
The Basketmakers' Association Board

Chair & Business Development Director

Location: Remote/Hybrid (occasional in-person meetings)

Commitment: 10 Board meetings per year. The Chair is also expected to have regular meetings with lead Volunteers and also represent the BA at various events and meetings with key stakeholders. Voluntary (reasonable expenses reimbursed)

Term: 3 years, renewable

The Basketmakers' Association

The Basketmakers' Association (BA) is a member-led UK-based organisation committed to supporting basketmakers, chairseaters and those interested in related crafts promoting traditional and contemporary approaches, fostering learning, appreciation, and innovation in the crafts. As we enter a critical phase in our evolution, the BA is establishing a new Board to guide our development and ensure a proactive and sustainable future.

As the organisation continues to move through this transition period, the current board has also recommended the creation of an Operations Manager role. The intention would be for this position to provide administrative and organisational support, enabling volunteers to focus on events, projects, member engagement, and advancing the BA's aims and objectives. The Operations Manager would also support the Board by coordinating key administrative processes, maintaining organisational records, preparing documentation, monitoring actions and deadlines, and helping to ensure the effective implementation of Board decisions. Creating this new role will be discussed at the BA AGM on 26 September and if agreed the recruitment process will happen Autumn/Winter 2026.

In line with our [2025 Position Statement](#), we are seeking a Chair to lead the Board in shaping and driving forward a bold new organisational direction - one that is inclusive and responsive to the needs of the basketmaking community.

Role Purpose

The Chair will provide strategic leadership and facilitation for the Board. You will ensure that the board operates effectively, ethically, and collaboratively while actively delivering the new strategic vision.

Key Responsibilities

Board Leadership and Governance

- Lead the Board in setting priorities, timelines, and strategic objectives in line with BA's mission and values.

- Facilitate inclusive and productive board meetings and decision-making processes.
- Work closely with key volunteers and listen to the wider membership.
- Identify and cultivate strategic partnerships across the creative industries, education, heritage, and cultural sectors including The Worshipful Company of Basketmakers.

Strategic Oversight and Representation

- Act as a key spokesperson
- Provide guidance and mentorship to fellow board members and emerging leaders within the organisation.

Essential Experience & Skills

- Proven leadership experience in a strategic or governance role, ideally involuntary or membership-based organisations.
- Excellent facilitation and communication skills, with the ability to inspire and coordinate diverse contributors.
- Deep commitment to values of equity, inclusion, sustainability, cultural and personal integrity.
- Confidence in representing a national organisation to external stakeholders.
- Impartial, open minded and willing to consider change

Desirable

- Familiarity with governance in the charity, craft, cultural, or social enterprise sector.
- Experience in the craft, heritage, or creative industries sectors.
- Interest in basketry, chairseating or crafts.

What We Offer

- A unique leadership opportunity to shape the future of a nationally respected craft organisation.
- Dynamic, values-driven volunteers and engaged membership community.
- The chance to build innovative and sustainable pathways for a craft in transition.

How to Apply

To express your interest, please send a brief outline of your interest in the position and the relevant skills or experience you would bring to the board to chair@basketmakersassociation.org.uk.

Deadline: 26 August 2026

If you are interested in learning more before applying, or if you have any questions, please get in touch with Evie Stretch, Community & Volunteer Director via evie.stretch@basketmakersassociation.org.uk
