



## July Newsletter Welcome

I was always told a week in sport was a long time and this is certainly true at the moment with BWL made aware of both good news and very sad news within the space of a few days.

No sooner had we received the extremely positive news that gyms can re-open in England from July 25 with similar opportunities to follow shortly in Wales and Scotland, than we also learnt of the extremely sad news that John Lear, one of BWL's most influential characters for over 5 decades, had passed away.

John played a huge role in the historical growth and development of weightlifting in the UK and all involved in the sport will be forever thankful for his immense contribution, which in many ways will never now be fully recognised. His knowledge, expertise and friendship will be hugely missed although his legacy and influence at all levels of the sport will live on long into the future.

As Clubs and gyms prepare to re-open, our commitment to regularly update all our members and clubs with the latest Government guidance and updates remains our number one priority, especially as we need to ensure there is a safe and enjoyable return to training.

Whilst we strongly advise adherence to Government and BWL guidance, information on the "new normal" is changing daily and may well vary in the coming days and weeks not just amongst the four Home Nations but also more regionally as the impact of Covid-19 continues to be closely monitored.

We will continue to regularly observe market reactions and behaviours and share our learnings to ensure our weightlifting community continues to have access to the latest information.

Finally I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable return to their clubs and gyms and we all look forward to catching up with you all soon.

*Ashley Metcalfe, British Weight Lifting CEO*