



**British Amateur Boxing Association Limited  
Simpson, Thacher & Bartlett  
18<sup>th</sup> June 2024 10am  
Board meeting minutes**

**In attendance**

Jason Glover (GB Boxing Chair)  
Matt Holt (GB Boxing CEO)  
David Chadwick (Senior Independent Director) – via zoom  
Lucy Walker (Independent Director)  
Christine Ohuruogu (Independent Director)  
Richard Brooke (England Boxing Director)  
Chris Smith (England Boxing Director)  
Colin Metson (Welsh Boxing Director)  
Paul Thorogood (Welsh Boxing Director)  
Craig McEvoy (Boxing Scotland Director)

Fran Houghton (UK Sport, Performance Advisor)  
David Meli (UK Sport, Sport Advisor)  
Robert Morini (UK Sport, Head of Sporting System)  
Rob McCracken (GB Boxing, Performance Director)  
Rebecca Edginton (GB Boxing, Performance Manager)  
Laura Ross (taking minutes)

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the board. The Chair welcomed CS to his first board meeting as a director.

**2. Apologies for Absence**

No apologies were received.

**3. Declarations of Interest**

Declarations of interest were received from MH in relation to his role with World Boxing.

**GB BOXING**

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#### 4. Approval of minutes of board meetings of 20<sup>th</sup> March, 8<sup>th</sup> April and 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024

MH updated the board on the actions from the March meeting minutes. MH updated the board on the mouth guard project. The potential safety benefit of the project was raised and it was agreed a more substantial update would be provided at the December board meeting.

##### Action: MH

The Chair requested nominations for the board Diversity and Inclusion Champion in order for this role to be filled by the September board meeting.

##### Action: The Chair

The board approved the minutes of 20<sup>th</sup> March, 8<sup>th</sup> April and 15<sup>th</sup> April.

#### 5. Audit Committee minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> May and 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

LW updated the board on the recent Audit Committee meetings and presented the minutes in the board papers for noting.

#### 6. CEO report

MH directed the board to the report in the board papers and highlighted the key areas. A discussion took place on the challenges that the programme had faced this cycle to produce athletes. These challenges included the shortened cycle through Covid; the detrimental consequences to athletes' development through being unable to compete at the major championships where Russia/Belarus were competing; and the turnover of Olympians (only 1 out of 11 qualifiers in Tokyo has remained on the programme).

MH updated the board on the status of the lease, with the venue currently going under a tender process for a new leisure facility provider. A proposal has been presented by Sheffield City Council to ensure an appropriate agreement is in place with GB Boxing.

MH updated the board on staff changes. MH and LR completed a recruitment process eight weeks ago and have appointed Isabel Sloan as Operations Manager. Isabel has a strong sporting background



joining GB Boxing from Scottish Cycling. The candidates were of exceptional standard and an appointment of Ali Ladiwala has also been made to the position of Operations Executive.

MH updated the board on a new approach to coach development which will include forming a coach development working group. CM highlighted he was glad to see home nation coaches developing through the pathway.

MH updated the board on the pathway strategy. The operational relationships are very strong with all three home nations with a performance committee being formed. This committee meet monthly and is working well, with current focus on events and increasing women's boxing participation.

MH informed the board that the final funding figure for the LA Cycle will be provided by UK Sport in December. This final funding will help inform the wider strategic approach to the pathway. RB raised whether there would be an opportunity to do a strategic review of the programme. The Chair confirmed at the September board the executive team will present on this subject. Ahead of this board meeting MH and the Chair would engage with directors on issues and areas they would like to cover. The September board meeting will be an opportunity to explore opportunities and open dialogue on the review. The Chair will map out a timeline for the home nations of the process.

#### **Action: MH/Chair**

MH updated the board on the Podium to Pro programme. Lauren Price recently became IBO and WBA World Welterweight champion defeating Jessical McCaskill in the 5<sup>th</sup> Round. This was a first world title for the GB Boxing Podium to Pro programme. Post-games, the programme will look to identify prospects for Podium to Pro for the LA cycle.

### **7. Performance Report**

RM updated the board on the last Olympic qualifier that took place in Thailand in May. Lewis Richardson had four contests at this tournament to be the final qualified Olympian for the programme. Now the Olympic team is finalised RM will identify a team captain for the boxing team ahead of Paris. The Chair and the Board wished the PD and the team the very best of luck in Paris.

### **8. Athlete Health**

Ian Gatt, Head of Performance Sport presented on athlete health of the programme throughout the Paris Olympic Cycle. After the Olympic Games the programme will consider how to address common injury issues and determine future strategies.

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## 9. GB Boxing Selection Policy

MH directed the board to the policy in the board papers. Amendments to the selection policy are required due to the changing international competition environment, learnings from the Paris cycle and changes based on consultation with the home nations through the performance committee. MH summarised the key proposed changes to the selection policy for the board.

The board approved the selection policy.

## 10. System Master Planning

Robert Morini, Head of Sporting System for UK Sport, informed the board of the master planning project that is currently taking place and presented on the background to this. PT enquired whether there was an opportunity for UK Sport to create a fund where commercial funding could pool together to create more funding. The board was informed that this had been tried previously with GB Sport Media, sadly without success. The Chair thanked Robert for taking the time to attend the board meeting and presenting.

## 11. Finance Report

MH directed the board to the finance report in the board papers and gave an overview of the accounts to year end. MH asked the board if there were any questions on the management accounts. LW confirmed to the board even though the programme is running at a planned deficit this year the programme is not in a concerning position due to reserves on the balance sheet.

MH presented to the board the UK Sport quarterly submission for approval. The board approved the UK Sport quarterly submission.

MH also presented to the board the revised four-year budget for approval. The board approved the four-year budget.

## 12. BDO Report and Action Plan



MH and LW directed the board to the completed BDO report in the board papers. Appended to the report is an action plan which has been drafted with input from MH, LR and Mandy Seddon (Management Accountant). This plan has been agreed by the Audit Committee.

LW highlighted to the board the critical points from the review and informed the board that these reviews are very welcome to ensure the organisation is working well and transparently.

**Action: MH/LW/UK Sport**

LW asked the board if there were any questions from the BDO report and sought approval from the board on the action plan. The board approved the action plan.

The Chair thanked LW for all her work as Audit Committee Chair.

## 13. Governance

### Board Structure

MH directed the board to the governance report in the board papers. MH explained to the board a board review was conducted by the Sport and Recreational Alliance and recommendations had been made. MH and the Chair presented to the board on the proposed board structure. The Chair informed the board there will also be amendments to the articles of association required.

The Chair sought agreement in principle from the board on the proposed board restructure. The board agreed and approved the process.

### World Championships Funding Submission

MH informed the board that GB Boxing is currently working through a process with UK Sport to bid for the 2025 World Boxing Championships. As GB Boxing Events may be in receipt of funding from UK Sport it would need to be code compliant with the Sports Governance code. MH explained to the board GB Boxing has been through this process already. With the board of directors being the same for both GB Boxing and GB Boxing Events MH requested a board approval that GB Boxing Events can adopt all the same policies and processes as GB Boxing in order to be code compliant.

The board approved GB Boxing Events to adopt all GB Boxing's policies and processes.

MH sought approval from the board to continue to proceed and complete the funding application for the World Championships. Approval was required for the cash and VIK contribution that GB Boxing



will be committing to the event. MH confirmed a board member as well as CEO would be required to sit on the stakeholder board should the bid be successful.

The board approved the process including the Cash and VIK contribution. MH will update the board at the next board meeting after the UK Sport panel have met on 27<sup>th</sup> June.

**Action: MH**

#### 14. International Relations and Events

MH Updated the board on the new IOC and DCMS guidance in relation to competing against Russia/Belarus.

A discussion took place on the policy, and the new proposed policy was agreed.

**Action: MH**

MH updated the board on the status of World Boxing.

#### 15. Safeguarding and diversity

LR updated the board on the GB Boxing Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) and the safeguarding action plan. LR requested support from the home nations to provide their equality monitoring data for comparison with GB Boxing. This will help to shape key project areas moving forward and ensure the GB Boxing Diversity and inclusion work aligns with the home nations.

**Action: LR/Home Nations**

#### 16. Anti-doping

MH directed the board to the anti-doping report in the board papers and took the report as read. There were no further questions or comments.

#### 17. Risk register

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MH updated the board on amendments to the risk register with two new risks added in relation to the current tender process for the English Institute of Sport. These amendments were.

13a – EIS Sheffield Management Company Transition – eviction, likelihood 1, severity 5.

13b – EIS Sheffield Management Company Transition – rent increase, likelihood 5, severity 4.

It was agreed to leave 13b on the register until the lease has been signed for the next cycle. It was agreed to remove Covid from the risk register.

#### 18. Any other business

There was no other business.

The board expressed their best wishes to Rob, Becs and the team for the Olympic Games and were appreciative of what the team have done this cycle. MH will send the Olympic competition schedule to the board.

**Action: MH**

ENDS

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