



Minutes of the
British Weight Lifting Board Meeting

Venue: The Queen's Hotel, Leeds
Date: Thursday 8 June 2017
Start: 1.00pm.

Present: Peter Rowley (PWR), Ashley Metcalfe (AM), Catherine Eastham (CE), Emily Godley (EG), Mike Irani (MI), Patrick Roberts (PR), Kelly Sotherton (KS), Guy Taylor (GT).

In attendance: David Gent (DG) for items 1 – 6, Tom Whittaker (TW) for items 1-7.

1. General

1.1 Chairman's Welcome

PWR welcomed all to the meeting, declared the meeting quorate, outlined the key items of the agenda, announced that he would move the items for decision further up the agenda, and reminded members that discussions at the meeting were confidential and none of the proceedings should be disclosed to third parties without his prior written approval in accordance with the directors' code of conduct that all members had signed. He also requested that any outstanding code forms should be signed and returned to AM as soon as possible.

PWR congratulated KS upon her 3rd Olympic medal awarded retrospectively and MI upon his re-election to the executive board of the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF).

1.2 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Malcolm Boyd (MB), David Knaggs (DK), Mark Martin (MM) and Michele Verroken (MV).

2. Declarations of Interest

PWR reminded members of the need to declare their interest in any items for discussion or requiring a decision. No declarations of interest were declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting on 8 March 2017 and matters arising

The minutes of the Board meeting held on 8 March 2017 circulated previously were agreed as read and approved for posting on the website.

PWR referred to item 12 of the minutes of the meeting of 8 March 2017 and informed members that since the last meeting, all national governing bodies were now required to complete their governance action plans by 31 October 2017 and not, as previously, 31 March 2018. There were no other matters arising not appearing elsewhere on the agenda.

4. Decisions taken outside the Board Meeting

PWR referred to his email to all members of his email of 23 May 2017 informing them of the resignation of Stewart Cruickshank (SC). **It was agreed that the current complement of 11 members was optimal and that any decision to fill a casual vacancy would await the annual board effectiveness and skills' review.**

AM referred to his emails seeking and receiving a mandate to vote for preferred candidates at the IWF Congress in Bangkok at which Dr Tamas Ayan had been re-elected as President and MI re-elected to the Executive Committee. Members considered how Dr. Ayan's re-election may support BWL's development and how MI's re-election may assist BWL develop influence internationally in Commonwealth, European and World weightlifting.

5. Matters for decision

9a. BWLA Blood Spillage Policy and Infectious Diseases Policy

AM referred to the papers circulated previously, explained the need to review and revise our current regulations, recommended that they be adopted and invited comments. Following discussion, **the policies were approved as drafted with immediate effect.**

9b. Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)

AM referred to the paper circulated previously. The draft Articles of Association, as approved at our previous Board Meeting in March 2017 require members' approval and following feedback from other NGBs and funders he recommended an EGM in early September 2017 at a venue to be confirmed at a BWL event, affording the possibility to engage with more attendees and provide the opportunity to communicate positively over the next 3 months about the benefits of and why changes to our Articles are necessary.

Following discussion **members agreed unanimously that the draft Articles be presented to members for approval at an EGM in September 2017.**

6. Minutes and recommendations from sub-committees

CE, GT, PR and PWR updated members on respective committee matters and future matters to be considered.

There had been insufficient business for the committees to meet formally, but there had been various communications pertaining to Development, Performance and Audit & Finance matters requiring discussion within groups. The England Group held its inaugural meeting at Sheffield Hallam University on 26 April 2017 to consider role, purpose and strategy. AM undertook to circulate copies of all committee meetings to board members.

7. Sport Development, Coach Education and Sport England Review

DG presented a PowerPoint presentation to update the board on discussions with Sport England re provisional measures for BWL's targets and talent to be submitted by 9 June 2017 **which were agreed provisionally by the board**. AM would confirm the final metrics following Sport England's June 2017 board meeting.

DG's presentation then informed board members comprehensively on sport development matters generally, relationships with Home Nations, safeguarding wherein there had been no new incidents reported, coach education and learning, responding to questions from members.

DG left the meeting.

8. Performance and UK Sport update

PWR welcomed TW to his first meeting and invited his PowerPoint presentation following UK Sport's decision to fund para powerlifting only.

The board was updated on the successful outcome of a bid to Sport England for talent pathway funding of £357k, a substantial uplift on the previous cycle; the progress of our elite lifters at various competitions, staff, recruitment, prospects for the World Juniors in Tokyo later in the month and the progress of athletes towards the Commonwealth Games in 2018. EG asked for BWL to clarify and communicate the selection criteria for the Commonwealth Games, previously issued in advance of the British Championships in June. AM confirmed that they were, in his opinion already clear, but for the avoidance of doubt agreed to re-issue them.

TW also reminded board members of the performance pathway programme and following discussion about the team manager's role at the Commonwealth Games left the meeting.

9. Finance Matters and Update

9a. Management Accounts for April 2017

In the absence of MM, AM referred to the papers circulated previously and the summary slides in the PowerPoint presentation of financial performance for April 2017. Members noted the good start to the year and the very satisfactory performance for the month on budget.

9b. Forward forecasts and budgets for 2017/18

AM reminded members of the key points on the budget for 2017/18.

10. Risk register

AM referred members to the changes in the risk register circulated previously, and the new risk pertaining to events and invited comments, following which **the updated risk register was approved.**

11. Board Matters and 12. CEO's Update

AM updated members on the progress of the HPNGB project following the workshop on 9 May 2017 and his further meeting with Portas Consulting the previous day.

AM referred to the complaints' log circulated previously and ongoing matters.

AM informed members of the possibility of an 'unfunded sports group' letter to the incoming chair of UK Sport.

Members noted the forward agenda.

GT left the meeting.

12. Any Other Business

PWR informed members that this was EG's penultimate meeting as athletes' representative and that consideration was under way to ensure that athletes continued to be represented. Members expressed thanks to EG for her contribution during her tenure and asked that the board's thanks be conveyed to all funded athletes for behaving responsibly as to UK Sport's decision to withdraw funding from 30 June 2017.

13. Date of next Meeting

The next meeting will be 14 July 2017 in Coventry.

The meeting closed at 4.55 pm.