

**GB Powerlifting Federation Ltd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2018 11.00hrs at**

**MOULTON COLLEGE GATE 4, THORPE CENTRE, ROOM P7/8**

**ALL REGISTERED MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND AND  
MUST SHOW THEIR 2018 MEMBERSHIP CARDS**

**A G E N D A**

1. Register of all voting members present.
2. Minutes of the 2017 AGM.
3. Matters arising.
4. Finance Report.
5. Agreement of budget for 2018
6. Appointment and remuneration of accountants.
7. Chairman's Report.
8. Chief Executive Officer's Report.
9. Committee Reports:
  - 9.1. England
  - 9.2. Scotland
  - 9.3. Wales
  - 9.4. Northern Ireland
  - 9.5. Disciplinary Committee
  - 9.6. Athlete's Commission
  - 9.7. Law and Legislation Committee
10. Elections:
  - 10.1. Chairman
    - 10.1.1. In accordance with Article 46 Fred Sterry wishes to be considered for re-election. Fred Sterry is also nominated by Mike Edwards and seconded by Kevin Jane.
    - 10.1.2. Dean Bowring is nominated by Phil Richard and seconded by Tanya Bull.

- 10.2. Chief Executive Officer - In accordance with Article 46 Richard Parker wishes to be considered for re-election.
- 10.3. Finance Director - In accordance with Article 46 Mike Edwards wishes to be considered for re-election.
- 10.4. Chairman of Athletes of Commission
  - 10.4.1. In accordance with Article 46 Dean Bowring wishes to be considered for re-election.
  - 10.4.2. Paul Marsh is nominated by Oscar Stephenson and seconded by Louise Sinniah-Burr.
- 10.5. Acceptance of Kevin Jane as Director for England.
- 10.6. Acceptance of Tanya Bull as Director for Wales.
- 10.7. Acceptance of Alex Mathieson as Director for Scotland.

#### 11. Notices of motion:

- 11.1. To accept by Special Resolution (75% majority required) revisions to the Articles of Association.
- 11.2. To accept the proposed changes to the Board Structure.
- 11.3. To accept the revised Disciplinary Procedure.
- 11.4. To accept proposed revisions to the By-Laws.
  - 11.4.1. Submitted by Richard Parker, Fred Sterry, Kevin Jane and Alex Mathieson:

Add – 26.4 Only British Powerlifting members are permitted in the warm-up or holding area. For the avoidance of doubt, competitors are responsible for adherence to this rule. Deliberate flouting of this rule, after a warning, may invoke disciplinary action, including disqualification from the championships concerned.

Reason – this rule has been successfully enforced for over a year and this is merely to formalise it into the By-Laws. We should not have anyone in the warm-up areas who is not subject to our rules, particularly anti-doping. This is also the only way we can really identify banned members. It's impracticable to expect officials to be able to identify these by sight.

#### 11.4.2. Submitted by the Board:

Add – 26.5 Refunds for championships entries disapproved or withdrawn will be subject to a £5 administration charge and no refund will be given for a withdrawal after the closing date for entries.

Reason –We incur PayPal charges for the initial transaction and any refund plus the time and effort to process.

Amend - 47.3 Bringing ~~British Powerlifting~~, British Powerlifting or the sport of Powerlifting into disrepute.

Amend – 25.7 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 anti-doping test **or any IPF fine.**

- 11.5. To accept the resignation as Ricky Mullan as Director for Northern Ireland
- 11.6. To accept the appointment of Alexandra Kapka as Director for Northern Ireland
- 11.7. To accept the appointment of Julian Harris as an Independent Director

12. Notices of Motion from members:

12.1. From YNE

- a) All Referees in good standing within their division should have their BP Membership fees paid for by BP. This includes Referees who do not lift themselves.

This is down to the fact that refereeing is increasingly being seen as a thankless task, and with the limited number of qualified referees, they are being asked to attend a number of competitions per year with limited allowance for expense claim (I understand expenses of £20/day can be claimed). While the £40 to cover membership shouldn't be a significant cost to BP, it would be another sign that they appreciate the work which referees undertake for the remainder of the membership.

- b) Possibility to have some National Training Squads in the North.

This was raised by one of our Masters lifters who was requested to attend a squad session on the south coast (I am aware that the location of the squad session is often dictated by the location of the head coach and a gym which has the requisite capacity). They asked if it would be possible to have squad sessions closer to the centre of the country to minimise the amount of travel required by the majority of parties. During this discussion it was suggested that BP could approach SBD and see if they would be willing to host squad session at their location in Rochdale (space permitting), as it would help to tie things in with their sponsorship.

12.2. From SEC

- a) Referee Expenses to be Increase by British Powerlifting. Referee expenses to be increase by British Powerlifting. Each referee should be paid differently depending on the amount of miles they have travelled, e.g. we in the South East would get the same as someone from Scotland at the British Classic Bench in February. Also I think

there should be an opportunity to add your hotel onto the expenses form, only if you referee over a multiple of days. British Powerlifting would then reimburse a percentage of the hotel as well as a daily fee. (CK)

- b) English and British QT totals to be increased for Classic Junior and Classic Masters age classes. (CW).
- c) Re-introduce Associate membership for British Powerlifting. (CR)

### 12.3. From YNE

- a) National AGMs (ie EPA and British Powerlifting) should travel around the country. Currently both AGMs are held in Northampton in the southern half of England. It would be fairer to rotate the host division as this would give members in northern districts a better chance of being able to attend.
- b) Appointment of a Communications Officer to the British Powerlifting board to be responsible for development and execution of an effective communications strategy. One of the biggest failings of this federation is in the area of communication. The average member has no idea what the Board is working on or where they are up to with any of their objectives. In this regard, British Powerlifting falls short of other federations and we should seek to close this gap.  
The idea is that someone who sits on the board will be responsible for acting as a bridge between the Board and the membership to facilitate communications in both directions. This role could be combined with Chair of the lifters commission as long as that person is committed to an effective communications strategy and has the skills to deliver it. Otherwise a new role should be created. This should have the effect of reducing the burden of queries going to the Board and open up channels of communication via social media – an area that currently needs development.
- c) Referees who officiate at two national championships in a year be given free membership for the following year. Currently, we do not adequately support or celebrate our officials who work hard for the federation. This would be a good thank you for their efforts.
- d) Referees expenses to be increased as the current £20 per day expenses do not even begin to cover the out of pocket expenses our officials suffer in order to officiate at national events:
  - i) £10 for a 100 mile round trip, £20 for 200 mile round trip, £30 for 300 mile round trip etc
  - ii) £50 overnight expenses when 100 miles or more away from home and officiating on 2 consecutive days.
- e) A role (or committee) is created to push forward our application for NGB status. This is crucial to obtaining funding at any level and needs to be prioritised. If it is someone's dedicated role, then hopefully we can make some progress.

- f) Qualifying totals are raised for Junior and Master lifters and the senior QTs are brought back to a consistent standard rather than requiring a lower standard for the less populated weight classes.

#### 12.4. From Wales

- a) This AGM calls upon the British Powerlifting Executive to introduce a ruling that participation in the British Equipped Championship requires athletes to wear at least one piece of equipment. Equipment to include knee wraps, a squat suit, a deadlift suit, a bench shirt. This AGM also calls upon the British Powerlifting Executive to review and raise the qualifying totals for equipped championship.
- b) This AGM calls upon the British Powerlifting Executive to review the classic qualifying totals for all age and weight classes for 2019 and raise them where appropriate.

#### 12.5. From Dean Bowring, seconded by Mike Patterson

By-laws are clarified to confirm who can / cannot enter the warm-up area following some confusion this year. The By-Laws be amended to confirm that only the following individuals:

1. **cannot** enter the warm-up area of a competition:
  - a. an individual who is banned by British Powerlifting or the IPF;
  - b. an individual who the competition jury, within their powers outlined at paragraph [x] determines should not be permitted to enter the warm-up area; and
  - c. an individual who is currently suspended on an interim basis, unless the suspension states otherwise.
2. **can** enter the warm-up area provided they do not meet the descriptions at 1 above:
  - a. each official of the competition;
  - b. each lifter in the competition (a “**Competition Lifter**”);
  - c. in the case of a classic or being only Competition Lifter, up to 2 named individuals of the Competition Lifter, each of whom must be serving a coaching or supervising or spotting or loading role; and
  - d. in the case of a equipped 3 lift Competition Lifter, up to 3 named individuals of the Competition Lifter, each of whom must be serving a coaching or supervising or spotting or loading role.

in each case, access is only permitted within a reasonable time of the Competition Lifter's platform lifts.

3. **must** be in the warm up area:
  - e. where the Competition Lifter is under the age of [16][18], an adult chaperone of that Competition lifter. For avoidance of doubt, if the chaperone is not to help in the warm-up area at all, they will not form one of the individuals at 2c or 2d above.

## PROPOSAL RATIONALE

The only rationale we have been informed of for stopping non-banned- non-British Powerlifting members from the warm-up area is the presence of assumed drug takers in the warm-up area. Although not ideal, this will have little to no impact on the competition itself and British Powerlifting cannot stop British Powerlifting members associating with drug taking individuals outside of competition, therefore we do not see what impact the warm-up room will have.

On the flip-side, we do see the following issues it creates:

- stops lifters who are training 'independently' (i.e. not with other BP members) having help on the day;
- stops non-member lifters from helping their powerlifting friends. A British Powerlifting membership is not required to effectively load a bar, spot or enter a lifters attempt;
- potential for a shortage of helper in the warm-up area;
- has led to people (parents, guardians, etc.) becoming members solely for the purpose of entering the warm-up area despite having no intention of being otherwise involved in the federation;
- lifters effectively must know other British Powerlifting members to effectively compete on a level playing field to other more connected members;
- will significantly impact equipped lifters who require more helpers from bringing non-British Powerlifting helpers;
- very difficult to enforce, requires at least one official at the warm-up area entrance at all times otherwise will not be fair;
- safeguarding issue of parent being allowed to accompany young children; and

- stops non-British Powerlifting individuals coming to help and seeing the standard of the Competition for themselves.

The proposed rule should be far more readily enforceable (the number of banned lifters from time to time is far lower than the number of members).

12.6. From Dave Kirkland – NM

That at national championships the first weigh-in be covered by local referees. It seems to work in our division N/M

13. Agreement of membership fees for 2019 – no changes proposed.

14. Strategic Plan – acceptance of update.

15. No other business.

NOTES:

- a) Voting by Proxy may be made in accordance with the Articles and Procedure for Voting by Proxy.
- b) A presentation will be made at the end of the meeting to attending members elected to the British Powerlifting Hall of Fame for 2017.
- c) For catering purposes, it would be appreciated if members could inform the CEO at [richard.parker@britishpowerlifting.org](mailto:richard.parker@britishpowerlifting.org) if they are attending.