

NEWSLETTER #1

4th October 2017



THE BRITISH
STUNT REGISTER



EST. 1973

Hello All,

This is the first newsletter of the British Stunt Register.

Firstly, I would like to thank the members of the old JISC Register who attended the EGM we held 4 weeks ago and the JISC members and new Applicants who attended the official dissolution meeting of the JISC Register last Sunday for their attendance and questions.

We'll be emailing the Newsletter at regular intervals with updates to keep everyone informed of where we're going and time frames.

The first bit of good news is that we'll be signing the lease for an office in Pinewood Studios this week and this will now become the base for The British Stunt Register.

As soon as that lease is signed, our permanent administrator Emma Rogers will be starting to put together the massive amount of work required to start the process of making us a world class entity within the film community.

We'll be emailing membership and also application forms and (if you are interested in joining,) I urge you to return those forms as soon as possible so that we can start the process of assessing numbers of applicants and therefore being able to calculate a realistic subscription rate.

All current JISC Stunt Register members are eligible for membership. Annual subscriptions will be set at around £400/£450 per annum for 2017/2018. Membership forms will be emailed out to you as soon as we are settled in the office. Entry forms for the British Stunt Register directory book will also be sent out at the same time. For this, there will be a deadline for submission of your details and photographs to the printer and I urge you to start the process of considering the pictures and details you would like to appear on your page.

This subscription is more than your Equity sub (which I also urge you to retain your membership of) but as it will include the price of your entry into the British Stunt Register Book we feel it will prove to be excellent value for money (remembering of course the last time we had the JISC book some 5 years ago.. the entry fee was around the £275 mark just to have a page in the book!)

I'm having a meeting with 2 Film qualified Health and Safety supervisors this week with a

view to setting up a stunt related H&S course tailored for stunt performers and coordinators but with the necessary ticks in the boxes with reference to normal on set safety parameters to satisfy the employers on every aspect of H&S.

We intend to also consult with BBC and ITV H&S on the contents of this course to get their input and therefore hopefully their endorsement in order to continue their apparent wish to use the Stunt Register as a favoured supplier.

Of course we have credibility right now, but with the dissolution of the JISC/JIGS and Equity's response to any enquiries about stunts from outside parties being responded with the 'there is no more Stunt Register'.... we need to maintain our profile within the industry and make the switch over to The British Stunt Register as seamless as possible and open up a previously unseen element of transparency unknown within our community.

In the following weeks, we'll be keeping you informed of progress in all aspects of the process.

Later on, we'll begin the process of administering to the business of new applications and upgrades. In order to facilitate this, anybody who has those applications lodged with Equity needs to write to them and ask for that paperwork to be sent back to you.

Once you have received that paperwork, it would help if you could let us know that you have everything to hand before sending it on to us as we'll need to make sure that Emma in the office is ready to begin the business of handling and filing those applications. Then we can set up the first Application meeting to begin the process of examination.

I urge you to please fill in the applications and present the evidence in the manner advised in the original Equity details. If your paperwork, contracts, workbook signatures, governing sports certificates etc; are not in the correct and easy to deal with order, they will be rejected before we even look at them. We simply don't have the time or inclination to deal with half cooked applications.

All the application processes will remain unchanged for the next 12 months. Later next year however, we shall start the process of updating one or two of the qualifications to better reflect the requirements for stunt people. We also intend to bring back the fencing qualification which has been off the list of potential qualifications for far too long!

Please note that the old JIGS risk assessment forms are now no longer valid. I would advise you to take out the word JIGS at the top of the existing template for the moment. Once you have joined the Register, we will issue a British Stunt Register Risk Assessment

template and a new revised log book.

Later in the process once we are set up, we'll be informing everyone of news applicable to our side of the business and this is where we need your input to tell us about what's happening on your film/TV show/commercial or live show to keep everyone in the loop.

If you know of a new piece of kit available and it's been tested 'in action', please let us know and we'll put the word out.

Likewise, if one of the employers is stepping out of line on a stunt matter, let us know and we can spread the word and let everyone know to be aware (or let one and all know that it has been resolved correctly!)

We'll be letting you know about minimum rates on films/TV and commercials. These are minimum rates and not fixed rates.

This is your Register. If you want to come on board, we're working to make that happen but it can only succeed with your support. Unlike Equity, we're not being paid (except for Emma) and therefore can't always guarantee instant response if we're all working. If you go through the office, it will always reach us and Emma will then have a record of your inquiry.

We're here to make the British Stunt Register a major recognised force within the industry. We are no longer shackled by the JISC or JIGS and we intend the implementation process of the various aspects of running of the British Stunt Register to be able to be carried in pretty short order as opposed to the previous system where months and sometimes even years could pass before anything changed (if at all).

So here we go and we look forward to this new challenge with a sense of a real continuance of a good system made better by a new opportunity for change.

It's your Register. Stand by.

All the best,

Jim Dowdall (Chair) and the members of the Working Party.

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