



Minutes of the
British Weight Lifting Board Meeting

Venue: Jaguar Suite, Ricoh Arena, Coventry, CV6 6GE
Date: Friday 10 June 2016
Start: 1.00pm.

Present: Peter Rowley (PWR), Ashley Metcalfe (AM), Malcolm Boyd (MB), Stewart Cruikshank (SC), Catherine Eastham (CE), Mike Irani (MI), Patrick Roberts (PR), Guy Taylor (GT) and Michele Verroken (MV).

In attendance: Emily Godley (EG) for items 1 – 3, James Farndon (JF) of UK Sport for items 1 - 3, Tommy Yule (TY) for items 1 – 7, David Gent (DG) for items 1 – 8 and Liz Aitken (LA) of Sport England for items 1 – 14.

1. General

1.1 Chairman's Welcome

PWR welcomed all to the meeting, particularly EG who had been elected by her peers as the Athletes' Representative on the Performance Group, LA and JF. He declared the meeting quorate, outlined the key items of 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.

1.2 Apologies

Apologies had been received from David Knaggs (DK) and Mark Martin (MM).

2. Declarations of Interest

PWR reminded members of the need to declare their interest in any items requiring a decision. PWR drew members' attention to his role with Sport England and Coachwise Ltd. DG declared an interest in Coachwise, GT in TASS and MV in the Commonwealth Games Federation. No other or new declarations of interest were declared. PWR asked members to inform AM of variations in interests as they occurred so that the register may be kept up to date.

3. BWL Strategy Discussion 2017 - 2021

PWR informed members that in the light of satisfactory review meetings with Sport England and UK Sport and Sport England's publication of a new radical strategy entitled 'Towards an Active Nation', it was timely to discuss a draft strategy for the sport for the forward period commencing 1 April 2017. He invited AM to introduce and speak supported by a PowerPoint presentation and by TY and DG who addressed performance and development matters respectively and upon which LA and JF commented in relation to Sport England's strategy and UK Sport's expectations for the Tokyo cycle respectively. Following an inclusive discussion, wherein members challenged a number of observations, offered suggestions and/or received clarification from officers, **it was agreed that the draft strategy was appropriate to guide the sport forward and that following further scoping discussions with key investing stakeholders during the summer, management should revise the document, incorporate outputs and outcomes and present a further version to the September 2016 meeting of directors.**

PWR adjourned the meeting at 2.30 pm for 10 minutes, during which EG and JF left the meeting.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the Board meeting held on 9 March 2016 circulated previously were agreed as read for posting on the website. There were no matters arising not appearing elsewhere on the agenda.

5. Decisions taken outside the Board Meeting

Members noted the approval of the Olympic and Paralympic Selection and Appeals policies electronically.

6. Minutes and recommendations from sub-committees

CE, GT and PR updated members on respective committee matters. In particular, CE sought an Equality Champion. MI & MV volunteered to take up the role, for which they were thanked.

7. Performance and UK Sport update

TY referred back to his presentation under item 3 above, wherein following a satisfactory submission of our strategy for the Tokyo cycle, increased funding from UK Sport had been indicated provisionally; and individual and team performance at the European Championships, leading to winning one female and one male Olympic place at Rio in addition to the 4 Paralympic places already selected.

TY also responded to various observations and questions from board members and then left the meeting.

8. Sport Development, Coach Education and Sport England Review

DG informed board members upon sport development, in particular increased participation numbers announced in Sport England's APS10 results the previous day.

DG also updated the board on a successful annual review by Sport England; continuing progress in coaching education; sports development across several fronts domestically, with Home Nations and internationally; and safeguarding.

DG informed members that the Northern Region had not taken up their invitation to the meeting of the English Regions Group on 15 March and that disappointingly, their committee seemed uncooperative and unwilling to engage, leading to several BWL members complaining of their poor service, events management and competition standards with requests for BWL to hold more competitions in their region. He and AM also updated members on a number of matters pertaining to other regions and the Home Nations' bodies, responding to a number of observations and questions from members.

DG then left the meeting.

9. Finance Matters and Update

AM referred to the papers circulated previously and the summary slides in the PowerPoint presentation. Members noted that following improved performance for the year ended 31 March 2016 with the budgeted surplus achieved and the WCL facility discharged, April 2016 had been a satisfactory start to the year, with a better than budgeted surplus. Members also noted the ever reducing proportion of funding from Sport England, now only 33% of revenues. The cash flow and P/L forecasts were also discussed.

AM reported that he, MM and PWR would meet with haysmacintyre on 18 July, prior to presenting accounts to the Finance and General Purposes Committee in August and Board in September.

10. Risk register

PR referred members to the risk register circulated previously and the changes thereto since the previous meeting. The Finance and General Purposes Committee would review further at the committee's August meeting.

11. CEO's update

AM referred to his comprehensive report circulated previously, which was for information only, but drawing members' attention in particular to the outcome of the EWF elections and the complaints log, particularly the continuing matter with one complainant.

12. Chairman's update

PWR referred to the papers circulated previously. **It was agreed that PWR be authorised to identify an additional board member by open recruitment** as outlined in the paper previously circulated. **It was further agreed that PWR progress amendments to the Articles of Association** as recommended in the paper circulated previously. Additionally, **the Board approved revisions to the Corporate Governance Handbook** circulated previously.

PWR undertook to bring a draft job specification for a Senior Independent Director to the next meeting for consideration.

13. Any Other Business

AM took members through the schedule for the British Championships, including arrangements for members to be joined by Jennie Price, CEO of Sport England.

14. Date of next Meeting

The next meeting will be 27 September 2016 at Northumbria University, courtesy of GT.

The meeting closed at 6.05 pm.