

August 2025

Dear members,

A year has passed since the Paris 2024 Olympics, and I would like to take a moment to celebrate Emily Campbell, who captured a hard-earned bronze for Great Britain, and Ramiro Mora Romero, whose path to the Games as a member of the Olympic Refugee Team is a testament to human resilience.

The past month has been a powerful reminder of what makes our community special: dedication, resilience, and the drive to excel on every stage, from local platforms to the world's biggest arenas.

We are entering an exciting phase as we approach the World Championships for both Weightlifting and Para Powerlifting, which serve as vital stepping stones toward the 2026 Glasgow Commonwealth Games.

In July, a team of seven GB athletes took to the platform in Madrid, Spain at the <u>European Youth & U15 Championships</u>. Each athlete delivered an outstanding performance, highlighted by two silver medals from Amelie Pelta. Congratulations to every athlete and staff member who represented us with such distinction.

We were also thrilled to learn that Weightlifting will feature in the 2027 <u>Commonwealth Youth</u> <u>Games</u> to be held in Malta- the first time since its inclusion in Samoa in 2015. This return provides a golden opportunity for our emerging youth talent to gain invaluable international experience.

Looking ahead, a team has been confirmed for the Para Powerlifting Elite World Championships, which will take place in Cairo, Egypt between 11–18 October 2025. The large team selection reflects a collaborative effort across the British Isles, with home nation programmes backing additional athletes to bolster Commonwealth Games prospects.

Special congratulations to UK based athletes Romiro Mora Romero and Clémentine Meukeugni Noumbissi, who have both been named in the <u>International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) Refugee</u> <u>Team.</u> A proud moment for them and for us.

In our incredible community, we saw <u>Dr David Mannion</u> complete a deadlift challenge to raise money for charity after receiving a terminal diagnosis earlier on this year. David is a legend in the world of UK weightlifting. His positivity, resilience and grit shines through every time he takes to the platform. His deadlift challenge, fundraising efforts and attitude to his situation is nothing but outstanding.

On 20th July, we saw five clubs come together under sun and rain to trial the new inter-club <u>Club Cup</u> <u>team format</u>. The purpose of the event is to give a wider range of lifters a positive experience of weightlifting competition through a team approach.

Next month, we gather in Oldbury for the British Age Group Championships, a celebration of the UK's emerging talent and the future of our sport. I look forward to seeing many of you there as we continue building momentum toward our biggest goals.

Kindly, Matthew Curtain CEO