

BKA Treasurers Report, Year ended 31 Dec. 2009

Firstly, my apologies for the late delivery of this report, but circumstances, and a computer virus, have caused me considerable delay in completing it.

The year under review has been mixed. We have experience a substantial increase in income for the year, but also an increase in associated costs. The headline figures are:

Income: £211,509

Expenditure: £207,462

Net surplus for the year: £ 4,047

The healthy income levels are due to a very successful Iai and Jo Summer School, bringing in not only practitioners from around the world to celebrate Ishido Sensei's 30th anniversary of his first trip to the UK/Europe, but nearly £78,000 of gross income. The kendo bu also ran 2 healthy Japanese sensei led seminars.

Items of note for the year include the costs for the Kendo National Coach, which came to £27,826, against which we received £450 from the dojo he visited.

This does not include the cost of the vehicle which was abandoned, with a loss of £950 from the assets of the Association, six weeks after £826 was spent on servicing and RFL.

These amounts should not occur again, as the role of Kendo Professional has not been filled.

We have had to defend a legal action during the year, with legal costs of £5,500 being paid, as well as a small payment made in 2008, bringing the total cost to just over £6,000.

All three BKA squads have incurred heavy costs during the year, with the kendo team going to Brazil for the World Championships as well as more regular events. The Jodo and Iaido teams attended the European Championships. Costs for the squads were:

Kendo £25,687, Iaido £14,052 and Jodo £1,539. The jodo and Iaido costs are intermingled, as many team members are in both teams. I have accrued into these costs the refunds due to the BKA for the services of referees we provided.

Changes in the Constitution.

The changes brought in by the new constitution will mean that we will be accounting for each bu more specifically. During this year however, it was impractical to apply the 'ring fencing' around each bu's income and expenditure, as many commitments had been made which we would have to meet, regardless of our internal changes. Therefore the figures shown in the accounts reflect a combination of treatments of bu spending.

The new constitution has also changed the way the role of treasurer is able to be actioned. The treasurer has no power to veto any expenditure, just report to the members at the AGM any

financial activity that they feel should be brought to the members attention. The treasurer is also able to refuse to make a payment for such activities when a claim for payment is made.

During the year the following has occurred:

Jodo Bu – A decision was taken by the bucho to subsidise a non member of the BKA accommodation at the 2009 European Championships. In exceptional circumstances a dependant family member had to be taken to the event. Overall costs were minimised by the action of team members who shared transport by road vehicle and ferry rather than air transport, so the actual costs were negated, but a principle has been established that the members should be made aware of.

Jodo and Iaido bu's – Again re the 2009 European Championships, a decision was taken by the bucho's (I was involved in the discussions) to subsidise the costs (50%) of candidates for posts as referees at the championships, if they were not selected. There were four candidates for both Iaido and Jodo who were part subsidised to a total of about £2,500. This is, as far as I am aware, a new action that members should be made aware of.

Kendo Bu – The costs of the BKA team attending the World Championships in Brazil included £1,300 for airfares to fly a member from Japan to the UK to join the team. I agree (as I was told at the time) that it is not the treasurer's job to pick the team, but it becomes a finance issue when such costs are being incurred.

As mentioned above, the costs of the kendo professional are now a thing of the past. However, during 2009 little seems to have been done to collect or enforce the £50 charge made for visits by Matsumoto sensei. In total we received £450 during the year. I would like to ask, as I did at last years AGM, for dojo to pay up for those visits.

Also mentioned above is the vehicle used by the Kendo Professional. Little attention seems to have been spent on sorting this matter before the sensei returned to Japan.