for the Federation, highlighting John Kennedy, Batman O'Brien and Dirk Bakker. Dirk called for all members to get involved and put themselves forward for tasks.

The report was unanimously accepted.

Election of Officers

- President: Jason Clouston

For	Against	Abstention
20	0	0

Jason Clouston was unanimously accepted as President.

- Vice-president: Raul Fernandez

For	Against	Abstention
20	0	0

Raul Fernandez was unanimously accepted as Vice-president.

- Treasurer: Martin Kiosew

For	Against	Abstention
20	0	0

Martin Kiosew was unanimously accepted as Treasurer.

- Secretary: Kathryn Cassidy

For	Against	Abstention
20	0	0

Kathryn Cassidy was unanimously accepted as Secretary.

Appointment of Non-Executive Officers

- Anti-doping Officer: Maurycy Kaczor appointed, Lionel as backup (possibly approach Ivan Gendelman also)
- Child-protection Officer: Oscar Breathnach, Mark Kawa & Grzegorz Planeta appointed
- Coaching Officer: Martin Kiosew
- Grading Officer: John Kennedy

A discussion took place about whether we need official representatives for each art (e.g. on the model of the Bu system in UK), or someone responsible for communication with each art. Although it was felt that this might be premature at our current size, there was a general commitment to finding a solution to a. running more grading events and b. communication channels to ensure that people are informed of events that people are travelling to, etc.

As a possible solution, John Kennedy volunteered to take on the role of Grading Officer for a trial period this year and look at how we can achieve the above. All agreed that this was a good idea and John was appointed to this new position.

Update on affiliate activities

Kathryn gave an update on the activities of our governing bodies including the Europeana Kendo Federation, International Kendo Federation and Irish Martial Arts Commission. The report is included in Appendix B.

Events and Dates for the year (including setting date of 2020 AGM)

- National Kendo Championships - 7th June 2020
- Autumn Kendo Seminar - September - October TBC with sensei
- AGM - 16th January 2021
- Sumi & Tashiro sensei - 21st - 23rd February
- Iaido / Jodo National Championships
- Jodo seminar July
- Iaido seminar 21st March

Any other business

It was agreed that the secretary would invite a team from Ojika NI club to the National Kendo Championships.

There was a request for merchandise such as Kendo na hÉireann 20th anniversary commemorative tenugui. John Doherty volunteered to look into getting a design for this. Liaise with John if you have ideas.

Appendix A

KnhÉ 2019 Annual Report

Thank you all for attending the AGM and apologies for the change of date.

The National Kendo, Iaido and Jodo squads participated in their respective European Championships this year. I want to take this opportunity once again to congratulate Gavin O'Reilly who took home a Fighting Spirit award at the EJC for the second year running. Also congratulations to Raul Fernandez who was the only individual to represent their country in all three arts in 2019.

I want to give a special mention to our Kendo juniors PJ Principe and Mathieu Lluch who formed our first Junior Team at the Europeans in 2019 and who will participate again in the Junior categories in 2020.

I also want to say a huge congratulations to Maurycy Kaczor who placed 3rd in the Men's Individuals at the 2019 European Kendo Championships! Unfortunately Maurycy competes for the Polish National Squad rather than the Irish, but we're still really proud of him!

Tashiro sensei visited us again this year and we had a wonderful seminar. We also had an Iaido seminar with Robert Rodriguez sensei 7th Dan and our first ever dedicated Jodo seminar in December Elena West sensei. We also ran our annual Autumn Kendo Seminar, this year under the expert teaching of Dany Delepière sensei 7th Dan Kyoshi from Belgium and Michel Guentleur sensei 7th Dan Kyoshi from France.

As you know we are planning a number of even bigger events for next year, when we will be celebrating our (roughly) 20th Anniversary. The first of these will be the Sumi sensei and Tashiro sensei seminar from February 21st to 23rd, but we hope to have news of more events during the year.

The Irish National Kendo Championships took place in Dublin in June. It was well attended and was a great chance for us to meet and compete. We need to start organising this year's event soon and are open to discussions about hosting it outside of Dublin.

This year we were able to run a Level 1 Coaching course. This course is now a prerequisite for all coaches. Although not yet a legal requirement like National Vetting, it is now necessary for all clubs to have a qualified coach in order for us to get membership of the Irish Martial Arts Commission (IMAC). Next year we hope to be in a position to offer an additional L1 or a catchup course to bring everyone who attended up to Level 1. We would also hope to roll out the art-specific component of the Level 2 course.

In marketing news, we managed to get a little bit of TV coverage with a spot for the Rugby World Cup. We also participated in demonstrations, the largest of which was the Zeminar event for Transition Year students. We manned the IMAC stand for three days and had a demo space available for most of that time.

Throughout the year we ran Squad training sessions for Kendo and Iaido, and I would like to remind you that these are open to all so please don't be shy about attending, even if you don't intend to try out for the National Squad.

We ran a Kendo grading to 3rd Dan at the Autumn seminar, however, other gradings were club-led. We would like to run more national gradings in 2020 and will coordinate better to ensure that all members are informed when a grading is to take place.

Finally, congratulations to John Doherty who passed his 5th Dan examination. Unfortunately there won't now be a chance to have keiko with John after the AGM, but please make sure you get keiko with him next chance!

Appendix B

Update on Parent & Affiliated Organisations 2019

EKF & FIK

- Reminder of the online EKF database and the need to ensure that you inform the secretary in good time in order to be registered for Examinations in EKF Member countries.
- Changes to laido grading rules have been ratified at the EKF 2019 GA. The main change is the introduction of a time limit for grading, although there could also be changes in selection of koryu kata. Candidates are advised to contact the organising federation for clarification.
- Changes to the EKF Referee Seminar. Not only is it now less likely that we will have fighters accepted, but we may now only send referees of 6th Dan and above and there is no longer a pool of referees who are not actively trying out as referees for EKC and WKC. The potential referees will now be classified in five categories, from national level to WKC level. Those attending for grading only will still have a separate practice hall.
- Morocco has been admitted to the EKF as a provisional affiliate member. Moldova has been confirmed as a full member and Tunisia has been confirmed as an affiliate member.
- The EKF runs a number of High Level European Zone Seminars and they are looking for volunteer countries to host.

IMAC

- Sports Capital Grant: we still have some equipment including shinai, bokuto and kote if any clubs need them.
- National Vetting reminder - please ensure that ALL coaches, instructors, assistants and volunteers in your club are vetted! This is a legal requirement with legal penalties if you fail to comply. Send a list of names, roles and contact details to me and I can request vetting packs.
- As mentioned, the Level 2 course is now being rolled out and we hope to run more Level 1 courses.
- The martial arts stand and demo area at the Zeminar event was paid for by IMAC. This got us a lot of exposure, but at several thousand euros for a stand it is well outside of our budget to participate on our own, so this is a great opportunity. Next year it will take place in the National Sports Campus from 29th Sep to 1st Oct. Please consider coming along to help man the stand and participate in demos.
- IMAC agreed that the advisory board (including KnhÉ) fees for 2019 would be refunded to be used by the advisory boards for the purposes of improving communications and coordination internally. We will use part of our 290 euro refund to cover the fees for the DojoExpert software that we use as a membership management platform. We are also looking for other possible uses for a portion of this refund and are happy to hear suggestions from members.

Upcoming EKF / FIK events

Year	Dates	Event	Location
2020	17th - 19th April 2020	30th EKC	Kristiansand, Norway
	21st - 22nd November 2020	19th EJC	Stevenage, UK
	30th October - 1st November 2020	27th EIC	Belgrade, Serbia
2021	27th - 30th May 2021	18th WKC	France
2022		31st EKC	Italy
2023		32nd EKC	Portugal
2025		33rd EKC	Netherlands
2026		34th EKC	Montenegro

Appendix C Financial Report 2019

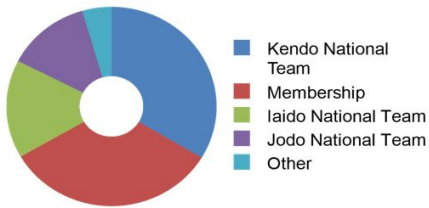
Financial report

Irish Kendo Federation

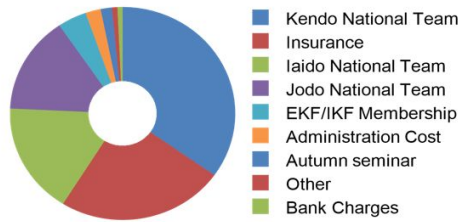
23/11/2018 - 25/01/2020

Currency: EUR

Revenues structure



Expenses structure



Financial report

Irish Kendo Federation

23/11/2018 - 25/01/2020

Currency: EUR

Revenues

#	Revenue type	Amount
1	Kendo National Team	4,421.00
2	Membership	4,350.00
3	Iaido National Team	2,100.00
4	Jodo National Team	1,706.00
5	Other	591.02
Total		13,168.02

Expenses

#	Expenses type	Amount
1	Kendo National Team	4,513.13
2	Insurance	3,113.71
3	Iaido National Team	2,184.86
4	Jodo National Team	1,912.00
5	EKF/IKF Membership	540.00
6	Administration Cost	284.17
7	Autumn seminar	208.98
8	Other	101.64
9	Bank Charges	94.15
Total		12,952.64

Closing Balance on Account: 2,899.72 EUR