

IAWA (UK) 2024 AGM Meeting Notes

7th December 2024 – Meeting Started 9.40am

Venue – 18 Holly Road, Barton-Under-Needwood.

List of those Present :

Steve Gardner

Steve Andrews

Paul Barette

Sam Bonar

Danny Kingsland

Gary Ell

Apologies for Absence

Chris Bass

Neil Keddy

The President's Address:

Steve Gardner summarised the year by complimenting the standard of lifting and all events for the year went very well and that the World Championships held in Eastbourne was a fantastic event. Overall things run smoothly for the year and that with assistance from Paul, he was glad that we were able to help Neil in running the Welsh Open and Disability comps in Port Talbot.

Steve congratulated Paul in his new position of International President.

Items from the previous AGM:

Paul read the notes from the previous AGM.

Officers Reports:

Paul Barette gave a report on the status of memberships currently standing at 103. £242 had been received alongside membership fees for the year for donations to drug testing costs. The membership process has been once again streamlined with the use of Paypal. Although fees are payable this is offset by the lessened administration.

Paul reported that we have 19 Full Referees at present and that Max Ell, Paul Hallam and Matt Jones achieved sign-off this year.

Chris Bass submitted that there was only one point to raise, being the hosting of the IAWA World and British Records. These are currently hosted on Chris Bass's Haven Gym website and our IAWA(UK) website links to that.

This was discussed with Paul to liaise with Chris and look into any potential cost reimbursement that Chris may be owed due to hosting.

The All-Round League Lifts were submitted to Steve Gardner and it was agreed that the Spencer and Aston sets should remain every year.

Steve Andrews gave a report on the current finances, income and spending for the year. He provided those present with a print-out of the notable expenses those being Drug Testing, Comp Subsidies (Welsh & World Champs) as well as costs incurred to damage to the flooring at the Turing School during the World Championships. The account balance sits at £7816.66.

Gary Ell reported on drug testing for the year. With 7 tests conducted 4 results received (all negative). Three samples set to King College were voided due to transit error and the samples degraded before testing (no charges incurred other than loss of kits).

Neil Keddy sent in a written report which Paul shared with the meeting. In summary, Neil was very happy that the Disability Lifts had been granted World Record Status. He also confirmed the chosen lifts for the 2025 Fixtures. He was also grateful for the help received allowing the Welsh Open & Disability Championships to continue. He mentioned that he was happy should the committee agree an alternative venue if needed. Neil pointed out that clashes with the Disabled Strongman Champs may be affected lifter numbers and hopes that 2025 will be not affected.

Steve Gardner report on technical matters and read through the proposed 2025 fixtures. Those present agreed unanimously to approve the fixtures. Paul to upload to website in coming days.

Steve was also pleased to report that his Rule book updates have been completed. Working together with Paul, the rule book additions have been made in incorporate new lifts, additional information on International Events and the formatting has been refreshed.

Being no update to the previously lift proposal the Four Floors Pulls, Steve to ask Mark if he has produced rules and suggest an exhibition of the lift performed.

The General Secretary received a new lift proposal from Ray Dews, the Skullcrusher. The lift rules were discussed but concerns over safety were raised. Paul to ask Ray to consider safety aspect and provide a demonstration but the lift should not be considered at the moment.

Election of Officers:

All officers were prepared to stand for re-election and there are no other proposed candidates – All were re-elected en bloc.

Current:

Executive Committee

President – Steve Gardner

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

Chairman & Treasurer – Steve Andrews

All-Round Secretary – Chris Bass

Non Executive Positions

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

Membership Secretary, Asst. Records Registrar & Website – 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

All-Round League Perpetual Awards Coordinator – Steve Andrews

Disability Lifting Liaison Officer – Neil Keddy

Any other Business

The Award of the Health & Strength Junior Award for 2024 was discussed and Emily Haydock chosen as the winner. In recognition performances at the IAWA World Championships in her final year of lifting as a junior it was agreed that Lara Bennett should be awarded a certificate of Recognition (as she was a close runner-up to the Junior Trophy).

Steve Andrews presented the Frank Allen Memorial Trophy to be awarded for the Best One Hand Deadlift at the Single Arm Championships based on amended points.

Finally the International Fixtures for 2025/26/27 were presented.

Internationals Calendar:

Worlds 2025 = Belfast, England

Gold Cup = Derby, England

Worlds 2026 = PA, USA

Gold Cup 2026 = Eastbourne, England

Worlds 2027 = Perth, AUS

Gold Cup 2027 = TBC

Concluded 11:20