



# **WELSH AMATEUR BOXING ASSOCIATION**

## **Annual General Meeting**

to be held at Sport Wales National Centre, Cardiff CF11 9SW

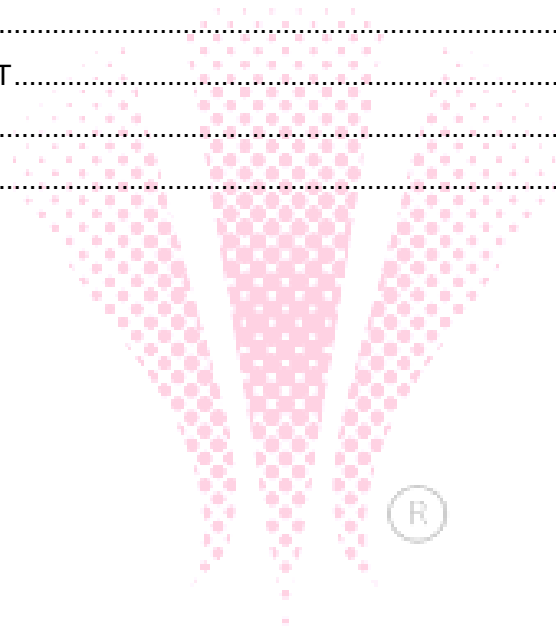
On Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 10:00am

Members (ie Clubs) are reminded that they shall only be permitted to attend and vote at this Annual General Meeting upon proof of current membership.

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# NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting 2023 will be held at the Sport Wales National Centre, Cardiff, CF11 9SW on Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 10:00am.

## AGENDA

1. To hear the Chair's opening remarks
2. To receive the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2022 held on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2022
3. To note apologies for absence
4. To record a mark of respect for deceased members
5. To re-elect:  
The Nominated Member of the Board: Richard Brice  
The Nominated Member of the Board: Helen Arnold-Richardson  
The Nominated Member of the Board: Katie Van Asselt Langan
6. To receive Resolutions Proposed by the Board and Members  
There are no Board or Member Resolutions
7. To receive the CEO's Report
8. To receive the Finance Director's Report
9. To receive, take questions, and, if thought fit, to adopt the Accounts for 2022/23
10. To present Life Memberships
11. To receive the closing remarks from the Chair

C Metson  
Company Secretary  
August 2023

The following should be read in conjunction with the agenda for the Annual General Meeting:

## Agenda Item 1

# CHAIR'S REPORT

In my report last year – my first as Chair – I highlighted a number of areas that I intended to focus on in my second year. One area that I underlined was the gulf in communication between the WABA Board/Executive and the member clubs. While this remains under constant scrutiny, I am hopeful that some will have perceived an improvement over the past year. Certainly, we have tried hard to re-establish our links and develop a better working relationship with the Divisional staff, establishing a biannual meeting between the WABA Board and the Divisional Chairs and other representatives to discuss ongoing issues that are impacting member clubs. We have also tried to improve our communication generally between these meetings, to ensure that the Divisions are properly informed of strategic events as they happen, so they can inform their clubs, and also to allow them to let us know what is going on among our member clubs. I have certainly found it helpful to get to know these hard-working individuals personally and to receive first-hand knowledge of where we should focus our attention. It is certainly not perfect yet, but with goodwill all round, I think we are moving in the right direction.

This has led to a greater understanding of available funding sources for clubs through Sport Wales, such as Be Active Wales, Crowdfunder and Energy Saving schemes. The Divisions have been clear that the Cost-of-Living crisis has hit our clubs hard, which is why we created the Cost-of-Living Fund to support those clubs in greatest need and a £40k capital fund to enable the purchase of boxing rings.

We have also applied greater emphasis, this year, on sharing good news stories, with a significant increase in community boxing content on our social media sites. However, we are aware that we need to get much better at this, which is why we have commissioned work to develop a new Communications Strategy to ensure that the WABA community is as informed as possible and to enable Welsh boxing to be able to tell its story as effectively and as efficiently as possible to whomever and whenever it needs to be told. Some of you will remember Katy Evans a consultant we engaged and sent out to clubs last year to understand first-hand their needs, with a view to developing a new Community Strategy. Katy will be back on the road this year with a view to developing a complimentary Communications Strategy.

If you haven't yet seen it, the product of Katy's work on the Community Strategy (Welsh Boxing: Beyond 2023) can be found [here](#). This document makes it clear how we aim to make boxing clubs the centre of their communities and to reap boxing's clear potential to support communities and individuals beyond the sport itself. We are now at the start of the execution phase of this project, and I am delighted that Gareth Evans has recently joined us from Welsh Hockey as our new Head of Community Boxing to lead the delivery of this strategy and the development of a new community team.

We have also been working hard to develop more educational courses, both for coaches and officials and we have appointed a dedicated staff member to focus full time on education. Another member of staff is focusing on developing a fuller calendar of events including Box Cups, Dinner Shows and Awards events.

Turning to the elite, international level, after last year's Commonwealth Games success, the Performance Team is now turning its attention to the next CG cycle. The team is under new management, with Adam Park taking over as Head of Performance, and he will be working closely with Colin Jones our Head of Coaching to ensure the team is in the best possible shape to repeat our success of last year. It is looking good so far with six of our boxers training with the GB team in Sheffield and Rosie Eccles having already qualified for next year's Olympic Games.

While our joint focus on community boxing and our Performance Programme has led to increased confidence from Sport Wales and a significant increase in exchequer funding over the next three years, there are a number of challenges to overcome. Notably keeping ourselves focused on supporting our member clubs as the Cost-of-

Living crisis continues to bite and the ongoing crisis in Ukraine, which is inhibiting our ability to deliver our Performance Programme, as our policy forbids engagement with Russian and Belarusian boxers wherever possible. Discussions continue to take place with UK Sport, Sport Wales, GB Boxing and the other Home Nations regarding our membership of the International Boxing Association (IBA), on the back of the recent decision by the International Olympic Committee to withdraw recognition of the IBA, and the emergence of World Boxing as a potential alternative route to the Olympics for our boxers. The WABA Board and Executive will remain across all of these issues to ensure the best possible outcomes for Welsh Boxing, our clubs and our boxers.

It is an exciting time for Welsh Boxing as we continue to develop, and I look forward to writing next year's report, which I am sure will feature further evidence of growth and development.

## Agenda Item 2

The minutes of the AGM held on 23 October 2022 are printed below and require approval:

### Annual General Meeting (AGM)

23 October 2022

**Board Members :** Paul Thorogood (PT), John Davies (JD), Helen Arnold-Richardson (HAR), Jared Lougher (JL), Adam Thompson (AT)

**Attendees:** Colin Metson (CM), Clwyd ABC (virtual), Cwmcarn ABC, Gelligaer ABC, Merlins Bridge ABC (virtual), Pembroke ABC (virtual), Rhondda ABC, Rhoose ABC, Trostre ABC (virtual), Tony Wynne (R&J Association), Mr McAndrew and Rachel Sansom (notetaker)

**Invited:** Steve Bickerton (SB), Advantage Accountants

**Apologies:** Kevin Hudson (East Division Secretary); Ronnie Morris, Cwmgors ABC, Buckley ABC, Goodes ABC, Shotton ABC, Tonyrefail ABC, Somerton ABC and Allan Bennett (South Division Secretary)

ITEM	NOTE	
	<p>PT opened the meeting at 11.10am, welcomed everybody in the room and virtually. PT confirmed that 42 proxy votes had been received and that the meeting was quorate.</p> <p>He thanked everyone for attending and welcomed them to the AGM, his first AGM since becoming Chair last year. He confirmed it had been an interesting and informative year. He directed the attendees to his statement in the AGM pack.</p> <p>Apologies were read out and Tony Wynne confirmed that Allan Bennett, South Division Secretary had also sent apologies.</p> <p>CM read out the list of names from the obituaries that had been received. No other names were proposed. A minute's silence followed.</p>	
<b>2.0</b>	<b>TO RECEIVE MINUTES OF 2021 AGM &amp; MATTERS ARISING</b>	
<b>3.0</b>	CM confirmed the minutes had been circulated. He advised that the two life members had received their awards during the season – Roy Thorogood and Eddie Dyer. There were no questions. The minutes were accepted.	
<b>4.0</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS</b>	
	The meeting was advised that the recruitment of a Finance Director and a Director of Regulation had been carried out in the year. It is in the articles that these roles have to be filled as well as an independent chair. The recruitment process was followed, and	

	Adam Thompson was appointed as Finance Director and Mark Williams as Director of Regulation. Two existing directors – John Davies and Jared Lougher – have reached the end of their two-year tenure and wish to stand again. These four appointments needed to be presented at the AGM for ratification. The vote for this was unanimous. CM also said the Legal Director, Tom Horrocks, has stepped down.	
<b>5.0</b>	<b>RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED BY THE BOARD</b>  CM confirmed that all proxy votes that had been received had been passed to Steve Bickerton, Advantage Accountancy, as the independent scrutineer.  Gelligaer ABC asked if his attendance and vote would override a proxy submission. CM confirmed that it would.  CM advised that the three proposals had been made by the board as outlined in the AGM pack that had been circulated. CM confirmed that the first proposal was about changing the articles to reflect the change of the name of AIBA to IBA.  CM invited JD to comment on the second proposal. JD confirmed that 40 is a very high figure to achieve for a quorum for the AGM. He advised that that is nearly one third of the member clubs; he said that he had never been at a meeting with that many WABA club representatives in his time on the board. He confirmed that the legal requirement for a company is a quorum of two. The proposal is to reduce the quorum to 10; this does not affect the ability of every eligible member to vote. CM confirmed he had checked with other NGBs and some do not have an AGM at all and, for those that do, the average quorum is 10-15. He confirmed that the resolution was proposed to ensure that all members are able to vote with a quorum figure that ensures an AGM can actually take place.  Tony Wynne asked if the change of quora affects other Welsh Boxing meetings, such as division meetings. JD confirmed that this is not the case, this proposal is purely for the WABA AGM.  CM moved on to the third proposal, the removal of article 37 as outlined in the AGM pack. JD added that the provision to come into the Welsh Boxing office is not appropriate. Shareholders of companies do not have this entitlement so is way beyond the normal provision. This does not mean there is anything to hide, just the entitlement would be an administrative challenge. This is why we have independent auditors. Their role is to look at the financial statements with an expert eye and corroborate the information provided.  CM asked the representatives in the room to complete the voting forms and these were also handed to the scrutineer. CM confirmed that 75% of the vote was required for the resolutions to pass and the results would be confirmed at the end of the meeting.	
<b>6.0</b>	<b>MEMBER RESOLUTIONS</b>  None received.	
<b>7.0</b> <b>8.0</b> <b>9.0</b>	<b>TO RECEIVE REPORTS</b>  CM confirmed that the reports were in the AGM pack and asked for any questions. None were received and the reports were accepted.	
<b>10.0</b>	<b>TO ADOPT THE ACCOUNTS 21/22</b>  CM confirmed that the board had approved the accounts. He invited SB to give an overview. SB confirmed that the accountants had carried out a full audit. He advised that the previous year had been a limited assessment. This year had been a more in-depth audit with more detail in the profit and loss account, and the spend identified for the purposes shown in the internal controls and approval processes.	

	<p>SB told the meeting that it is not always clear to allocate cost against income but the aim is to make the accounts as clear as possible. He confirmed that Welsh Boxing had been given a clean audit report and the document shared shows a true and clear reflection of the accounts.</p> <p>CM asked for any questions and none were received in the room, there was a request from the virtual representatives.</p> <p>Pembroke Dock ABC did ask why the surplus of £15,000 is down to £800?</p> <p>SB said that this is a difficult question to answer. He confirmed that WABA spend money throughout the year but not always for the year that the accounts reflect, some expenditure is for assets that will last for many years such as a portable ring; this may not hit the profit and loss account but will be shown in assets.</p> <p>AT added that it was a good question but there is no simple answer that the money was used for a specific item. Everyone is aware that costs are increasing and that this year we had preparations for the Commonwealth Games. The one reality is that the staff are managing the funds effectively.</p> <p>SB agreed and said, ideally, the surplus should be zero. It is clear that if Welsh Boxing don't spend the money, that the amount they receive may be reduced. It is the auditors' role to make sure this money is used in the right way.</p> <p>Pembroke Dock ABC replied that they want to see more funds invested into Coach Education. The comment was that there has been only so many level 2 courses available and demand for these is high.</p> <p>CM commented that there had been an increased focus on coach education this year and confirmed that there have been three club coach courses and six leader courses held in the last twelve months.</p> <p>PT added that a recent divisional meeting was held with the board, and this was very productive and will be more regular. He added that they had heard loud and clear the feedback and this has been taken away.</p> <p>PT and AT agreed that we don't want to look for a high surplus, but it is important to see how the money is being spent.</p> <p>CM asked for a show of hands to approve the accounts. Two members abstained and the accounts were accepted.</p> <p>PT also added that a number of additional questions had been submitted from Pembroke Dock ABC just the day before. The responses will be added to the notes and sent to all.</p>	AT
11.0	<p><b>LIFE MEMBERSHIPS</b></p> <p>CM read out the nominations for the Life Membership award as shared in the AGM Pack.</p> <p>The first to Darryl Jones of Clwyd ABC. Darry told the meeting that he was very honoured and said thank you very much for the nomination. He said that he loves doing it and it keeps me going.</p> <p>CM read out the nomination for Del Phillips. Del said thank you for the honour and this it was unexpected. He told the meeting that he began at the age of 17 and has just celebrated his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. He said I have been enjoying myself and it has been a pleasure being involved with boxing. Within my career I have been a member of West Division and the council, as was, I had a period as Chair of the Disciplinary Committee. Now I am getting on a bit and the younger people are taking a load off me. I am very honoured to be considered; thank you to all.</p> <p>CM read out the nomination for Ronnie Morris.</p>	



	<p>CM read out the nomination for Terry Grey.</p> <p>All nominees received applause and will be presented with their award at the earliest possible juncture.</p>	Office
<b>12.0</b>	<p><b>VOTING FOR RESOLUTIONS</b></p> <p>SB confirmed the votes had been counted. CM reminded the meeting that 75% of the votes are required for a resolution to pass.</p> <p>SB confirmed the results as:</p> <p>Resolution 1 – 98% for.</p> <p>Resolution 2 – 81% for.</p> <p>Resolution 3 – 77% for.</p> <p>The meeting was advised that all three resolutions passed and the Articles will be updated accordingly.</p>	
<b>13.0</b>	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p>CM thanked everyone for attending and confirmed that everyone should have received a Welsh Boxing goody bag and an Annual Report. The latter will be sent out electronically with the notes. He invited any other business.</p> <p>Tony Wynne advised the group that new judges are currently being trained. He asked if their ID could reflect their status. CM asked Tony Wynne to liaise with the office.</p> <p>Pembroke Dock ABC confirmed that he had been sent questions from other clubs in the West Division via their group chat. The first question was about recent incidents at club shows and asked if WABA could send out a statement that could be read before every event to confirm the zero tolerance of inappropriate behaviour and the consequences of this. He added that this would be more effective to identify badly behaved individuals rather than a particular group.</p> <p>PT agreed with his sentiments of zero tolerance. He confirmed that now Mark Williams has joined the board, he will be picking up this area as part of his new role. He confirmed it is important and is already being reviewed.</p> <p>Pembroke Dock ABC asked why WABA did not send out a message of condolence about the passing of the Queen.</p> <p>PT responded that this was done by Sport Wales.</p> <p>Pembroke Dock ABC asked that, after Covid when there were no shows, when the Welsh Box Cup was held, there were karate medals handed out.</p> <p>PT answered that this has been looked at and he's seen the commentary. He confirmed that it was an honest mistake and, hopefully, it won't happen again.</p> <p>CM added that a lot of time had been spent preparing for the Box Cup at a challenging time and it was an oversight that was quickly rectified at the time.</p> <p>CM finished by offering refreshments and thanking everyone for attending. He handed to PT who said that on closing he wants to confirm a couple of points. The divisional meeting that was held recently will be repeated within six months as this is a great way to keep information flowing. He confirmed that the team are still working on some points raised at the meeting; such as communications. He advised that it is a very small team with limited resources and funding but are hoping for more funding from Sport Wales following a School Sport Survey that showed an appetite for boxing that we should be</p>	<p><b>CM</b></p> <p><b>Office</b></p> <p><b>Director of Regulation</b></p>



	<p>addressing. There needs to be a balance between supporting the performance team and the grass roots clubs. There is grant funding available and the team have been trying to share the message that only £123,000 has been awarded to boxing clubs. That funding is there to help clubs grow and provide facilities and there are members waiting to join. He concluded by thanking his fellow board members, thanking the very small team for everything they do for WABA.</p> <p>Rhosee ABC wanted to add that CM does an excellent job and Welsh Boxing are better for his contribution.</p>	
	<p><b>The next meeting will be on the third Sunday in October – 15 October 2023, 11am start.</b></p> <p><b>The meeting closed at 1.10pm.</b></p>	

#### Answers to the Questions on WABA Accounts for year ended 31st March 2022

1. The adoption of a triennial audit was a recommendation of the previous Finance Director. This is endorsed by the current Board and is known to be best practice for our type and size of organisation. WABA should gain confidence around the accuracy of the financials reported and assurance that the business of the association is being run well.
2. This is not an error, but due to the timing of asset capitalisations. At the end of 2021 a significant (£20k) amount of new equipment was capitalised but resulted in only one month's depreciation in that financial year. There has since been a 12 months' depreciation in the following year 2022. This big difference has been amplified by the fact that all other assets on the Fixed Asset register as at the end of 2021 were fully depreciated and hence drove no depreciation charge.
3. Affiliation fees have not been increased, although it has been noted by the Board that they have been static for some years. Members should note that this fee covers more than just the insurance and reflects all the services provided by the association.
4. These were more other forms of income, rather than what would traditionally be seen as a donation. These were mostly merchandise sales from events and some income gained from the streaming of events. We will consider posting these differently in future.
5. and 10. This is down to timing of payment and that these amounts will never exactly match. At the year-end there was cash due from GB Boxing - see 13. below.
6. The simple answer is that the business effectively spent its income across the various activities of the association. These spending areas are well highlighted in the detail to the accounts. It is the Board responsibilities to spend its funds appropriately and believe that this should be done as fully as possible. Hence a very small surplus.
7. This increase is down to the timing of staff leaving and transferring into the team.
8. This is not a like for like comparison. In 2020 the costs related to 2 ½ roles, in 2022 the costs related to 4 roles, with two of these roles being more senior positions than in 2020. Staffing levels are reviewed closely by the Finance committee and the Board has visibility of all staffing levels to ensure we are as lean as possible whilst also satisfying our commitments and aims.
9. This is down to fewer events in that period - essentially due to COVID restrictions. Compared to 2020, there was a delayed National Championships, normally in April, it was held in November, and it was a much smaller event due to covid and the time of year. There were also no GB Championships.
10. See above
11. We should look at the whole balance sheet (working capital) when assessing this comparison. The key difference though is in the timing of cash receipts from Sport Wales.
12. Directors are not employees (not on the payroll) and hence are not included.
13. This is due to an increase in prepayments - largely related to Fusion Software being used and an amount owed by GB Boxing.
14. This was explained at the AGM, but essentially the audit partner wished to make some small adjustments to the text in the accounts and so distribution of the document was held back for this to be completed. The signed pages were kept at the earlier dates as this was when they had actually been signed.

#### Questions on WABA Accounts for year ended 31st March 2022

1. There are 2 figures shown for Auditors Remuneration [£5250 -2021 Nil] and Accountancy Fees [£1170 - 2021 £2340]. This has meant an increase in Payments

- to WABA's Accountants of £3900 in 2022. Why has WABA chosen to dramatically increase payments to their Accountants in year ended 2022? Was this based on a recommendation from the Finance Director? If so, what benefit did WABA derive from this?
2. Depreciation of Boxing Equipment. This figure was £5433 in 2022 compared to £836 in 2021. Although there were additions of £6754 in 2022 this should only have resulted in a Depreciation figure of £1688 in 2022 based on the Boxing equipment being depreciated over a straight line 4 year period. Is this an error? What were the 'additions' in 2022.
  3. Members Insurance contributions in Year Ended 31st March 2022 were £16150. Insurance Costs were £5466 less at £10686. Affiliation Fees were increased from £80 to £150 based on a claim from the then WABA Chairman, David Francis, that Insurance costs would dramatically increase. Based on this, why is the WABA Board proposing a further increase to WABA Affiliation Fees?
  4. What was the source of the £3093 shown as Donations?
  5. The Accounts indicate that we paid GB Boxing £37919 and received £36623. Why is this please?
  6. Turnover in 2021/22 at £687794 was £141456 up on the 2020/21 figure yet WABA ended up with a surplus of £823 in Y/E 31st March 2022 compared with £15180 in Y/E 31st March 2021! Why is this please?
  7. Elite Coaching Costs are shown to have increased by £26553 in 2022. Why?
  8. Operations & Governance Staff costs plus Safeguarding and Equality Staff costs have increased by £14057 in the current year and now amount to a staggering £134064 [£132895 + £1169] for a relatively small NGB with just 3 staff. What is the cause of this please? By way of further comparison, the figures for Y/E 31st March 2020 were just £73584! This means that these Staff costs have almost doubled in just 2 years.
  9. The profit on Domestic Events has fallen from £31847 in 2020 to £8248 in 2022 [There were no events in 2021 due to Covid] As entry costs were greater in 2022, What is the cause of this please?
  10. The Accounts show that WABA paid GB Boxing £37919 in 2022 and received income of £36623 – a deficit of £1296. As there was no income or expenditure in the 2020/21 Accounts, what does this refer to please?
  11. The Balance Sheet for WABA in 2022 indicates a figure of £194869 under 'Cash in Bank'. The 2021 figure was £305362 – a reduction of £110493. What has this been spent on?

In addition to the above, there are also some less important questions on the Accounts as follows; -

12. Note 3 on Page 11 of the Accounts states that the average number of persons Employed {including Directors} during the year was 8. As there are a total of 11 Directors, this cannot be correct. Please comment.
13. The amount shown as WABA's Debtors has risen from £7047 in 2021 to £39459 on 2022. What is the cause of this large increase please.
14. Although it was claimed that WABA could not include these Accounts in the 2022 AGM Agenda pack, The Accounts indicate that they were signed off by WABA's Chairman on 16th September 2022, i.e 2 weeks before the AGM Agenda pack was issued. Please explain.

### Agenda Item 3

Apologies

### Agenda Item 4

To record a mark of respect for deceased members

### Agenda Item 5

#### To re-elect:

The Commercial Director

The Safeguarding and Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Director

The Human Resources (HR) Director

### Agenda Item 6

There are no Board or Member Resolutions



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# CEO'S REPORT

The Chair's Report has focused on the last year and so I would like to take this opportunity to look forward and provide some thoughts on what is being planned for the new season, as well as providing a performance report on the last few months.

But first, I am delighted with the new staffing team we are developing. The coaching team, led by Colin Jones and supported by Zack Davies and Connor Gething, continues to deliver to a high standard and our new Head of Performance, Adam Park, has stepped up into this role leading performance with professionalism and is currently developing the strategy for the next cycle. And within community, Gareth Evans has hit the ground running as Head of Community Boxing and is now ably supported by Amy Garrett, as Competitions and Events Officer, and Mark Fitzgerald, as Education Officer. And holding everything together and providing direct support to you all is Rachel Sansom, as Office Manager.

I believe the new season is going to be an exciting time for Welsh Boxing and for all clubs and members across the four divisions. With our new community team in place, we're looking forward to working with the wider club network and membership base to grow the profile of our sport nationwide. We are very aware as a national governing body of the great work that goes on across the communities of Wales thanks to the coaches and volunteers that make club boxing work and we are here to support that, the staff in the office are on hand to support. So, whether that is providing assistance with grant submissions, or linking up with community partners, we want to showcase the great work that goes on across Wales.

There have already been announcements on the events front as Welsh Boxing looks to introduce a series of Box Cups. The first of these, held in Cardiff in September will see Schools, Youth and Juniors from Wales and beyond go head-to-head. We will also be looking to introduce additional events in March and June across the other age groups. We are also very conscious of the opportunity this gives us to expand these events wider across Wales and discussions are ongoing in both the West and the North to explore the viability of exploring new locations. As well the Box Cups, Welsh Boxing would like to host a number of International Dual-Match events across the divisions.

There's exciting work being planned for the coaching and volunteer development side of the sport. The current coaching awards are being updated, with a new two-day course being introduced and an exciting calendar of events is being planned so coaches from across Wales can continue to develop and upskill at their own pace and convenience. We are also taking this opportunity to review the current Officials Pathway and news of this will be announced soon.

From a community engagement element, there are some prime opportunities that need to be explored over the next twelve months. There is an opportunity to really bring the sport on from an inclusivity aspect with work in the para and intellectual disability space and Welsh Boxing has recently announced a new Women and Girls ID programme, which incentivises clubs to explore the opportunities and emphasise participation for females. From a physical literacy perspective, there are not many sports which offer what boxing can. We have an opportunity to connect across the school networks and ignite new interest into a new audience.

There is a lot to do, but it is certainly an exciting time and an opportunity to better connect and grow the sport.

From a performance perspective, Welsh Boxing would like to start by congratulating Rosie Eccles in qualifying for the Paris 2024 Olympics. Rosie will represent Great Britain at 66kg. The pinnacle of the sport is representing your country at the Olympic Games and Rosie will achieve this next year, she is a fantastic model for all young boxers and has demonstrated the resilience and application needed to reach her dreams. Llongyfarchiadau Rosie!

Another Welsh boxer was also selected to represent Great Britain in the first Olympic Qualifier, with Taylor Bevan competing at 80kg. Unfortunately, Taylor had an extremely tricky draw and after winning his first bout against

France, Taylor lost to Ireland in the Round of 16. Unfortunately, Garan Croft and Ioan Croft were not selected for the first Olympic Qualifier. Both are now competing at light middleweight (71kg) so only one would have been able to be selected and the GB Boxing selection committee decided to select the current European Champion, Harris Ahkbar from England. Harris failed to obtain a top four finish, so there is still an opportunity for Garan or Ioan to be selected for the next qualifier.

Our performance team continue to work closely with Sport Wales on our strategy development, so that both organisations strategic goals are aligned. The Head of Performance has met with Sport Wales on multiple occasions since coming into post and Sport Wales has full confidence with current progress. The Head of Performance will present the new performance strategy and operational plan to the Board of Directors before the end of the year.

As to the boxers that have been training in Cardiff, two of our Elite Programme boxers have recently been offered a place on the World Class Programme in Sheffield. Scott Richards (51kg) and Owain Harris-Allan (57kg) have impressed in international tournaments this year and at their two assessments in Sheffield. This takes the number of Welsh Boxers on the World Class Programme to six, above the 10% contribution we aim for. This is another outstanding reflection on Colin Jones and his coaching staff, Zack Davies and Connor Gething. Both Scott and Owain will train part-time in Sheffield and continue to train with our Elite Programme until they transition onto the Podium squad post Paris 2024.

The Elite Programme continues to offer young boxers an opportunity with Axel Hegarty and Milwyn Lloyd joining the programme in August. Both have been demonstrating good potential on the National Development Programme and have thus transitioned onto the full-time programme.

We always lose boxers and in December 2022, Haaris Khan and Romeo Costa both left the Elite Programme to take up other opportunities. We thank them for the part they played and wish them well.

#### **Welsh Boxing Elite Programme:**

Orlando Holley Sotomi – Elite 71kg

Zoe Andrews – Elite 54kg (F)

Milwyn Lloyd – Youth 67kg

Axel Hegarty – Youth 60kg

Cory Jones – Youth 54kg

#### **GB Boxing:**

Taylor Bevan – 80kg

Garan Croft – 71kg

Ioan Croft – 71kg

Rosie Eccles – 66kg

Owain Harris-Allan – 57kg (Academy)

Scott Richards – 51kg (Academy)

#### **Calendar Overview**

November 2022 – Tammer Tournament (Finland) & Round Robin Tournament with Northern Ireland and select teams.

December 2022 – Wales vs Ireland (Cardiff)

January 2023 – Brecon Training Camp (Elite Programme) & England vs Wales (Tamworth)

February 2023 – Scotland Sparring Camp (Cardiff) & Wales vs England (Cardiff)

March 2023 - Danas Pozniakas (Lithuania)

April 2023 – GeeBee Tournament (Finland)

May 2023 – Boxam Tournament Spain & Elite Three Nations

June 2023 – Youth & Junior Three Nations, Schools Three Nations, Scotland Sparring Camp (Cardiff) & Junior European Prep Camps

July 2023 – Totana Sparring Camp & Junior European Championships

August 2023 – North Wales Training Camp (Rhyl)

Coaching is an area of development currently within the remit of the Performance Programme. The new performance strategy will outline how we intend to create better sustainability within performance coaching. This became evident at the Three Nations in 2022 and caused huge frustration to the membership. The Head of Performance and Head of Coaching have made this a priority area within the new strategy and have begun work to improve the volume of good quality coaches within the Performance Programme. As part of the new performance strategy and in line with Sport Wales strategic goals, we will focus on improving the diversity of our coaching team by identifying and developing female coaches to join the Performance Programme coaching staff. As female talent development becomes one of the key priorities over the next two Commonwealth Games cycles, it will be crucial to have female coaches within the programme.

Also, two of our performance programme coaches will be joining the World Class Programme on a session-based basis. Connor Gething (National Assistant Coach) and Sean McGoldrick (Programme Coach) will join the GB Boxing Academy coaching staff to deliver GB Boxing Academy camps.

After a very poor set of results last year in the Three Nations, this year has seen a huge improvement. Due to the 2022 Commonwealth Games, the Three Nations was not given the due care and attention it should have been, and we have now met all the divisions to apologize over this. In 2022, Wales won two gold medals across the four tournaments (Elite, Youth, Junior & Schools), in 2023 Wales won eleven gold medals. Congratulations to all the clubs that had a gold medallist, and you will find them all listed below and in the Annual Report.

The lack of focus on the Three Nations in 2022 led to a lot of complaints and difficult conversations at divisional meetings, the feedback was taken on board and every single squad had a preparation camp prior to the event this year and each team was staffed with an appropriate number of coaches, experienced coaches in the lead coach position and a Team Manager. The kit provision for every boxer selected was also improved this year.

The Performance Programme is also launching a Female Development Programme to support female boxers in developing into international boxers. Taking into consideration the small number of competitive opportunities available in Wales, a female specific talent development programme will allow the team to work with a selected group of female boxers to transition them to international boxing quicker and provide them with more competitive opportunities on a regular basis. The Female Talent Identification camp will take place 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> September 2023 in the National Boxing Centre Cardiff.

#### **Performance Programme Results: April 2023 – August 2023**

##### **GeeBee Tournament, Finland – 12<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

57kg Owain Harris- Allan – BRONZE

W54kg Zoe Andrews – Quarter Final

51kg Scott Richards – BRONZE



### **Boxam Tournament, Spain – 15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> May 2023**

#### **Elite**

71kg Orlando Holley-Sotomi - SILVER

57kg Owain Harris-Allan - GOLD

W54kg Zoe Andrews - GOLD

51kg Scott Richards – BRONZE

#### **Youth**

67kg Milwyn Lloyd - BRONZE

60kg Axel Hegarty - Quarter Final

57kg Mikey O'Sullivan - BRONZE

54kg Cory Jones - SILVER

#### **Junior**

63kg Kai Powell - GOLD

60kg Alfie Lewis - GOLD

57kg Henry Janes - GOLD

48kg Troy Hayer – GOLD

### **Elite Three Nations, Rotherham – 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

71kg Benjamin Edwards – GOLD (Llynfi Valley)

W54kg Zoe Andrews – GOLD

W48kg Leah Regan – GOLD (Llanrumney Phoenix)

### **Youth & Junior Three Nations, Motherwell – 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

#### **Youth**

86kg Daniel Pitt – GOLD

71kg Luke Corcoran - GOLD

60kg Axel Hegarty - GOLD

#### **Junior**

63kg Kai Powell – GOLD

48kg Troy Hayer – GOLD

44kg Kayden Wallace – GOLD

### **Schools Three Nations, Cardiff – 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

40kg Cole Pikulski – GOLD

38kg Carter Ronan - GOLD

### **Junior European Championships – 19<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> July 2023**

63kg Kai Powell – Round of 32

60kg Alfie Lewis – Quarter Final

50kg Troy Hayer – Round of 32



## Agenda Item 8

# FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

For the financial year ending 31 March 2023, the company accounts were prepared by Advantage Accountancy, and as they were unaudited, the accountants do not express any opinion on the statutory accounts. Welsh Boxing plans to have an audit every three years.

The 2022/23 financial year saw income rise to £725,255. This was driven largely by an increase in GB Boxing funding and tournament income. The deficit of £23,201 has meant that total capital and reserves now sit at £136,445. The success of Welsh boxers means that Sport Wales is seeing a great return on the investment in our Elite programme.

As Finance Director, I continue to work closely with my Finance Committee and I am particularly grateful to our Financial Consultant, Dave Vickery, who has been invaluable during my first year in the role. We are satisfied that we are well resourced and informed to sustain the strong governance framework that is in place.

As we plan for the future and seek future investment, it will be important that we have clear financial plans that support our ambitions both for the Elite programme, our association members and the community. Community will be an area of focus over the coming year.

## Agenda Item 9

Each member should have access to a copy of the Accounts for 2022/23. Further copies are available from the Office on request.

## Agenda Item 10

To acknowledge those individuals awarded Life Membership in the year.

## Agenda Item 11

Chair's Closing Remarks