



## ENGLISH POWERLIFTING ASSOCIATION –SECRETARY’S

### REPORT FOR 2012 AGM.

This time last year there was much apprehension and anticipation hinged on the outcome of the then forth coming GBPF AGM. The unity and support demonstrated by those involved with the EPA In my opinion helped choreograph the demise of the now previous GBPF executive. I wonder where the federation would be now if that executive had been allowed to continue.

There are still several unanswered questions mainly pertaining to finances and equipment that accurate answers might not be found for, and the West Midlands as a division has as a consequence of being run by some of the same individuals, has much still to untangle.

I feel confident that the present GBPF executive will not go the same way, primarily because steps have been taken to ensure that decisions made and financial dealings and plans are transparent. I also feel that those currently in office now know that they are expendable, I for one as I hope others do believe that being elected to any position within the GBPF is a privilege, and comes with duties to be performed and responsibilities, and is not for personal gain or status.

Apart from the GBPF AGM the highlight of the year for me was being present at the Home Nations championships to see lifters from all four nations competing together again, made even more pleasant with England winning the trophy. Special thanks to Rob Thomas for organising the event and to Richard Parker et al for bringing Scotland and Northern Ireland back on board.

The All England championship’s was, partly perhaps of a congested calendar low on entries this year, although to be more specific for the equipped competition, with just 14 lifters. Within the 5 years of this event the scales have tipped dramatically from equipped lifters dominating the entries to unequipped. This is I think also reflected in the number of equipped lifters lifting in the British championships. Changing times which if the IPF and EPF decide to hold unequipped world and European age specific championships, may signal even more of a decline in equipped lifting.

The EPA promoted a club membership scheme last year offering affiliated club’s members a discount on English national competitions entry fees and space to promote the club’s on the EPA web site. To date only a few have taken up the offer, with entry fees not likely to go down divisional secretary’s should promote this further.

This year’s Commonwealth Powerlifting Championship is in New Zealand, to date I have received replies from 14 lifters wanting to be considered for the team which will hopefully mean we are able to send a larger contingent this year and provide some financial assistance.

As the largest association of the GBPF the EPA is poorly represented at EPA meetings. Distance is always a problem, particularly if there is at times little to discuss. However steps are being taken to enable those not always able to attend to meetings via SKPE. To date some divisions have been far better represented than others, I think an emphasis should be placed on all divisions to ensure that

they are represented at each EPA meeting, if the elected person for attending these meetings cannot make it a delegate should be found. People can easily become complacent thinking they are doing a good job because no one else seems bothered, but at the same time those that do turn up may feel they are being put upon.

Kevin Jane

*Kevin Jane*

General secretary