



**BRITISH  
WEIGHT  
LIFTING**

### **Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter**

As an organisation, we have spent the last few weeks continuing to evaluate the impact of Covid-19 and adapting our operations to mitigate our risks and find alternative ways to engage with our members, coaches, TO's and volunteers, as well as our clubs and many other stakeholders.

The opportunity to listen to all our members via a series of webinars and surveys for lifters, spectators and volunteers has been hugely beneficial and I would like to thank everyone who has taken part so far as this invaluable insight from the weightlifting community that will help to shape the future direction of our sport.

There have also been a few developments at BWL this month. Last week I was delighted that we were able to welcome Philip Edmondson as a new member to our board. His legal knowledge and expertise in commercial and sports litigation and regulation will be invaluable as our organisation continues to move forward.

We also recently decided to transfer all the remaining Regional Open Series events in the 2020 calendar year to online competitions. While it is disappointing that we are unable to host in-person events and meet our members after such a long period, this decision ultimately means that the Regional Open Series will take place without the risk of cancellation due to Covid-19 or other causes.

We felt that it was important to acknowledging the change in circumstances faced by many lifters in the current climate. As a result, we have reduced the entry fees for the event and also made these competitions eligible for rankings, but not records.

This approach was carefully considered to provide people with the opportunity to showcase their skills in a competitive environment while also maintaining the integrity of the British standards. Hopefully we have managed to strike a fine balance and we look forward to hearing your feedback as things progress.

It was also fantastic to see some brilliant British performances in the Eleiko international email tournament and I hope these strong displays will continue to inspire athletes domestically once our virtual competitions are fully up and running.

Stay safe and kind regards

**Ashley Metcalfe**

**BWL CEO**