



AGM REPORT 2018

ITU High Performance

Prepared By:

Robert Taaffe

ITU Performance Director

Date:

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Section 1 – A look back since last AGM

1.1 Major Events

- a. Senior Worlds – Muju, Korea
 - i. Athletes
 - 1. Jack Woolley – Second Round Defeat
 - 2. Shauna Bannon – First Round Defeat
 - 3. Conor Grassick – First Round Defeat
 - ii. Coaches: Robert Taaffe, Bobby Enright
 - iii. ITU Officials: Martin Fleming, Dongmin Cha, Christine Cha

- b. Cadet Europeans - Budapest
 - i. Athletes:
 - 1. David Phelan – First Round Defeat
 - 2. Odhran Braham – First Round Defeat
 - 3. Lauren Farrell – 5th Place [3 matches]
 - ii. Coaches: Stuart Russell, Brian Kerr, Robert Taaffe

- c. Junior Europeans – Cyprus
 - i. Athletes:
 - 1. Adam Nugent – Second Round Defeat
 - 2. Craig Malone – Second Round Defeat
 - ii. Coach: Dylan Leonard

- d. Youth Olympic Qualifiers - Tunisia
 - i. Athletes:
 - 1. Enya Robinson – First Round Defeat
 - 2. Adam Nugent – First Round Defeat
 - 3. Craig Malone – First Round Defeat
 - ii. Coaches: Dongmin Cha, Robert Taaffe, Stuart Russell
 - iii. ITU Support: Martin Fleming, Christine Cha

- e. Junior Worlds - Tunisia
 - i. Athletes:
 - 1. David Phelan – First Round Defeat
 - 2. Adam Nugent – First Round Defeat
 - 3. Craig Malone – First Round Defeat
 - ii. Coaches: Robert Taaffe, Dongmin Cha
 - iii. ITU Support: Martin Fleming, Christine Cha

- f. Senior Europeans Olympic Weights
 - i. Athletes:
 - 1. Shauna Bannon – Second Round Defeat
 - 2. Jack Woolley – 4 Matches [2nd Place]
 - ii. Coach: Anas Belmaati

- g. WTF Grand Prix Series 1 2017, Moscow
 - i. Athlete: Jack Woolley – 2nd Round Defeat [9th Place]
 - ii. Coach: Robert Taaffe

- h. WTF Grand Prix Series 2 2017, Rabat
 - i. Athlete: Jack Woolley – First Round Defeat [17th Place]

- ii. Coach: Robert Taaffe
- i. WTF Grand Prix Series 3 2017, London
 - i. Athlete: Jack Woolley – QF Defeat [5th Place]
 - ii. Coach: Robert Taaffe
- j. WTF Grand Prix Final 2017, Abidjan
 - i. Athlete: Jack Woolley – First Round Defeat [9th Place]
 - ii. Coach: Robert Taaffe
- k. Senior Europeans 2018, Kazan
 - i. Athlete: Jack Woolley – QF Defeat [5th Place]
 - ii. Coach: Robert Taaffe
- l. WT Grand Prix Series 1, Rome
 - i. Athlete: Jack Woolley – SF Defeat [3rd Place]
 - ii. Coach: Robert Taaffe

1.2 International G Ranking Events

- a. Attendance
 - i. Athletes represented from SDTKD, Junsa, Sport, Champion, Celtic Santry, Team Extreme, Lightning.
 - ii. The ITU Entered an 'ITU Squad' to the Polish Open G1 2017 which proved to be a positive collaboration of many clubs & coaches under the ITU banner.

I would like to congratulate all who have participated at G events since our last AGM, well done to all medallists from Team Extreme, Junsa, Sport, Champion & South Dublin.

1.3 ITU Structured Training Sessions Available to all ITU Members 2017 – June 2018

- National Development Sessions have been run by ITU
- National Squad Sessions have been run by the ITU
- We now run registration of all events on Eventbrite which has proven to be a useful & user friendly method of registration & tracking attendance.

1.4 ITU Sanctioned / Run Tournaments

- a. SDTKD C'ships / Irish International Open / Korean Ambassadors Cup – Nov 2017
 - a. Tallaght Leisure Centre
 - b. Supported by the Korean Embassy in Ireland
 - c. Hosted by SDTKD
- b. Youth Olympic Qualification Tournament ITU Selection Event – Jan 2018
 - a. St Patricks GAA, Stamullen
 - b. Hosted by ITU
- c. Champion International Open – May 2018
 - a. National Sports Campus
 - b. Hosted by Champion Taekwondo

1.5 National Team Selection Criteria

The ITU National Team Selection Criteria released in 2016 is ONLY valid for majors up to 2018. Any future attendance at Major Events 2019-2020 will have a revised team selection method. All majors still to occur in 2018 shall be honoured by this method.

1.6 Coordination With Sport Ireland / OCI

The ITU keep continued contact with Irish Sporting bodies to seek improved arrangements for the ITU. President Fleming keeps continued contact primarily, with Niamh Buffini acting as a point of contact and attending Sport Ireland sessions as acting a voluntary coach within the Irish Sports Institute. The ITU currently has had one athlete invited to use these facilities, and we are hopeful that the regular attendance of both athlete & coach and ongoing dialogue will open doors for further athletes in the near future, based on performances of athletes.

The ITU's Jack Woolley was one of 12 Irish sporting athletes to be a recipient of an Olympic Solidarity Scholarship for Tokyo 2020, and was also a recipient of Sport Ireland Carding 2018.

The ITU Lodged 2 Funding applications to The OCI for the 2018-2020 Discretionary Funding Scheme:

- 1) Performance Coach Support – Successful
- 2) National Federation Olympic Development Support – Not Successful

1.7 Grand Slam – Wuxi China

Jack Woolley competed in the inaugural Grand Slam event in China where he was offered a wild card place by the Organising Committee, based on his performance in the London GP. [Grand Slam - 9th Place]

1.8 One to One Committee

Whilst not under the remit of ITU HP, at our last AGM ITU HP noted it would circulate an introductory email to all club coaches to meet to form a 1-2-1 committee. Introductory email was sent, however there was no follow up meeting. I would recommend if any ITU Coaches wish to follow up on this that the existing email thread can be revisited to open further discussions.

Section 2 - Looking Ahead

2.1 ITU Academies

The ITU Academy Status was formulated to designate recommended clubs where athletes could visit and gain the benefit of additional high-performance training and/or higher frequency of training. Last year the ITU issued invitations to ITU Clubs & Existing Academies to apply or re-apply for academy status. THE ASSESSMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF ACADEMIES WAS PUT ON HOLD AS ALL APPLICATIONS WERE INCOMPLETE AND NOT FULLY COMPLIANT WITH THE CHILDRENS FIRST ACT. ITU HP issued notifications to all applicants noting that this process will be revisited after each had time to bring their club governance up to full requirements of the Children's First Act. We have had no further response from any clubs with missing or incomplete information.

After consideration, the title 'Academy' may be changed to another title TBC so not to confuse the status with the previous arrangement. Successful applicants will be deemed ITU Recommended Clubs who wish to permit visitors to their club for higher level Kyorugi training coordination, with minimum club governance standards met.

All applicants shall have to the end of July 2018 to send any incomplete items to the ITU for consideration. All clubs who fulfil the ITU requirements, and illustrate that they have the facility & caching resource for high performing athletes to attend their club shall be given this status. The ITU will inform applicants of results in August 2018.

2.2 National Development Training

Coordinated By: National Development Director – Stuart Russell

Monthly sessions shall be organised & coordinated including groups for intermediate, and advanced and are intended as a pathway to national squad.

2.3 National Squad Training

Coordinated By: Performance Director – Robert Taaffe

Revisions have been made to the ITU National Squad Eligibility, as issued to the ITU Mailing List June 2018. See Appendix 1. It is intended that future National Squad Training will be with smaller groups of established international fighters on a monthly or bi-monthly basis, for longer durations and with a broader range of training disciplines covered.

Designated Head of Team / Coach for Major Events shall also run squad training for Cadet, Junior, Senior.

Athletes who are part of the National Squad group are also recommended to attend the Advanced National Development Training where they can train or assist lower age classes.

2.4 Irish National Team

The Irish National Team shall be selected on an event by event basis with athletes who meet National Team Criteria and selection procedures put in place by the Event Head Coaches / ITU HP. The 2016 National team Criteria is NO LONGER VALID for events 2019 and forwards.

Selection will be made on the basis of strong attendance, performance and progression at ITU Squad Training & International Events. Repeat performances will be required. The previous National Team Criteria, including 2 substantial wins at ranking events will be observed as a starting point, however athletes will be required to show progression, consistency & repeat performance ability.

All future ITU National Team attendance shall be SELF FUNDED, with the ITU offering possible retrospective funding for athletes meeting a minimum performance criteria. This will be set out on an event by event basis in any offers of team places.

2.5 Irish National Coaches

ITU National Coaches will be selected on an event by event basis. The ITU may advertise positions for events, or approach coaches as they see fit to lead the teams.

2.6 **Anti-Doping Compliance**

The ITU are compliant with WADA's anti-doping compliance through ongoing dialogue and returning of information required. All athletes who are put forward for National Team are informed of their anti-doping obligations.

The ITU have one athlete who is on the regular testing pool and is fully compliant with his whereabouts obligations and to date has had surprise visits from anti-doping officials.

2.7 **Sport Ireland Carding**

As of mid-2018, Taekwondo has been reinstated as a 'carded sport' by Sport Ireland. Funding may be made available by SI to senior athletes who reach a minimum performance criteria. The Carding Criteria will be published on the SI Website, and will be circulated by ITU HP once it becomes available.

2.8 **Upcoming ITU Sanctioned / Run Kyorugi Events**

- Belfast International Open – Team Extreme – October 2018
- Korean Ambassadors Cup – December 2018
- Irish National Championships – November 3/4th
 - Please note Clash with G1 in Romania, ITU Clubs are kindly requested to always prioritize the National Championships ahead of any G1 event, which are plentiful in the international calendar.
 - Event will be for official WT Divisions ONLY. [Cadet, Junior, Senior – One Class]
 - Olympic Weights for Senior, seeded according to latest published OLY rankings.
 - Irish National Team Athletes & Hopefuls athletes are required to participate, when no clash with Majors.
 - All participating clubs are required to support the ITU Officials / Volunteers at the National Championships, with good representation to ensure an efficient & transparent games management. No Volunteers = No Entry

2.9 **Tokyo Olympics European Selection Event**

The following shall apply for the selection of any team that may be identified to travel to the European Olympic Selection Event 2020:

- Auto Selection:
 - Any athlete in the top 32 of the Olympic Rankings shall be automatically selected for the event in the weight category of their ranking.
 - In the event more than 2 athletes are in the top 32, the higher ranked shall be selected.
- ITU Selection:
 - The ITU may send up to 4 athletes, 2 male 2 female to the European Selection Event. Should the ITU have any Auto-qualified athletes, the 4 person team will be reduced.
 - The ITU will host a Selection Event where all ITU athletes interested in selection will fight off for a gold medal.
 - The event will be seeded based on the latest published Olympic Rankings.
 - Athletes must be born on/or before 31 December 2003
 - Athletes must be members of the ITU Squad, with exemplary attendance.
 - The ITU will review all gold medallists and selected the 4 best athletes for the championships based on performance track history of the athletes in the division.
 - The ITU will not select a full team if it is deemed the experience of the athletes is not sufficient to attend.

- The selection event may occur in November – December 2019 / January 2020. The ITU will clarify the selection event date once the WT have identified their event date / cut off dates.

I would like to thank all ITU Members, Clubs & Coaches who have supported the aforementioned items, and thank those who I have had ongoing collaboration with throughout the previous year in the interest of ITU HP including; Martin Fleming, Stuart Russell & Niamh Buffini.

The ITU is a very strong emerging place and I look forward to the ongoing journey in TKD to 2020 and beyond.

I welcome any comments, queries or observations from ITU Club Head Coaches to hp@taekwondoireland.ie or during Q&A at the AGM.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Taaffe', written in a cursive style.

Robert Taaffe - ITU Performance Director



Appendix 1 – National Squad Criteria



Irish Taekwondo Union

National Squad Criteria



IRISH TAEKWONDO UNION NATIONAL SQUAD CRITERIA

'G' EVENT ATTENDANCE
Regular attendance at G events. Athletes must have been active within the previous 6 months.

2 OR MORE CONSECUTIVE WINS AT G EVENTS
A history of 2+ wins at G Events. Large international events will suffice for those who turn cadet the following year, 2 wins to be achieved in 1st 6 months of cadet career]

COMPLETION OF ITU EVENT PARTICIPATION LOG
Club Coach should log all G event results with ITU promptly after participation.

SUPPORT ITU EVENTS
Athletes must support ITU Tournaments, Seminars, Development Events., etc.

TRAIN REGULARLY AT ITU CLUB
Athletes must be actively training at an ITU Member Club.

ATTEND OWN EXTRA CURRICULAR TRAINING
Athletes must be actively training over & above regular club training

TRAINING & PARTICIPATION PLAN
Club training plan to be furnished upon request

ATTENDANCE
All athletes must keep exemplary attendance records & cancellations of attendance must be notified to ITU in good time. All must register online as required.

ITU MEMBERSHIP
Club fees paid, individual fees paid, Club Minimum Requirements Paperwork & Statutory Obligations Up to Date

IRISH PASSPORT HOLDER
Holder of a current Irish Passport

HOLDER OF ITU GLOBAL LICENCE
Holder of a Current ITU Global Licence. Athletes turning cadet the following year exempt.

BE IN GOOD STANDING
The athlete or their club must not be subject of any disciplinary action by the ITU and conduct themselves appropriately at all times.

REGISTER INTEREST IN MAJOR EVENTS THROUGH CLUB COACH
Upon request register interest for major events promptly.

COMPLETE ITU REPRESENTATIVES AGREEMENT
Upon request complete ITU Representatives Agreement

ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND ITU NATIONAL SQUAD SESSIONS

COMPETITION

TRAINING

ANCILLARY

Guests may be invited to attend the Squad Sessions as required.

National Squad Sessions are the pathway to National Team Selection.

Any queries to: hp@taekwondoireland.ie