



BRITISH POWERLIFTING CHAIRMANS REPORT FOR 2022

2022 was the year that British Powerlifting really came of age.

Recognition from Sport England as the official governing body for the sport of powerlifting.

Confirmation of BUCS recognition, with the first official BUCS championships to take place in 2023.

Membership numbers at an all-time high.

And for the first time in its existence, financial stability. A huge amount of gratitude must go to Dave Turner for this, when he took over our finances the federation was effectively bankrupt. Dave has kept a tight rein on the federation's finances through some very challenging times. You will be missed Dave.

I read a report recently that suggested as many as 6 million people a week participate in gyms across the UK in some form of powerlifting, be that the occasional squat, bench or deadlift. That equates to roughly 1 in 10 of the entire adult population!

As a federation we have around 5,000 active members, that means in order for everyone to be able to take to the platform just once, we need to organise around 90 competitions / year, so my personal thanks go out to all those regional and national event organisers (too many to mention) that have brought powerlifting events to the membership.

All of these events require a significant number of officials and volunteers to ensure a smooth running and I am very happy to see that we now have our highest ever number of regional, national and even international referees.

Our British Championships remain a prime focus for the board, the British Universities, British Juniors and British Masters events were all very well received in 2022, however we still have some way to go with the British Seniors, Equipped and Bench events, this is not to say that they were not very well organised, just that we as a board need to improve on the offering to the membership. Hopefully with the additional event sponsorship on the table from SBD and the appointment of a new competitions director we can deliver events worthy of our membership.

I'd also like to thank our current board members for their valued input, no major decision is ever taken without first discussing it at board meetings and considering all options. Thanks also to Craig Wilkins, Doreen Dowsett, Jim McGill, Carol Parker and the unseen work of the DC, under the leadership of Bryn Evans for the hard work they do behind the scenes.

I'd like to acknowledge the tremendous work done by our international team managers and coaches. You do a terrific job and really do not get the recognition you deserve. Finally, thanks to all the lifters who are taking powerlifting to new levels never before seen. British Powerlifting is truly world class.

Ian Finch - Chairman – British Powerlifting April 2023.