



THE BRITISH  
STUNT REGISTER

—  
EST. 1973

Upgrade Requirements

&

Rules of Membership

## RULES OF THE BRITISH STUNT REGISTER (Revised May 2019)

### 1. INTRODUCTION

- i) The following rules are the current requirements for entry to, and upgrade within the British Stunt Register, also referred to as the BSR.
- ii) The British Stunt Register was set up in 1973 to recognise and guide stunt professionals through their chosen career path. It has gone through many guises, first administered by Equity officers, then JISC governed by JIGS and predominantly made up from producers, SFX and rigging personnel. After recognising they were under qualified to guide and assess stunt performers, this grading system dissolved. The BSR is now administered by The British Stunt Register Association headed by a committee of recognised stunt coordinators and performers (voted in by its members). The British Stunt Register grading scheme seeks to promote high safety standards through the establishment of industry recognised health and safety qualifications and clear industry wide competences.
- iii) The British Stunt Register Committee is responsible for considering applications for joining, upgrading and for the day-to-day operation of the scheme. The British Stunt Register list of Stunt/Action Co-ordinators and Performers (hereafter sometimes referred to as the Register or BSR), is the only UK directory of performers and coordinators who have been through a verified peer reviewed system, meeting industry standard criteria and thus competent to manage and/or perform work of a dangerous, hazardous or specialised nature.
- iv) The British Stunt Register Committee look after the administration of the scheme, along with an office administrator.
- v) This document supersedes all previous documents of Rules and Regulations.
- vi) All queries about these Rules should be sent to either the British Stunt Register Committee, or office administrator whose contact information is listed at the end of this document.

## **2. MEMBERSHIP OF THE BRITISH STUNT REGISTER**

- i) The British Stunt Register is divided into Five categories of membership: Probationary; Stunt Performer; Senior Stunt Performer; Key Stunt Performer; Full Member/ Stunt Co-ordinator.
- ii) Probationary members are new entrants to the stunt profession. They will have experience of working in front of camera, and will have specific skills relevant to stunt performance. They must not undertake any stunt work unless supervised by a competent BSR Stunt/Action Co-ordinator.
- iii) Individuals join the Register in the Probationary category. Progress to other categories is determined by the achievement of further qualifications and experience as set out in these Rules.

## **3. RULES RELATING TO ALL MEMBERSHIP AND UPGRADING APPLICATIONS**

- i) In order to allow sufficient time for an application to be presented to The British Stunt Register, an application must be made to the Office Administrator no later than the time specified for each application/upgrade meeting, otherwise the application will be carried over to the subsequent membership meeting. The Office Administrator is available to help applicants prepare their application and to ensure that the correct documents are presented to the British Stunt Register Committee. If the information contained in an application is unclear, the Committee may decide to carry the application over to the subsequent meeting to enable the applicant to provide further information. The Office Administrator is not empowered to offer advice on whether an application or parts of it are or are not acceptable.
- ii) Membership meetings of The British Stunt Register take place twice a year.
- iii) During a membership meeting of The British Stunt Register, any member of the Committee who has any personal or family connection with an applicant or any other conflict of interest, will declare their interest and will be required to leave the meeting for the duration of the discussion of that particular application.
- iv) The British Stunt Register Committee will consider each application individually and then make its decision. The British Stunt Register Committee will notify each applicant of the outcome.

- v) Membership of any level of The British Stunt Register granted on the basis of inaccurate or fraudulent information, may result in expulsion from the Register. Any work undertaken that is in breach of the Rules, may also result in expulsion from the Register.
- vi) The British Stunt Register Committee will only accept work as qualifying for upgrades, where performances have been recorded with the involvement of professional recording/filming crews, operating to a standard at or comparable with that in the UK, particularly in the area of health and safety. Other performances that are recorded may be considered, provided that the professional standards involved in the execution of the stunt are, in the opinion of the Committee, of an equivalent quality.
- vii) Without prejudice to the generality of clause 3(vi), work undertaken for motion picture i.e. cinema films, television productions, film and television commercials, music videos and productions for new media distribution will be recognised for upgrades.
- viii) Stunt work for self-promotion purposes e.g. showreels (personal and/or production company), print advertisements, record attempts, stills photographs, live theatre, circus acts, live stunt shows and living/conceptual art will not be accepted towards upgrades irrespective of whether it is subsequently used in any of the media set out in clause 3 (vii).
- ix) When applying for upgrades, members must show that they have worked across five of the following six groups of work:
- Vehicle Work
  - Aerial Work
  - Work with Animals
  - Water Work
  - Fire Work
  - Fighting/ Miscellaneous.
- x) Of the work submitted for upgrades there must be not less than 10% of the total required amount of work in each of a minimum of four of these categories.
- xi) Any Key Stunt Performer/Co-ordinator who has not worked as a Key Stunt Performer/Co-ordinator in the last five years, will need to re-sit their relevant level of the BSR Health and Safety course, before taking on any work where they are responsible for other Performers/Actors/crew safety or coordinating

other performers.

- xii) A flowchart showing stages of upgrade applications is set out in Appendix C.

#### **4. JOINING AND UPGRADING WITHIN THE BRITISH STUNT REGISTER**

- i) Prior to making an application for any membership category, an applicant will have received a copy of these Rules that set out the procedure and requirements to join the Register. In making an application, applicants agree to uphold the Rules of the Register.
- ii) The requirements to join the Register may be reviewed and revised at any time, therefore potential applicants should check with either the Office Administrator or online ([www.thebritishstuntregister.com](http://www.thebritishstuntregister.com)), to ensure that they are complying with the current requirements before making an application.

#### **5. PROBATIONARY MEMBERSHIP**

Procedure for making an application for Probationary Membership

- i) Applicants must produce evidence of a BSR recognised drama course (minimum 10 day), which is MANDATORY unless a 2/3-year BSR recognised drama course has been completed.
- ii) Must have completed one of the following options:

**Option 1:** 20 days on set in front of camera and 20 days live shows/  
performance:

**OR**

40 days of live shows. (If using live shows, a minimum of 10 days on set experience in front of camera must also be submitted).

**Option 2:** 20 days on set experience in front of camera and a 2-year minimum BSR recognised drama course.

**Option 3:** 80 days of specialist stunt performer contracts, (logged with the BSR) with reference letters from Stunt Co-ordinators. In the event of less than

80 Stunt days submitted, a stunt day shall count as ½ day towards the total 40 Days on set experience.

**Option 4:** 100 days of foreign stunt performer contracts with reference letters from Stunt Co-ordinators on Film and TV shows recorded and aired which are traceable by the BSR committee.

Applicants must be aged 18 years or over. Evidence of age may be required.

iii) An applicant must provide:

- Evidence of qualifications to the required standard, in a minimum of SIX of the disciplines within the five Groups listed in Appendix A, one of which must be in Group A - Fighting (with only one Martial Art being permitted, boxing is a fighting/martial art skill and cannot be used as a second discipline in this category). The disciplines must fall within at least four of the groups, but not more than two disciplines should fall within any one group.
- The miscellaneous category is reserved for physical skills at international and world championship level, this category is assessed by the BSR Committee on a case by case process.
- Certificates of skills qualification required for applications for Probationary membership must be no more than five years old, and should be supported with a video demonstrating evidence of the skills submitted. A certificate is not proof of ability, you should make sure your video clearly proves a minimum of the skill level required. The video should contain a demonstration of each of the applicant's performance in the five disciplines, where applicable. The video should **not** be creatively edited and should not have a music soundtrack. If there is any query regarding the competence of the applicant in a particular skill, then the applicant may be required to undertake an independent test in that qualification.
- On successful submission and revision of all criteria, the applicant must complete Stunt Seminar Health & Safety LEVEL 1: The candidate will not be granted access to the BSR at probationary level unless the modules have been completed.
- *Please note candidates should always check with the office for updated criteria reviews.*

## Rules of Probationary Membership

Once a candidate has been accepted onto the Register the following rules apply:

- i) Probationary members of the Register may only work under the supervision of a suitably qualified BSR registered Stunt/Action Co-ordinator or former JISC full member.
- ii) They cannot undertake stunt work on their own and should not actively seek stunt work other than from a suitably qualified British Stunt Register Stunt/Action Co-ordinator. If a Probationary member is approached directly by an employer, he or she should first confirm the name of the Stunt/Action Co-ordinator. If there is no Stunt/ Action Co-ordinator on the production, the Probationary member can accept the work on condition that a Stunt/Action Co-ordinator is engaged, and must contact either The British Stunt Register Committee or Office Administrator who will make the appropriate enquiries to ensure that a Stunt/Action Co-ordinator is engaged.
- iii) All stunt work undertaken must be recorded in the member's British Stunt Register logbook(s), which must be accurately completed, including a clear description of the job arrangements, whether or not a stunt attracted an adjustment fee or enhanced fee. The British Stunt Register logbook(s) of a Probationary member should include the specific stunt(s) undertaken on each day. British Stunt Register Logbook(s) must be signed by The British Stunt Register Stunt/Action Co-ordinator.
- iv) Probationary members are encouraged to attend shoots as observers in order to broaden their knowledge of the profession.
- v) Probationary membership will take effect immediately from the date of acceptance.

## **6. STUNT PERFORMER MEMBERSHIP**

### Procedure for making an application for Stunt Performer Membership

- i) After a period of not less than 1 year, a Probationary member may apply to become a Stunt Performer of The British Stunt Register, once they have achieved the criteria set out below.
- ii) In their application, the Probationary member must submit:
  - Their British Stunt Register Logbook/Sheet(s) which must show that while a Probationary member they have performed not less than a minimum 60 days of stunt work in front of camera.
  - A completed application form, completed with the details of all the stunt work to be considered in the application and the supporting Equity contracts.
- iii) All work must be under the supervision of a British Stunt Register Stunt/Action Co-ordinator. As a Probationary member of the British Stunt Register you may only work under the supervision of a suitably qualified BSR registered Stunt/Action Co-ordinator.
- iv) Stunt Performer membership will take effect immediately from the date of acceptance.

### **Rules of Stunt Performer Membership**

- v) A Stunt Performer member, has now demonstrated they have successfully completed the *Probationary* term of membership, and should be considered to have a limited degree of experience. A Stunt Performer member, must only accept work performing under the supervision of a British Stunt Register Stunt/Action Co-ordinator, former JISC Full member or Stunt Co-ordinator of an equivalent standard\*. They must not coordinate stunts for themselves or another Stunt Performer(s) or artist(s), act as solo safety for any artists or film crew.

\*Equivalent Standard to a BSR full member: A Stunt Co-ordinator who has attained at least 500 days working as a stunt performer, over a period of not less than 8 years, has completed the relevant Health and Safety for management of stunts, has full understanding of UK Health and Safety laws

and has a verifiable history of work experience as a Stunt Co-ordinator on a range of different size productions. Violations will be investigated and further action will be taken if deemed necessary. If in any doubt please contact the BSR committee, your safety to us is paramount.

- vi) All stunt work undertaken must be recorded in the member's British Stunt Register Logbook/Sheet(s), which must be accurately completed, including a clear description of the job arrangements, whether or not a stunt was an identifiable stunt, and must be signed by the British Stunt Register Stunt/Action Co-ordinator.

## **7. SENIOR STUNT PERFORMER MEMBERSHIP**

Procedure for making an application for Senior Stunt Performer Membership

- i) After a period of not less than 3 years, a Stunt performer member may apply to become a Senior Stunt Performer of The British Stunt Register once they have achieved the criteria set out below.
- ii) In their application to the BSR committee, the Stunt Performer member must submit:
  - Their British Stunt Register Logbook/Sheet(s), which must show that while a Stunt Performer member, they have performed not less than a minimum **160 days' stunt work in front of camera, including at least 40 qualifying stunts** undertaken in as many different areas of work as possible, as per Clause 3(ix). ***The 40 qualifying stunts MUST be gained from working under a minimum of 3 British Stunt Register Stunt/Action Co-ordinators.***
  - An application form, completed with the details of all the stunts to be considered in the application.
  - Health & Safety Stunt Theory Level 1 & 2 must be successfully completed.
- iii) All work must be under the supervision of a British Stunt Register Stunt/Action Co-ordinator, former JISC Full member or Stunt Co-ordinator of an equivalent standard\*. Any work not supervised, will not be considered in the upgrade application. At least 75% of the work included in an application, must have been supervised by a British Stunt Register Stunt/Action Co-ordinator.

- iv) A Qualifying Stunt (see Appendix B for an indicative list of qualifying stunts), must include an accurate description of what was required by the Stunt/Action Co-ordinator. The Stunt/Action Co-ordinator must indicate whether or not the work is in their view a qualifying stunt. If any discrepancies about a qualifying stunt arises, The British Stunt Register Committee will seek further clarification from the Stunt/Action Co-ordinator. The BSR committee have the final decision as to whether a stunt is accepted as a qualifying stunt.
- v) Where the same qualifying stunt is performed several times on the same day or on separate days but the work is all for the same sequence, then this will only count as one qualifying stunt for the purpose of an upgrade application.
- vi) A Stunt Performer applying for an upgrade is required to become familiar with current health and safety requirements, accident/incident reports and the completion of risk assessment forms and maintain relevant qualifications.
- vii) Senior Stunt Performer membership will take effect immediately from the date of acceptance.

\*Severe injuries can inhibit a performer from performing, therefore restricting their progress through this performance related level. In exceptional circumstances the committee will investigate, review and verify a performers experience across a range of criteria relevant and acceptable for use in an upgrade application. This will be considered on a case by case basis.

### **Rules of Senior Stunt Performer Membership**

- viii) A Senior Stunt Performer member has successfully completed both the Probationary and Stunt performer levels of membership. The performer should now have obtained general experience in most areas of stunts.

A Senior Stunt Performer member, must only accept work performing under the supervision of a British Stunt Register Stunt/Action Co-ordinator, former JISC Full member or Stunt Co-ordinator of an equivalent standard.

A Senior Stunt Performer member can perform/co-ordinate only his/her own stunts where they are the only Stunt Performer involved. They must not co-ordinate stunts for another Stunt Performer(s) or artist(s), act as safety for any artists or film crew nor perform any fire stunt(s) where they are the only Stunt Performer involved.

- ix) All stunt work undertaken must be recorded in the member's British Stunt Register Logbook/Sheet(s), which must be accurately completed, including a clear description of the job arrangements, and must be signed by the British Stunt Register Stunt/Action Co-ordinator, former JISC Full member or Stunt Co-ordinator of an equivalent standard\* and/or 1st AD/Producer.
- x) Original Risk Assessments must be completed and then signed by the producer, line producer or assistant director. If another Performer/Co-Ordinator who has already submitted a Risk Assessment, has passed on the job to a Performer, then this must be checked and counter signed by the Performer. If a Risk Assessment is considered by the British Stunt Register to be unsuitable or insufficient, then the Committee may discount the days concerned for the purpose of any upgrade application.
- xi) High and medium budget feature film productions, (as such terms are commonly understood in the industry), may employ a Stunt/Action Co-ordinator across all filming units for that production. Individual stunt sequences involving one Performer, may be carried out without the direct personal supervision of the Stunt/Action Co-ordinator. In such circumstances a Senior Stunt Performer member may co-ordinate a stunt, provided that he or she is the only Performer and all planning, risk assessment and H&S documentation has been reviewed, approved and counter-signed by the Stunt/Action Co-ordinator.

## **8. KEY STUNT PERFORMER MEMBERSHIP**

### Procedure for making an application for Key Stunt Performer Membership

- i) After a period of not less than 2 years, a Senior Stunt Performer member may apply to become a Key Stunt Performer member of the Register, once they have achieved the criteria set out below.
  - ii) In their application, the Senior Stunt Performer member must submit:
    - Copies of Risk Assessments and their British Stunt Register logbook/Sheet(s) which must show that while a Senior Stunt Performer member, they have performed not less than **120 stunt days** in front of camera.
1. 10 Self Coordinated qualifying stunt days, the supporting risk assessments signed by the Director, Producer or 1<sup>st</sup> AD.

OR

2. CORE TEAM: Contracted minimum 12 weeks consecutive work as a core team member from 2 different jobs, (24 Weeks total). Where rolling contracts are used, the 12 weeks must be backed up by consecutive payslips.

OR

3. 5 Self Coordinated qualifying stunt days, the supporting risk assessments signed by the director, Producer or 1<sup>st</sup> AD and 1 contracted 12 weeks consecutive work as a core team member.
  - Successfully completed Health & Safety Stunt Theory Level 1,2 & 3.
  - An application form, completed with the details of all the stunts and supporting contracts to be considered in the application.
- iii) A Senior Stunt Performer member applying for an upgrade is required to remain familiar with current health and safety requirements, accident/incident reports and the completion of risk assessment forms and maintain relevant qualifications.
- iv) Key Stunt Performer membership will take effect immediately from the date of acceptance.

### **Rules of Key Stunt Performer membership**

- v) A Key Stunt Performer must only accept work Assistant coordinating under the supervision of a British Stunt Register Stunt/Action Co-ordinator, former JISC Full member or Stunt Co-ordinator of an equivalent standard\*. A Key Stunt Performer can also accept work Performing/Co-ordinating only his/her own stunts where they are the only Stunt Performer/ Co-ordinator involved (solo days).
- vi) A Key Stunt Performer can assistant coordinate, supervise the floor or run rehearsals under the supervision of a British Stunt/Action Co-ordinator (HOD).

- vii) A Key Stunt Performer **CANNOT** seek work as a Stunt/Action Co-ordinator and **CANNOT** be employed by a production company as a Stunt/Action Co-ordinator where they are coordinating the action of multiple performers. The Key Stunt Performer can only coordinate his/her own action or assistant stunt coordinate under the supervision of a BSR Stunt/Action Co-ordinator, former JISC Full member or Stunt Co-ordinator of equivalent standard\*.
- viii) All stunt work undertaken must be recorded in the member's British Stunt Register Logbook, which must be accurately completed, including a clear description of the job arrangements, whether or not a stunt attracted an adjustment fee/enhanced fee, and must be signed by the British Stunt Register Stunt/Action Co-ordinator, former JISC Full member or Stunt Co-ordinator of an equivalent standard\* and/or 1st AD/Producer.
- ix) Original Risk Assessments must be completed, and then signed by the producer, line producer or assistant director. If another Performer/Co-ordinator who has already submitted a Risk Assessment, has passed on the job to a Performer, then this must be checked and counter signed by the Performer. If a Risk Assessment is considered by the British Stunt Register to be unsuitable or insufficient, then the Committee may discount the days concerned for the purpose of any upgrade application.
- x) Any Key Stunt Performer/Co-ordinator who has not worked as a Key Stunt Performer/Co-ordinator in the last five years, will need to re-sit the relevant level of the BSR Health and Safety course for their grade, before taking on any work where they are responsible for other Performers/Actors/crew safety or coordinating other performers.

## **9. FULL MEMBERSHIP/STUNT CO-ORDINATOR**

### Procedure for making an application for Full Membership/ Stunt Co-ordinator

- i) After a period of not less than 2 years, a Key Stunt Performer may apply to become a Full Member of the Register once they have successfully achieved the criteria set out below.
- ii) In their application, the Key Stunt Performer must submit:

Copies of Risk Assessments and their British Stunt Register logbook(s), which must show that while a Key Stunt Performer member, they have performed not less than **160** stunt days in front of camera.

iii) The applicant must achieve a total of **80** points while a Key Stunt Performer, where:

- One day Self Coordinating (solo days) = **2 points**
- One day as Assistant Stunt Co-ordinator, running the floor or running rehearsals under the supervision of British Stunt Register Stunt/Action Co-ordinator, former JISC Full member or Stunt Co-ordinator of an equivalent standard\* = **1 point**
- Successfully completed Health & Safety Stunt Theory Level 1,2,3 & 4
- An application form, completed with the details of all the stunts to be considered in the application.

iv) The application must include a minimum of **10 Solo Days** which are self-coordinating days on a production where the applicant is employed as the only stunt performer/Co-ordinator. Where risk assessment, financial/contractual meetings and recce days are completed by the applicant.

Stunt days as Assistant Stunt Co-ordinator or a day self-coordinating your own stunt on another Stunt/Action Co-ordinator's production counts only as = **1point.**

Recce Days do not count as days/points towards your Solo Self Coordinating days.

v) High and medium budget feature film productions, (as such terms are commonly understood in the industry), may employ a Stunt/Action Co-ordinator across all filming units for that production. Individual stunt sequences involving one Performer or multiple performers may be carried out without the direct personal supervision of the Stunt/Action Co-ordinator. In such circumstances a Key Stunt Performer Member, may coordinate a stunt sequence provided that all planning, risk assessment and H&S documentation has been reviewed, approved and counter-signed by the Stunt/Action Co-ordinator. Such "Supervised" Stunts will count towards the Stunt total.

- vi) For each Solo and Supervised Stunt, copies of the original Risk Assessments must be signed and submitted by the applicant and counter-signed by the Supervising Stunt/Action Co-ordinator, 1<sup>st</sup> AD/Producer (when/where appropriate).
- vii) A Key Stunt Performer member applying for an upgrade, is required to remain familiar with current health and safety requirements, accident/incident reports and the completion of risk assessment forms and maintain relevant qualifications. They must have acquired the relevant Health & Safety qualifications for their level, enabling them to identify hazards and implement the appropriate precautionary measures for their activity and incorporate these into Risk Assessments.
- viii) Full membership will take effect immediately from the date of acceptance.

#### **Rules of Full membership**

- ix) Full members, (apart from Full members that made their status before Nov 2018), must have completed the Probationary, Stunt Performer, Senior Stunt Performer and Key Stunt Performer stages of the Register. They are considered to be both Stunt Performers and Co-ordinators, and have demonstrated that they have undertaken sufficient current/recent work, to be able to show that they are capable of taking on such responsibilities as a Stunt/Action Co-ordinator. A Full Member Stunt/Action Co-ordinator is eligible to undertake work performing and coordinating without restriction.
- x) A Stunt/Action Co-ordinator is required to remain familiar with current health and safety requirements, accident/incident reports and the completion of risk assessment forms and maintain relevant qualifications. In doing so he/she will have a duty of care to all artists and film crew on the set where stunts and action sequences are undertaken, and must complete risk assessments before any stunt work is undertaken.
- xi) Any Stunt/Action Co-ordinator who has not worked as a Stunt/Action Co-ordinator in the last five years will need to re-sit the relevant level of the BSR Health and Safety course for their grade, before taking on any work where they are responsible for other Performers/Actors/crew safety or coordinating

other performers.

## **8. GENERAL RULES OF BRITISH STUNT REGISTER MEMBERSHIP**

- i) All members are to work within the guidelines of their own relevant grade level, abiding by the British Stunt Register Code of Conduct and Constitution
- ii) All members of the British Stunt Register must ONLY work for the Equity/SAG-AFTRA minimums or above.
- iii) All members are strongly advised to be members of Equity, to be covered by the safeguards of the Equity working contracts.
- iv) All members must provide their own Personal Accident insurance cover when undertaking stunt work.
- v) A member of the Register may undertake work as an actor. If stunt work is involved, the Rules of The British Stunt Register and the appropriate terms & conditions for the engagement of Stunt Performers must apply.
- vi) Only when all avenues have been exhausted, should a member be engaged to double an actor of different gender or race. The skillset should be the first reason to choose a performer. Safety is paramount, safety has no gender or ethnicity.
- vii) As a matter of Health and Safety, members of the Register must, when engaged as Stunt Performers, only take instruction through the British Stunt Register Stunt/Action Co-ordinator, former JISC Full member or Stunt Co-ordinator of an equivalent standard\*.
- viii) When members of the Register are not required for work and wish to leave the set or location, they must immediately inform the Stunt/Action Co-ordinator or in their absence the first AD.
- ix) The British Stunt Register log sheets may be required to be presented in their original form, as part of any Health and Safety or upgrade procedure.
- x) Where licences are applicable to a qualification, (e.g. driving, sub-aqua) any such licence must be current.

- xi) All members of The British Stunt Register must abide by the current version of the rules.
- xii) Members must have their Logbook/Sheets signed by the Stunt/Action Co-ordinator within 12 Months of completing the job. It is not acceptable practice for true representation of the work for your Logbook/Sheets to be signed off years later.

Address: The British Stunt Register  
Main Admin 220  
Pinewood Studios  
Pinewood Road  
Iver Heath  
SL0 0NH

Phone: 01753 652821

Email: [members@thebritishstuntregister.com](mailto:members@thebritishstuntregister.com)