

British Equipped Masters team Managers Report. European Masters Equipped competition at Pilsen 03-07/07/18.

This is the largest team that I have managed to date with 14 ladies and 18 men competing totalling 32 including myself. A large vote of thanks must go to those who have kindly come to support the team. Especial thanks to Steve Wall who worked tirelessly for the whole week and made my job so much easier.

I have developed a quick reference medal chart for the ladies and the men to demonstrate how well the team performed, the team pulled together as only the Masters can, supporting and helping with generosity and humour throughout the competition.

First the ladies, what a master class they were, 14 competitors, 14 place medals, 6 European champions as the chart below demonstrates but then we come to a clean sweep of the team medals: Masters 1, team Gold. Masters 2, team Gold. Masters 3, team Gold. Masters 3 Best Lifters, Gold and Silver (Jenny and Sue).

Ladies European Masters Equipped medals chart.

	Squat	Bench	Deadlift	Placing	Points
Gold	7	4	6	6	72
Silver	2	5	3	4	36
Bronze	5	5	5	4	40
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	14	14	14	14	148

What a performance this was to follow!

Although the men performed extremely well, there were highs and unfortunately there were lows. Starting with the highs we fielded 18 lifters, 8 finished on the podium with again 6 European Champions, this leaves 10 that finished off the podium 8 of whom provided valuable team points as demonstrated in the below chart.

So, to the team medals that are again pretty impressive. Masters 1, team Silver. Masters 2, team Gold. Masters 3, team Bronze. Masters 1 Best Lifter award, Silver and Bronze (Dean and Phil). Masters 2 Best Lifter award, Silver (Bernie). Masters 3 Best Lifter award, Gold and Bronze (Kevin and Karnail).

Men European Masters Equipped medals chart.

	Squat	Bench	Deadlift	Placing	Points
Gold	5	5	5	6	72
Silver	2	3	3	0	0
Bronze	3	2	3	2	16
Other	8	8	7	10	48
Totals	18	18	18	18	136

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This just leaves the dramas that are sadly part of our sport, Stan Macrow and Steve Walker unfortunately did not total, in both cases this was only the 2nd time in long careers (50 +years in Stans case and over 30 in Steve's case).

With Stan it was a catalogue of errors, for his opening squat there was confusion on the platform regarding who was next and with what weight that meant Stan was waiting fully wrapped for far too long, the 2nd attempt was failed but then flagged as a good lift so Stan went up and missed the last lift to find the 2nd had returned to a failed lift. In Steve's case he sustained a shoulder injury in training that deteriorated on the platform thus making the reduced opener impossible, this was tragic as he was on a sure win. Stan was unlucky and we all wish Steve good luck with the impending operation.

On an upbeat note, although it was a bumpy ride, Michelle and Joanne sat their cat 2 referee exams, Gary and I sat our cat 1 referee exams and we all passed, 100% pass rate, not too shabby.

In conclusion I must say I have the utmost pride in and respect for our team, I am enormously happy to be a part of it. Huge thanks to Charlotte for accepting the limitations of my training nights and for the enormous amount of work she puts in, but most of all for all the team for your dedication, support, humour and forbearance.

Report compiled by Mick Ellender 20/07/18.