

# MATTHEW CURTAIN

## CEO



*Dear Members,*

April has been a vibrant and dynamic month at British Weight Lifting, filled with competitions, strategic developments, and key announcements. Here's a comprehensive update on all the significant activities and achievements:

### **IWF World Cup Phuket Highlights**

Zoe Smith and Sarah Davies demonstrated commendable effort and achieved strong results in their respective categories. Unfortunately, Chris Murray sustained an injury requiring surgery, and we extend our best wishes for his rapid recovery. Despite their solid performances, the three of them did not qualify for the Olympic Games. Katrina Feklistova made a commendable comeback following an early challenge while Emily Campbell elected not to compete, noting her world number 3 ranking. Representing the IWF Refugee Team, Ramiro Mora showed promising progress in the 102kg category before his participation was cut short due to a minor injury.

### **International Delegates in Birmingham**

BWL hosted a significant event in Birmingham where international delegates were present. This gathering was not only a diplomatic success but also an opportunity to share insights and foster global relationships in the weightlifting community.

### **Inaugural Club Cup at Hampshire Barbell Club**

The first-ever Club Cup took place, marking a significant milestone in our efforts to engage with local clubs and promote competitive spirit at the grassroots level. The event was well-received, with enthusiastic participation from athletes across various categories.

### **Countdown to Lima**

With the championships in Lima fast approaching, our preparations are more focused than ever. We're ensuring that our athletes have the resources and support they need to excel on the international stage. The athletes selected are Phoebe Davis in the Women's 59kg category and Maddie Rosher in the Women's 71kg category. They will be coached by Lead Pathway Coach Kristian McPhee and Amy Kirby-Saunders.

### **Annual Achievement Awards**

The opening of nominations for our Annual Achievement Awards is an exciting time to celebrate the successes within our community. I encourage everyone to participate by recognising those who have made remarkable contributions this year. The deadline for nominations is 12 May.

### **BUCS 2024**

The 2024 British University Championships, held at Brunel University on April 18-19, saw a record-breaking 222 entries. Tense competitions were noted across categories, with close victories and remarkable performances on both the Red and Blue platforms.

### **Ramiro Mora's Selection for the Olympic Refugee Team**

Ramiro Mora, a prominent figure in British Weight Lifting, has been selected for the Olympic Refugee Team for the Paris 2024 Olympics. Originally from Cuba, Mora has set records in multiple weight classes in the UK and embodies the spirit of resilience and hope. His selection not only highlights his athletic prowess but also his inspiring journey from Cuba to the UK, overcoming significant challenges to achieve his Olympic dreams.

### **Join Our Board - New Non-Executive Director Position**

As British Weight Lifting continues to grow, we are seeking a new Non-Executive Director to help guide our strategic direction. This role is crucial for overseeing our governance and strategic planning. Ideal candidates should bring experience in strategic management, budget oversight, and stakeholder relations. We highly value diversity and encourage applications from all qualified individuals. The application deadline is May 24, 2024, and more information can be found on our website.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to British Weight Lifting. Together, we continue to push the boundaries of what is possible in our sport.

Strength in unity,

Matthew Curtain  
CEO