

## **2025 IAWA (UK) AGM – Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December – 5pm**

### **Barton under Needwood, Staffordshire**

In the Absence of the Chairman the President Chaired the meeting.

**Those Present:** Paul Barette. Steve Gardner. Gary Ell. Steve Andrews by Video. Paul Hallam. Matt Jones. Chloe Brennan.

**Apologies:** Chris Bass

**Presidents Address:** The President said he was very pleased with IAWA (UK) through 2025, lots of members and new members. All events and Postal Leagues were well supported. It was good that we overcame the loss of the Welsh Open event which had been very popular, but it had been replaced with the West Country Open which was also very popular, and a great venue for the Disability Championships also.

**Minutes of the Last Meeting:** The Secretary read through the minutes of the 2024 AGM. There were no matters arising

### **Reports From Officers:**

#### **Paul Barette:**

General Secretary, Assistant Treasurer, Web Site maintainer.

**Assistant to Records Keeping with Chris Bass** – Paul is finding a way to migrate the World and British Records so they are hosted by our Web Site and not Chris Bass's In line with Chris Bass's request. Paul will talk with Chloe about this to see if they can work out how it can be done.

**Records Certificates provider** – Paul has produced 180 Record Certificates through the year

**Membership Secretary** – We have 113 Members (up 10%)

**keeper of the Referees Listings** – We currently have 21 Fully Qualified Referees including our newest officials: Chloe Brennan and Jamie Oates

**You Tube Channel Maintainer** – Paul needed some assistance, he will now liaise with Matt Jones who had offered to help Paul with Videos of all lifts for our channel.

**Portable Score Board Screen** - Paul suggested we might invest in a portable

screen set up for taking to venues to display the score board. All agreed this was a great idea, Paul will source what he requires and we will purchase it.

### **Chris Bass:**

Not Present but Report given by Paul – Chris was happy in his work and happy to continue as Records Registrar (but would like IAWA(UK) to host the records listings. (See previous report)

### **Steve Andrews:**

Treasurer - Present by Video

**The Finances** - for the organisation are in good shape. Our expenses for the year were £1701.84. Our Current Balance stands at £8,933.42. Drug Testing being our biggest expense. This year we received £275 in donations towards the cost of Drug Testing.

**Perpetual Trophies** – Steve is managing to keep track of all Perpetual Trophies, and a proposal was put by the committee to create three new Perpetual Wards to be used for the Disability Standing Event, the Disability Seated event, and the West Country Open. All agreed Steve should look into sourcing the awards, keeping a space clear on them in case at a later date we dedicate them to somebody. Steve Agreed to do this.

**The 2025 Best Junior Award** – For the Health and Strength Award - After much discussion it was agreed who would receive the Award, which will be officially announced and presented in January 2026

### **Gary Ell:**

Instagram Programmer – Our iawa (uk) Instagram account has 1,263 followers.

**Drug Testing** – Gary and his team (Sam and Josh) did 6 tests, one lifter got called away on a family emergency before he lifted so the test was not processed. 4 tests were submitted for results – All Negative. The other test was a request where the lifter failed to give a sample. This is treated as a positive result – after the appeal the life time ban was upheld and all records removed.

### **Steve Gardner:**

Facebook Programmer – The Facebook page has 837 members

**Technical Committee** – Any matters arising were dealt with positively

**Fixtures List 2026** – The proposed Fixtures List was discussed, a few minor

tweaks were made. All agreed the fixtures can now go live – Paul will upload them to the website

## **Election of Officers**

All current officers in place were happy to stand again. There were no other candidates for the positions. All to be re-elected en Bloc – Proposed by Steve G  
Seconded by Paul B – All in favour

2 new appointments were proposed for Vacant Positions:

**Disability Liaison Officer** – Steve and Paul had spoken with Gary Clarke at the Disability Event and he was keen to be involved and help out with the iawa (uk) disability lifting. Gary sent his contact details to Paul. He will be attending the February Fixture in Tiverton where he will run a workshop testing out some new lifts that we wish to add the lists (read more later) He also offered to make a disability seat for iawa (uk) at half price. It was agreed to purchase the seat, he will bring it along in February and it will be stored with Gary Ell. Steve G Proposed Gary Clarke, Seconded by Gary and the vote was all in favour. Gary is the new disability Liaison Officer

**Female and Diversity Inclusion Officer** – The Committee had previously commented that we need a person in this role. Chloe Brennan had approached and said she was happy to do the job if we wished her too. Steve G Proposed Chloe Brennan, Seconded by Paul B – All in Favour. Chloe is the new Officer

## **Any Other Business**

Chloe Brennan Proposal:

Chloe had sent in a proposal for lifter to be allowed to wear skin-tight Leggings and Body form Skin Tight long sleeve shirts. We are aware this has already been adopted by the USAWA. It is realised that there are many reasons why moving forward with this can be important. All reasons were discussed including body

image, religious reasons etc. It would obviously have to apply to all not just females. There was a full discussion where it was agreed that so long as the leggings and sleeve tops are skin tight (not baggy in any way) of one Colour (no wording or patterns) so that exact knee and elbow junctions can be observed properly, and totally unsupportive material. Then the committee agreed to support this proposal which will now be put to IAWA via the President and the Technical Committee Secretary. The proposal will then come up for voting at the next IAWA World Council Meeting in October 2026 at Lebanon PA USA. If passed, then it will be added to the rule book.

The Proposal was from Chloe, Paul B Seconded – all in favour

A Clarification of the Rules on the Shoulder Drop is being addressed – the rules of performance will now clearly state: It is a Drop not a roll down the back, and lifters cannot move their feet. There is no change, these are the correct rules of the lift but were not made clear previously.

Gary Ell Proposal:

Gary proposed increasing the number of lifts in the Disability Lists. (currently there are ten) After Discussion it was agreed to add ten more lifts to the existing ten, to make 20 lifts available altogether for both Standing and Seated Classes.

The Lifts are: Fulton DL, Ciavattone DL, Thumbless DL, One Hand Pinch Grip, OH 1 inch Vertical Bar, 2Hs 1 inch Vertical Bar, OH 2 inch Vertical Bar, 2Hs 2 inch Vertical Bar, The Hackenschmidt Floor Press, The Dumbell to Shoulder.

This will give more variation and is including Grip lifts and a couple of Old Time Strongman lifts, to bring more inclusivity into Grip events and the Old Time Strongman event. (Note: the new lifts will only hold British Record Status. If in a years time we are happy with them and thing they are fully viable we can the seek IAWA approval to become World Record Status. It was agreed that Gary Clarke will perform a workshop in Tiverton to test out the lifts.

The Proposal was from Gary Seconded by Steve – All in Favour

Date and Place of next AGM – Saturday December 5<sup>th</sup> after the OTS Event

There being no other business the meeting closed at 6.30pm