



ENGLAND

Director for English Powerlifting - report for British Powerlifting for British Powerlifting AGM 4th March 2018

The All England Championships was the largest in terms of entry numbers to date, and held over three days. This is likely to be repeated in 2018, although not a Commonwealth competition year, with no increase in qualifying standards I envisage similar entry numbers. For 2019 there is every likelihood that the event will be held in two separate venues as Jo Whitley has offered to hold the men's event in the North West division with the women's comp staying at Moulton College.

Entry forms for this 'year's competition will be available in early March and limited to 75 lifters per day.

The 2017 Commonwealth Championships once again included a large team from England with many of the team winning titles and establishing new records. The championship does I feel provide many lifters with an opportunity to compete internationally who might otherwise never have the chance, and the standard of lifting is increasingly improving which adds prestige to winning such titles. There is therefore a need for more emphasis to be placed on future team preparations when representing England at this level. In the first instance more experienced coaches need to be found and to support the team with funding made available to help with costs. Also several lifters prior to the event were asking if there were any squad session planned, this is I think something to be considered in the future which in turn could help boost lifters performances.

The Home Nations 2017 hosted by Northern Ireland were one of the best to date, with some excellent lifting from all nations and a great atmosphere, encouragement and determination evident. From an English team perspective, as now seems usual, many of our top lifters did not take part in the event due to a variety of reasons such as bring injured, event too close other competitions, disruption of training programmes, coaches not letting them compete and some lifters too bothered to reply their invitation

So the English team in my opinion were not likely to win, but those who did make the effort to compete should be commended for their efforts in placing second overall. As competition hosts in 2019 it is I feel time that England won again, although much depends on our top

lifters making themselves available and demonstrating the willingness to represent their country as the other home nation competitors seem to manage.

England geographically as the largest of the home nations is I think becoming more alienated. There are few occasions when representatives of the nine divisions come together or communicate with one another. Although all part of British Powerlifting there are I believe some instances when issues such as inter divisional event suggestions, schemes and initiatives would benefit from the representatives communicating more frequently . Also as the lifting population increases English divisions should be taking on some of the national responsibilities and decision making.

One such issue I'm aware of is an increasing problem within some divisions where many lifters are competing at national and international level but are not supporting or lifting in their relevant divisional championships. The problem being how to monitor this so that only lifters who have satisfied this criteria compete at these levels.

In recent years the only time for divisional reps to meet has been at the AGM, there being perhaps at the time little else to warrant meeting for. However with probably near to 300 members to cater for I propose that there is at least one other divisional rep meeting a year.

Kevin Jane - Secretary