



BRITISH POWERLIFTING CHAIRMANS REPORT FOR 2021

Following the sad and untimely passing of Fred Sterry in early 2021, I was honoured to step in as the acting chair then following the 2021 AGM to take up the role of Chairman.

Many of the longer standing members of British Powerlifting will know me from my 12 years chairing the disciplinary committee and or as an active member of the Farm Powerlifting Club and East Midlands division.

2020 and 2021 were years decimated by the restrictions of the Covid pandemic with the resulting cancellations of many events and the consequential fall away of membership numbers, however with careful management the board oversaw the re-opening of events at the back end of 2021 and ended the year in a stable financial position.

My personal thanks go out to all those regional and national event organisers (too many to mention) that brought powerlifting back to the membership under the most difficult of conditions.

One thing that has struck me since taking over as chairman is the huge amount of work that goes on behind the scenes on a daily basis that very few members are ever aware of, personally this equates to around 15-20 emails every day and whilst that does not sound like a lot, they can be very time consuming!

To this extent I'd also like to recognise the work of others, specifically:

Ben Davis for bringing additional sponsors and hence cash to the table.

Tony Cliffe for making the workings of the board more accessible to the membership.

Dave Turner for keeping a watchful over finances.

Craig Wilkins and Jo Whiteley for their immaculate record keeping and statistical support to the board.

All referees, officials and volunteers that help out at events (loading/spotting is the toughest of workouts).

And finally, Richard Parker who works tirelessly behind the scenes with little recognition from the membership and without whom British Powerlifting would not be in the strong position it is today.

I'll not mention competitions specifically as I'm sure that others will cover this, other than the Arnolds. What a fantastic event and one which promises to be even bigger and better in 2022. We really need to thank Emanuel Scheiber of the IPF and Richard for bringing this high-profile event to us and I'm really looking forward to this September's event.

Throughout 2021 the board continued to work towards governing body status and BUCS recognition (more on these later) and I thank Nathan Gevao and Adebiyi Omisakin for their invaluable help, todays and tomorrow's powerlifting students have no idea what they owe to you.

Finally, I thank the membership for voting me in at the 2021 AGM, you have my word that I'll continue to work for the benefit of British Powerlifting and the membership (except for sumo deadlifters).

Ian Finch - Chairman – British Powerlifting April 2022.