ACC Contingency Request 09/10

A note by Jessica Zard (ACC Treasurer)

Historically, the ACC has had a very low number of approved contingency claims. As such over the years our contingency fund has reduced, to the extent that we now do not have any contingency fund at all. The past five years of contingency claims are summarised in the table below. We ask that the funding for these claims (if approved) is taken from the CSB contingency pot that is available.

Year	Contingency Fund	Contingency claimed
09/10	Nil	2 claims awaiting approval at next ACC meeting
08/09	Nil	Nil
07/08	£136.87	Nil
06/07	£552.23	2 claims, £236.38 remaining at end of year
05/06	£525.80	Nil

Our latest finance report is available at:

https://workbench.union.ic.ac.uk/finance/transactions.php?Code=000&Year=09-10

Unfortunately in the last week two clubs have come forward with very valid contingency claims, and as such we are requesting that the CSB fund these claims, as the ACC Exec are unable to do so. The claims have yet to be approved by the ACC as our next meeting is not until this Wednesday, 16th June, 12.00 UCH, but we are asking that CSB approve these claims conditionally on the provision that the ACC approve them at the next meeting.

ACC Rugby Club are requesting £1066. Their full Contingency claim is attached below as Appendix A but to summarise, the ACC Exec took too long to pay their travel claim during the exam period, and as a result the currency conversion rate on the rails passes has changed. They have an approved tours budget and have collected money from members based on this budget, but as members are already paying over £1200 to go on this tour it would be unfair to expect them to pay extra to account for this, especially as the extra cost is not due to negligence on behalf of the Rugby Club.

Equally we feel that the ACC Exec should not be penalised as well as Club Officers, they are full time students and during exam periods studying must take priority. There is no ACC contingency fund for 09/10, and the ACC Exec fund is used for all members of the ACC for events such as subsidising fresher's trials transport. Thus the Exec feel it would be unfair to be penalised whilst officers were preoccupied with exams for 3 weeks.

The second contingency claim is for ACC Ju-Jitsu (attached as Appendix B), who have been run incredibly well to recover from two years of terrible management. They started the year with almost £1000 of debt and should end the year with only about £100 of debt. However they have just been advised of further unpaid invoices from the 08/09 academic year which would essentially put them back at square one in terms of debt.

The current committee have worked very hard to get Ju-Jitsu back to a functioning club, and as the invoices could not have been anticipated we ask that CSB could fund this unforeseen cost to allow Ju-Jitsu to begin next year having made justified progress in reducing their debt.

Appendix A

Imperial College Union Rugby Football Club (ICURFC / ACC Rugby)

ACC Contingency Funding Request

Introduction

This summer, ACC Rugby will be touring Japan for 18 days, stopping in Kyoto, Osaka and Tokyo. A total of 41 players will be present on the tour, between them playing 7 matches between 4 match days against 5 separate clubs. 4 out of the 5 opposition clubs are of a high calibre, both academically and in terms of their rugby-playing ability. The main method of internal transport whilst in Japan will be by rail, and hence a 14-day rail pass is being bought for each tourist for use on all inter-city rail journeys in Japan (and possibly one or two valid underground/metro systems). This is the most cost-effective and safest way of touring Japan via rail, as it can be purchased before travelling out there and hence is not subject to fluctuations in the exchange rate during the touring period.

A Tour Budget was submitted on 3^{rd} May, incorporating the price quoted to us for these tickets at £327 per person, a total of £13,407. A claim was also submitted to the ACC on 5^{th} May for this cost, with the invoice attached. As detailed on the invoice, payment was due on the 10^{th} May.

Due to exam pressures, the claim took too long to process and the cheque was finally written on 2^{nd} June and signed off on 8^{th} June. When we tried to pay the supplier on 9^{th} June, we were told that, due to the weakness of Sterling against the Japanese Yen, the price of the tickets had increased to £353 per person.

Effects of the Problem & Cost

Each tourist is paying £1200 before spending money, an already substantial sum.

The increase in price is £26 per person, totalling £1066 (this will not change again until the beginning of July, as rates are set for the month at the beginning of the month). Since this increase in cost is a result of the ACC Exec's delay in putting through the claim, we feel that it is unfair to pass this cost on to the tourists themselves.

We are therefore applying to the CSB Contingency Fund for the full amount of £1066.

Summary

ACC Rugby requests £1066 from the CSB Contingency Fund to cover costs incurred by extreme and unforeseeable fluctuations in the JPY/GBP exchange rate during a substantial delay between a claim being submitted and payment being processed.

Appendix B

Imperial College Union Ju-Jitsu Club

ACC Contingency Funding Request

Jerome de Lafargue – Junior Treasurer

Imperial Ju-Jitsu club are in the process of trying to claim £740.00 contingency money from the CSB to cover 4 invoices from The Jitsu Foundation:

- Affiliation fees 2008-2009, £300.00
- 8 entries to 2009 Randori Nationals Course and Competition, £225.00
- 2 entries to 2008 Atemi Nationals Course and Competition, £60.00
- 7 entries to 2007 Randori Nationals Course and Competition, £155

The background of the claim is this: this year's committee have done their very best to save the Imperial Ju-Jitsu from a dire situation and to some extent have managed to do so. However, the reminder of unpaid invoices of large sums of money that should have been paid last year could take the club back to square one.

The Imperial Ju-Jitsu junior treasurer for 07-08 failed to submit a budget for the club and on top of that, handed over the club with a **-£705.07** balance, meaning that the 08-09 committee had to pay everything out of a red SGI account. It appears that the committee thus decided not to pay any invoices that year, so as not to get further into debt.

As a result of this, this year's committee, of which I am a part of, was handed over the club with a **-£910.72** SGI balance and **£740.00** of debt. In light of this situation, we decided to act and save the club from a debt which was growing every year. We put a lot of hard work and effort into restoring the club to a good financial situation and we also had to make sacrifices. For instance, we used the sale of hoodies and other goods to generate revenue and we cut down from training twice a week at Imperial to only once in the second term. Thanks to those efforts, the club committee managed to bring the club account balance back into the black, as our SGI is currently of £77.17. Although by the end of this term it should go down to **-£100.00** on payment of three invoices, we still managed to make back eight hundred pounds for the club. We thus thought that we would be handing over a stable club which could start moving on, and I think that we have earned this right - but without the help of the CSB, this will not be possible.

Imperial Ju-Jitsu is a thriving club, with lots of new members each year and a great number of the members attend events organised by The Ju-Jitsu Foundation, where we are usually the club with the greatest ratio of attendance. The club committee wishes to attract even more members by subsidising events, helping towards the cost of members' gear etc. However, because of the increasing debt, we are able to do none of those things.

We really want to start afresh and I believe our members deserve this, but if we go on to next year with close to another eight hundred pounds of debt, it seems that we would be inflicting upon the club another difficult season. This is why we need your help, so that we can truly start anew and turn the club into the flourishing society that it longs to be.