



**The British Amateur Boxing Association Limited
EIS, Sheffield, S9 5DA
11.00 Tuesday 7th June 2016**

Board meeting minutes

In attendance

Steven Esom (BABA Chairman)
Matt Holt (BABA CEO)
Rob McCracken (BABA Performance Director)
Jason Glover (Independent, via conference call)
Dawn Brown (Independent)
Sara Symington (Independent)
Caspar Hobbs (England Boxing, via conference call)
Carl Pesticcio (Welsh Boxing)
David Francis (Welsh Boxing)
John Macpherson (Boxing Scotland)
Fraser Walker (Boxing Scotland)
Laura Ross (Taking minutes)

1. Welcome and introductions

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the board meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received by GB and TM.

3. Declarations of interest

MH informed the board that at the Audit Committee meeting last year it was requested that annual declaration of interest forms must be completed by the board. JM and FW will complete a declaration of interest form.

4. Approval of minutes for the Board meeting held on 16th February 2016

The minutes dated 7th June 2016 were agreed as accurate.

Matters arising

Declarations of interest

MH confirmed completion of his declaration of interest form.

Anti-doping

MH updated the board on anti-doping.

Projects update – Cuts

MH provided an update on the cuts project and confirmed that the new methodology had been approved by the AIBA medical commission chairman.

Northern Ireland update

FW updated the board that the Home Nations will be meeting Clare McCauley from the Ulster Branch of Irish Athletic Boxing Association post this board meeting. The Home nations will keep the board updated.

Action: Home Nations

AIBA commission meeting update

JG requested an update on the AIBA Commission meeting. MH informed the board that England Boxing had hosted an outstanding event and AIBA appreciated being hosted by England Boxing. MH believed it has benefitted AIBA-Home Nation-GB relationships. CH informed the board of his view that England Boxing had significantly benefitted from hosting the event and advised the importance for the Home Nations to nominate members for roles within AIBA.

Detailed breakdown on programme administration overspend

MH confirmed to the board that this had been completed and circulated to the board prior to the meeting.

GB Boxing Strategy 2017-21

MH informed the board formal feedback had been provided from UK Sport on the strategy and was circulated prior to this meeting. The key points include;

- UK sport will be putting significant pressure in the next cycle on sports to source co-funding and commercial income.
- The medal target has been agreed as 3 to 5 for Tokyo
- Boxing has been allocated into Priority band 2 (multi medal results targeted) with the UK Sport merit table. Priority band 1 is only achievable if a sport tops the medal table.
- UK sport support the move for full-time podium potential programme but BABA needs provide justification for the additional investment.
- UK Sport provided feedback on the women's programme and the talent pathway for the future.

JG enquired how topping the medal table would be constructed is it number of medals or number of gold medals. MH would seek clarification.

Action: MH

DB enquired whether an interim strategy is needed to be in place for Rio on the new ruling that professionals are able to enter the Olympics. A lengthy discussion took place on the AIBA decision to include professionals. A working party would be formed to consider the matter. MH would provide a proposal at the next board meeting on the strategy for this new ruling post Rio. MH informed the board that UK Sport has asked for feedback on how this will be dealt with post Rio. MH will seek timescales from UK Sport.

Action: MH

MH updated the board that he, RM and JG had presented to UK Sport on the retention strategy. UK Sport understand the issue but would reconsider the issue after the Rio Games.

Catering project

MH updated the board that there has been discussions with SIV on the possibility of catering being resourced by them. A number of different catering options are being considered.

5. Approval of new directors

The board approved and welcomed Boxing Scotland nominations FW and JM as new directors.

6. Chief Executive report

Organisation

MH informed the board that the WSB season was very successful with the team reaching the final. Home matches had received larger crowds than previous seasons and the programme has received strong financial support from UK Sport and funding from the Mayor of London.

Governance

MH updated the board that the England Talent programme has successfully transferred back to England Boxing. The Pathway Management Group which is formed by the BABA, England Boxing, and Sport England UK Sport will monitor investment. The England Talent programme will work collaboratively with the GB programme and England Talent Pathway Manager will remain reporting to Rob Gibson.

MH updated the board on the Governance report from Moore Stephens. Previously Moore Stephens had given a red rating due to the level of engagement with Boxing Scotland. MH informed the board BABA had pushed back on this grading as there has been a re-engagement from Boxing Scotland and significant progress has been made between the two organisations. MH and FW had met with Sport Scotland in April, which was very positive and relationships are moving forward positively. MH informed the board Moore Stephens have now amended the rating to green/amber.

Performance

RM informed the board that the team had participated very well in season 6 of WSB reaching the final in Uzbekistan against Cuba.

RM informed the board a strategy is needed to provide incentives to boxers to compete in WSB in the future in order to fill all weights. WSB is a tough programme with very experienced opponents. RM explained it is beneficial to the boxers as they have improved competing with in bouts alongside the experience gained from multinational training camps.

RM updated the board on the status of the squad. RM informed the board the programme has qualified 8 men and 2 women for Rio. There are two more opportunities to qualify 64kg and 69kg male boxers in Azerbaijan and then Venezuela.

SE asked RM what is required to assist in developing the women's programme. RM informed the board the programme needs to be as thorough as possible with finding talent as it is not coming through the home nations as quickly as the men. BABA's job is to try and find female boxers quicker and develop them faster.

Commercial

MH updated the board on the final tenders for sportswear and equipment partnerships and directed the board to a breakdown included in the board papers.

JG informed the board it is a very good offer from a commercial angle. SS enquired what the turnaround time for providing the kit will be as sometimes it can take a considerable length of time. MH will seek clarification and ensure it is included and the contract is progressed with Lonsdale.

Action: MH

7. Performance pathway update

MH updated the board that at the last meeting TM had requested a detailed progress report on Performance Pathway for the cycle. MH directed the board to the report in the board pack.

8. Finance report

MH presented the financial report to the Board.

JG asked for clarification on a number of overspends including; non contract coaches, accommodation running costs, domestic travel, nutritional supplies, food and phones. MH reported to the board that the overspend on non-contract and consultant coaches relates to additional coaching cover for the large number of tournaments and WSB matches that have been completed this year.

LR reported the over spend on running costs is due to the increased number of staff and boxers that are using the accommodation. England Talent regularly use the accommodation.

MH reported to the board that a number of expenditure items for food and nutritional supplies is offset against the recharge nominal code. JG requested a separate nominal code be provided for foreign countries expenditure and income to show recharges clearly.

JG requested a detailed breakdown on coach domestic travel and mobile phones. LR will provide this.

Action: MH/LR

9. Risk register

MH presented the risk register which was noted by the Board.

10. Any other business

CH updated the board that Paul Porter has been appointed as England Boxing CEO.

DB enquired whether the Olympians will receive any memorabilia from BABA as a gift for their achievements. MH informed the board that the programme will be conducting a family day in which gifts will be presented to the whole team in advance of the Games. DB suggested also a post Rio party for the programme. MH will provide a one pager on a proposal for post Rio celebrations.

Action: MH