

**Chairman**  
Barry Pollin

**Date of issue**  
23<sup>rd</sup> Oct 2015

**Participants**

**Voting Members:**

T Hoskins; J Rakhra; E Morris; J Toland; A Jones/P Castell (dep for S Jones);

Apologies: B Harper

**Members:**

C Nicholson; Y Ball; E Kavanagh; P Kay; A Morris; A Melling; D Grundy; M Morley; J Bradbury;

**Apologies:**

S Jones; N Flaxman; S Cooke; Victor Keelan; S Mckeown; P Jones

**Secretary**

Colin Nicholson

**Meeting date**

12:30pm 25<sup>th</sup> October 2014

**Location**

Aylestone Leisure Centre,  
2 Knighton Lane East, Leicester  
LE2 6LU

**Subject**

2014 British Wrestling Association  
Annual General Meeting

**Reference**

- 
1. Apologies:
    - S Jones; N Flaxman; S Cooke; Victor Keelan; S Mckeown; P Jones
  2. Minutes of Previous A.G.M. (19<sup>th</sup> Oct 2013):
    - Taken as an accurate record. (Proposed EM; Seconded JT)
  3. Matters Arising:
    - CN apologised that EM's idea of an open meeting for members at the 6mth point had not been taken up, but that in 2014-15, a suitable time might be aligned with a competition (the British Juniors/Seniors) in March 2015
  4. Chair's Report – Barry Pollin:
    - BP read his report published in the Annual Report, in full.
    - The meeting applauded Barry and his report
  5. Treasurer's Report – CN, for Nick Flaxman
    - CN read a statement from Nick Flaxman who sent his apologies as he was ill. EM made formal note of NF's absence from this and previous AGMs and there was a brief discussion
    - "For the BWA to continue new income streams are needed. With the potential of having to pay large amounts of rates on the academy, we need new sources of income whether by sponsorship or by use of the academy i.e. renting it to businesses/events. As with any property it is an asset but as with many properties continued work on maintenance/development needs to be spent. There are very small reserves and any monies for large repairs etc. would be hard to find."
    - The BWA Accounts 2013/14 were accepted (Proposed TH; Seconded EM)
    - Re-Appointment of Auditors (Proposed JR; Seconded AJ)
    - Sponsorship Opportunities: Jesse Bradbury suggested that the BWA look to its partners, (e.g. its auditors, insurance providers) to bring in sponsorship funding to the BWA. BP said there was some developing experience with Endsleigh who were providing sponsored banners for competitions

6. Performance Director's Report – Malcolm Morley (acting PD)
- MM referred to his performance related items in the Annual Report. He drew out the 6 elements of the new Talent Pathway. He underlined that with confidence and the correct application of the Talent Pathway it was "doable" to have athletes achieving World Class levels of performance with athletes and support staff in receipt of UK Sport funding
  - The workings of the Talent Pathway were going well with the latest round of physical testing protocols providing better results than the elite squad in past times.
  - Increased levels of interaction of Talent Pathway coaches and the National Coach were encouraging, as it was only possible to achieve results with cooperation
  - There was a brief discussion about Wales and the Talent Pathway, initiated by AJ:
    - The Talent Pathway is called the England Talent Pathway as its development had been funded by Sport England, but every element of the pathway is available to all the Home Nations with encouragement for universal uptake
    - Entry to the squads is being moved on from coach recommendation and into the hands of athletes who needed to achieve the Yellow/Orange Athlete Award for inclusion into the England Regional Squads. To promote squad stability, there are two windows for entry, January and June.
    - For the last time for Wales, (and the other Home Nations & Regions have moved on from this opportunity and are already dependent on the award entry,) athletes named by the Wales National Coach can take part in the NTS. Going on from here, athletes will need to have achieved an above average score in terms of execution of their Orange Technical Awards and their physical testing protocols (the Orange award being targeted at those aspiring to be part of the NTS)
    - There is a National Squad, that comes together with costs born by the individual nations
    - AJ said that Wales fully supported the Talent Pathway as it was important not to miss out. Welsh wrestlers are in receipt of Strength & Conditioning support from Sport Wales.
    - JT said that Northern Ireland fully supported the Talent Pathway
    - JB gave an update on the Northern Region Development Squad which was developing athletes through the Awards, it was compulsory for athletes to attend their club sessions and athletes were strongly encouraged to reply to Regional invites
  - JA asked whether it was possible for an athlete to be selected if their parents did not wish to put the athlete in for an Award, perhaps for reason of cost? TM said that clubs/regions often helped where cost was an issue
    - The point was made that cost was mostly put up as an excuse to avoid, as most athletes complaining of cost had X-Box's and expensive phones.
    - The mood of the vast majority of the meeting was that the Athlete Awards and the Talent Pathway were a fair and structured way forward and the way to go to support junior wrestlers become the elite wrestlers of the future and it was the duty of coaches to promote the Awards and persuade recalcitrant parents and support the progression of young wrestlers
    - BP summarised that there was overwhelming agreement that the Talent Pathway document was a useful, logical way forward and had the support of a new, bright generation of coaches
  - EM said that MM had done an absolutely brilliant job, but were there plans to review the PD position? MM said that in the next 12mths he would be gone, although he wished to see the Talent Pathway properly implemented. BP said the PD role would be advertised in 2015
  - JT asked about the on-line availability of the UKCC Techniques. They are available to all BWA members at [www.bwatechnicalawards.co.uk](http://www.bwatechnicalawards.co.uk) where the on-line assessment checks technical understanding of the British Wrestling Association Awards
7. Report from Nations & Regions Committee – Trevor Hoskins (interim-N&R Chair)
- TH said that there was a chance to make changes in the short spell when the focus was not on the Olympic Games or Commonwealth Games
  - TH believed that committee members should take on necessary work within the Association and the Board should be aware that the N&R Committee was there to help and support.
  - The N&R Committee members know each other well and communicate a lot.

- TH said that he himself had a lot of communication with athletes and coaches (via competitions and UKCC courses) and there is a very high take up for the UKCC with most clubs not just buying-in but actively promoting the qualification. Tied to this clubs are delivering the awards system as a way to increase the technical ability of their wrestlers.
8. Annual Report: This was presented to the AGM and available on the website. The report was accepted: Proposed: TH and Seconded: JT
9. Ratification/Retirement/Re-election of Appointment of Officers
- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| Chair: Ratification of interim-Chair Barry Pollin:         | Proposed JR Seconded TH |
| Nations & Regions Nominee 1: Interim Nominee 1 – Sue Jones | Proposed JT Seconded JR |
| Nations & Regions Nominee 2: Jatinder Rakhra               | Proposed JT Seconded TH |
10. AoB
- AJ thanked YB for getting the UKCC Coaches courses running. He wished for more work for Sue in Wales and she is also a Safeguarding Tutor
  - AJ said that there was now a National Wrestling Centre or Wales in Cardiff, complete with plaque. It was open to Scotland, Northern Ireland and England. Bolton had already visited.
  - AJ reasserted that Wales would be following the Talent Pathway and “Wales was back on track!”
  - JB said his club embraced UKCC L2 but was keen, with a view to child safeguarding, that newly qualified L2’s, should serve under an existing L2 coach for a six month period
  - AJ stressed the importance of re-validation, e.g. could be mat-side coaching or attending a National Squad session. BP stressed the importance of mentoring. YB said that ILM (Institute of Leadership and Management) coaching and mentoring courses were available costing approx. £1300
  - EM welcomed Jesse Bradbury and Michael Grundy as the Northern Region Regional Coaches and the meeting gave a vote of thanks to Tony Morris for his coaching over many years proposed by EM

*BP closed the meeting, saying that it had been enjoyable,  
with most conversations being about going forward  
The 2014 AGM finished at approximately 1.55pm*