

## I.A.W.A.(UK) Meeting Notes

9<sup>th</sup> December 2023

### Venue – Holly Road, Barton-Under-Needwood

Meeting Start Time: 5.25pm (Meeting took place after the Old Time Strongman Postal)

The meeting was opened by the Chairman and the Role-Call took place.

Present: Steve Gardner, Steve Andrews, Gary Ell, Paul Barette, Sam Bonar, Paul Hallam

Apologies for absence: Chris Bass

The Presidents Address:

Steve Gardner gave a brief review of the year and acknowledged that the organisation had a successful year. Impressed with all things achieved and with the success of all the years' events.

Steve also spoke about the interaction of IAWA(UK) with IAWA globally and was encouraged by the good relationships and communication with our partners in the USA and Australia.

Items from the Previous AGM:

New Referee's Qualification implemented. This has been successfully introduced and there has been positive feedback received.

New Drug Testing Procedure implemented. Gary Ell was thanked for his work in introducing the testing procedures and it was agreed that the system is working well.

IAWA Constitution. This still needs to be actioned. Paul & Steve Andrews to liaise in the new year to draw up a formal organisation constitution.

Officers Reports:

Memberships – Paul gave a summary of memberships, the year averaged at 110 members. With members being able to join throughout the year and rolling memberships they are generally increased numbers around the time of big events like the Disability Champs and Gold Cup. New memberships for Club3B in Essex are very encouraging for the future.

Referees – Paul gave a report on referees. The new referee continued competency program has been successfully implemented. There are currently 16 Full Referees and 5 provisional referees.

Certificates on competency will now be issued and renewed on a 2 year basis.

Chris Bass provided the meeting with a report on the All-Round League. Chris noted that new lifters from Bionic Branch Barbell Club had boosted a potential decline in numbers competing in the league and this was welcome news. He also confirmed that record verifications were now being received as requested, in Kilos.

Steve Andrews gave his report on IAWA(UK) finances and provided the meeting with details of income and outgoings for the year, the account balance standing at £8569.29. Increased costs of Drug Testing were discussed and whilst funds remain healthy the new testing can continue to be subsidised with these reserves. Notable expenses for the year were discussed.

As more World Record requests are now received, it was decided that additional postage should be requested to cover those sent internationally.

Gary Ell provided the meeting with an update on drug testing. Six tests using the new Kings College process were carried out. One of which returned a positive result. The lifter has been given a lifetime ban from IAWA and Records Removed. Results from the event will be reposted with the lifter removed.

Steve Gardner presented to the meeting the proposed fixture list for 2024 which was approved by all those present.

Steve also presented to the meeting 2 new lift proposals, The 2 Person Turkish Get-up from Matt Jones, and the Four Floor Pulls from Mark Haydock. A discussion took place around the proposals and Steve will liaise with the proposers to draw up rules and arrange a demonstration to see them in action as exhibition lifts before submission to the Technical Committee.

Steve Andrews announced the election of officers:

Election of Officers:

Current: Executive Committee

President – Steve Gardner

Vice President, General Secretary & Asst. Treasurer – Paul Barette

Chairman & Treasurer – Steve Andrews

All-Round Secretary – Chris

Committee re-elected en bloc

Non Executive Positions

IAWA(UK) Technical Committee – Steve Gardner, Gary Ell

Membership Secretary & Asst. Records Registrar – Paul Barette

All-Round Postal League Sec. & Records Registrar – Chris Bass

Drug Control Officer – Gary Ell

Drug Control Assistants – Sam Bonar & Josh Davidson

Fixture List Co-ordinator – Steve Gardner

Perpetual Awards Coordinator – Steve Andrews

Disability Lifting Liaison Officer – Neil Keddy

Items of Other Business:

Sam Bonar is to be appointed Assistant Drug Control Officer to assist Gary Ell and Joshua Davidson is to also join the drug control team in a consultant role.

The IAWA(UK) Disability Lifts are being put forward to IAWA for possible approval for World Record Status.

The Old Time Strongman Lifts are also being put forward for possible World Record Status.

The Duck Walk which was approved at the AGM last year will be put forward for formal adoption at the World Council meeting in 2024.

Gary Ell will take over from Paul Barette, the IAWA(UK) Instagram Account.

A nomination was put forward from Paul Barette for the Health & Strength Junior Award for 2023, the committee agreed unanimously on the nomination, the award will be presented in the New Year and the lifter announced.

The Meeting Ended at 19:20