



Championships Secretary Report 2024

Following the resignation of Jim McGill, this role was taken up on a joint basis by Kim Cowell & Craig Wilkins for 2024 onwards. Many thanks to Jim McGill for his efforts over the last couple of years, especially given the restrictive nature of the entry system that was in operation for the duration of Jim's tenure.

Upon commencing the role, it became apparent there were areas of improvement to the functionality of the entry process and general championships management system on the website. Blue Line Media have now implemented various upgrades following discussions with Kim & Craig earlier in the year. It is now possible to edit / remove entries, provide a reason for disapproved entries, manage transactions more effectively and there are greater data export capabilities.

There will soon be automated validation of qualifying totals and age categories. Currently, those are manually checked which takes an inordinate amount of time and, as with any manual process, leaves margin for error.

These improvements, whilst primarily a benefit to the Championships Secretaries' sanity, will improve the service for entrants and enable greater accuracy of entry lists going forward.

There has also been the addition of the volunteer return on the website which has been an invaluable addition, so thank you for using it and making lives easier on the other side.

Kim & Craig have been working with promoters to ensure the swift publication & ongoing maintenance of live published event schedules, set out in a clear and concise format. The volunteer / officials' rotas have been prepared and maintained by Sabrina Downes, Dep. Competitions Director, and Adam Reilly, National Technical Officer. A collaborative effort!

There have been record entries to all competitions so far this year; the British Equipped saw in excess of 80 entries for the full power and c. 50 for the bench, the Classic Bench was a resounding success with 270+ entries, and the British Juniors ran over 6 days and saw 397 lifters across the platform. By the time of the AGM, Wales will have hosted BUCS which settled at around 434 entries.

That leaves only the British Masters & the British Open for 2024, the entrants to which will be the stress test for the full range of improvements made to the entry process. This will allow us to move into 2025 with a more streamlined, intuitive system, alongside the consistently high quality championships we have seen delivered over the 2024 series.

Finally, there have been countless enquiries and efforts have been made to respond to every one, many of which the answers could be found on the website suggesting there is some work to be done to improve the navigation of the website and bring it up to date. To that end, recommendations have been made to refresh the information available on the website and to make processes clearer.

Thanks for your patience whilst the upgrades were being carried out. If there are any questions, suggestions or concerns now or in the future, please don't hesitate to contact Kim or Craig.