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# Annual Report 2018-19

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## Chairs Report



The period covered by this report saw both a continuation and consolidation of development on a variety of fronts but also was a precursor of a period of significant change for the British Wrestling Association.

The significant development of the Academy operation began to kick-in. This has only been possible with the presence and enormous input of Barry Pollin as manager of the facility. There is now a proper charging system and a consistent way to book the venue. This comes as a result of a hierarchy of operational needs. So wrestling activities come first and then there are community activities, often including use by local schools. After this come miscellaneous activities. There is a logical sequence of booking and paying on receipt of an invoice. It is likely that a further improvement will be brought about by a straightforward contract for regular users.

During the year, Sport England enabled the association to benefit from an audit and report from the Oaks Consultancy. This group advises organisations from sport, education, public and third sectors on strategy, business development and income generation. The last two of these were particularly relevant for wrestling and we were reassured that the report confirmed that much of what we are doing at the academy was the right way forward. There were other, more far-reaching recommendations which the Board will consider in due course.

Many of you will be aware that the new Go Membership system was introduced. After some inevitable early difficulties as a result of the system bedding in, this will give members a much better service. It also has the flexibility to allow much more of the membership experience to be completed online, such as uploading necessary certification for those embarking on the coaching pathway.

This time last year the 'Build for Birmingham' British Squad had just started. This is already beginning to reap rewards in that it gives our most successful and committed wrestlers a programme and a direction in their quest for success at the highest level, that is European and World Championships and the pinnacles of multisport endeavours: The Commonwealth and Olympic Games.

Already established in England has been the National Talent Squad which is the top of the pyramid for younger wrestlers who embark on the Talent Pathway at their clubs, move on to the Regional Talent Squads and, with the right skill, commitment and guidance, may qualify for the National Squad. It's quite in order for wrestlers from the other home countries to be invited to take part, though we have to recognise that Sport England provides the resources.

Trying to make one's way in any sport and at any age is an expensive business. I appreciate that much of this expense falls upon parents, carers and guardians, and to all that contribute, we direct our thanks. The Association has been successful in sourcing other help, and we have been effective in applying to the Sports Aid Foundation and Backing the Best for a number of developing athletes and have secured performance monies from UK Sport in the guise of Aspiration Funding for two of our very best prospects.

For the first time in very many years Great Britain has been represented at all levels of European Championships with some very creditable performances. Other prestigious European competitions have also been attended with success and two of our athletes competed at the European Youth Olympic Festival in Baku earlier this year. I'm sure these achievements will be catalogued elsewhere in this report. The GBR singlet may not quite be feared in competition yet but it is certainly respected.

The Board has met at two monthly intervals throughout the year and understands what a great burden falls upon the volunteer force. We are constantly heartened and amazed by the time and commitment so many people give to wrestling. Of course, a number of directors contribute as volunteers in other ways as well. When talking of volunteers, it's sometimes invidious to name some and not others, but I learned recently that Ellen Morris has completed forty years as a Pairer, and I think that's worth pointing out!

During the year, Daniela Bauch resigned as the Independent Non-Executive Director (Finance). This was because of a combination of personal circumstances. Daniela was instrumental in helping us to manage our affairs in an efficient and effective way and I thank her for all her contributions. Daniela has very recently been replaced by Jenny Linney who has already been generous with her time and help.

We have had to manage without a director from Northern Ireland. There were far reaching changes in the governance of wrestling in NI with the direction and organisation of the sport there passing from the NIWA to Wrestling Northern Ireland. There are some administrative hurdles to overcome before everything is regularised but I'm very hopeful that that WNI will soon be recognised.

An addition to the Board has been Mark Cooper who has been (is?) a wrestler. He also brings with him a wealth of experience in the commercial world and I'm very hopeful that, through his good offices, wrestling will be able to attract funds from sources other than Sport England and UK Sport and make us a bit more independent. This is already working, and we have managed to secure resources to pay an office manager, Theo Finitisi. This is earmarked funding and wasn't available for anything else; it's guaranteed for three years and Theo is already making a big impression.

Although not strictly within the timeframe of this report, an enormous change has been the replacement of Colin Nicholson as Chief Executive by Craig Anthony. As many of you will know, Colin was facing the trials and tribulations of very significant medical intervention and, after more than ten years at the helm, he decided to leave. A very small number of

people have made immeasurable contributions to wrestling over the years and Colin is one of these. His attention to detail, his capacity for organisation and his willingness to ignore any 'normal' working hours has left a very small National Governing Body in a good position. The Association is in good standing and is well-respected by both Sport England and UK Sport. Colin had done much to lift wrestling to a platform from which a number of us think great steps can now be taken. Everyone in the wrestling community owes Colin a debt of gratitude. We all wish him well in his treatment and recovery.

And so, the baton passes to Craig and already I'm heartened, encouraged and impressed, and confident that the upward trajectory of British Wrestling will continue.

As always, to all the wrestlers and their supporters, to the volunteers and to the staff, very many thanks. The wrestlers are at the heart of what we do.

## Chief Executive Comments

The year 2018-19 featured some significant developments within the organisation following a year of change. This has put British Wrestling in a much stronger position, and I feel privileged to take on the leadership of the Association.

I want to express my gratitude to Colin Nicholson for making the transition such a smooth process and I wish him all the best in his recovery.

There are many exciting opportunities and possibilities for wrestling over the coming months and years and I look forward to engaging with you to explore the potential.

## Governance

There were two changes in the board of directors during the year. In September 2018 the Board appointed Mark Cooper, manager of MCSDA, Derby, as an "Additional Director" with responsibility for Business taking on some of Liz Riley's (Business and Legal,) workload. In March 2019 Daniela Bauch stepped down from the board due to a combination of personal circumstances.

The Sports Committee has continued to develop its approach to managing the many aspects of the sport, including continuing to maintain a calendar of competitions and developing competition regulations which were published in January 2019.

## Welfare

British Wrestling has maintained its Green status with the Child Protection in Sport Unit and continues to put Welfare and Safeguarding of all its participants and members at the heart of what we do. Marc Scott was appointed as Lead Safeguarding Officer for the Association and maintains the Improvement Plan.

There were no welfare incidents reported to British Wrestling in 2018-19.

## Diversity

The British Wrestling Association is committed to supporting diversity in both management and membership.

Diversity is at the heart of successful inter-actions in all walks of life. It is of paramount importance to take into consideration everyone's views and take advantage of the varied backgrounds and experiences which give rise to those views. British Wrestling is reaching out to all to come and take part in a great sport.

At a management level this means ensuring that our board and governance bodies reflect the diversity of our sport.

	2018-19	2017-18
<b>Board</b>	33%	33%

## Finance

### Sports Council

Sport England continued to fund British Wrestling activities in 2018-19. With funds being directed to support back office costs for running and staffing the association as well as key programmes of Talent Development and Club Development. In addition, British Wrestling received funding for part of the year to support English athletes at the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

	2018-19	2017-18
<b>Sports Council Grants</b>	245,650	324,834

### BWA

British Wrestling generates income from a variety of sources as listed below. The overall income increased by £19,117.

	2018-19	2017-18
<b>Income from Membership</b>	25,414	24,993
<b>Athlete Contributions</b>	23,979	24,111
<b>Courses</b>	17,303	9,266
<b>Wrestling Academy</b>	13,846	10,317
<b>Competition Income</b>	34,831	22,117
<b>Other</b>	11,182	16,634
<b>Total</b>	128,573	109,456

### Audit

The audit for 2018-19 is being completed by Slade & Cooper and a draft report will be available soon.

### Surplus/Loss

British Wrestling made a loss on the year of £31,400.

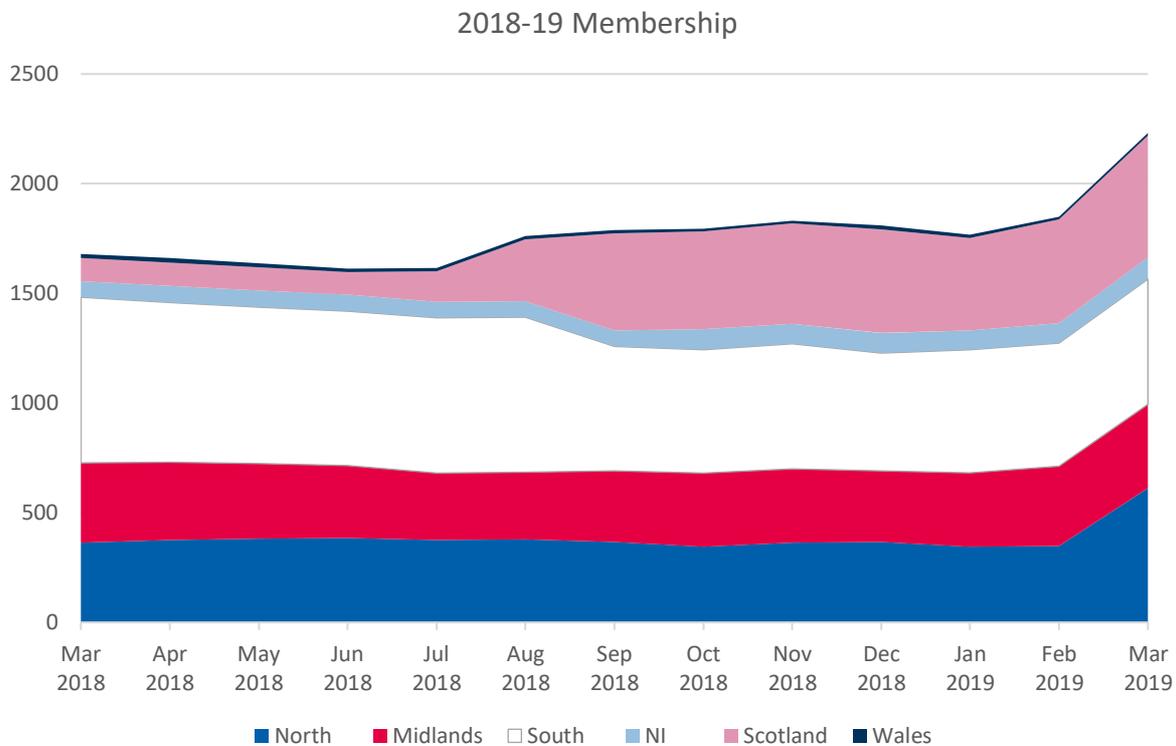
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
<b>Turnover</b>	282,461	333,711	432,272	372,205
<b>Surplus/loss</b>	6,206	(-3,587)	47,946	(-31,400)

### Membership and Affiliation

2018-19 saw the move to a new membership system provided by Go Membership. This process presented some challenges in renewing both individual memberships and club affiliations that are still being worked through. However, the system enables a better understanding of the overall membership and a way to ensure that those organisations affiliated to British Wrestling demonstrate the standards required of a modern sports club.

#### Membership numbers

Membership overall grew in 2018-19 to 2231 in March 2019 from 1662 in April 2018. This was due mainly to significant growth in Scotland and Northern England. Recreational membership remained stable at between 55-60% of total individual members throughout the year but increased significantly at the end of the year.



### Diversity

British Wrestling is committed to supporting diversity in our membership and we have identified three key areas of measurement to measure the impact of this commitment.

There is work to be done both on the data collection but British Wrestling recognises the need to focus on these areas to support membership growth of a diverse and well-rounded sport.

	2018-19	2017-18
<b>BAME</b>	45%	43%
<b>Female</b>	10%	11%
<b>Lower Socio-Economic Groups</b>	56%	60%

## Development

### Club Affiliation

To March 2019 there were 17 clubs affiliated with another 43 working towards affiliation. This is a significant decrease brought about by the improved ability to check and maintain standards from Go Membership.

### Club Support

In the period of Apr '18 - Mar '19 BWA has supported 43 individual clubs via club visits, telephone conversations and by email. This was to offer support to clubs in various areas such as affiliation, growth, grant applications, events competitions and external partners where appropriate.

### Development Projects

BWA has worked closely with clubs to create long standing sustainable development projects for wrestling. One example of this has been the BWA NHS Healthy Schools Project hosted in partnership with Barton Athletic Club. The projects overall Sport England case study and research is available upon request with further research being carried out with the University of Central Lancashire. The project has brought together two schools local to the club to get 180 children wrestling for a 10-week period each, these have led to some joining local clubs however it has been difficult to track those numbers. This project has progressed and grown into 2019 with an additional four schools joining the project to engage with years 4 and 5. Final reviews and numbers of that round are available upon request.

### Sponsorship

BWA has been exploring the avenues of gaining external sponsorship. We have been able to secure our first partner in the form of Steroplast, an international medical supplier through GreaterSport. We have currently negotiated an agreement that Steroplast would support our club membership by offering a 15% discount off all Steroplast merchandise. This includes cleaning supplies for wrestling mats, supporting wraps for wrestling and more. If you or your club is interested in this please contact us at British Wrestling.

### Go Membership

GoMembership brought together several separate systems (Membership, Clubs, Coaches, Qualifications, Competitions/Events and Awards). As we've just mentioned, BWA was operating many tasks in different areas, as such we transitioned many tasks to a singular online platform to help reduce work for BWA staff and make the process easier for our clubs. The initial phase for clubs has been difficult however once a club has uploading all their supporting documents it becomes a simpler task of renewing and not having to provide supporting evidences that is already on the system.

As BWA has transferred competitions to our new portal, it has helped BWA track participant data in a much more accurate way. This has allowed us to proactively evidence the growth of the sport. As part of this modernising trend we have also moved our events and courses online to make the booking process easier for clubs and members. Our colour awards have also been transferred online to help reduce costs for our clubs. This has also helped in being able to send the certificates out electronically in a timelier and efficient manner.

### Colour Awards

2018-19 saw a significant increase in the number of members achieving the colour awards. The skill and technical development provided by the Colour Award Scheme is fundamental to the British Wrestling Talent Pathway. Coaches and participants are encouraged to use the Colour Awards to guide their technical development in the sport as part of developing a well-rounded wrestler.

Colour Awards	2018
White	153
Yellow	73
Orange	12

### Referee and Official Development

During the Apr-Mar 2018-19 period the number of coaching courses began to increase. There were six courses delivered in the period, three each of the BWA 1<sup>st</sup>4sport UKCC Level 1 and 2 courses, as well as an Assistant Pairing course in April of 2018.

It was Identified in 2018 that the BWA were running short of Tutors, so an interview process was set in motion towards the end of 2018 to increase our Tutor workforce. In January 2019 tutors were trained Coach tutors, England Midlands x1, North x2 south x1, Scotland x1, NI x1) also attending this course were three Referee tutors and club development, to help with the increase of our available Referees and align other courses such as Safeguarding and Club mark.

Since the Tutor course in the next period Apr-Mar 2019-20 two Tutors have been mentored while co-delivering Level 1 coaching, two more were planned to be mentored, however due to lack of suitable venue and numbers this has not been possible.

Courses will be planned spread over the whole of 2020 in all six of the Nations/Regions, there is great interest for the Tutors to get hands on and it is hoped that by putting courses in the calendar before the end of the 2019 for the following year there will also be the numbers attending the courses (the most recent course had 15 attending)

The ongoing task is to streamline the courses and move them to an online platform provided by 1<sup>st</sup>4sport as well as developing the Referee's training and adding Referees courses in early 2020.

### Coach Development

British Wrestling ran six coaching courses in 2018-19 leading to 24 new Level 2 coaches and 20 new Level 1 coaches.

Level 1	Level 2
Derby	Wolverhampton
Slough	Slough
Salford	Salford

In total British Wrestling now has 136 qualified coaches

Role	North	Midlands	South	Scot	NI	Wales	Total
Assistant Coach (Level 1)	26	18	13	8	5	0	70
Head Coach (Level 2)	23	13	14	7	6	3	66

### Competitions

Ten competitions took place in 2018-19, the biggest being the British Juniors with 191 entries. It is exciting to see the number of competitions and entries growing from previous years and it is a good indicator of the growth in the sport.

Competition	Entries
Aspull Tournament	147
British Junior Championships	191
British Senior Championships	100
Derbyshire	161
English Junior Championships	137
Birmingham Slam	112
Derbyshire u12	112
Slough Wrestling	190
England Senior Championships	76
Northern Regions Closed	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>1301</b>

## Talent and Performance

The year started with the successes at the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast, with 5 medals Kane Charig's Silver backed up by 4 Bronze from Charlie Bowling, Curtis Dodge, Georgina Nelthorpe and Syerus Eslami. This success plus opportunities presented by changes in situations led to the formation of the GBR Senior Squad under the banner of Build for Birmingham in June 2018.

### Great Britain Senior Squad (Build for Birmingham)

In August 2018 the group of coaches and support volunteers were appointed, and monthly sessions planned. The squad operates on a tiering system that determines the level of financial support available to athletes recognising their potential and their commitment to the programme.

In December 2018 British Wrestling was able to secure financial support from UK Sport in the form of the Aspiration Fund. The Aspiration Fund aims to support Olympic and Paralympic sports who don't currently receive funding for a performance programme. Athletes initially funded were Kane Charig and George Ramm, since the initial agreement Kane has retired and Georgina Nelthorpe added.

### Notable results

#### **Henri Deglane Paris Grand Prix 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2019**

Nicolae Cojocaru 70 kilos 3<sup>rd</sup> place  
Charlie Bowling 70 kilos 8<sup>th</sup> place

#### **Flatz Open Austria 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019**

Georgina Nelthorpe 76 kilos 1<sup>st</sup> place  
Ben Pollin 97 kilos 3<sup>rd</sup> place  
Lewis Mcgrath 74 kilos 5<sup>th</sup> Place

#### **European under 23's Serbia. 4<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

Georgina Nelthorpe 76 kilos 3<sup>rd</sup> place  
George Ramm 65 kilos 11<sup>th</sup> place  
Syerus Eslami 86 kilos 12<sup>th</sup> place

## Talent Pathway

### North

The North has continued to prosper, the squad has greatly benefited from having three regional coaches plus additional coaching assistance from many volunteer coaches. The England rash guards have helped the squad to look and feel more like a squad and not just clubs coming together.



The North also hosted their first girls-only squad that has had over 20 girls in attendance at each squad. The regional coach has led the way for athlete profiling with the northern region and this will be mimicked in the other regions.

## Midlands



Midlands has seen a growth with their regional sessions; attendance is between 15 and 20 wrestlers. Awards sessions are run during the lunch break to encourage participants to complete their awards so they can progress onto the National Squad. Distances present a challenge with clubs as far apart as Birmingham and Peterborough, with a possibility of Colchester, Leicester and Northampton

joining.

## South

The South is continuing to engage with clubs and coaches from across the region - outlining the clear and transparent pathway for their wrestlers to come and be part of the Southern Region Team and what it will take for them to get to the National Talent Squad. "Homework" is now included in the South and incorporated into session plans.

Wrestlers are shown a move from the Orange award and then go back to their clubs and learn it by the next session. Willesdon has been identified as a mutual location for the clubs to travel to and this will be used as a regular base for regional training.



## National Talent Squad



The National Talent Squad has 8 contact weekends at the British Wrestling Academy in Salford during the year. These sessions feature both technical and physical training

supported by a range of learning opportunities for young athletes. These included UK Anti-Doping and Nutritional workshops from qualified deliverers. The squad is supported in its strength and conditioning development at the academy by Phil Chandler.

Athletes were supported to access additional funds to help them access training to reach their potential with athletes from all English regions gaining support from one of three fund; Backing the Best, Sports Aid and The Lord Taverners.

Athletes from the squad were involved in preparations for the Baku European Youth Olympic Festival 2019 with the British Olympic Association.

### **International Events for National Squad**

The National Talent Squad wrestlers accessed a range of international competitive opportunities across the year with UWW tournaments seeing GBR representation for the first time in a while.

- Tallinn Open April 2018
- Italian Stallion Camp July 2018
- Jelgava Open September 2018
- Kladedia Lithuania October 2018
- European Championships Juniors – Rome \* 1 athlete selected on the basis of development
- European Championships Cadets – Skopje \* 1 athlete selected on the basis of development
- World Cadet Championships – Croatia \* 1 athlete selected on the basis of development
- Helsinki Open November 2018
- Flatz Open February 2019 – UWW Competition \*Cadet 1 athlete took Gold and was chosen for the 2019 Europeans
- V.Freidenfelds Cup Latvia March 2019

### **Academy**

The British Wrestling Academy, Salford has cemented its place as the administrative and operational focal point of the organisation. A fully functioning office operates at least five days a week and it now houses the following personnel:

- a. Chief Executive Officer
- b. Operations & Academy Manager
- c. Club Development Manager
- d. Back Office Manager

As previously indicated, there has been a fundamental shift in the organisation's culture and funders, the membership and many other significant partners see the building as the hub of the sport. This is borne out by the frequent use of the Academy by the GBR Senior "Build for Birmingham" Squad, National Talent Squad and North Region Squad.

In addition, the Academy is home to the City of Manchester Wrestling Club, FitKid Gymnastics Club and the youth programme of the Dar Ul Hadith mosque, Wellington Road, Manchester. Indeed, relationships with the mosque have continued to flourish and their requirement for rented space has doubled within recent months including the introduction of a female only fitness class for young Muslim women every Thursday morning.

Integration with the local community of Salford continues to be extremely important to the organisation and once again Discretionary Rates Relief has been secured for this financial year (limited to 85% off the total bill), examples of community work conducted at the Academy include:

- a. Use of the building as an Embassy Office for the Slovakian Government on two occasions thus facilitating the issue of passports and travel documents.
- b. The hosting of St. Mikulas Christmas celebrations for Slovakian primary school children.
- c. Participation in the Round 'Ere Project which provides the youth of Salford with coordinated physical activities and is spearheaded by the East Salford Youth Partnership; presentations are continually made to councillors/youth service providers during the course of normal business.

In addition, the Academy has maintained a solid partnership with River View Primary School who use the mats on a weekly basis for FUNdamental skills and movement classes delivered by Olga McGlinchey and Lenka Pilnikova.

Other significant events that have taken place in recent times include:

- a. Hosting the first ever United World Wrestling (UWW) Level 2 Coaching Course to be held anywhere in the world (September 2019)
- b. Launch of the GBR Senior "Build for Birmingham Squad" (September 2018)
- c. English Senior Championships (February 2019)
- d. North Region Closed Championships (March 2019)
- e. Hosting a Division 3 USA wrestling team from Roger Williams University, Rhode Island for Celtic Cup tournament and training camp (May 2019)

The Academy is once again hosting courses and upskilling our members e.g. Safeguarding – Time to Listen and UKAD are particularly necessary and mental health workshops have been held in partnership with Manchester YMCA. Looking forward there is also a reasonable expectation that UWW will return in Spring of 2020 to test their new Level 3 Coaching Course.

However, the building is beginning to show signs of wear and tear and an overarching plan to revamp the interior is urgently required, this should include the restructuring of office space, the upgrading of changing facilities and toilets plus a reworking of the entrance. New signage and lighting for the exterior would be very welcome and help capitalise on the potential that exists when high volumes of cars pass by every day; such investment would also reduce the further occurrence of low-level vandalism and graffiti.

In conclusion, the Academy remains a vibrant and welcoming place where wrestling remains at the core of activities delivered every day. Overall running costs continue to come down

however there are still further business opportunities to be exploited e.g. greater use of the S&C area and a more wide-ranging schools programme; professional advice has been provided in the form of a written report compiled by Oaks Consultancy and reporting to the Board on progress made against recommendations included in the document will begin.

None of these advances could be delivered without a strong group of volunteers and for that the BWA is extremely grateful.

## Nations and Regions

BWA has been working with the regions to of support as and where we can provide this.

### Scotland

The 2018 been a hard-working year with all focus for the 2018 Gold Coast CG where Scottish Wrestling have been represented by 4 athletes:

- Ross Connelly - 57kg
- Viorel Etko - 57 kg
- Alex Gladkov - 74 kg
- Joe Hendry - 97 kg

Unfortunately, all athletes lost their qualifications matches and did not qualify for the next round.

From June 2018 we lost the funded position for the National Coach and from June till present Vlad Gladkov is continuing as a National Coach on a volunteer basis.

Scottish Wrestling athletes and GBR support coach Steven McKeown are taking part into new project Build for Birmingham competing Nationally and Internationally on the path to Birmingham.

Scottish Wrestling put together a successful application form for the next investment cycle 2019-2023 submitted and agreed with sportscotland the Birmingham CG2022 Games direction and new Development and Safeguarding targets.

### Wales

This year Welsh Wrestling was able to make some progress, although not as fast as we had had hoped after the success at the Gold Coast. We were proud that Alan Jones has been appointed one of the national GB coaches. Injuries affected the performance of our squad, but a medal at the British Seniors for Bryn Williams shows that we can continue to generate good potential. It was great to see Kane Charig and Curtis Dodge qualify as Level 2 coaches, which has allowed us to re-establish the bases of wrestling in Cardiff and Swansea, alongside the base in Mid Wales.

### Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland does not currently have a recognised Association governing the sport, though there has been significant work to ensure that a representative body can be recognised in the near future.

### Northern England

First Northern Regional Championships hosting in a few years. Positive step forward to fulfil memberships requests for more competitions.

#### The Northern Region Wrestling Association Executive/Committee:



Ellen Morris  
Morris  
Chairperson  
President



Tony Melling  
Secretary



Dave Bowling  
Vice Chair



David Sudron  
Treasurer



Tony  
Vice



Charlie Bowling  
Athlete's Rep



Jesse Bradbury  
Head Coach



Philip Roberts  
Assistant Coach



Michael Sudron  
Assistant Coach

The Northern Region consists of 8 Affiliated Clubs, Aspull Warriors, Barton, Bolton, Castle Hill, City of Manchester, City of Preston, Nelson, and Sharples. Down on last year of 12 clubs. The main reason is the new system in place regarding Club Affiliation and having coaches with their qualifications brought to a higher standard and in date also having Safeguarding Officers with accreditation in place. Some clubs have still not been brought up to the standard required to be Affiliated, this needs to be urgently addressed to safeguard our athletes.

At the end of March, the Region had 615 members, increase on last year's figure of 366.

### **Competitions**

The Aspull Warriors Wrestling Club hosted their 3rd. Tournament on 24<sup>th</sup>. November 2018 at Robins Park Wigan and was well attended and presentation was of a good standard, 147 wrestlers and 3 mats.

The first competition of 2019 saw the revival of the Northern Region Championship and was great to see this back in the Calendar and 70 wrestlers on the mat.

The English & British Senior Championships were hosted at the Manchester “Y” Club. The ‘Y’ is an excellent venue. Both events were successful and ran smoothly thanks to our great volunteers.

The Region is well represented at all major Competitions, with both wrestlers and qualified coaches and officials.

### **UKCC Coaches**

In developing Wrestling, UKCC accredited Coaching Programme have been successfully run within our Region. Our Region has 21 UKCC Level 1 qualified coaches and 26 qualified UKCC Level 2 coaches, and 3 honorary coaches

### **Talent Pathway/Regional Squad**

The England Talent Pathway has been structured and approved by Sport England and the Region is committed to develop our athletes. A clear vision of the coaches and athlete’s expected progress, via Regional Squads to the NTS has been achieved. Jesse Bradbury, Regional Coach and his Assistant Regional Coaches, Philip Roberts and Michael Sudron, have been running regular sessions which are well constructed and the coaches are of a very high standard. The coaches are also working continuously on the ‘Talent Pathway Award Scheme’ to bring our athletes to the highest possible standard. An average squad has 30+ wrestlers. Our top wrestlers have attended International Competitions and have achieved podium places, this emphasises our local wrestlers’ ability to compete with other wrestling nations.

### **Regional Meeting**

Our Regional Executive Committee schedule meeting of the Region, but struggle to attract clubs to attend. The fall in Affiliated registered Clubs is also a major issue and needs to be resolved on a National basis, sooner rather than later. Let’s hope this improves next year.

### **Midlands England**

The midlands region has gone through an exciting time with the appointment of a new chair to the regional committee. The formation of a focus committee of key clubs has been in development to help give the sport of wrestling a focus during the lead up to the 2020 Commonwealth Games.

### **Memberships**

March 2018 – 363 members

March 2019 – 383 members

### **Competitions**

Impact Fitness Academy CIC hosted SLAM Birmingham National Competition 2018

Middleton and Wirksworth have hosted 3 competitions in the year

Derbyshire Open

Derbyshire Under 12s

English Junior Open Championships in Nottingham

Futuwwa Wrestling club Peterborough hosting British Junior Open Championships 2018

**Regional Squad** session have been well attended with between 12 -20 participants

4 participants have successfully made it to the National Talent Squad

### **Coaching Courses**

The region has delivered Level 1 and Level 2 coaching course

We have 2 qualified Coach Tutors

Affiliated clubs = 7

### **Southern England**

BWA has pursued various avenues to reform the Southern regional committee, this has included contacting leading figures in the wrestling community in the region to see if they would take the position on however none have looked at the position.