



British Taekwondo Council

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The BTC Chair and Executive hope that you were able to enjoy a restful and happy Christmas, despite the inevitable lack of contact with your wider circle of family and friends.

After a tumultuous 2020, we think that we all hoped and expected that 2021 would bring an easing of restrictions and a gradual re-establishment of normal life. Sadly, the COVID-19 variant has dashed these hopes, and the crisis continues. We must hope that the new vaccination programme is efficient and effective.

The COVID-19 situation is in constant flux, and government and local authority regulations and advice in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and England are being updated almost daily. DCMS, Sportscotland, Sport Wales, Sport NI, Sport England, BTC and all Combat Sports NGBs are working flat out to respond to the changing situation. BTC are also maintaining our regular member support, instructor development and NGB safeguarding and reporting responsibilities.

Many clubs have resumed online teaching sessions and are ardent in their desire to keep in touch with, motivate and enable Taekwondo students to maintain their training and progression, as well as endeavouring to keep their business and livelihood viable. The past year has proved to be an extraordinary learning experience in delivering Taekwondo innovatively and safely. The relevance of our Safeguarding policy and procedures, insurance, professional indemnity, DBS, code of conduct, health and safety and diversity practices have been rigorously tried and tested, and updates will be delivered via BTC Registered Instructor training.

We hope that the support and guidance provided by BTC as the National Governing Body for Taekwondo has been of relevance and value to all our members. As we have long been aware, there are many unregulated clubs and organisations practising martial arts in a way that brings detriment to us all. Let us be proud of our organisation, of our diligence in facilitating the safe delivery of Taekwondo and continue to uphold the standards and reputation we have all worked so hard to achieve during the past 32 years.

May we close for now by wishing you a happy and healthy New Year. Never before have these words been more heartfelt.

Best Regards

Dave Oliver