



HQC NOMINEE INTRODUCTIONS 2023



Bob Jones. BEd (Hones) MBA(IMEET)

I started Martial Arts in 1966 at a local judo Club in Leeds at Budokan with Frank and David Ryder achieving 1 Kyu. In 1972 started Aikido and am currently 7th Dan Sport Aikido, 4th Dan traditional Aikido and 2nd Dan Judo with the BJC.

Have been national Aikido team Manager (1987- 1997) Chair and CEO of the British Aikido Association and for services awarded Y&H Service to Sport, Leeds performance Coach of the Year and Outstanding Contribution to Sport.

For the last 15 years have trained with Bill Root and since 2017 have own permanent dojo in Leeds. Have a wide range of skills especially in the area of coaching and development and all aspects of running an association.

Gareth Merredew.

Hello, My Name is Gareth and I've been practicing Judo with the BJC for 38 years.

I am currently a contest 4th Dan and am passionate about judo in all aspects but especially for the club I run with my Dad.

I Have competed and refereed at national and international level and am currently on the Refereeing Development Committee.

I believe myself to be: Friendly and approachable, of good standard Judo-wise, a good listener/advisor and fair/unbiased in my judgements and decisions.

I feel i would bring a good amount of knowledge, understanding and practical knowhow to the already well-versed Committee.

Matt Hope

During the past few years spent on the HQC, I have been a part of the events committee and helped with the events where I can. With a background in finance (AAT Qualified & currently studying for CIMA) I can provide an analysis of the actual versus budget cost breakdown to the rest of the events & HQC committees to see where excessive and unnecessary costs can be reduced as well as working with the rest of the events committee to provide the best events that we can for the members and look at ways to build on membership numbers.

Simon Mazzullo

I have had uninterrupted membership of the BJC since 1973, and not been a member of any rival judo organisation.

I have previously been a member of HQC for several years, and so understand first hand the work that is required.

I have experience in all aspects of running a successful club, a thriving Area and National events, and understand the requirements of the general membership, coaches and administrators.

I passionately believe that all BJC members should have access to all aspects of Judo, without having to join the BJA, and was instrumental in gaining access to BJC clubs to *Clubmark*.

Alan Carlisle

As ever I feel that the BJC occupy a unique position in British Judo, by drawing on our values, and by integrating them with 21st century reality we will effectively move the BJC forward in a way both our newer and long serving members can be proud of.

After traveling the UK far and wide during the past 12 months on behalf of the BJC, I honestly feel the BJC's future lay in our coaches' hands and its vital the BJC support, develop and invest in its coaching foundations and our BJC grass roots clubs.

If re-elected, I will endeavour to continue representing all coaches and all judoka from every corner of the BJC with common sense and effective practical contributions that will support BJC clubs, coaches and members and in turn will benefit the wider BJC.

Neil Harrison

I qualified as an accountant back in 2000, whilst working at the global audit and consultancy practice Deloitte. He is a former divisional director of a NASDAQ listed company and now runs his own accountancy and consulting practice.

I have been treasurer of the BJC for 11 years and also a long-standing member of HQC. I believe in modernisation of the BJC, but in a form that is respectful to the organisation's longstanding traditions and history. I am keen on tight fiscal policy and strong financial controls, but also understand that investment will be required in order to grow our membership base back to the levels seen in the 1990s.

I have a track record in this regard, taking my own club from 20 to over 100 members in less than six months post covid and I hopes to impart some of that experience on the wider BJC.

Bernard Richmond

Aging, cynical and probably been doing this for far too long. Committed to the future of the BJC as a modern organisation proud of its traditional values and dedication to high quality technical judo. BJC member for my entire judo life (since 1974) and proud to be so Not everyone's cup of tea but good to have in your corner when the going gets tough.

Roger Harris

Please don't vote for me because you're a friend and because I have been on the HQC for over 10 years, vote for me because of what I will continue to do for the organisation and its members.

My experience is in organising events for the BJC as chair for the Events committee. I am also presently vice chair to HQC. Previously been Ladies national squad coach and presently group leader. I had the honour of representing the President as ATO for the Leicester Area for 10 Years.

I am the manager of a small building company based in Leicester. The HQC needs people to actively get the job done; we must have strong and assertive HQC members that can make tough decisions for the future of the BJC.

Mitchell Haines

I have been actively involved in BJC judo for the past 40 years. I have held executive positions on the Leicester area committee where I have been involved in supporting and shaping the Leicester judo landscape to enable Leicester to go from strength to strength both with its BJC members and its courses and competitions it is known for. I also am a qualified nurse. Having this qualification enables me to support the BJC in organising and leading the first aid events for the BJC. I have held a number of senior positions Such as Deputy Head of Nursing, Clinical site manager and currently registered manager for a 160 bedded retirement village with responsibility of managing 140 staff. I believe I will be able to bring skills such as organisation, diplomacy, complex decision making to the table. With my background I do believe I am able to bring a number of qualities and skills to the HQC.

David Sherwood

I started Judo when I was 11 in 1971 and continued to my mid-20's before the pressures of life forced me to take a break. Returning in 2005 I gained my Black belt and by 2013 was running 3 clubs which continue to this day. Professionally I have been running companies for 45 years with a strong background in IT, sales and marketing.

If re-elected to HQC I intend to Use my professional skills that I bring to the HQC to:

- Ensure vigorous discussion so that decision making, accountability, due process and progress is made
- Use my professional skills to improve our systems and procedures.
- Use my marketing skills (within the Marketing Committee) to continue to develop the BJC's brand and marketing collateral so that our clubs and the BJC can continue to grow.

Bob Cleevely

I have 23 yrs as a Judoka, I am Assistant Herts area technical officer and regional referee .

I coach at St Albans and at Shizentai Judo club. I started judo later in life when my children started, competed my way to 3rd dan, even competing against my son in gradings!! And Now a 4th Dan.

I have been on the GB Kata team and competed all over the world in Ju no Kata and Kime no kata since 2008, now I coach and enjoy passing on my experience to others.

You will see me helping out at many BJC events as a member HQC and the Events committee including the closed and open Nationals, Cromer, and the National Kata Tournament.

I seek re-election to be able to support the BJC through the ensuing year. Thank you for your support.

Rhys Hudson

I have been a member of the BJC for over 50 years, holding the grade of 6th Dan. I coach at our club and attend events, courses, and championships, at club, area, and national levels. I have gained a wealth of knowledge in how the BJC is organized and operates and am currently a member of the NTC and a former member of the HQC.

In my professional position, I was a Commercial Manager for a national construction company, managing and allocating resources and tendering for contracts.

My experience in both these areas enables me to contribute to any discussion ensuring all views are considered in the decision process.

Richard Bannister

I have been practicing judo for over 20 years both as a junior and a senior (with a 16 year gap in between!).

I am a 3rd Dan, Level 2 coach at my local club Shizentai, and a member of the GB kata team, competing in Goshin Jutsu. I also chair the BJC Inclusion committee.

Outside of judo I am a store manager for M&S, with experience of managing budgets and report analysis, and dealing with complex issues such as disciplinary and grievance,

I hope to support the BJC in ensuring it continues to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Heather Farr

I first became a junior BJC member in 1964. My main interest then and for the following years was competing. Too old and battered to do that now. I was brought up in judo with BJC etiquette and respect for others. With Sensei Otani snr's blessing I joined the BJA, where my BJC upbringing saw me compete and gain a place in the British Team for thirteen years up to my retirement from competing. I then became assistant coach under Roy Inman's management.

I run the senior class at St Ives, which I really enjoy. I have been teaching since I was 16 years old.

This year I became BJC Cornwall ATO AGO and Area Rep. This has been a bit of a baptism of fire so far, with more challenges to come I'm sure. I believe in fairness right across the board.

I will listen and learn, but I have my own mind and opinions