

MATTHEW CURTAIN

CEO



Dear Members,

As we transition into the colourful autumn months, I am delighted to bring you the latest updates from the world of weightlifting and para powerlifting. This month's newsletter is filled with remarkable achievements, exciting events, and initiatives designed to empower our community.

World Para Powerlifting Championships

Between 22-30 August, Dubai hosted the World Para Powerlifting Championships. Team GB displayed an exceptional blend of skill, power, and poise, returning home with medals, impressive performances, and new personal bests. In particular, Olivia Broome claimed the gold in the women's 50kg category, Liam McGarry clinched the gold in the men's over 107kg category, excelling in the total discipline and Zoe Newson secured the bronze in the women's up to 45kg class.

We also had the privilege to interview Tom Whittaker, the Paralympic Performance Director, who shared insights into the success of this championships.

British Age Group Championships

The 2023 British Age Group Championships were held over the weekend of 9-10 September at the John Charles Centre for Sport in Leeds. I'm delighted to share that this year's championships saw nearly 260 entries, breaking all previous records for participation including for the first time, the delivery of the Championships across three competition platforms!

IWF World Championships in Riyadh

The IWF World Championships, held from 4-17 September in Riyadh, witnessed the participation of 11 British athletes who took on the world's best in weightlifting. Despite the challenges faced, these Championships have provided invaluable experience and insights for our athletes as they embark on their journey towards Olympic qualification. In particular, we celebrate the remarkable achievements of Fraer Morrow and Katrina Feklistova in breaking British records during the competition. Additionally, we extend our warmest wishes to Emily Campbell for a speedy recovery and look forward to her

triumphant return. We eagerly anticipate the continued progress and success of all our dedicated athletes.

Funded Coaching Scholarship Scheme

I'm thrilled to share that we have just unveiled a fresh round of funding for our coaching scholarship scheme. This initiative is a key component of our strategy to attract and retain talented individuals, combat inequalities, and bolster our community of coaches. Together, we're creating a stronger and more inclusive weightlifting community. We are currently in the process of evaluating the applications, and we're excited to announce the winners after careful consideration on our social media channels.

Coaching Conference - 14 October

[Registration](#) for the Coaching Conference is still open, and we've got an exclusive offer for you! Now, when you purchase 2 tickets, you'll get one free. It's a fantastic opportunity to bring your coaching team and make the most of this learning experience.

Staff Matters

We're excited to introduce new staff updates at British Weight Lifting:

- Lisa Smith - Operations and Governance Manager
- Jennifer Maysmor-Gee - Lead Educator
- Lilla Horvath - Marketing and Communications Manager
- Anushka Bovill - Marketing and Communication Executive

We look forward to their valuable contributions as they become integral parts of our organization.

On the 20 September, an Extraordinary General Meeting took place in Leeds, marking a significant moment for British Weight Lifting. During this meeting, our membership adopted new amendments to our articles, paving the way for fully online Annual General Meetings. This progressive step reflects our commitment to embracing digital solutions for enhanced accessibility and participation.

As we draw this month to a close, it's imperative to extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the athletes, coaches, supporters, and partners, including UK Sport. Your dedication inspires us all and fuels our commitment to a brighter future for British Weight Lifting.

Strength in Unity,

Matthew Curtain
CEO

