

## **GBPF GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2012**

During its first 12 months, the new Executive Board has made strenuous efforts to move the GBPF onto a sound financial and administrative footing and I think we have achieved this.

We started getting Northern Ireland and Scotland reintegrated and group membership arrangements were duly put in place. New Executive Board members were thence accepted; the Director for NI being Ricky Mullen and for Scotland Alex Mathieson. This enabled us to have almost full teams fielded from each country at the Four Nations. This competition was most ably put on by Rob Thomas and his team. Apart from the excellent lifting, the banquet including Welsh lamb was particularly enjoyable.

The second significant step was to renegotiate the insurance arrangements with Perkins Slade so as to substantially reduce our outlay. We decided that individual member insurance was not value for money, that travel insurance should be down to individuals and that coaches insurance would only be arranged for those who requested it and reimbursed the GBPF. As a result of this we received a substantial rebate.

The Constitution and By Laws were rewritten and accepted at an EGM 16/6/12. This has regularised the structure of the GBPF so that English divisions come under the EPA; thus all the Home Nations are now on an equal footing. All aspects of governance should now be clearly defined. Also introduced was a new membership category of Associate.

A new web-site has been introduced that has a much more professional look and the posting of information is now the responsibility of the web-master alone. This maintains consistency and avoids the risk of incorrect or inappropriate information being uploaded. Our sincere thanks must go to Rob Thomas for all the hard work he has put into this. Alongside this, we are introducing an online membership application system. The aim of this is to allow on line entry of personal details and payment. The Membership Registrar is notified of each new member and then issues the membership card. This will substantially reduce the current data entry workload.

Since the last AGM we have held three Executive Meetings, one EGM and one well attended OGM. This is probably about right as we need to balance the number of physical meetings against benefit of face to face meetings versus via email etc. We intend to make more use of facilities like Skype, which is important when we have NI and Scottish Directors who reside a considerable distance away.

Very successful British championships were run in 2012 and in particular the Seniors run by Kevin Jane at Moulton College and the Classic run by Marc Giles at Horncastle. The latter saw the largest number of lifters at a British championship for some years. Drug testing was carried out at our Senior and Classic championships and 15 lifters tested. Unfortunately, one of these was positive and the offending lifter has been suspended for the statutory two

years. Subsequently, we were required to confirm to WADA and the IPF that the correct penalty had been imposed. This underlines the importance of the fight against use of prohibited substances and every lifter must realise that they may be tested at our championships and if they are World class may also be tested under the IPF OCT scheme. We now have to notify the IPF of all lifters who would place in the top ten at the World championships and these are included in the International Testing Pool. I would like to thank Richard Scott, our DCO, for his diligent work managing the testing protocol.

Under Sports England's new NGB recognition process a Pre Application has been submitted. If this is successful we will then need to provide a full application, which will require a substantial amount of work. Our main area of weakness is membership numbers; the nominal number required for a UK NGB is 1500 and we are nowhere near this. Some dispensation is possible, but we have to wait and see if this is given.

We have fielded teams at most of the European and World championship with some good successes. Notable Rob Palmer won the European 83kg senior title, lifted well in the Worlds and has been selected by the IPF to lift in the World Games. An International medal Table is attached to this report and is very useful to show where our development needs lie. My thanks go to all the team managers and coaches who devoted their time and effort to ensuring successful trips and good lifting.

The IPF General Assembly in Puerto Rico at the World Open saw a new IPF President, Gaston Parage, elected. This was following the resignation of Detlev Albrings. Not unsurprisingly, a reshuffle of other IPF posts followed along with the re-introduction of the IPF Newsletter. I am pleased to report that I am now a member of the IPF Disciplinary Committee. A number of rule changes were passed including several to the anti-doping regulations.

Looking at the future, a Strategic Plan has been drafted, which is tabled for acceptance at this AGM. It is important to emphasis that this is a living document that will be updated from time to time to reflect new challenges and suggestions from members.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all Executive and Non Executive Officers for their support and hard work in 2012 and look forward to working with you all again in 2013. In particular, I very much appreciate the wise counsel provided by our Chairman Fred Sterry and the very professional handling of our accounts and dealings with Company House by our Finance Director Mike Edwards.

Richard Parker  
General Secretary

## 2012 INTERNATIONAL MEDAL TABLE (Updated)

CHAMPIONSHIPS	LIFTER	CAT	SQUAT	BENCH	D/L	TOTAL
Euro Junior	Did not send a team					
Euro Sub-Junior						
Euro Seniors	Rob Palmer	83	Gold	Gold		Gold
	Pat Constantine	59		Bronze		
	Louise Watton				Bronze	
Euro Bench Press						
Euro Masters Bench						
Euro Masters	T S Adewale	M1 83			Gold	
	Allen Ottolangui	M2 74		Bronze		
	Stan Macrow	M3 74	Bronze	Silver		Bronze
	Jim Dulling	M3105			Bronze	
	Kevin Jane BL	M3 93	Gold	Silver	Gold	Gold
	Helen Barrs	M1 63	Silver	Gold	Silver	Silver
	Jean Maton	M1 84	Silver	Gold	Gold	Gold
	Jenny Hunter BL	M2 52	Gold	Gold	Gold	Gold
Western Euro Cup	Phil Richard	74	Gold	Gold		Gold
	Ben Burgess	83			Silver	Bronze
	Alistair Cannings	83	Bronze			
	Ben Banks	120		Bronze	Silver	Bronze
	Rangbir Sahota	120			Bronze	
	Marina Cornwall	47	Silver	Silver	Silver	Silver
	Louise Watton	63	Silver	Silver	Silver	Silver
	Helen Barrs	63	Bronze	Bronze	Bronze	Bronze
	Sue Hollands	84	Silver	Silver	Bronze	Silver
World Senior	Tony Cliffe	120			Silver	
World Junior	Steven Tyers	66		Bronze	Gold	Bronze
World Sub-Junior						
World Cup Classic						
World Masters	Allen Ottolangui	M2 74	Silver			
	Jenny Hunter	M2 52	Gold	Gold	Gold	Gold
World Masters Bench	Julian Massey	M2 120	Bronze			
	Tom Collins	M3 105	Silver			
World Junior Bench						
World Sub-Junior Bench	Graham Mellor	120+		Gold		
World Bench Press	Natalie Blake	52	Bronze			

BL = Best Lifter