

Board Meeting: 14 June 2023 - virtual

Board Members : Paul Thorogood (PT), John Davies (JD), Jared Lougher (JL), Adam Thompson (AT), Katie Langan (KL), Richard Brice (RB)

Invited: Colin Metson (CM), Adam Park (AP), Colin Jones (CJ), Gareth Evans (GE), Susie Osborne (SO)

Apologies: Helen Arnold-Richardson (HAR)

ITEM	NOTE	
1.0	PT welcomed everyone, shared apologies and confirmed no declarations of interest. All minutes were received.	
2.0	<p>International Relations and GB Boxing Board Meeting</p> <p>The paper already circulated was taken as read. CM provided an update since the last board meeting, particularly on the request from World Boxing to join up. He confirmed that GB Boxing have announced that they are joining as an associate member, they will have no voting rights. IBA have placed no sanctions as yet on the home nations. To be able to nominate individuals at the World Boxing Congress countries need to join by 14 August.</p> <p>The IOC have started derecognition of IBA and this should be ratified on 22 June at an Extraordinary Meeting and finally at their Congress in September.</p> <p>An open letter from the IBA states that they will take the IOC to court.</p> <p>PT summarised that nothing has changed for WABA, and the key things are the decisions from the IOC, any offers from World Boxing, and getting our boxers to the Olympics in 2028.</p> <p>Discussions followed about any risk to missing deadlines and the impact on the IOC position in relation to other major events such as the Commonwealth Games.</p> <p>The meeting decided to continue with the current position and meet to discuss any changes as they happen.</p> <p>GB Boxing have approved a unified pathway proposal but this is awaiting discussions with home nations so staff will feedback next time.</p>	
3.0	<p>Action Plan</p> <p>The Action Plan was included in the paper and confirmed how this has been progressed. This included the appointment of AP and GE. CM asked for any questions.</p>	
4.0	<p>Performance</p> <p>CM provided an initial paper and AP provided a more detailed report on recent events and results. AP provided the highlights of the report. Next step for AP will be the development of the Performance Strategy.</p>	

	<p>Two boxers will be in competing for an Olympic place at the first qualifier in June. Six boxers are now on the GB pathway. Twelve Welsh programme boxers went to Spain and won 11 medals, with four juniors in their first international all taking gold. At the Three Nations, we won 2 golds last year, so far this year we have won 9 with the GB Three Nations Schools competition next weekend.</p> <p>CJ added that AP has been very thorough. JL added that WABA should aim to share this success to a wider audience.</p>	
5.0	<p>Community</p> <p>CM confirmed the status of GE's appointment.</p> <p>The board paper gives an overview of the strategy development which will take a few months, but GE is already working on areas such as capital funding, cost of living support and BeActive Wales grant promotions. GE has introduced himself to the clubs and both GE and CM attended the WSA Awards where Llanrumney Phoenix's homeless programme won Best Social Impact award. PT asked for a report from GE in September to show where WABA ought to be and where we are now.</p> <p>ACTION: GE to prepare update for the next board meeting.</p>	GE
6.0	<p>Communications</p> <p>CM confirmed the success of the WSA communication project and gave an update in a report. CM confirmed the links in the paper that show the stories on the website, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.</p> <p>CM confirmed communications was working well with the divisions, supported by these stories.</p> <p>CM said there were ongoing discussions about the possibility of a new role for communications and marketing. PT wants to have a review in September to see if the communications are being shared most effectively.</p> <p>CM suggested a working group be created in lieu of a board lead. PT asked for a recommendation from the executive team. He confirmed we need a strategy like we had for community boxing, focussing on the 'how'. Also, to consider launching the brand, developing a campaign, showcasing all the good work going on in the clubs, video content and contact with the press.</p> <p>ACTION: CM to consider expertise to produce a strategy and also how it will be delivered, resource required.</p>	CM
7.0	<p>Commercial</p> <p>CM confirmed WABA was making progress. CM said that a potential role for competitions/events and education role is being discussed with a current member of staff to look at developing an events calendar.</p> <p>CM indicated the potential for a dinner show in September, this will be a commercial opportunity. Proposed diary date: 15 September. RB confirmed this may also include an award ceremony going forward and access to the performance boxers has improved. RB working with CM to produce a strategy. PT confirmed that the current Secretary of State would be keen to attend an event. JL confirmed the importance of an award recognition event for clubs.</p> <p>CM commented that there are a few possibilities for a community event, awards and the AGM as the hall is booked for the weekend in September.</p> <p>CM told the meeting that there had been a positive meeting with a potential new sponsor and supplier.</p> <p>ACTION: CM to progress commercial and consider expertise to produce a strategy.</p>	CM

8.0	<p>Governance</p> <p>The paper was included in the board pack.</p> <p>Due to JD not being able to speak via his link, CM confirmed that the concern over an EUBC resolution does not affect the home nations. The AGM is currently due in October. CM asked PT to share his discussions about the board roles. PT confirmed that he is in the process of catching up with board members and KL confirmed she would contact PT to arrange a date for a catch up.</p> <p>CM confirmed JD will be updating the governance framework. It is also time for a board evaluation and JD will send out a revised board evaluation for completion over the summer. The Chair evaluation will be carried out after the AGM by JL. There are no changes planned to the Articles and/or Membership Regulations this year.</p> <p>A date is required for the next divisional meeting. CM suggested a meeting with the divisions before the next board meeting. PT requested that the division are more involved with the team and support channelling of communications and asked whether these meetings are now necessary.</p> <p>CM requires board approval on a number of policies, and this will be done by 'write around' with track changes being shown. The first two will be the Financial Risk Review and Reserves Policy and the Financial Procedures Manual.</p> <p>ACTION: CM to share policies for 'write around' approval</p>	CM
9.0	<p>Risk</p> <p>CM confirmed the report is in the board papers and the update confirms the IBA/IOC situation is still the highest risk and the second is the need for commercial income generation. PT asked for the risks to be highlighted by the new heads of performance and community boxing.</p> <p>SO asked for the meeting to consider risks to the sport such as sparring and impact on boxers, particularly junior members. SO suggested that the team consider being more proactive in guidance on risks for concussion, especially by age group and the reasons why. PT confirmed this needs to be progressed.</p> <p>ACTION: CM to review and update the risk register</p>	CM
10.0	<p>Finance Report</p> <p>AT confirmed that the information was included in the pack. He confirmed WABA is in a strong position.</p> <p>AT proposed the budget for 23/24, and confirmed the forecast is conservative and strong.</p> <p>ACTION: Board to comment by Friday, 16 June otherwise budget is accepted as approved.</p> <p>AT said the audit providers were appointed three years ago. The Finance Committee explored for an alternative provider. Although a possible financial saving was possible, this may be negated by additional work and possible questions around change, so AT recommended that the current provider be retained for the time being and reviewed again next time we have a full audit.</p> <p>ACTION: Board to comment by Friday, 16 June otherwise Advantage Accountancy will continue as auditors.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p>
11.0	<p>CEO Report</p> <p>CM confirmed the highlights of his report from the board pack.</p>	

	<p>He reported his concern that there had been a number of disciplinaries recently. Three disciplinaries in the last three months and one planned soon and thanked HAR for her time along with the independent panel.</p> <p>CM also updated the meeting about the Equality and Human Rights Commission letter received following the event last year regarding the travelling community. Communication was shared and the good work by HAR and AP with the community was outlined to the Commission, who have written back to thank the team for their work and the issue is closed.</p>	
12.0	<p>AOB</p> <p>The Board planned to discuss the pay award proposal, but AT lost his connection. This will now be completed via 'write around'.</p> <p>ACTION: CM to ask for 'write around approval for the pay award</p>	CM
	<p>The next meeting will be in person on 20 September 2023, 7.00pm start.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9.00pm.</p>	