



**Boxing Scotland Limited Board Meeting**  
**5 Nasmyth Court, Houston Industrial Estate, Livingston EH54 5EG**  
**12 June 2014 17:00hrs**

Present: Richard Thomas (RMT), William Burns (WB), Peter Evans (PE), Kevin Bell (KB), Frank Delaney (FD)

In attendance: Fraser Walker (FW).

**1 – Apologies**

John Macpherson (JMac) and Chris Robison (**sportscotland**) offered their apologies.

KB offered his apologies for running late.

The Chairman apologised for missing the previous Board meeting and thanked WB for chairing it.

**2 – Conflict of Interest**

The Chairman and KB registered a conflict of interest with regards to an item being raised under AOCB.

**3 – Approval of Minutes of the ABS Ltd Board Meeting held on 19 February 2014.**

The minutes were taken as read.

**4 – Chairman's report**

**4.1 Glasgow 2014 Nomination and Selection Process**

The Chairman explained more than ten boxers had achieved the minimum eligibility criteria. This led to an appeal being received from an experienced sports arbitration lawyer acting on behalf of a boxer not nominated.

The documented BSL appeals process was followed and the appeal was subsequently upheld. Commonwealth Games Scotland noted their satisfaction with how the matter was dealt with, however, the appellant has continued with his case by contacting the Cabinet Secretary for Commonwealth Games, Sport, Equalities and Pensioners' Rights.

Our Glasgow 2014 boxers have since attended intensive, no frills training camps in Portugal and Australia. Results in Australia were particularly encouraging with two consecutive wins recorded against the host nation.

FD remarked that the preparation has been extremely thorough and markedly better than prior to Delhi.

The Chairman commended the relationship and camaraderie that exists between the performance programme coaches.

The appointment of Raymond Gibson as Emerging Talent coach is fantastic. Raymond will be hugely important in formalising and creating pathways between Talent ID boxers and the performance programme.

## **4.2 Equalities and Human Rights Commission (EHRC)**

This matter is nearing conclusion and the only significant findings have been we can improve our record keeping in relation to the non-selection of boxers.

Inter-club boxing in the next step in the development of our Female boxers and our funder sportscotland has given its blessing for us to arrange this.

FD recently attended an inter-club event in Switzerland. Any female boxers interested in attending were invited to be assessed which resulted in three of our female boxers attending.

The Chairman noted that BSL can only provide opportunities – There have been a number of open training opportunities for females which have been poorly subscribed.

## **5 – Operational report**

The report was taken as read subject to the following items being discussed:

### **5.1 2014 Championships**

FW noted and the Board acknowledged the fantastic 2014 Championship events delivered throughout February and March. These culminated in our 2014 finals - BSL's biggest ever championship event which saw 13 tremendous finals bouts staged in the Emirates Arena, Glasgow.

FW noted the delivery of the finals had been severely affected by Emirates Arena staff because of their ineffectual event management, planning and communication skills

### **5.2 GB Boxing**

FW provided an update on communication and discussions regarding whether BSL will support the GB Boxing Road to Rio and Memorandum of Understanding documents.

Further to a GB Talent Commission meeting, our National and Technical coach attended in Cardiff on 29&30 April 2014, a meeting was held on 14 May 2014 with the GB Boxing CEO in Glasgow.

The purpose of this was to discuss the updating of the GB Boxing Road to Rio Plan and Memorandum of Understanding documents as the release of GB Boxing's 2014-2015 investment is contingent on all Home Nations signing up to both documents.

A number of insertions were made to the documents including provision for podium potential boxers to base themselves within Home Nation programmes.

Despite these additions, the documents do not address concerns previously communicated regarding Home Nation engagement.

As a result, FW was tasked with contacting UK Sport to find out whether:

- If a Home Nation Podium level boxer does not want to base themselves in Sheffield for educational, family and/or career based reasons, can he/she choose to live and train at home and retain their Podium status?
- Is it written into GB funded athlete agreements that podium level athletes must be located at the centralised GB programme venue? If so can a copy be provided?

### **5.3 Fit for Purpose Audit**

FW provided a report on the progress being made against all outstanding Fit for Purpose Audit recommendations.

It was recommended that all Director terms should be for a maximum of four years each Director can only serve a maximum of two tenures (eight years). The Chairman urged fellow Directors to exercise caution and not assume that every Director will serve for a period of 8 years.

The Chairman asked KB to produce a motion for member consideration at either the AGM or at a SGM.

### **6 Legal, Investigations and Disciplinary**

The report was taken as read.

### **7 Performance and Talent ID – Targets and Statistics**

The report was taken as read.

### **8 Cashback**

The report was taken as read.

### **9 Equality**

The report was taken as read.

PE suggested that an Equality good practice checklist/register be developed to ensure we record what actions have and have not been completed as we work towards achieving the Equality Standard preliminary level.

PE noted his objection to the use of ring girls during the 2014 Finals and felt a mixed message was being communicated. There were four female finals on the evening and then females were used as objects of titillation between rounds.

The Chairman asked whether this has offended any other Directors. KB, FD and WB confirmed it had not and explained they respected PE's opinion.

The Chairman explained that prior to the finals there were 59 registered females. Afterwards there were 80 because of increased publicity. No BSL staff or volunteers present on the evening of the finals received any complaints regarding the use of ring girls.

PE suggested it would be prudent to appoint a Board member to advocate Equality.

The Chairman explained he did some time ago in speaking to JMac and will follow up.

### **10 Finance**

The report was taken as read.

### **11 Risk Register**

The report was taken as read.

KB suggested a policy and procedure register should accompany future risk registers which documents creation and review dates of each document.

## 12 Appendices

The following documents were all approved:

- **sport**scotland strategic planning paper;
- BSL Annual Plan;
- Emergency Board Meeting Minutes.

The following document was noted as work in progress:

- Permit application procedure.

The Chairman highlighted the importance of the BSL Open scheduled for 22 June 2014.

An open invite to all members has been posted on our website and social media pages. FW will issue formal written invites to directors.

The Board noted the importance of the new strategic plan consultation process being conducted by a neutral and concluded the session should not be facilitated by either the Chairman or **sport**scotland.

It was felt members will respond better to someone who is independent and would be more forthcoming with their thoughts and opinions.

## 13 AOCB

The Chairman and KB left the room at this point of the meeting.

FW explained he had commissioned DM Hall to conduct a report and valuation of the current BSL office and storage space.

The report confirmed that current monthly rental rates and mezzanine storage space was, in their opinion, in line with comparable evidence collated for similar serviced and storage facilities.

In terms of the subject premises, the areas calculated were on a net internal basis due to the shared nature and, as previously noted, incorporate serviced facilities and utility bills. Therefore, DM Hall was of the opinion that current rental costs are fully supportable.

The Board noted their satisfaction and comfort with the content of the report.