

GBPF GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2014

Three years since the changes in management and membership has really taken off. At the beginning of 2014, we were surprised at the rate at which applications were coming in, but the trend continued throughout the year. We finished with over 50% growth at 1573, a tremendous achievement by everyone in the GBPF. Our adoption of the students' organisation BodyMASS and re-introduction of a university championship has helped considerably to bring in more junior lifters. We are now in a much stronger position to re-apply for National Governing Body (NGB) status and progress on this will be reported via the web-site.

We have held three Executive Committee meetings since the last AGM, had many informal discussions and countless exchanges of emails. Considerable business has been dealt with, some of it routine and some rather more problematic. The Executive has considered ways of improving communication and so is proposing the establishment of an Athlete's Commission, the Chair of which will be a member of the Executive. This will provide a direct route for lifters to air any views or concerns and help develop a strong lifter – official relationship. An on-line membership system using PayPal has been established, thanks to the efforts of Rob Thomas and is being used for a large percentage of membership applications. Refinements to this and other web-site improvements will be introduced during the coming year.

The fight against drug abuse in powerlifting continues and a total of 45 national and regional tests were conducted in 2014. Out of these there were several adverse findings, which have been processed by the Disciplinary Committee (DC) and the appropriate penalties imposed in accordance with the WADA Code. A new Code came into force for 2015 and the basic suspension period is now four years rather than two. It is always surprising there are still lifters who think they can beat the system and anyone who thinks this way will always get caught in the end. The DC has done their usual efficient job dealing with drug test failures and other matters.

We have over 100 referees on the register, but it's a puzzle as to why so few reply to communications from the Technical Officer. The Executive will consider ways to alleviate this and referees who let their membership lapse or are inactive may be removed and have to retake the exam if they wish to be re-instated. There has been a lot of debate surrounding the new IPF Technical Approved Equipment list. We have made our views known to the IPF, but at the same time as an IPF affiliate, are obliged to comply with the rules.

The new coaching course, drafted by the late Peter Fiore, is being submitted to SkillsActive for recognition and promotion by REPS (Register of Exercise Professionals). This is requiring a considerably amount of work by our Coaching Secretary Fred McKenzie and is very much appreciated. A pilot course will be arranged for GBPF members and details will be made available in the coming months. This the last major piece of the GBPF jigsaw puzzle to

be put in place and in some ways the most important. A comprehensive coaching scheme is essential to develop new coaches and hence new lifters.

We ran a lot of good championships in 2014 and this is all down to excellent promoters. For the first time we ran a separate Women's Classic competition at the historic Bethnal Green Weightlifting Club. The Men's Classic was also very successful with an excellent venue in Dover; thanks to Greater London and the South East divisions for putting these on. Also we have to thank Kevin Jane and Marc Giles who always stage very good competitions. Lastly, Fred McKenzie promoted the World Masters bench Press Championships, which was very well attended and appreciated by everyone.

The medals gained at internationals are shown in the appended table, which I hope is accurate and there were many very good performances, particularly in the Masters age groups. However, in the lower age groups the competition is becoming stronger each year and to achieve even a medal placing requires an outstanding performance. Several of our lifters were a little unlucky not to get medals, but congratulations to those who did. Owen Hubbard did particularly well to get a Junior World Record 83kg deadlift record at the World Classic Dean Bowring remains our best equipped lifter and achieved a Wilks total of just over 600 points at the World Championships, the first Britain to do so.

The Strategic Plan has been updated and a key target is achieving a 2000 membership in the next two years. We also need to strengthen our administration to develop the Federation more effectively. This means we need more people to come forward willing and able to take on jobs. Leading the way is Craig Wilkins who has taken charge of Dean Bowring's Powerlift scheme and ranking lists.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all Executive and Non-Executive Officers for their support and hard work in 2014 and look forward to working with you all again in 2015.

Richard Parker
General Secretary

2014 INTERNATIONAL MEDAL TABLE

CHAMPIONSHIP	LIFTER	CAT	SQUAT	BENCH	DEADLIFT	TOTAL	
Euro Junior & Sub-Junior	No team sent.						
Euro Seniors	Charlie Shotton-Gale	84kg			Bronze		
	Rob Love	93kg	Bronze				
	Dean Bowring	120kg		Bronze	Silver	Bronze	
Euro Bench Press	No team						
Euro Masters Bench	Gary Prater	66kg		Silver			
	Jim Dulling	105kg		Bronze			
	Alex Lee	83kg		Gold			
Euro Masters	M1 Phil Richard	74kg	Gold	Gold	Bronze	Gold	
	Cheema Singh	83kg		Gold			
	M3 Russell Kirby	105kg		Bronze		Bronze	
	Kevin Jane	93kg	Gold	Bronze	Gold	Gold	
	M4 Roger Little	66kg	Bronze	Bronze	Silver	Bronze	
	Desi Scott	74kg	Gold	Gold	Gold	Gold	
	M1 Michelle Brand	84kg	Silver	Bronze	Bronze	Bronze	
	M2	Kay Adams	47kg	Gold	Gold	Gold	Gold
		Jenny Hunter	52kg	Silver	Gold	Gold	Gold
		Carole Taylor	57kg	Gold	Silver	Silver	Gold
	M3	Jackie Blasbery	84kg	Gold	Gold	Gold	Gold
		Jean Maton	84kg+	Gold	Gold	Gold	Gold
		Women's Team					FIRST
		Marina Cornwall	47kg	Gold	Gold	Gold	Gold
	Western Euro Cup	Amrik Mehta	59kg	Gold	Gold	Gold	Gold
Susannah Butler		52kg	Silver	Bronze	Gold	Gold	
Ellie Steel		57kg	Bronze	Gold	Silver	Gold	
World Senior							
World Jun & S J							
World Classic Junior	Jordan Lam	59kg		Bronze			
	Owen Hubbard	83kg	Bronze	Gold & WR			
World Classic Senior	Stephen Manuel	93kg	Silver			Bronze	
	Tom Martin	93kg			Silver		
World Classic Masters	M1 Tim Wheeler	93kg			Bronze		
	Colin Wright BL	120kg	Silver		Gold	Gold	
	Ricky Mullan	120+kg	Silver		Gold	Silver	
	Anita Kidgell	52kg		Silver	Bronze		
	Beverley Rodgers	63kg		Bronze			
World Classic Masters	M2 Allen Ottolangui	74kg	Gold	Gold	Silver	Gold	
	Marc Giles	120kg	Silver	Gold	Gold	Gold	
GB Women First Place in team competition.	Robert Sadler	120+kg	Silver	Silver	Silver	Silver	
	Jenny Hunter	52kg	Silver	3 Golds & 3 World Records			
	Sue Giles	72kg	Silver	Silver	Silver	Silver	

	Jackie Blasbery	84kg	4 Golds & 4 World Records			
	Karen Richardson	84+kg	Gold WR	Gold	Gold WR	Gold WR
World Classic Masters M3	Marina Cornwall 2 nd Best Lifter	47kg	Silver	Gold	Gold WR	Gold WR
World Classic Masters M4	Desi Scott	74kg	Silver		Gold	Silver
	Ernie Parkes	83kg	Silver	Gold	Gold 2 WRs	Gold WR
World Masters Bench M1	Phil Richard Dean Bowring Wendie Kirkland	74kg 120kg 72kg		Silver Gold Bronze		
World Masters Bench M2	Jenny Hunter Jackie Blasbery	52kg 84kg		Bronze Gold		
World Masters Bench M4	Alex lee	74kg		Gold		
World Masters M1 M2 M3	Phil Richard	74kg	Gold	Gold		Gold
	Steve Cummings	93kg	Bronze		Gold	Gold
	Jean Maton	84kg+	Gold	Gold	Gold	Gold
	Stan Macrow	74kg		Bronze		
	Kevin Jane	93kg	Gold	Gold	Gold WR	Gold
	Ernie Parkes	83kg	Bronze	Bronze	Gold WR	Bronze
	Sue Hollands	84kg+	Gold	Gold	Gold	Gold
World Junior Bench						
World Sub-Junior Bench						
World Bench Press						

BL = Best Lifter
WR = World Record