



Oscar State (OBE)

BAWLA General Secretary 1945 – 1948

National Coach - Olympics 1948 National Coach – Commonwealth Games 1950 and 1958 IWF General Secretary 1960 - 1976



Oscar State was a BAWLA General Secretary from 1946 - 1950 and also held the same post at the IWF from 1960 - 1974.

State was a teacher having graduated from Goldsmiths College in London and Carnegie Physical Education College in Leeds.

During World War II, he was a sports officer in the RAF and was responsible for the physical training of over 7,000 airmen.

After the war, he became General Secretary of the British Amateur Weightlifters Association (BAWLA).

He helped organise the weightlifting competition for the 1948 London Olympic Games and was instrumental in developing the BWLA Coaching Scheme.

Due to his efforts the Association appointed its first full-time National Coach Al Murray.

State went on to become a prominent international figure and in 1960 became the General Secretary of the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF).

State introduced many innovative ideas to the sport including the jury panel, ranking lists and junior records and was awarded the Order of the British Empire medal (OBE) for services to sport.

He was inducted into the Jewish Sports Hall of Fame in 1989