



23 July 2024

Bernard Richmond KC  
Chair, British Judo Council  
37 High Street  
Stalham  
Norfolk  
NR12 9AH

By Email

Dear Bernard

### **British Judo Council Affiliation to British Judo**

Firstly, we would like to thank you for the time you have spent with us discussing the issues raised by us.

Following the suspension and subsequent lifting of the British Judo Council's (BJC) Affiliation with the British Judo Association (BJA), we would like to offer the BJA's sincere apologies for the way in which we acted and for the confusion caused.

Whilst we acted in haste, please be assured that the action that we took was, in our sincere belief at the time, necessary in the best interests of the sport we all love. Our overarching goal is to ensure that all participants in judo, regardless of the membership body they are attached to adhere to a common set of standards. I'm sure the BJC would agree that successfully furthering this aim can only benefit the sport. We look forward to working with you to reach this goal and move forward.

The Board recommended the course of action based on the information given to it. It transpires that this information was not fully substantiated, and our subsequent actions proved to have been in haste. Whilst we acted wholly in good faith, we realise that we should have undertaken additional checks before we did so.

We are taking steps to tighten up our processes and to ensure that this will not happen again. Part of this is to ensure that all the information given to the Board is properly verified and checked before action is taken.

#### **BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION**

Walsall Campus, University of Wolverhampton, Gorway Road, Walsall, West Midlands, WS1 3BD

T 0121 728 6920 E [bjc@britishjudo.org.uk](mailto:bjc@britishjudo.org.uk) W [britishjudo.org.uk](http://britishjudo.org.uk)

**RESPECT | MODESTY | FRIENDSHIP | COURAGE | COURTESY | HONOUR | HONESTY | SELF-CONTROL**



**LOTTERY  
FUNDED**



**CIMAC  
EST.1975**



**howden**

In addition, we will take steps to ensure that any affiliates to the BJA will have a regular forum in which any issues can be aired and discussed before any similar action is taken. We will also review the affiliation agreements.

We look forward to putting this behind us and to working together in a constructive manner.

Yours sincerely



**Gerry Gualtieri**  
Chairman



**Andrew Scouler**  
Chief Executive

**BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION**

Walsall Campus, University of Wolverhampton, Gorway Road, Walsall, West Midlands, WS1 3BD

T 0121 728 6920 E [bj@britishjudo.org.uk](mailto:bj@britishjudo.org.uk) W [britishjudo.org.uk](http://britishjudo.org.uk)

**RESPECT | MODESTY | FRIENDSHIP | COURAGE | COURTESY | HONOUR | HONESTY | SELF-CONTROL**



**LOTTERY  
FUNDED**



**SPORT  
ENGLAND**

**CIMAC**  
EST.1975



**howden**