



DRAFT MINUTES OF GBPF AGM HELD 29/3/15

AT MOULTON COLLEGE

Chairman Fred Sterry welcomed everyone present and opened the meeting. 29 voting members were present.

Present as per register: Fred Sterry, Richard Parker, Kevin Jane, Matthew Parker, Carol Parker, Kevin Green, Scott Thompson, Paul Coke, Allen Ottolangui, Jenny Hunter, Ian Finch, John Halfacre, Craig Wilkins, Stuart Alexander, Dave Kirkland, Doreen Dowsett, Peter Weiss, Mike Edwards, Phil Guise, George Leggett, Bill Dadley, Tony Hollands, Dean Bowring, Jim McGill, Fred McKenzie, Marc Gules, Sue Giles, Henry Clark, Ted Brown.

Apologies: Jim Dulling, Rob Thomas Alex Mathieson, Marlene Mathieson, Phil Richard, Michelle Brand, Brian Coombes, Adam Reilly, Jas Singh, Sue Holland, Rob Thomas, Tanya Bull, Charlotte Ellender, Mick Ellender, Gary Hills

1. Minutes of the 2014 AGM - were available to all present. Chairman read through the minutes and the minutes were accepted as a true record. proposed by John Halfacre and seconded by Craig Wilkins.
2. Matters arising - There were no matters arising raised by members present.
3. Finance Report.

The Financial report was presented by the Treasurer. Printed copies were available to all members at the meeting. The Treasurer explained some of the main points within the accounts. The main conclusion being that we are in a good financial position due in the main to a greatly increased membership but also due to reduced costs.

Questions: query about the high bank charges. This is due in the main to the costs incurred for exch cheque transaction. although Paypal also has it's own charges. The conclusion was that it is something that we have to put up with as there was no safe way of getting around the problem.

The financial report was accepted and Secretary proposed a vote of thanks to the Treasurer. Thanks seconded by Kevin Green.

4. Agreement of budget for 2015

Printed copies of the 2015 budget plan were available to all members present.

This clearly stated the proposed budget for GBPF main business for the next 12 months. The General Secretary explained the reasoning and decisions for the forecasted and planned budget.

Drug test expenditure was budgeted to increase mainly due to an increase in the proposed number of drugs tests forecast.

Referee expenses are now agreed at a level of £20 for attendance at a British Championships if travelling more than 50 miles each way.

Divisional rebates will increase as a result of more members.

Bank charges – already debated.

Coaching courses expenditure was explained by Fred Mckenzie.

The General Secretary thanked Fred for all of his work with regard to the coaching courses. The Skills Active approved courses will eventually generate an income for GBPF.

Championship expenses were in the main due to the purchase of the “Mark Giles” GBPF wall for use as a promotional backdrop at competitions.

The 2015 budget was unanimously accepted.

5. Appointment and remuneration of accountants.

Unchanged from 2014 – M A Edwards Limited

Agreed

6. Chairman's Report.

Printed copies were available for all members present.

These were read and accepted

7. General Secretary's Report.

Printed copies were available for all members present.

The General Secretary gave a summary explanation of some of the main points

The General Secretary's report was accepted

8. Committee Reports:

8.1. England

8.2. Scotland

8.3. Wales

8.4. Northern Ireland

8.5. Disciplinary

Printed copies were available for all members present and were also available on the web-site. These were read and accepted.

The General Secretary gave a further explanation of the Disciplinary report.

Ian Finch explained that the drugs testing labs were becoming even more effective at detecting any drug use, detecting drug use as far back as 3 years ago.

Question from the floor: does the GBPF have details of banned competitors from BAWLA days. Ian answered saying no info was available forwarded from BAWLA and GBPF could only deal with factual information re life bans etc and not hearsay. When any ban has been served a lifter is able to apply to rejoin.

Secretary thanked Ian Finch and the disciplinary committee for all of his hard work and commented that they deal with all disciplinary issues not just drugs.

9. Elections (every three years):

As this is year three of the GBPF officers in situ, the election of officers was due. No other nominations were received and so the officers listed below were re-elected en-block. This was proposed by John Halfacre and seconded by Kevin Green.

- 9.1. Chairman – Fred Sterry nominated by the Executive
- 9.2. General Secretary – Richard Parker nominated by the Executive
- 9.3. Finance Director – Mike Edwards nominated by the Executive
- 9.4. Director for England – Kevin Jane nominated by the EPA
- 9.5. Director for Scotland – Alex Mathieson nominated by SP
- 9.6. Director for Wales – Rob Thomas nominated by the WPA
- 9.7. Director for NI – Brian Coombes nominated by the NIPF.

10. Notices of motion:

10.1. Additions to Constitution – submitted by Executive

4.2.5 b) Late Year Membership - Any member joining between July 1st and October 31st shall be entitled to member at half price provided they pay for full membership for the following year at the same time.

Membership Carol Parker explained that this proved very useful and popular last year. This was agreed.

7.1 ..and Athletes' Commission Chairperson.

10.5 Coaching Committee - The Coaching Committee shall have overall responsibility for all aspects of coaching within the GPPF. This shall include, but not be limited to:

- a) Developing and keeping up to date suitable coaching courses for powerlifters and general gym users.
- b) Ensure that courses are approved by national organisations such as SkillActive.
- c) Organising and running coaching courses.
- d) Maintain a register of all qualified coaches.

10.6 Athletes' Commission – Comprises a Chairman and male and female athletes from each age group. Note that master's age groups and sub-junior/junior shall be taken en-bloc, e.g. two members each from junior/sub-junior, senior and masters age groups. The athletes selected must be

international level, in good standing and have the support of their peers. The Chairman shall be a member of the GBPF Executive.

The Athletes' Commission represents the interests of the athletes and shall bring the views of the athletes to the Executive Committee. The primary responsibility for this rests with the Chairman.

The Chairman shall select the members of the Commission and inform the Executive Committee.

Agreed

11.4 Penalty for bringing the sport into disrepute - Any member who is found to be guilty of bringing the sport into disrepute by ..or posts on social media..

Agreed

12 Anti-Doping Rules - Paras c and h

- c) In addition, any lifter who having been weighed-in leaves the venue without permission may be subject to disciplinary action. Permission may only be given by the GBPF DCO or senior official.
- h) Any lifter found positive may apply for membership again after their suspension term has been served. However, the lifter must first have repaid the cost of the ant-doping test.

Agreed

10.2. Additions to By-Laws – submitted by Executive

1.4 Chairman Athletes' Commission

1.4.1 To maintain an open channel of communication with lifters at all levels.

1.4.2 To allow lifters' views to be considered without resorting to potentially damaging public discussion on social media.

1.4.3 To considered any matter brought to their attention by a lifter and bring this forward to the Executive Committee, if required.

1.4.4 To monitor all posts on social media and advise when they consider any action is required.

1.4.5 To promote the GBPF as the only credible powerlifting organisation in the UK.

1.4.6 To promulgate a positive message via social media.

2.12 Coaching Committee Secretary

Shall be responsible for coordination the activities of the Coaching Committee as defined in paragraph 10.5 of the Constitution.

2.13 Doping Control Officer

Shall coordinate all anti-doping activities within the GBPF. These shall include, but not be limited to:

2.13.1 Arranging anti-doping testing at British championships as directed by the Executive Committee. Quotes shall be obtained from WADA recognised bodies such as IDTM and PWC and the best value quote accepted.

2.13.2 Shall attend all tested British championships and have responsibility for selecting lifters to be tested.

2.13.3 Liaising with English divisions and Home Countries to develop local test programmes.

2.13.4 Maintaining a register of tested athletes in accordance with IPF requirements.

2.14 Assistant Secretary

The Assistant Secretary, if appointed, shall undertake specific tasks as determined by the Executive Committee.

Agreement en-block proposed by General Secretary – Agreed

10.3. Submitted by the Executive - That Dean Bowring is appointed Chairman of the Athletes' Commission.

Proposed by Fred Sterry, Seconded by John Halfacre - Agreed

10.4. Submitted by YNE via EPA:

10.4.1. That the Executive be commended for developing membership through BodyMASS.

Observation from Chairman that we need more officials to deal with the extra workload.

10.4.2. That national records can be set at any GBPF competition where there are three at least national standard referees judging the lift, drug testing is carried out and there is a jury of international referees.

Discussed and voted, 22 against, 3 for, 4 abstentions

10.4.3. That the GBPF appoints a DCO and that the officer works with each division to ensure that drug testing happens at Divisional Championships.

Discussed and withdrawn as already covered by amendment to Constitution and By Laws

10.4.4. That a banned lifter should be liable for any failed drug test fee, if they wish to rejoin.

Discussed and withdrawn

10.4.5. That the GBPF identify individuals who can take control over national recruitment initiatives:- New Year Resolution Train with Weights, NHS Get Active, National Powerlifting Day, Weights for the Disaffected – 14 to 16 School Children, You haven't Got a sport – You have now!

Accepted if YNE propose to GBPF Exec someone who can administer.

- 10.4.5.1. That a category in the GBPF Hall of Fame be created for 'International Role of Honour' and that this can include historical nominations.

Accepted if YNE propose to GBPF exec someone who can administer .

Submitted by NM via EPA

- 10.4.6. That the present subsidy of £20 per championship for those officials who are travelling a minimum of 100mils round trip, should be increased to £20 per day of the championship attended.

Accepted

- 10.4.7. That the GBPF inform the IPF of our members concern over the new rules regards to belts and singlets – Already done

10.5. Submitted by SP

It was agreed at the SP AGM on the 7th December 2014 that Scottish Powerlifting wish to register an official objection to the IPF Rules, re Singlets and Belts, which are to come into effect on the 1st January 2015.

Scottish Powerlifting request that GBPF officially object to IPF regarding this new ruling on Singlets and belts.

The General Secretary has already contacted tie IPF. Recommended that GBPF submit a tactful notice to IPF re GBPF members' objections. Voted 3 against, 2 abstentions, 24 for.

10.6. Submitted by NIPF

Can we propose to the IPF to include " if a lifter fails a drug test he/she will be banned for 2 years but if they wish to re-join IPF they need to repay the cost if the test " This has been discussed at length on social media and looks to be a popular proposal .

As written cannot go forward as GBPF cannot dictate to IPF, Voted unanimous.

11. Agreement of membership fees for 2016 – no changes proposed.

No changes proposed, Unanimously agreed.

12. Strategic Plan – Updated plan was accepted unanimously.

13. Meeting closed at 14.00hrs.