Minutes - Draft

Chair
Jem Lawson

Date of issue, for signing at 2018 AGM
12 January 2018

Participants
Voting Members:
J Toland (NI); I Wiggett (WLS); V Jornea (SCO);
E Morris (Eng-Nth); T Hoskins (Eng-Mid); E Ciake (Eng-Sth)
Members:
Directors: E Riley (iNED Business & Legal);
C Nicholson (Secretary and CE)
Members: A Melling (Chair, England Committee); R McFarlane;
B Pollin (Administrator & Academy Mgr); A Morris;
Apologies:
S Jordan; D Bauch

Secretary
Colin Nicholson

Meeting date
5:45pm 4th November 2017

Location
Wildcats Arena
Greenwood Rd
Nottingham
NG3 7EB

Subject
2017 British Wrestling Association
Annual General Meeting

Reference

The Annual General Meeting was quorate with SIX Voting Members in the room
[2008 Articles 8.1 …three of the Voting Members duly represented shall form a quorum]

1. Introduction and Apologies
    a. There was general agreement for a start at 5:45pm, the British Seniors having concluded and the clear-up of the competition going to plan
    b. Apologies from Daniela Bauch; Shaherah Jordan; the meeting wished SJ all the best on the recent birth of her son

2. Ratification/Retirement/Re-election of Appointment of Officers
    a. Under 2008 Articles, ratification of Chair, JL for a second term was required. The Chair, JL, retired from the meeting. CN took the meeting. The full set of voting and proxy papers for the Voting Members were collected. JL was ratified for a second term unanimously.
    b. Ellen Morris was ratified as BWA Board Director as Nations & Regions Nominee 2

3. Minutes of Previous A.G.M. (Friday 11 November 2016)
    a. General agreement that factually correct:
    b. Matters Arising: None

4. Ratification of a new set of Articles for the Association (link)
    a. Introduction by JL as to the importance of the new Articles
        i. JL highlighted two key areas of change for the BWA that he had been keen on delivering since becoming Chair:-
            1. Greater autonomy for the Home Nations
            2. Membership should be to the Home Nations, not to the BWA directly
        ii. Some areas remain unchanged: The Home Nations would look to the BWA for liaison with the British Olympic Association, UK Sport and United World Wrestling
        iii. Also required for compliance with the BWA's obligation as a Tier 3 funded body under the terms of the UK Sport/Sport England "Code for Sports Governance.

iv. JL emphasised that changing the Articles required a Special Resolution under Company Law, for which to pass, 75% of those able to vote needed to vote in favour

b. Communication: The draft articles had been e-mailed to clubs and the full membership. There had been two questions raised by members which had been answered.
c. Legal Checks: The new Articles had been passed through the BWA's legal advisors and sent to Sport England for their view of compliance with the code.
d. After checking with the meeting whether there were any last minute observations/questions, (there were none,) the Articles were put to the vote.
e. Vote: The Voting Members voted by hand, unanimously, to ratify the new Articles. JL thanked the Voting Members for their confidence.

5. Chair's Report:
   a. This had been circulated to the membership within the Annual Report and as taken as read

6. Treasurer's Report
   a. BWA Draft Audited Accounts 2016/7
      i. CN led a discussion covering the main centres of cost: Insurance; Academy; UKCC Courses; Capitalisation.
      Action: CE/BWA Administrator: The meeting requested a central review of the costs of running UKCC courses with the recommendation that there should be no more courses until the costs were fully known and appreciated
      ii. The meeting discussed financial integrity with a view that the signed annual accounts should include a paragraph on financial integrity
      iii. The meeting agreed that there should be a paragraph included to cover/disclose the remuneration of directors (except for members of the senior management team, i.e. the CE, that are Ex-Officio directors). That information disclosed should be fair, accurate and presented in an understandable manner. The following paragraph would be put to the auditors for inclusion:

      "Remuneration of Directors
      Disclosing the remuneration of directors (except for members of the senior management team, i.e. the CE, that are Ex-Officio directors), the following disclosures apply: The Chair (£20,000) In respect of services commensurate with 'Contract for Services' October 2015 for services to the Association; Trevor Hoskins (£1,000) for membership support services to the Association"

      iv. The Draft Audited Accounts were approved
   b. Re-Appointment of Auditors
      i. The meeting voted to reappoint the auditors, Slade & Cooper, for a further (4th) financial year (2017-18 year).
      ii. **Action: CE** To examine the field with a view to appointing alternative auditors for the 2018-19 year, as that would be the 5th year with Sport England self-assurance recommending a change after every 4-5 years

7. Talent Pathway Lead (Performance Director's Report)
   a. The Talent Pathway report was as per paragraphs in the Annual Report.
   b. There was a brief discussion about plans to extend the Pathway beyond a National Talent Squad (eldest age 20) to include an U23 squad.
   c. To improve the performance, it would be important to improve the development of athletes within the pathway. Regional Squads are to be used to bridge the gap in coaching skills between the clubs and NTS. The concept of "Hub Clubs" with enhanced coaching opportunities are important. But first of all a road is required. This is the calendar of events, consisting of tournaments and training camps
   d. The quality of training camps should also be under scrutiny, with a review of the links with Ukraine, a country which on analysis is now only 16th in the European Freestyle medals league table
   e. Northern Ireland supported the changes, with no specific comments from Scotland or Wales reps

8. Nations & Regions Committee Report

a. Ian Wigget thanked Barry (N&R Chair,) Trevor (nominee 1) and Jit (nominee 2) for their services as Nations & Regions Directors on the Board.
b. The Nations & Regions Committee needs to sign-off on a new Terms of Reference that take account of the new Articles. It will have a firm position to act as the voice of the sport. In this area, one of the first priorities would be to get more officials and Pairers to keep competitions going.
c. Northern Ireland gave a note of thanks to Barry Pollin who had driven up standards of coaches with the implementation of UKCC and the Talent Pathway

9. Annual Report
   a. JL thanked CN for putting together a useful and comprehensive document (especially given the multiple other priorities in the BWA over past weeks) summarising the activities of the Association.
   b. CN in turn, thanked all the contributors who had enabled the Annual Report to be a useful factual document.
   c. It was noticeable that the numbers of affiliated clubs had fallen in 2017 compared with prior years. Part of the reason is the continued reluctance of some coaches to get further training (post their BWA Level 2 courses and upskill to UKCC Level 2 (last run in 2009,) a requirement for running a club. Also, the requirement to have listed Safeguarding Officers.
   d. It was hoped that following the heavy emphasis on governance reform during 2017, that there could be greater emphasis on community/club/sport development over the coming year.
   e. **Action: JL/CN/TH** to review the reasons and any specific changes that should result.

10. Other Business – No other formal business was registered by date for formal agenda distribution

The overall meeting closed at approx 7pm