



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

GB Powerlifting Federation Ltd

Sunday 1st March 2020 11.00hrs at

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

**ALL REGISTERED MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND AND
MUST SHOW THEIR 2020 MEMBERSHIP**

A G E N D A

1. Register of all voting members present and proxy votes received.
2. Minutes of the 2019 AGM.
3. Matters arising.
4. Finance Report.
5. Agreement of budget for 2020
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
 - 9.8. Medical Committee

10. Elections – none this year

11. Notices of motion submitted by the Board

- 11.1. To accept the resignation of Nicola Elding as Communications Director.
- 11.2. To accept the appointment of David Turner as Financial Director.
- 11.3. To accept the appointment of Tony Cliffe as Chairman Athletes Commission.
- 11.4. To accept the resignation of Alexandra Kapka as Director for Northern Ireland.
- 11.5. To accept the appointment of Ricky Mullan as Director for Northern Ireland.
- 11.6. To amend Article 41 by Special Resolution:

FROM The Board shall have the power from time to time to appoint a Director to act as Chairman in the event of the absence, incapacity or death of the duly appointed Chairman.

TO The Board shall have the power appoint a Deputy Chairman, who in the absence, incapacity or death of the duly appointed Chairman shall deputise until, if required, a new Chairman is elected at a General meeting.

Reason – to clarify the role and appointment of a Deputy Chairman

12. Notices of Motion submitted by members.

12.1. From Tanya Bull

- 12.1.1. At the time of writing, any referee who officiates at 2 national championships in a calendar year is eligible for free membership the following year. National championships do not include those of the home nations (ie Wales, England, Scotland and Northern Ireland). We would extend this provision to include the national championships of all the home nations (ie Welsh Championships, All England, etc).

12.1.2. To extend the free membership provision for officiating at 2 national championships to spotters and loaders. Spotters and loaders work tirelessly to keep lifters safe and to keep competitions running on schedule. Without them our competitions could not take place – they are as important as referees at our competitions. The offer of free membership for working on the platform at 2 national championships would go some way towards recognising the hard and excellent work that they do.

12.2. From Owen Hubbard & Jenni Sherwood

12.2.1. "The election of a Sponsorship and Scholarship Officer for British Powerlifting."

Reasons

British Powerlifting has grown hugely in both popularity and participation in the last 5 years and the strategic plan of 2019 states:

8.c. Whilst we are essentially an amateur organisation, in order to develop and grow we must adopt a more professional approach to the way we operate. The importance of this cannot be understated.

10.c. Whilst master's performance has been outstanding at World level, the competition in open meets is becoming ever tougher. We have some successes, but we must take advantage of our growing membership to find and nurture new talent.

11.h. To identify suitable companies for additional sponsorship

Without key sponsorships from a range of companies, both in and out of the powerlifting world it is difficult for us to both make a profit that can be put back into growing the sport within universities and the younger community, but also ensure that these athletes are drug free. By getting companies involved on a grass roots level, the top end will advance. This is seen in other sports such as EDF Energy and their sponsorship of grass roots in the RFU.

The current board do a superb job running the day to day of British Powerlifting, but I feel there is the need for additional support in both acquisition and negotiation of additional funding, which will provide additional sponsorship but also ensure a professional approach is adopted at all times.

12.3. From Dean Bowring & David Murray

Proposal for the board to create and enforce a specification for the minimum standards of venue for the British championships. In conjunction with proposal one this is to ensure that the British Championship is a premium event for all attendees both lifters & spectators (live & virtual).

Reason

There is currently a vastly differing standard of competition being held over the country, this is to help standardise and create realistic expectations that both the executive & members & the respective promoter will be aware of and expected to meet. In conjunction with this British Powerlifting will make it clear to the promoter what elements of the competition will be eligible for reimbursement from the federation for a national championship, (this is currently unclear & a potential barrier to entry for prospective promoters).

Ideally the organisation of British Championships will eventually become part of the Extended Executive's remit, with the need for "promoters" to be removed. For examples, please see basically all other sports with a national governing body (weightlifting etc)

12.4. From Dean Bowring & David Murray

Members who fail to make weight at national competitions should be guaranteed the opportunity to lift as a Guest lifter if they wish at the national championship. This lifter would not be able to win or place on the podium; however the resultant performance should also be allowed to be considered as a basis for international selection with equal weighting.

Reasons

This is to ensure that lifters who invest time and money see a return for their hard work and are not subject to punitive measures for making a mistake. Lifters who Bomb at competition are still allowed to continue on.

This is also in conjunction with a see change over many sports most recently UK Judo (IOC sport) now allows all junior competitors to change their weight class on the day of competition. This is borne out through concerns over body image / mental health issues around young persons manipulating their body weight / competition to extremes. And also the general health and well being of lifters on the day.

This will also ensure that lifters who do not make weight do not have to overly expend effort into making weight, and in return pull out / lift poorly / cause themselves harm.

This in conjunction with Proposal one will have no bearing on the running of the day as this will in fact allow "business as usual" for the promoter.

This is already the standard within other powerlifting federations, such as Norway & Germany.

12.5. From Dean Bowring & David Murray

- 12.5.1. Abolish the two step exam process for divisional referees.
Return to a single exam required for divisional referees. With a

second exam required to elevate to national (practical or technical – not important, but candidate must show greater depth of knowledge). Taken at the time of nomination from the Division.

- 12.5.2. Referee exam syllabus for divisional referees to be reviewed and simplified to focus solely on elements of competition process and setup, platform conduct, lift completion / reasons for failure, commands, basic understanding of acceptable kit.

Reason

Currently it is easier to become a National Referee than a Divisional referee. The idea is to modernise the exam criteria and reduce the length of the divisional exam. The idea is to establish a easier entry for new referees and to establish a clear pathway of deeper knowledge implementing a exam for national referees.

- 12.5.3 Implement a true verification step for elevation to national referee status – some form of exam which focuses on greater technical detail such as platform specifications / equipment specifications. To show greater depth of knowledge. Introduce practical exam element, similar to IPF cat ref requirements, which can be held at any level of competition, as long as it is verified by an international level referee.

- 12.6 From Dean Bowring & David Murray

British powerlifting should review the payment of all international entry and drug fees for lifters both single lift and full power. The proposal requests a move to a percentage based approach to nomination placement, based on data with a recommendation that lifters below the top 50-70% of nominations for their weight class would be required to cover their entry and drug test fee. This could be varied by age class etc.

Reason

This is to avoid an arbitrary number placement as in juniors / masters competitions some classes will not have a number of lifters high enough to meet the current criteria, even if the lifter is well below “class standard”.

- 12.7 From Dean Bowring & David Murray

In a multi – age event where the weight class lifts together, all lifters are entered automatically into their age class and open. This way the winner of the open age group is the best lifter on the day.

12.8 From Adam Reilly

An additional Women's Weight Class. (Currently Women have 7 weight classes while the Men have 8. I propose that women get an additional weight class added to create fair opportunity compare to men, as well as themselves. I think we need to keep -84, then add new weight class here (-92/4), due to the number of lifters in the women's 84+ category that weight around the 86-92Kg mark that compete against lifters that are 100-120Kg).

12.9 From Adam Reilly

(EPA & BP Calendars be produced and published by the 1st of November for the following calendar year, i.e. 2021 calendar be produced and published by the 1st of November 2020. I feel this would give better notice to lifters of when competitions are and allow divisions to plan their Competitions around National competitions.).

12.10 From Dean Bowring & David Murray

British powerlifting should review the reimbursement of International coaches. With the view to increase funding for recognised British Powerlifting coaches.

12.11 From Martin Bass

British Powerlifting agree to pay, in full, the accommodation for Head Coaches and Referees, (minimum required) at the official EPF/IPF Hotels for International Championships.

All Lifters competing at International Championships will pay a levy of £30 towards the cost of the above.

This AGM tasks the Head Coaches and executives to review the expense payments for the full coaching team.

12.12 From Farzana Ahmed

I PROPOSE THE MOTION to allow approved knee sleeves/knee wraps to be worn with a non-supportive full-body suit, or a non-supportive leggings & non-supportive long sleeved top combination alongside the IPF specified competition kit (i.e singlet, t-shirt) to solve this problem, thus creating an even more inclusive British Powerlifting community.

As a competing member of British Powerlifting, and a supporter of the International Powerlifting Federation and its place as a worldwide leader in powerlifting, I am asking the governing body

to please consider amending the rule and continuing to support the future of powerlifting and inclusion of its participants across communities, cultures, and faiths. British powerlifting is wonderfully increasingly inclusive. However, I feel there are small areas like these which must be addressed to maintain the inclusivity of the kaleidoscope of British Powerlifting members for future of the sport.

12.13 From Catherine Smith

Requirement of referees weighing in sub juniors to be DBS checked.

Reasons

- I find that the current safeguarding policy does not adequately cover the issue of weighing in sub juniors at competitions. Despite the rule for there to be 2 referees present and for a coach/chaperone to also be in the room I still find this is still a potential risk to the young people in our sport.
- In schools, no adult without a DBS check would ever be allowed in a PE changing rooms with young people in a state of undress regardless of other adults being in the room.
- Referees who currently work with a DBS can use the Update service to digitally transfer their DBS to be used for British Powerlifting.
- Referees without should have their division pay for a check if they are to referee at any competition where sub juniors are weighing in.
- This should be included at national level and referees should have their DBSs checked before weighing in sub juniors.
- This motion is to offer the best protection to the young people in our sport and should be equal to the protection they are offered at school.

12.14 From Dean Bowring & David Murray

The British National Championships qualifying totals are to remain the same; the qualifying criteria will amend in the following ways. There will now be a maximum of 14 lifters per weight class at each British Championship. All members who reach the respective qualifying criteria can apply to lift at the British Championship; these members should apply with their highest achieved total from the qualifying period. The qualifying totals will be ranked numerically from greatest to least. The top 14 totals will be offered a spot at the championship, with position 15 & 16 being reserve positions. Once the entry period has closed the list will be finalised and payment to be made by those who have secured a spot within an advised time period. Any member failing to make payment in this time will lose

their spot to the next reserve lifter (again listed on highest total). The entry Fee will also be raised to £50; this is to be considered in conjunction with proposal two.

Reason

The rationale behind this is to ensure that the British championship continues to be the pinnacle of domestic lifting. Ensuring both the quality of lifter but also of the competition, the reduced numbers will help alleviate current logistical issues around running competitions. It will also help promote the event as a viewer friendly spectacle, as times of lifting will be condensed and filled with a higher quality of lifting. This will also have a positive effect on lifters as again, this should reduce the occurrence of late night groups and flights. Again this also provides a boon for the Promoter and their competition team. The Higher entry fee will help fund and ensure that the quality of venue is able to be selected and maintained (see proposal 2)

12.15 From Adam Reilly

Qualifying Totals 2021. (That the British Classic 3 lift Qualifying totals are increased for 2021 by 3% for Classic Sub-Junior, Classic Junior, Classic Open and Classic Masters as per presented proposal. Suggest that entry fee be increased for British Championships to balance the numbers lost by increased QT's.)

14.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 2019.
- c) For catering purposes, it would be appreciated if members could inform the CEO at richard.parker@britishpowerlifting.org if they are attending.