

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**GB Powerlifting Federation Ltd Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020**

**MINUTES**

1. Members present:

Richard Parker, Fred Sterry, Dave Turner, Kevin Jane, Farzana Ahmed, Jacob Wymer, Owen Hubbard, Martin Bass, Henry Tosh, Tanya Bull, Rizvan Musa, Catherine Smith, Josh New, Chris Godfrey, Robin Bermudez, Dean Bowring, Craig Wilkins, Pete Weiss, Ian Finch, Charlotte Reynolds, Mick Ellender, Fred McKenzie, Jim McGill, Joanne Barnes, Phil Frost, Nathan Turner, Matt Watson, Christie Civetta, Kim Cowell, R Booth, Bryn Evans, Jenny Hunter, Allen Ottolangui, Mike Edwards, Dave Kirkland, Wendie Kirkland, Ben Banks, Emma Goodwin, Doreen Dowsett, Phil Guise, M Hoare, Lucia Puricelli, J Taylor, Ploutis Koumi, Jurins Kengamu, Joseph Diva, Arwah Taha, Jason Coultman, James Brincat-Smith, Jenni Sherwood, Dominic Patmore, Amina Bux, Paul Marsh, Joy Nnamani, Helen Quinn, Callum Davies-Keogh, Isabelle Lam, Asif Ahmed, Len Demetriou, Ramsay Kirkhy, Bethan Ashton, Alison Jones.

In attendance: 62 Members, Proxy votes 85, Total 147

2. Minutes of the 2019 AGM, available on the website for some time.

Proposed accepted by Pete Weiss – unanimous.

3. Matters arising – none.

4. Finance Report

An operating loss of £16,246 was incurred for 2019. The Finance Director informed the meeting that British Powerlifting cannot stand another year of losses otherwise we could be insolvent. Major costs include entry and doping fees for international teams, live streaming and drug testing. Streaming is now on ad hoc basis which will be a saving. It was emphasised that the number of lifters in a championship affects income.

Report accepted: Proposed Tanya Bull, Seconded Mike Edwards

5. Agreement of budget for 2020:

It's been assumed that membership will be down because of the increase in membership fees. It was asked if there could be a reduction in drug testing. Mike Edwards commented that we should aim at a higher surplus than £2k with a quarterly monitoring of accounts by the executive.

Report ACCEPTED: Proposed by Craig Wilkins, Seconded by Henry Tosh

6. Appointment and remuneration of accountant – D. Turner & Co

7. Chairman's Report:

The chair proposed a vote of thanks for Mike Edwards and Dean Bowring for their work on the committee over the past few years

Report ACCEPTED: Proposed by Henry Tosh, Seconded by Jenni Sherwood

8. Chief Executive Officer's Report:

CEO explained that the Results Management Authority for our drug testing is now the IPF in line with WADA guidance. Several of our international lifters are in the IPF Registered Testing Pool (RTP), which means they can be tested out of competition at any time. Membership cards are now sent via email. This is more efficient, although a few teething problems have been experienced and resolved. Jim McGill raised issue of lack of referees supporting championships particularly during weekday events. Raised qualifying totals – we will have to see what affect this has on membership and income. Mike Edwards commented that internationals are costing us 31% of budget. Ian Finch reported that social media comments being posted are the main disciplinary matters his committee have to deal with.

Report ACCEPTED: Proposed by Mike Edwards, Seconded by Mick Ellender

9. Committee Reports:

- a. England – written report.
- b. Scotland
- c. Wales – written report
- d. Northern Ireland
- e. Disciplinary Committee - See above comment verbal report
- f. Athlete's Commission – written report
- g. Law and Legislation Committee - No report

- h. Medical Committee – written report  
Joanne Barnes raised a question re legality of TBC Oil. It was explained that British Powerlifting have no access to lifters medical records, but Par Q used for coaching courses.

Committee Reports ACCEPTED: Proposed by Owen Hubbard,  
Seconded by Rick Booth

10. Elections – none this year.

11. Presentation given by Ben Banks of SBD re sponsorship and 2020 Sheffield.

12. Notices of motion submitted by the Board:

12.1. To accept the resignation of Nicola Elding as Communications Director.

12.2. To accept the appointment of David Turner as Financial Director.

12.3. To accept the appointment of Tony Cliffe as Chairman Athletes Commission.

12.4. To accept the resignation of Alexandra Kapka as Director for Northern Ireland.

12.5. To accept the appointment of Ricky Mullan as Director for Northern Ireland.

ALL ACCEPTED unanimously.

12.6. By Special Resolution to amend Article 41:

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.

ACCEPTED unanimously

13. Notices of Motion submitted by members.

13.1. From Tanya Bull

13.1.1. At the time of writing, any referee who officiates at two national championships in a calendar year is eligible for free membership the following year. National championships do not include those of the Home Nations, i.e. Wales, England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. We would extend this provision to include the national championships of all the home nations.

FOR 80 votes, AGAINST 40, 24 ABSTENTIONS PASSED

13.1.2. 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.

FOR 26 votes, AGAINST 72, 43 ABSTENTIONS LOST

It was commented that organisers should ensure loaders etc receive expenses.

13.2. From Owen Hubbard & Jenni Sherwood

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

It was clarified that this would be a non-executive position with a role description produced. Jenny Sherwood informed the meeting that there is plenty of funding /sponsorship to be sought, but needs an individual to apply for this. Joy Nnamani asked by Richard to send him any ideas she may have. Appointment to be done by June, Jenni offered to do job description.

FOR 93 votes, AGAINST 12, 40 ABSTENTIONS PASSED

13.3. 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).

It was commented this could be part of the remit of the Championship Director, but availability of equipment and officials required.

FOR 132 votes, AGAINST 1, 10 ABSTENTIONS

PASSED

13.4. 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.

Amendment 1 - Proposed that this should only apply for junior and sub-junior lifters.

FOR 83 votes, AGAINST 21, 24 ABSTENTIONS

PASSED

Amendment 2 – Proposed that guest lifters would not be eligible for international selection.

FOR 96 votes, AGAINST 21, 7 ABSTENTIONS

PASSED

13.5. From Dean Bowring & David Murray

- 13.5.1. 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.

FOR 83 votes, AGAINST 35, 26 ABSTENTIONS

PASSED

- 13.5.2. 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.

WITHDRAWN

- 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.

WITHDRAWN

- 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.

It was commented that the criteria would need to be determined.

FOR 109 votes, AGAINST 9, 24 ABSTENTIONS

PASSED

- 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.

FOR 52 votes, AGAINST 47, 39 ABSTENTIONS

PASSED

- 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).

FOR 29 votes, AGAINST 70, 35 ABSTENTIONS

LOST

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.

FOR 89 votes, AGAINST 5, 36 ABSTENTIONS

PASSED

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.

WITHDRAWN

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. Amend to take out 'in full' and add pay from athletes' contributions towards coaches /referees accommodation fees.

Amendment "Subject to funds available from athletes determined by the Board"

FOR 93 votes, AGAINST 22, 17 ABSTENTIONS

PASSED

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.

FOR 114 votes, AGAINST 1, 13 ABSTENTIONS PASSED

12.13 From Catherine Smith

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

It was commented that DBS checks for volunteers are free, but this needs to be confirmed. Also check government web site.

FOR 100 votes, AGAINST 0, 0 ABSTENTIONS PASSED

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.

FOR 51 votes, AGAINST 55, 20 ABSTENTIONS LOST



12.15 From Craig Wilkins

Qualifying Totals 2021. (That the British Classic 3 lift Qualifying totals are increased for 2021 by 3% for Classic, 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.)

Amended to exclude sub-junior and university championships.

FOR 57 votes, AGAINST 54, 11 ABSTENTIONS      PASSED

**Meeting closed at 16.32 pm**