



CEO Statement to the Board November 2024

Dear Board/Membership,

It's been a busy few months since our last board meeting and one that has been productive. I'd like to thank those of the board who have assisted myself in our endeavours. Especially those who continually go above and beyond when asked. A huge welcome to Martin Bass onto the board of directors, having Martin on the team brings a grounding and experience needed to help steer the ship and hold me accountable at times, and for that I thank Martin.

It seems to have been a long summer with a packed domestic and international calendar, well done to all of those who have continued to help raise the standard for our membership and thank you to each and every one of the volunteers out there who work tirelessly to provide opportunities for our lifters. Notably the Manchester Open was yet again a great success and well done, I hope the team find time to bid for something on the 2026 calendar.

They say people vote with their feet, and our membership is continually growing with a record 6674 members to date, my target when taking office was a 10% Membership increase to 6701 members, and we are almost there. However I can't and won't take the credit for this, "lifters just want to lift" I was once told, they were not wrong, but by building a framework and raising the standard people will either stay when they would once leave, or they will come and join us. It's not a solo effort though, our federation is staffed by volunteers, ones that work hard for our membership and need to be applauded.

With just one more International to go before the end of the year we wish the Open Equipped team the best of luck in their endeavours and hope that you manage to achieve your goals in Iceland. Since Scott took the position of Performance Director we are looking to add further support for any upcoming athletes hoping for a World Games invite, and hope that we will again be taking some equipped lifters to the World Games.

Congratulations to the Jnr Classic and Equipped Teams who since the last board meeting have continued to do an outstanding job on the international stage, our Bench teams, and recently Western Euro Teams and our Masters Classic and Equipped Teams. Team GB is a continually rising force to be reckoned with Internationally, this along with our increasing officiating presence, British Powerlifting is fast becoming one of the most notable and respected Nations in our wider federation, and thank you each and every one of you who contribute to this.

Well done to all of our Home Nations for a very successful haul at the recent Commonwealth Championships. Talks are ongoing with myself and the IPF to include all Home Nations in the Small Nations Cup each year. A move which I hope will be of huge benefit, and help raise the standard of home Nation Championships and attendance.

Our Social Media team are working so hard to ensure that everyone gets their mention, and a times are very stretched, teams are encouraged to reach out with information to help the team and help contribute to getting their mentions in and correct. Thank you to Abdul, Lukas and Liv for all your hard work especially the help they receive from WLM in this also.

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Our Finance director has provided a great update for Q3 and although on paper it isn't a pretty sight the overall picture for the year is still looking good. Some of these costs are due to upgrades already planned by the exec, a new Membership platform is incoming. Thank you for all your continued hard work Tony.

Early next year Sport 80 will be handling our membership dashboard, a great addition for all, it's ability to help members smooth progress in their journey from purchasing membership, to entering events with a whole host of member options to be able to get the right information any guidance they need. This new development spearheaded by Craig Wilkins and Kim Cowell brings us inline with other large sporting bodies and will help further develop our sport, thank you both. Alongside this a new website is being developed to plug in with sport 80, myself and Mark Henkelis are working with developers on this and we are all excited to see how this will help not only the lifter, but also our Home Nations and divisions. With a planned an option for them to be able to access a ready-made website for use at local level, where all the integral information can be pulled through, thus saving time and expertise of our already stretched volunteer base. Thank you Mark.

Charlie Marillier and her team are continuing to excel in our education department. Having recently had our level 2 course recognised and awards coaches their IPF licence. British Powerlifting has also this last week been accepted as a recognised training Partner for CIMSPA. Myself and Charlie later this month are heading to CIMSPA to see how we can further develop our presence and education within our sport, and the wider sport education industry. On an International level, other member nations are now looking to British Powerlifting to help them with their education platforms also. Well done and thank you Charlie and the team.

Sabrina our Competitions Director has hit the ground running since taking on the role and we now have the next three years of competitions in the calendar delivering over and above on our 2yr rolling calendar promise. Even more impressive is that we have 2025 all but sewn up. The two Open Qualifying championships are almost confirmed also making 2025 a great year of National level competitions something to look forward to.

My focus is now supporting Sabrina and WLM to deliver the biggest Open Championships in the History of our federation, in it's last run in the current format. 390 or so lifters will head to Wolverhampton later this month to the SBD Classic Open, there's some surprises in store for you all and I am positive the athlete experience will be amazing. If you've not volunteered to lend a hand already then please do so, the more the merrier.

Before taking office I had a dream to get British Powerlifting in its own right into the NEC. This year sees us as part of Fitfest alongside many other sporting NGB's. This is however by no means job done and ticked off, we still need some athletes for the full power on the Saturday and Deadlift on the Sunday. But, if we get this right the plan moving forward is to host the SBD British Classic Open there in 2025 and beyond.

Last and by no means least, a massive thank you to all of our federation, our Membership, our volunteers, our officials and those who support those who take part. The Parents, the siblings, the Uni pals, the gyms, the competition hosts. Each and every one of you are what makes our family of lifters love what they do even more and make my position as CEO worth doing.

It's almost Christmas break time though, so I wish you all well..

James Brincat-Smith

CEO

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