Minutes - Final

Chairman
Jem Lawson

Date of issue as draft
11th November 2016

Date of issue as final
21st November 2016

Participants
Voting Members:
B Pollin (NI); E Morris(Eng-Nth); T Hoskins(Eng-Mid); J Rakhra (Eng-Sth)
Apologies: S Jones (WLS)
Members:
C Nicholson; A Melling; L Seggl; S McDaid;
Apologies:
A Jones; P Jones

Secretary
Colin Nicholson

Meeting date
8:45pm 23rd October 2015

Location
Aldersley Leisure Village,
Wolverhampton WV6 9NW

Subject
2015 British Wrestling Association Annual General Meeting

Reference

The Annual General Meeting was quorate with five voting members in the room

1. Apologies:
   - M Morley; S Jones; A Jones; P Jones;

2. Ratification/Retirement/Re-election of Appointment of Officers
   - JL began by saying that Malcolm Morley had made a massive contribution to wrestling over many years.
   - JL also gave a note of thanks to Peter Jones for his work over two terms and wished him well in health and future as Peter formally retired at the end of his second term.

   Chair:
   Ratification of Chair, Jem Lawson: Proposed BP Seconded TH
   Nations & Regions Nominee 2:
   Jatinder Rakhra re-elected for second term Unanimous vote

3. Minutes of Previous A.G.M. (15th Oct 2014):
   - Taken as an accurate record. (Proposed BP; Seconded JR)

4. Chair's Report – Jem Lawson:
   - JL said that because of the situation the BWA was in, he had had discussions with UK Sport and Sport England. There had also been discussions with the Auditors as the Annual Report was finalised.
   - During the recent difficult period, there had been two audits with recommendations that are now being implemented and a police investigation that drew a line under the subjects investigated with no action taken. The reputation of the British Wrestling Association is somewhat bruised, but remains an organisation of integrity
   - Going forward, JL stated his intent to go to Baku at the invitation of United World Wrestling to introduce himself to UWW, to attend the National Federations Workshop on 28th November and to educate himself with some top class wrestling at the Golden Grand Prix Final.
   - JL is reviewing the Articles of Association which need significant amendment. The committee structure is in need of a review, but the primacy of the Nations & Regions will remain as this is the

link between individual and club members and the Board. The Home Nations should have the autonomy required by entities that are companies limited by guarantee. The BWA is will be meeting the SWA which has a new Board.

- The future funding position (from government and Lottery) is looking difficult, particularly in the light of the Government's new sports strategy, shortly to be published. CN added that a grouping of the CEO's of National Governing Bodies of sport (NGBs,) the CE Forum, had made much progress, stating the case for continued NGB funding to government.
- With British Wrestling being a small organisation, JL was looking at options for partnerships with other governing bodies with initial conversations with British Judo and British Weightlifting. The options for pooling resources such as the employed roles of NI Pathway Officer and England/Scotland National Coaches was also discussed. It was confirmed that all the Home Nations present, with additional confirmation from Wales, were signed up to the implementation of the UKCC Wrestling coaching qualifications and alignment with England Talent Pathway. It was noted in discussion that the UKCC Wrestling Coaching Certificate had been well received by UWW with them adopting many of the principles, with UWW also taking on board the Talent Pathway.
- On the Academy, although it is a potentially valuable resource, it is currently under-used and must cover its costs. CN reported that a Business Plan was currently being created
- JL felt that with these significant steps forward from the current position, there was an opportunity to re-brand and build the participation base
- As part of an initial change to the Articles of Association, resulting from JL's review, the following amendment to the Articles of Association was brought forward by TH, seconded by BP and unanimously agreed:
  Amendment to 2008 British Wrestling Articles of Association:
  11.13
  "Directors may pass a resolution as a written resolution, without the need to convene a board meeting. A written resolution may be circulated and voted on by way of email."

5. Treasurer's Report

- There currently being no Treasurer, CN read out the following statement:

  The BWA has more-or-less no "free" money of its own, reserves being made up of unspent Sport England remittances. The BWA's income of membership fees is spent on The Academy and insurance. The Academy has been making significant losses. Steps are being taken to increase the income from the Academy with no activities taking place there for "free." Unless the Academy can be transformed into a reliably profitable going concern, it should be sold.

  Significant amount of time has been taken up with Sport England financial audits which have produced useful recommendations for incremental improvements. Bringing a new auditor on board and up to speed has also taken up significant time. New reporting standards will take up more time this coming year but should result in a clearer picture of expenditure and more understandable management accounts.

- BWA Accounts 2014/5 (link): Approval of the accounts was proposed by BP and seconded by TH and approved unanimously
  Action: CN to respond to EM with further detail on loss-making course income/costs
  Action: CN to respond to LS with further detail on make-up of travel/competition items
  Action: CN Update the BWA asset register to include the value of e.g. mats at the Academy
- Re-Appointment of Auditors (Slade & Cooper) was proposed by TH and seconded by BP and approved unanimously

6. Performance Director's Report – Defer to Annual Report

7. Report from Nations & Regions Committee – Defer to Annual Report

8. Annual Report: – Taken as read, as on the website and link e-mailed to members

The 2015 AGM finished at approximately 9:45pm