



*Olga Butkevych wins
59kg Bronze at the
Senior World Championships
September 2012*



**BRITISH
WRESTLING**

Annual Report: 2012-13 The Year in Review

October 2013

*Bob McLucas wins
76kg Freestyle Silver at the
Veteran World Championships
Division "E" (56-60years)
October 2013*



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1. CHAIR'S REPORT

I am going to use my final report as Chair of the BWA to remind all members of the BWA and, in particular, those in a position of influence, of the need to keep abreast of modern day thinking as it affects our sport. If we don't then it will impact on our athletes, coaches, referees and volunteers and above all the custodians of our sport, the Board of the BWA.

We have witnessed a recent example of the consequences of failing to modernise with the threat of elimination of wrestling as an olympic sport. That is an indictment against the sports world governing body, FILA. Fortunately the immediate threat has been averted but the long term threat will only diminish if we modernise our thinking to reflect the modern day. Wrestling in the UK has made a good start, but we must all have the courage to complete the task and if necessary remind those with greater influence than ourselves of their responsibility and commitment.

In recent times the BWA Board had the foresight to recognise the need to modernise our Constitution. That transition brought many challenges but I am pleased to say that at the end of the day commonsense prevailed and wrestling moved ahead of many other sports. That in turn gave us opportunities to secure some conditional funding and later, the services of our Chief Executive, Colin Nicholson on a more permanent basis.

It also meant that if I was to continue as Chair I had to apply for the position, which I did. My motivation for doing so was to ensure that the BWA modernised its coaching structure giving our coaches the opportunity to follow a well structured and certificated pathway. I also made the commitment to provide a Talent Pathway which was athlete-centred and which incorporated all the necessary skills

namely technical expertise, tactical, mental skills and lifestyle advice.

With the assistance of a small group of committed volunteers coupled with the expertise of Penny Crisfield from Apollinaire, the BWA has developed its own UKCC approved coaching structure for Level 1 and 2 coaches. I would also say that of the five tutors three are female, a fact of which I am very proud.

Similarly, with help again from Penny and also Simon Wergan, from Sport England, the BWA have constructed a English Talent Pathway which is every inch athlete-centred.

That brings me to my final push for modernisation and that is the recognition that the BWA will benefit from the input of a much younger individual as Chair, hence my retirement from that position.

I believe the Appointments Committee has made a very good choice with the appointment of Cary Depel as the next BWA Chair. He strikes me as a very charismatic, talented and capable individual who will be well placed to negotiate with our prospective funding partners and tread the delicate path of keeping our diverse membership on board.

I wish Cary and the Board of the BWA every success for the future. There is still an enormous amount of work to be done and, providing common sense is at the forefront of decisions made by both the BWA Chair and the BWA Board, they can rely on my support.

I have to a large extent enjoyed my involvement in wrestling over a period of some 46 years but I have not enjoyed the political aspects that have raised their head from time to time. The introduction of political issues do absolutely nothing to take the sport forward and encroaches on our valuable time and are certainly detrimental to

the welfare and development of our athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers.

Finally, I say a very sincere thank you to all those who have supported me over many years particularly Yvonne, our Administrator and more latterly our Chief Executive, Colin Nicholson.

Malcolm Morley (British Wrestling Chair)

2. MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

This annual covers the busy change in gear from the 2009-13 to the 2013-14 Sports Council Funding, against the backdrop Wrestling's elimination by the IOC as a core sport, in February 2013, and its emphatic reinstatement on 8th September.

There was severe disappointment that in December 2012, UK Sport felt unable to grant funding for two GBR athletes for the Rio 2016 cycle: Olga Butkevych had won 59kg Bronze in the 2012 World Championships and Yana Stadnik went on to achieve Silver in the 2013 European Championships, the most difficult continental tournament of all. There is the opportunity to re-apply at UK Sport's next annual review point but it is a challenging target as UK Sport funding is only to likely medal contenders in either Rio 2016 or Tokyo 2020. Having the ability to qualify is no longer enough.

Preparations are in progress for the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, with plans drawn up to support funding applications and the drafting of rigorous selection policies. These benefit from experience from Wrestling's past and from other sports.

British Wrestling membership remained roughly similar over the last 4-year cycle. It is hoped that with new foundations in place, (UKCC Coaching Programme; Athlete Awards; Talent Pathway) the BWA is now in a position to grow significantly. All must bend to this task to meet the contractual targets laid out by Sport England (the now principal funding partner,) and other Home Nation sports councils.

Governance continues to be challenging and distracts from the needs of athletes, but new personnel and constitutions should bring in a period of stability where participation can increase.

Colin Nicholson (Chief Executive)

3. GOVERNANCE TRANSITION

Working with the new Articles of Association and the new Board, the Board will have met five times since the last AGM.

The interim England Committee has given additional focus and accountability to England issues but requires to finalise its terms of reference and implement a single constitution across the England Regions.

The UK Sport/Sport England self-assurance process is a tough review of governance. It continues to be a challenging exercise, though beneficial, for an organisation the size of British Wrestling. An on-site audit is scheduled for November 2013.

A recent survey pointed to the Board being more united and effective than ever before.

4. COMMITTEE WORK

The intention of committees is to widen the pool of talent contributing to the work of the association and to bring order, accountability and transparency to decision-making.

Regular meetings by all committees continue to be a huge challenge for the small number of volunteers and it is hoped that during the coming year more committee meetings, with resulting progress for the organisation, can be achieved.



5. GRAPPLING

With the 2013 changes at FILA moving away from formal links between FILA and Grappling, British Wrestling will continue to cooperate with Grappling as and when it can.

6. BRITISH WRESTLING VISION & MISSION

Mission

To provide opportunities for the peoples of the United Kingdom to become involved in olympic-style wrestling and for those who actively participate in the sport, help enable them to realise their full potential

To strive to ensure the future of British Wrestling by achieving world class performance, increasing participation, revenue and public visibility.'

Objectives

1. To develop an infrastructure capable of absorbing sustained growth in participation
2. To increase participation in wrestling
3. To increase the number of talented athletes eligible for progression onto the National Performance Programme

7. FINANCIAL REVIEW AND OUTCOMES: 2012/13

British Wrestling continues to be very short of money. It is an indication of the achievements over the past 4 years that Sport England was prepared to raise its funding for British Wrestling by approximately 150% for this current cycle, compared to the last.

However, it is important for members to note that this money is ring-fenced to Sport England agreed outcomes and not available to individual athletes.

8. DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW

Membership

There continue to be many regular wrestlers who are not members of the Association. This means they are wrestling without insurance.

With the aim of encouraging membership amongst various other benefits such as insurance, The Board has decided that entry to competitions should modernise and go on-line - as is the case in many other sports.

There has been a recent increase in the number of Clubs taking up the Recreational membership option for wrestlers who do not compete.



All those wrestling regularly (for more than six weeks) should take out either Full BWA Membership or Recreational Membership.

Year	2009	2010 (to end-Aug)	2011 (to end-Aug)	2012 (to end-Jul)	2013 (to end-Sept)
Individual Members	806	679	661	701	773
Affiliated Clubs	47	45	57	43	46

A breakdown on age shows that 46% of membership is over18 and 53% is under18.

There were 154 Recreational Members at the end of October 2013, including a significant tranche from the Legion Wrestling Club.

Also included in the overall membership figures numbers are the licensed coaches, referees, competition officials and examiners:

Year	2009	2011 (to end-Aug)	2012 (to end-Jul)	2013 (to end-Sept)
Coaches	75	76	58*	86
Referees	24	20	18*	12

* Numbers impacted by those that have not renewed their rolling memberships

Equality data has been gathered from Board Directors and staff in line with the new Equality Policy

Clubs

The number of elements required to come together for a new club to form are formidable but not insurmountable, with a total of 46 in the UK.

9. PERFORMANCE

There was severe disappointment that UK Sport felt unable to grant funding for two GBR athletes for the Rio 2016 cycle: Olga Butkevych had won 59kg Bronze in the 2012 World Championships and Yana Stadnik who achieved 48kg Silver in the 2013 European Championships, the most difficult continental tournament of all. There is the opportunity to re-apply at the next annual review point.

Meanwhile. England Commonwealth Games “medal-support” funding should enable Olga, Yana and other England medal prospects, to train up until Glasgow 2014. Other Home Nations

have been successful in attracting funding from their Home Nation Sports Councils.

With UK Sport, the criteria for funding remains uncompromisingly high. UK Sport funding is only available to athletes able to make a compelling case for their potential to medal in either Rio 2016 or Tokyo 2020.

There have been significant preparations for the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, mainly team planning that supports funding applications and the drafting of rigorous selection policies, drawing on experience from Wrestling’s past and from other sports.

At the Veteran World Championships, Bob McLucas won Silver in the 76kg Freestyle Division "E" (56-60years). With his return to the mat after dealing with cancer, Bob demonstrated his return to form by adding this Silver to his previous Veteran World Championships medal haul of Silver and Bronze



Talent Pathway

The new England Talent was presented to the Association on 28th Sept (North/Midlands) and 12th Oct (London/South). All Home Nations were invited and it is hoped that the Pathway can be used by all to provide a consistent route to GB teams. There has been very positive feedback to the Pathway and its documentation.

There is expected to be a GB Talent Squad (14-20) and GB Senior Squad. The latter to be formed after the Commonwealth Games.

GB Talent Squad

The GBTS now has 20 members and some of these have competed in international competitions.

The England National Coach, Anatolii Kharytoniuk has been reappointed via an open interview process for the current 2013-17 cycle and Vladimir Gladkow remains the Scottish Coach until the Glasgow 2014 Games.

A total of 23 GB Talent Squad athletes have been supported by SportsAid with individual funding between £500 to £1000, dependent on age, experience and talent.

10. SAVE(D) OLYMPIC WRESTLING

On 12th February 2013, Wrestling received a “bolt from the blue.” Although it was generally known that the International Olympic Committee was considering reducing the number of “Core Summer Sports” to 25, no one had considered that Canoeing, Hockey and Wrestling would be the “bottom five” with Wrestling ultimately excluded by the IOC Executive Board. It would appear that the FILA Executive had been complacent and that Wrestling’s official feedback report to the IOC following London 2012 could have been more professional.

From that point on, the world-wide Wrestling community acted as one to avoid total exclusion and oblivion.

In Bolton, Bank Top brewery named 12 beers after wrestling holds, one per month. The USA, Russia and Iran held their first-ever joint

press conference at the United Nations to fight for the re-inclusion of the sport.

There was a new FILA President, rule changes, an Athletes’ Commission, reserved places for athletes and women on the FILA Bureau and equality for women extending to equal numbers of Olympic weight classes. Wrestling beat off the campaigns of seven other sports, latterly Squash and Baseball-Softball. Wrestling was decisively voted back for the Tokyo 2020 and Olympics 2024 Games by the historic 125th IOC Session on 8th Sept 2013.

2013 witnessed a decisive turning point in Wrestling’s 3000-year history.

11. WORK-IN-PROGRESS: HIGH PROFILE PROJECTS

New Coaching Structure

UKCC L1 and L2 coaching courses are now in place and this will enable UKCC L2 coaches to approach schools. However AfPE (the Association of Physical Education) have just rolled out a qualification, namely the 1st4sport Level 3 Certificate in Supporting the Delivery of Physical Education and School Sport. This will enable the delivery of wrestling by a UKCC Level 2 Coach in schools. It is envisaged that schools will require the latter qualification before a UKCC L2 Coach will be allowed to roll out wrestling as an activity within the school environment.

The BWA is exploring the possibility of becoming a Recognised Centre to deliver this qualification. At this moment in time the FA is the only other National Governing Body authorised to deliver this qualification.

New Talent Pathway

The Talent Pathway is based on six distinct principles:

- Structured athlete development
- The technical programme, which complements the structured development of athletes and coaches
- The physical testing protocols, which compliment the structured physical development of wrestlers
- The mental skills programme which deals with the skills required for wrestling
- Lifestyle advice
- Structured Coach development with UKCC Levels 1 and 2

New Athlete Award Structure

The BWA has in place a technical award scheme aligned to the development of an athlete from beginner to world-class performance:

- The White and Yellow awards help to develop the fundamentals for beginners
- The Orange award is targeted at those wishing to specialise in wrestling and wish to be considered for Regional Training Squads
- The Green award is targeted at those aspiring to be part of a Home Nation Development Squad
- The Blue and Brown awards are there for progression within the Development Squads, through to, in England, the English National Senior Squad and beyond

The new coaching structure will operate alongside and complement the new athlete Talent Pathway and athlete award system.

Together, the three structures will provide opportunities for the natural development of athletes and coaches. Presentations on the three structures are taking place on 28th Sept (North/Midlands) and 12th Oct (London/South). All Home Nations have been invited and it is hoped that the pathway can be used by all to provide a consistent route to GB teams

Club Development Project (in England)

British Wrestling's new club development and support project has worked with clubs to put together Development Plans.

The project's overall aim was to improve many aspects of British Wrestling's core network of clubs in England and thus capitalise on the sport's increased profile as an Olympic sport.

The leading independent sports and leisure consultancy Knight, Kavanagh and Page (KKP) helped to deliver the project.

English clubs continue to benefit from the project with financial support for volunteer development in the form of awards for UKCC coaching courses.



British Wrestling Website

The British Wrestling website has been helpful in structuring the huge amount of information and press coverage associated with the Save Olympic Wrestling Campaign. ([link](#))

Anyone wishing to contribute their time and energy to enhance the website should contact the Administrator.



On the 30th September, the BWA launched a Twitter feed [@GBRWrestlingNGB](#). Members are encouraged to follow!

12. COACHES AND OFFICIALS

Coaching structure

See above: [11. Work-in-progress: High Profile Projects]

Increased numbers of Referees:

Each club should have a minimum of one qualified referee on their staff. It is noted that where a club has a Referee, there is an increased respect for referees and the difficult job they do by that club's athletes at competitions. As of October 2013, only 26% of clubs have a Referee

Provision of Officials at competitions: Participating clubs should provide officials at domestic tournaments such that clubs provide at least one official (defined as pairing master or assistant pairing master, timekeeper or video operator) per five athletes. As an interim, before clubs have the resources, it was agreed that each Region would provide 2x Referees per competition. It was agreed that it would be necessary for clubs to provide one official per five athletes. However, this still has to take effect.

13. REPORTS FROM THE NATIONS AND REGIONS

Scotland

Organisation:-

The Scottish Wrestling Association (SWA,) like most other Regions and Nations is subject to volunteers. The SWA over the last 10 months has been subject to governance changes and employee re-organisation with most of our energies focused on Scottish Governing Body (SGB) issues, within legislative requirements, which have been time consuming and are now moving towards conclusion.

The SWA has a full time Coach (Volodymyr Gladkov) and a full time Assistant Coach (Viorel Etko) as paid employees. SWA and its partner, sportscotland Institute of Sport (SIS), have agreed support for High Performance Programme (HPP). Athletes and administrative performance programme support is given by Sportscotland. SWA local clubs continue to promote Freestyle Wrestling at every opportunity.

Process and Procedures:-

SWA is currently undergoing 2013/14 athlete selection with its partner SIS for SWA HPP athletes, for a support period ending post-Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Financial Management and Administration:-

The vast majority of financial administration for the SWA is managed by Sportscotland Institute of Sport. Overseen by the SWA Non-Executive Council.

There is an identified annual budget, ring-fenced to SWA performance and sits within Sportscotland. All transactions have a clear audit trail and are subject to sportscotland's financial management processes

Training:-

Training and coaching facilities have now been established at the Emirates Arena, Glasgow. Training camps/venues in Central Europe have been established with SWA HPP athletes and coaches attending. Competitions and HPP individual athlete plans are being established for 2013/4.

Training of referees remains on-going which has seen the SWA send another referee for FILA International Recognition which we will learn if successful early in 2014.

Successes during 2012-13:-

Brian Harper and Shannon Hawke were selected through their performance to represent GBR at the January '13 Olympic Youth Festival in Australia returning a Bronze and Silver medal respectively. Eight Scottish Athletes have already met one of the Commonwealth Games selection criteria.

Northern Ireland Wrestling Association:

Introduction

Since the September 2012 Northern Ireland (NI) has had a busy year with the more significant events being the undertaking of an intense self evaluation process in partnership with Sport NI through the Performance Focus 2013 – 2017 programme (culminating in provisional offer of funding for the next four years from Sport NI), the NI Talent Squad's first international tournament and training camp in Malta and the World Police and Fire Games in Belfast. Each of these initiatives presented significant challenges in terms of finance, logistics and necessitated a root and branch review of our governance

The NIWA continues to work in line with the NIWA Strategic Plan 2013/17 and the overall vision remains:

“To create conditions for a lifelong participation in wrestling and in doing so raise standards across the board so that everyone can enjoy a successful, fair and inclusive sport”.



NIWA within a National Context

The organisation remains affiliated to the British Wrestling Association Ltd. (BWA) and is the only body in Northern Ireland entrusted to administer and govern the sport and within a national context it is now making a significant contribution to the decision making processes.

During 2013, the NIWA also hosted the following significant national/international events which have enhanced the country's reputation and acclimatize the wider wrestling community to the idea that they can expect high levels of competition and hospitality when visiting our shores.

Event	Date	Location
NI Open	27 April 2013	Belfast
NI Novice Championships	21 July 2013	Londonderry
World Police and Fire Games*	6/7 August 2013	Belfast
British Junior Championships	26 October 2013	Belfast

Structure of the NIWA

Mr. Terry Watt is the newly elected President of the NIWA and whilst local strategy and direction is set by the NIWA Board the day to day running of the organisation falls upon the NIWA Executive currently consists of three members (Barry Pollin, Tom Hardy and Mark Pollin).

Membership of the NIWA

Bespoke arrangements are in place for the recording of NIWA statistics and the last EOY figures state that the NIWA consisted of 187 registered members which can be broken down into the following elements:

Elements Participating in Wrestling	Numbers
Young People (U18)	129
Adults (Under 50)	43
Older People (Over 50)	15
Inc. Women and Girls	20
Inc. People with Disabilities	12
Inc. People from an Ethnic Group	30

Included in this number are the licensed coaches, referees, competition officials and examiners:

BWA Prelim Coach – Level 1	5	Referees	8
BWA Club Coach – Level 2	11	Recorders	3

Clubs

The organisation comprises of six registered clubs all of whom have Senior/Junior participation and also train in smaller satellite locations to gather athletes into their pool.

Name	Main Location	Other Locations	Est. Nos.
Causeway Giants	Ballybogey	Ballymoney and Ballycastle	46
Carrick Amateur Wrestling Club	YMCA Carrickfergus	Larne	23
Erne Wrestling Club	Enniskillen	Kesh	26
Evolve Wrestling Club	Limavady	Londonderry	24
Redhog Wrestling	Poleglass	Belfast	27
Waterside Sharks TC	Waterside, L'Derry	Maydown, L'derry	28

Squads

NI has both a junior and senior national team however it is within NI regions that grow has been the most pronounced, for example, the North West Wrestling squad travelled to the Aspull International with a contingent of three coaches and ten athletes. The Squad returned home having placed 8th place in a field that contained 33 other teams including teams from Belgium and Germany.



The North West Wrestling squad (with Dr. Lisa Bradley, right) has also formed an alliance with the University of Ulster and members can obtain academic recognition for their contribution to sport, community building and volunteering.

Grassroots Development

Redhog Wrestling in co-operation with the NIWA and with the support of Belfast City Council successfully held the NI Open Championship on 28th April at the Methodist College, Belfast an event which attracted in excess of 100 competitors, international athletes and significant media attention.

Initiatives were developed to increase our membership particularly amongst the junior ranks and the NIWA coordinates a wrestling programme in primary schools in Londonderry.

In addition, a wrestling festival was integrated into the NI Open which attracted new pupils and promoted the “BWA white and yellow awards” to teachers and principals alike.

Our organisation has renewed old partnerships to drive the regeneration process forward; for example, our athletes train the Welsh Institute of Sport, Cardiff with Alan Jones and members of the Welsh national team.

Finally thanks to the Olympic and World Police and Fire Games legacies, the NIWA also has access to more training venues than ever before with a permanent mats at the Evolve Gym (Poleglass, Lisburn), the Grove Well Being Centre (Belfast) and the Evolve Gym, Limavady with another coming on line in Londonderry.

Active Communities Coach

Derry City Council continues to employ an Active Communities coach with 50% of his time allocated to wrestling and the other 50% dedicated to judo. The NIWA provided technical advice to Derry City Council and demand for wrestling in primary schools is increasing.

World Police and Fire Games 2013 (WPF 2013)

During August 2013 Northern Ireland delivered the third largest international multi-sport event in the world including a high level Greco-Roman and Freestyle wrestling tournament at the Shankill Leisure Centre, Belfast.

Over 6,700 athletes and other accredited guests from 67 countries were in Belfast over that period and the Shankill Leisure Centre was one of 41 city venues used to host 56 sports.



Mark McGuigan (red) in action at WPF 2013

John Tully, Chief Executive of 2013 WPF, said: “*We are delighted that our aim to deliver the ‘friendliest’ Games ever has been achieved. All venues selected have met and indeed exceeded our expectations. The Waterfront Hall in particular was an excellent multi-purpose location.*”

(b) North West Regional Sports Campus (NWRSC)

The NWRSC is on track and will be constructed in St Columb’s Park, which covers 32 hectares on the east bank of the River Foyle in Londonderry.

The £11.7m St Columb’s Park project is being managed by the Derry City Council and will serve as a regional centre of excellence for wrestling, judo and mountaineering. In addition, the Northern Ireland Executive has given an additional £656,000 grant towards this new project.

The campus will also feature a swimming pool and work is scheduled to start in November 2013 with an expected completion date of January 2015.

Barry Pollin (Chairman of the NIWA)

A copy of the full NIWA report is available from Barry

Welsh Wrestling Association

There are a total of 4 registered clubs in Wales which are located in 3 of the main regions in Wales: -

AJ Wrestling Club	Welshpool	Mid Wales
Newtown Wrestling Club	Newtown	Mid Wales
Llanelli Wrestling Club	Llanelli	West Wales
Welsh Centre of Excellence	Cardiff	South Wales

The Welsh Wrestling Association (WWA) is looking at the prospect of more clubs to start in the near future, which in turn will increase membership. The WWA's main focus for next year will be looking at increasing membership throughout all of the clubs, as it is important that all wrestlers and clubs are registered with the national governing body. We have started running coaching courses in Wales which is the way forward to achieve the WWA's goals to increase clubs and members in Wales.

The WWA has had a good 12 months: hosting the Welsh Closed National Championships in Sport Wales National Centre Cardiff; British Open Senior Championships held in Welshpool in Mid Wales which was a great event for Wales and Britain with over 120 wrestlers taking part. After this event the WWA had many letters of thanks for a well-run event in such a small town from the Local and National Government for Wales. The Welsh Open International Championships, followed by a 2 day International Training Camp in Sport Wales National Centre Cardiff, led by Alan Jones Head of Performance for Welsh Wrestling. Alan's vast experience made sure that the camp ran successfully with great support from Wales, Northern Ireland and Malta.

The Welsh Centre of Excellence is running on a regular basis, working toward preparing wrestlers for Glasgow 2014. Well done to all Welsh wrestlers taking part in National and International

events representing Wales and Great Britain throughout the last 12 months. Well done to Damion Arzu and Tommy Hawthorn who both wrestled well and Damion who took a Bronze medal and Tommy who took 5th Place at the Olympia tournament in Greece.

We would like to thank the Committee of the WWA who give up so much of their time to make sure that wrestling continues to build in Wales. Special thanks must go to Sport Wales and the Welsh Sports Association for all their help and support throughout the year. Without their help and support wrestling wouldn't strive forward in Wales. Well done and thank you to all Welsh wrestlers, coaches and volunteers who believe in the future of Welsh Wrestling.

The Northern Region:

The Northern Region consists of nine registered clubs: Aspull, Barton, Bolton, Bradford, Manchester Y Club, Octagon, Sharples, Stockton and Wigan & Leigh.

There have been 3 major Competitions held this year within the Region, consisting of Aspull International Competition, Bolton & Sharples Open Wrestling Competition and Stockton hosting the British Novices. These have been well structured Competitions with maximum effort by their Clubs and their presentations were a credit to their organisers and their volunteers.



The news that Wrestling had been withdrawn from the Olympics came as a big shock. Everyone around the world came together to campaign 'Save Olympic Wrestling.'

In support of the campaign, Bolton Wrestling Development Group, supported by Bolton Council, held their Competition in conjunction with 'Save Olympic Wrestling' Celebrating the World Wrestling Month of May.



All the hard work and modernisation by FILA was recognised when in September our sport and reinstated in the Olympic Games up to 2020.

The Region was well represented at all major Competitions:

British Seniors	6 Gold, 2 Silver and 3 Bronze
British Schoolboys/girls and Juniors Championships	12 Gold, 16 Silver and 7 Bronze
English Senior Championship	6 Gold, 4 Silver and 4 Bronze
English Schoolboys/girls and Juniors Championship	18 Gold, 10 Silver and 8 Bronze

Bolton and Sharples Wrestling Clubs held an 'Open Day' in conjunction with Bolton Council (BOSPAA), during the Summer Holidays and everyone who attend had a brilliant Fun Day.

Club Development Project (England)

British Wrestling commissioned a leading independent Sports and Leisure consultancy Knight, Kavanagh and Page (KKP) to deliver this project, and every Club was given the opportunity to take up this project. The Clubs, within the Northern Region, that took up the

offer were: Bolton, Manchester Y, Sharples, Stockton and Wigan & Leigh.

KKP used its extensive sports development expertise to assist the clubs to identify factors that would contribute to their success in achieving further development to their clubs. The consultants worked closely with each club individually in order to attain a tailored improvement plan. This process has taken a year to complete and every club that carried out the process and delivered was awarded up to £1,000. This is to be spent on developing their clubs i.e. Coaching courses.

Taking development a stage further Delegates from the North and Midland Regions attended a series of workshops at the Academy. 'Grow Participation in your Club' was presented by Sven Elkjaer, from Sports Marketing Network, a recognised leader in developing sports participation. Everyone who attended this workshop was inspired by the course and came away with positive ideas for their clubs. The only regret is that the invitation was not taken up by all the North's Clubs and that they missed out on an excellent day.

Talent Pathway

The England Talent Pathway has been structured and approved by Sport England and the Region is committed to develop our athletes.

A workshop held on 30th. September was lead by Penny Crisfield (from Apollinaire), Malcolm Morley and Yvonne Ball. Penny has carried out so much work in developing the Wrestling UKCC accredited Coaching Programme and the Coaches from the Northern Region were inspired by the clear view of how athletes of potential clubs would be recognised and a clear vision of their expected progress via Regional Squads to the England Development Squads. The first step for the Northern Region is to appoint a Regional Coach and an Assistant Coach and this will take

place within the next couple of months, ready for commencement proposed for January 2014.

Regional Centre of Excellence

The Northern Region has held a Regional Centre of Excellence over many years and has been very successful due to the dedication and commitment of our co-ordinator and coaches, Tony Morris, John Melling, Jesse Bradbury and Eddy Kavanagh and I would like to thank them for the dedication and hard work involved.

The successful, enthusiastic Team have work well together without any financial payments, and are a credit to our region. Also, many thanks to the Bolton Wrestling Club, for the use of their premises to host these squads, again at no cost to the Northern Region.

The first step the Northern Region has to take in conjunction with the 'New Talent Pathway' is to appoint a Regional Coach and an Assistant Coach and this will take place within the next couple of months, ready for commencement proposed for January 2014.

Northern Region AGM

The AGM was held on 29th. September 2013 and the Vice-Chair and Treasurer appointments were up for election. Both Dave Sudron and Stephen Clarke were stepping down, due to work commitments. Dave Grundy was elected Vice Chairperson and our congratulations were given to Dave on his appointment. The position of Treasurer is still vacant and will re-advertised for an EGM, schedule for November.

The England Region Constitution was on the Agenda of the AGM and everyone had been circulated with a Draft Constitution, drawn up in conjunction with the English Wrestling Association, proposed for our all English Regions. Clubs represented at the Regional Meeting unanimously approved the Draft and this to be placed on

an EGM Meeting in November, subject to the draft being approved by all Regions

BWA Chair

After many hard-working years as the BWA Chairman, Malcolm Morley announced that he would be standing down at the BWA's 2013 Annual General Meeting. The Northern Region wish to thank Malcolm for his leadership, enthusiasm, commitment and his excellent work over the years.

Ellen Morris

Chairperson of the Northern Region Wrestling Association

The Midlands Region

The Midlands has had 2 new cubs affiliate this year Pariah and Hari Singh Nalwa Combat Academy (Leicester) to add to the 6 which are Birmingham, Leicester Combat Academy, Middleton & Wirksworth, Mansfield, Nottingham and Wolverhampton. As a result Membership has increased by 25% over the last 12 months.



Midlands squad training took place in Mansfield on two occasions with the assistance of England National Coach, Anatolii Kharytoniuk and Oleksandr Madyarchyk (Team England athlete). This was ideal as a prelude to the forthcoming appointment of England Regional Coaches and the rolling out of the England Talent Pathway (ETP) within the region.

The Midlands hosted a UKCC L1 Coaching course this summer and it is pleasing that coaches from the Midlands have attended both UKCC Level 1 and Level 2 courses throughout 2013.

Linked to the UKCC and ETP, clubs within the Midlands have been encouraged to introduce the BWA Awards system.

Three clubs within the region have hosted competitions, with Wolverhampton successfully hosting the 2013 English Championships last February.

The England Committee has been working towards a common constitution and this is very close to being implemented. As a region this has been supported and hopefully it will be adopted at our next AGM.

Trevor Hoskins
Chair, Midlands Region

The Southern Region

No Report

14. DEVELOPMENT PREVIEW: 2012-2013

Key areas for progress over the next 18 months are: -

UKCC coaching courses to be taken by all coaching personnel: (See above)

Talent Pathway implementation (See above)

Athlete Award implementation (See above)

Further implementation of British Wrestling Recreational Membership: This has grown in popularity during 2012/13 and is set to grow again with the roll-out of Athlete Awards. The membership is a potential source of revenue for Clubs as for each £5 subscription, £4 is returned to the club.

Increased numbers of Referees: Promote the necessity for each club to have a minimum of one qualified referee on their staff with the adoption of a policy similar to that of FILA with regard to participating clubs providing referees at domestic tournaments such that clubs taking 5 or more wrestlers provide a minimum of 1 referee

Provision of Officials at competitions: Adoption of a policy similar to that of FILA with regard to participating clubs providing officials at domestic tournaments such that clubs provide at least one official (defined as pairing master or assistant pairing master, timekeeper or video operator). As an interim, before clubs have the resources, it would be necessary for each Region to provide 2xReferees per competition. Each club should provide one official per five athletes.

15. BRITISH WRESTLING ASSOCIATION OPERATIONS

Financial Management and Administration

The vast majority of financial administration for the British Wrestling Association is managed by the BWA Administrator, overseen by the Non-Executive Finance Director. A set of Bank Accounts aligned to ring-fenced funding pots is in place to ensure correct use of funds. The vast majority of transactions are electronic, providing visibility/traceability.

Funding and Partners

With the focus of UK Sport to funding individual athletes destined for Podium positions, Sport England becomes the prime funding partner. Other Home Nations continue to enjoy good relationships with their sports councils.

There are many other sources of funds and support that need to be sought out, such as Sport Unlimited; Running Sports; Sportsmatch UK; SportsAid; Street Games; Sportscoach UK; Women's Sport and Fitness Foundation; Sporting Equals; County Sports Partnerships; Skills Active; Youth Sport Trust.

British Wrestling is grateful to these partners. However, there are so many that British Wrestling needs to provide a handy guide to clubs and parents.

16. COMMUNICATIONS

Media

There was significant and supportive press interest in the Save Olympic Wrestling campaign. The Head of BBC Sport invited key sports and funding partners to the BBC's new sports hub at MediaCityUK in Salford. The BBC is keen to support sport in delivering a legacy from London 2012.

There was coverage across BBC1 Breakfast; BBC Radio 5live; BBC Radio Manchester; BBC World; BBC World Service; BBC Radio Nottingham; BBC Radio Derby; Granada; BT Sport; Real Radio; LBC and more.

Website

The website has performed with near 100% reliability across the year. Recent usage peaked on 8th/9th Sept 2013 with the IOC decision on 8th Sept to reinstate Wrestling.

Response during the 12mth period was greatest to the news story that summarised the conclusions of the Extraordinary FILA Congress in Moscow ([link](#)) published on 21st May 2013 with 792 unique views.

Previously, there were peaks of usage following Wrestling's recommended exclusion by the IOC Executive Board and users seeking the results of the English Junior and Senior event, also in February 2013.

There have been 54,800 visits between 22 August 2013 and 14 September 2013 (down from 118k same period last year) perhaps reflecting both a non-Olympic year and a reduction in self-generated controversy around the sport of Wrestling in the UK.

There remains untapped potential, dependent on resource availability to source content and post stories.

The On-line membership renewal and competition registration continue to perform well with the number of reported issues reducing. The system is now to be used consistently for competition registration.

17. EQUITY & WELFARE, GOVERNANCE, HR

Equality, Welfare and Child Protection

In June 2013 British Wrestling put in a submission for the Equality Foundation standard, the result of which is keenly awaited

Governance

The British Wrestling Association continues to be under continuous scrutiny from UK Sport/Sport England's joint audit process that ensures the association is a reputable candidate to be in receipt of

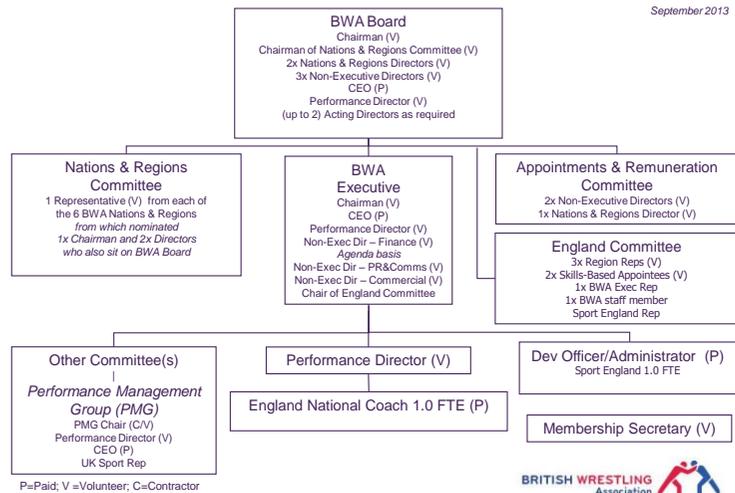
public funds. These procedures are useful in ensuring that British Wrestling is managed in a professional way.

There will be an on-site audit in November 2013.

Complaints and Disagreements

British Wrestling has a standing Judicial and Appeal Panels made up of members of the Association, but with independent Chairs. The new complaints policy, implemented October 2012, has been used just once with the process holding together successfully. The pro-bono legal support for these and other activities, received by British Wrestling from a number of sources, is hugely appreciated.

18. BRITISH WRESTLING ASSOCIATION STRUCTURE DIAGRAM



19. CONCLUSION

With limited staff (and most of those involved being highly engaged but also very busy, volunteers,) it is difficult to move forward more quickly than is currently being achieved.

Much has been achieved during the last period - putting in the foundations for growth such as in the area of coaching course development. Whilst the London Olympics could have delivered greater success and profile for wrestling, nevertheless, British Wrestling (and Olga) achieved an 11th place with Britain's first wrestling Olympic representation since 2004.

Efforts now need to be invested by all members, Home Nations and Regions and British Wrestling in carrying out the plans, in cooperation with Wrestling's funding partners, for the next four-year cycle which includes the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games and Rio 2016. Along with other National Governing Bodies of sport, Sport England and the other Sports Councils are looking to British Wrestling to increase membership and participation.

A big round of thanks should go to all those who give up so much of their personal time to support British Wrestling.

British Wrestling
October 2013

