



ANNUAL REPORT 2017



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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 2017 Annual Report.

As you will see, once again our sport has had as busy and eventful a year as ever. After the upheaval and changes of last year, this year has been a year of triumphs and it has to be said, of challenges.

The number of registered boxers continues to increase as does the number of clubs. Our boxers have enjoyed some significant successes: Scotland has had its first World champion as well as our first female medallist at an international competition.

These successes are it has to be said, a result of the increased investment in our sport by sportscotland. However, as a result of the austerity measures being applied across the public sector, that support has now been reduced and the

main challenge we face is how to continue to maintain our success without it.

Having said all that, I believe that in this Commonwealth Games year, the current crop of Scottish boxers is as good as any we have had in the past.

Let that, and the dedication of our clubs, their members, families and their supporters be the platform to ensure that Scottish boxing's future is as bright as it can be.

Yours in Sport



Fraser Walker

Interim Chief Executive Officer Boxing Scotland



PERFORMANCE

There is strong feeling of déjà vu as we reminisce on yet another extremely successful year for our boxers who have stepped into the ring at the highest international level and made Scotland even more of a nation to be feared.

Without belittling previous season successes, it is fair to say our boxers have produced Scotland's best ever results at a World and European level during the 2016 – 2017 season. It would be difficult to begin anywhere else than Willie Hutchinson's outstanding 2016 World Youth Championship Gold medal out in St Petersburg, Russia.

Willie produced four outstanding performances seeing off 4 World Class opponents from Cuba, Venezuela, Ireland and Kazakhstan to win Scotland's first ever World Youth Gold medal and become Scotland's most successful ever youth boxer.

Elsewhere, we enjoyed the rare privilege of entering a full, ten strong team into the 2017 European Championships in Karkhiv, Ukraine. The European Championships is regarded as one of the most difficult tournaments in the World and our Boxers did not disappoint.

There were valiant performances from all our boxers against many far more experienced opponents who were either full time or WSB boxers. Three boxers in particular excelled by reaching the quarter final stages of the competition – Aqeel Ahmed & Lee McGregor both lost to the eventual silver medal winners in their 49 & 56kg bouts and Sean Lazzerini lost to the eventual gold medal winner in his 81kg bout.

Our best ever European Elite Championship performance was topped off with Aqeel, Lee and Sean all gaining automatic selection for the 2017 World Championships being held in Hamburg, Germany later this year. As always, there were several other notable performances throughout the season by too many boxers to mention individually by name.



PERFORMANCE

In last year's Annual Report, we reflected on the amazing 100% medal return of our 2015 Samoa Commonwealth Youth Games team. The 2017 Bahamas Commonwealth Youth Games have just concluded at which we had a team of eight boxers representing Team Scotland. Our Boxers returned with a very impressive 1 Gold (Tyler Jolly), 1 Silver (Lewis Johnston) and 3 Bronze medals (Megan Gordon, Taylor Hamilton and Sam Hickey).

Special mention must go to Tyler Jolly as our sole Gold medallist and also Megan Gordon who made history in becoming not just the first every Scottish female boxer to represent Scotland in a Commonwealth Games multi games event but also to win a medal.

To round off a great set of summer performances, Keir Hardie's Marcus Mackenzie was part of a five-strong schoolboy team that very recently travelled to Romania to compete in the 2017 European Schoolboy Championships.

Marcus had a magnificent tournament boxing four times to reach the semi-final stages of the tournament where he came up against Russian opposition and the eventual 48kg winner. Marcus went toe to toe with Russian Aleksandr Zyrianov only just losing out to a 3:2 split decision in a tournament that Russia won 13 gold, 3 silver and 1 bronze medals in.

The next major milestone on the horizon is the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games – we are just 9 months away from the opening ceremony and have an extremely challenging medal target of winning five or more medals in an 'away' games.

Fortunately, we have an extremely talented group of boxers to pick the team from so the target is definitely not out with our reach.

However, the unfortunate decision by sportscotland, under instruction from the Scottish Government, to significantly cut our performance funding in April 2017 may have a very detrimental effect on our ability to send our best boxers to the very best competitions to gain valuable experience.

We recorded our highest ever level of programme activity during the 2016 – 2017 season and huge credit must go to each and every club coach who placed boxers onto the BSL performance programme.



The table below summarises our performance programme activity from August 2016 to July 2017:

MONTH	EVENT	NO. OF BOXERS	LOCATION	RESULT
August 2016	Danube Cup	7	Romania	4 Gold 1 Bronze
September 2016	General Phase Conditioning Camp	21	Scotland	N/A
October 2016	Tammer Tournament	8	Finland	2 Gold 2 Silver 2 Bronze
October 2016	World Youth Sparring Camp	8	N Ireland	N/A
November 2016	Army Dual	6	England	3 wins
November 2016	World Youth Championships	6	Russia	1 Gold
November 2016	Golden Glove	6	Serbia	2 Gold 2 Silver 1 Bronze
November 2016	Scotland v England North West	15	Blackpool	4 wins
December 2016	Best of British	5	Sheffield	2 Gold
December 2016	Scotland v England Dual Match	12	Glasgow	4 wins
December 2016	Wales v Scotland Dual Match	15	Cardiff	6 wins
January 2017	General Conditioning Camp	31	Scotland	N/A
January 2017	Conditioning Camp and Dual Match	10	Australia	6 wins
February 2017	Bocksai Tournament	6	Hungary	1 Bronze
March 2017	Training Camp/Tournament	5	Russia	1 Bronze
April 2017	Norway Sparring Camp	21	Glasgow	N/A
April 2017	GB Youths & Juniors	27	Sheffield	3 Gold 9 Silver
April 2017	Belgrade Winners	12	Serbia	3 Gold 2 Silver 2 Bronze
May 2017	Feliks Stamm	7	Poland	2 Bronze
May 2017	GB Elite Championships	15	Cardiff	3 Gold 8 Silver
May 2017	Dual Match	6	Edinburgh	4 wins
May 2017	Dual Match	6	Glasgow	4 wins
June 2017	GB School Championships	31	Motherwell	3 Gold 10 Silver
June 2017	Sparring/Taper Camp	8	Ukraine	N/A
June 2017	European Championships	9	Ukraine	3 Quarter Finalists
June 2017	Sparring Camp	9	Glasgow	N/A
July 2017	Sparring Camp	9	Ireland	N/A
July 2017	Commonwealth Youth Games	8	Bahamas	1 Gold 1 Silver 3 Bronze

FEMALE BOXING

Pleasingly, female participation and registration continued to increase significantly during the 2016 – 2017 season.

We recorded 189 registered competitive female boxing members during the 2016 – 2017 season which is our highest amount ever and up 54.9% from the 2015 – 2016 season total of 122.

FEMALE CHAMPIONSHIPS

We also received one of our highest ever amount of female entries for our 2016 – 2017 national championship events, details of which are as follows:

2016 Novice championships	44 Entries
2017 Intermediate Championships	10 Entries
2017 Open Championships	28 Entries
2017 School & Junior Champs	33 Entries
115 ENTRIES IN TOTAL	

For the first time ever, there were 5 Elite Female final bouts contested during the 2017 BSL finals and we had our highest

ever representation in the GB Elite Championships with 5 women taking part in the event this year in Cardiff, winning two silver and three bronze medals.

We aim to record more than 200 registered competitive female boxing members for this coming season.

At the beginning of 2017, our team of performance coaches developed a specific female strategy which is designed to achieve the following:

- Increase female only sessions in our Glasgow High Performance Centre;
- Increase the number of international duel matches for our female performance boxers;
- Increase the amount of joint home nation training camps for our female performance boxers;
- More and better engagement with female boxer club coaches to explain technical & tactical training methods employed through the performance programme.

Our female performance programme also operates in tandem with the following three key drivers:

- 1 Technical & Tactical** – boxers are taught to box and adapt to the technical rules and scoring system changes which is a constantly evolving model;
- 2 Physical & Athletic** – a bigger focus is now placed upon periodisation of boxer's preparations and training the correct energy systems in order to achieve optimal fitness for nine minutes. Sport science plays a key part in underpinning the BSL performance programme along with increased balance, agility and co-ordination training;
- 3 Mental** – Boxers are now educated on how competition performance aligns to specific training phases and not to expect to reach peak performance in every bout. Use of sportscotland institute of sport psychologists has been invaluable in the last 12 months in helping our boxers prepare and visualise for major international competitions which has been evident in recent results.



FEMALE BOXING

A number of our best female boxers have received 1 on 1 tuition via Technical sessions led by our Technical coach. These sessions focus on individual development of the following areas which are discussed during each boxer's 6 monthly reviews:

- Technical Ability;
- Tactical Ability;
- Physical (boxing specific i.e. agility, co-ordination & balance);
- Alignment to BSL's what it takes to win model (WITTW)

The aim is to deliver a World class, dynamic and well supported high performance programme to our best female boxers that prepares them to consistently achieve at the highest international level. This approach is beginning to produce medal winners with Lynn Calder winning a very credible bronze medal in the 2017 Belgrade Winners Tournament and more recently, Megan Gordon in the 2017 Bahamas Commonwealth Youth Games.

A summary of the 2016 - 2017 female performance programme activity can be viewed below:

MONTH	SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY
August 2016	1 open female session – 2 school, 2 juniors, 1 youth & 3 elite boxers 6 technical sessions for 3 elite females
September 2016	1 open female session – 2 school, 4 junior, 2 youth & 3 elite boxers 4 technical sessions for 3 elite females Pre-GB assessment training – 2 junior, 3 youth, 4 elite boxers GB assessments – 2 juniors, 3 youth, 4 elite boxers
October 2016	1 open female session – 3 school, 5 juniors, 1 youth & 4 elite boxers 4 technical sessions for 3 elite and 1 youth boxer
November 2016	2-day female residential camp 2 school, 4 juniors, 2 youth, 4 elite boxers Scotland v England Dual, Blackpool – 2 schoolgirl boxers Scotland v England Army – 1 elite boxer
December 2016	2-day female residential camp – 2 school, 3 junior, 2 youth & 4 elite boxers Scotland v England Dual – 1 school, 1 youth 1 elite boxer Scotland v Wales Dual – 2 junior boxers Best of British – 1 youth, 2 elite boxers
January 2017	3 elite females in attendance at general conditioning camp
February 2017	1 elite female in attendance at the Bocksai Tournament, Hungary, beaten 1st fight
April 2017	2 elite females in attendance at the Belgrade Winners tournament, 1 bronze medal 8 Junior & Youths in attendance at the GB 3 Nations. 1 gold, 2 silver and 5 bronze
May 2017	2 elite females in attendance at the Feliks Stamm tournament, Poland. Both beaten 1st fight 5 elite females in attendance at the GB 3 Nations. 3 silver & 2 bronze 1 elite & 1 youth in attendance at President Wu dual match. 1 win for youth boxer
June 2017	2 youth females in attendance at 2018 CYG youth sparring camp
July 2017	1 youth female in attendance at 2018 CYG youth sparring camp
July 2017	1 youth female in attendance at Bahamas 2018 CYG – 1 bronze medal

SPORTSCOTLAND INSTITUTE OF SPORT



As the high-performance arm of sportscotland, the institute works with various partners, such as BSL, to build greater success for Scottish sport. It provides high performance expertise to sports and their athletes in Scotland.

The sportscotland institute of sport (SIS) sees itself as the 'team behind the team' and delivers a range of performance impacting services to over 40 Olympic and Paralympic sports along with a select number of non-Olympic sports of national significance to Scotland.

It works with our national coaches to support identified boxers as they progress along their sporting pathway. This applies to boxers who are currently performing on the World stage and those with the potential to get there.

Teams work with BSL to provide a targeted service that supports our coaches in helping to improve the training, preparation and performance of our boxers. This includes:

- Optimising training and practice;
- Realising potential and getting the best from athlete's bodies;
- Assisting athletes to achieve peak performance at major competitions;
- Enabling athletes and coaches to prevent, reduce and manage injuries;
- Helping athletes and coaches to manage pressure and stress;
- Deploying performance enhancing technology;
- Providing insight and analysis to enable athletes to develop strategies and tactics for competition;
- Helping sports develop talent programmes.

Through discussions between BSL and a High Performance Manager (HPM) from the sportscotland institute of sport, plans are created which detail what support services a particular sport requires and which boxers are supported.

The level of support is agreed at a national level and then delivered locally by experts through the sportscotland institute of sport network at one of six regional offices.

Institute staff work with athletes and coaches daily across the institute network at 6 locations around the country in Stirling, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, Inverness and Aberdeen. Institute staff may also travel the world with our best boxers to provide expertise and support at training camps and during competition.

Teams of expert coaches and practitioners work together to manage and deliver cutting edge expertise in high performance management, coaching, sports medicine, physiotherapy, sport science, sport nutrition, sport psychology, performance lifestyle, strength and conditioning, performance analysis, and talent programmes.

These programme additions are invaluable to our best boxers and they will also benefit from a "Fast Track" system where the Boxer can access either physiotherapy or medical services at short notice allowing them to be dealt with as soon as possible.

Boxers currently supported by the Scottish Institute of Sport are:

Tyler Jolly
Mitchell Barton
Lynn Calder
Reece McFadden
Lee McGregor
Robbie McKechnie
Boris Chughton
Scott Forrest
Dylan Arbuckle
Stephen Newns

Sean Lazzerini;
Megan Gordon;
Aqeel Ahmed;
Taylor Hamilton;
Kieran McMaster;
John Docherty;
Connal McDonald;
Stephanie Kernachan;
Nathaniel Collins;

GB BOXING PROGRAMME

Three male Scottish Boxers were selected onto the GB Boxing Programme during the 2016 – 2017 season.

John Docherty from the Byron club and Lee McGregor from the Meadowbank club are currently in receipt of podium investment and Scott Forrest (Lochend) is supported at Podium Potential level with a firm focus on the 2020 Tokyo Olympic games.

BSL has two representatives who sit as directors on the GB Boxing Board (Fraser Walker and John Macpherson) meaning Scotland is fully represented in accordance with the British Amateur Boxing Association's constitutional documentation.

Aqeel Ahmed, Reece McFadden & Sean Lazzerini are current assessment candidates for GB podium potential funding within coming weeks/months. Four of our 2017 Bahamas Commonwealth Youth Games - Tyler Hamilton, Tyler Jolly, Sam Hickey & Lewis Johnstone along with Reece Lynch have been identified as Olympic 2024 potential.



SAPA AWARDS

In March 2016, 7 boxers out of 32 Scottish high performance athletes deemed to have podium potential at the 2018 Commonwealth Games were boosted with the news that they were among the latest recipients of individual sportscotland Athlete Personal Awards (SAPAs).

The SAPA initiative was introduced for London 2012, Sochi 2014, and Glasgow 2014, and proved extremely successful with 30 medallists at the Glasgow Commonwealth Games having received SAPAs.

In the latest round of awards aimed at supporting our boxers deemed to have 2018 Gold Coast podium potential, a further 7 Scottish boxers have been given awards of £6,000 each, up to April 2018:

- Reece McFadden;
- John Docherty;
- Lee McGregor;
- Sean Lazzerini;
- Aqeel Ahmed;
- Scott Forrest;
- Boris Chughton.



2016 – 2017 GB THREE NATION CHAMPIONSHIPS

Despite our boxers producing a best ever performance in winning six gold medals, the 2016 GB Elite Championships we hosted in Dunfermline was somewhat of a damp squib in terms of attendance and support.

It was a more traditional set up this year with regards to the GB Three Nations tournaments with Scotland hosting the GB School Championships in early June 2017.

For the second year running the GB Youths and Juniors were amalgamated and our team of 27 travelled down to the Sheffield Magma Centre in the middle of April to compete against a very strong England team on 08 & 09 April 2017

The team produced a strong performance resulting in a cumulative medal tally of 15 Bronze, 9 Silver and 3 Gold Medals. Gold winners were as follows:

- Vicky Glover;
- Reece Lynch;
- Stephen Black.

Next on Three Nations calendar was the GB Elite Championships which was held in Cardiff for the first time in many years. Scotland had a hard act to follow after last year's record breaking performance in Dunfermline. The Cardiff team didn't disappoint and produced a very credible performance winning 4 Bronze, 8 Silver and 3 Gold medals.

Both Sean Lazzerini and Reece McFadden were victims of very close 3:2 split decisions ending up with silver medals and gold went to the following boxers:

- Aqeel Ahmed;
- Lee McGregor;
- John Docherty.

We returned to what now feels like our second home – Ravenscraig Regional Sports Facility – to stage the 2017 GB School Championships at the beginning of June 2017.

Despite having the home advantage and second string boxers in many weights, it is fair to say this was one of our less successful GB Three Nations in recent times with our national coaches making a number of observations that will be taken away and worked on. The team won a total of 16 Bronze, 8 Silver and 3 Gold medals – winners were as follows:

- David Quinn;
- Harley Boal;
- Luke McFadden.



A table summarising results from the last four years of GB Three Nations Championship events can be viewed in the following table:

EVENT	DATE	COUNTRY	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
2014 GB School HOST – England	9&10 May 2014	England	10	2	1
		Scotland	2	3	5
		Wales	1	8	2
2015 GB School HOST – Wales	13&14 June 2015	England	10	2	0
		Scotland	5	3	3
		Wales	2	11	20
2016 GB School HOST – England	1&2 July 2016	England	21	14	9
		Scotland	2	8	6
		Wales	0	1	6
2017 GB School HOST – Scotland	3&4 June 2017	England	12	5	2
		Scotland	3	8	16
		Wales	2	4	3
2014 GB Juniors HOST – England	20&21 June 2014	Scotland	6	3	2
		England	5	4	3
		Wales	1	4	6
2015 GB Juniors HOST – Scotland	2&3 May 2015	England	6	3	2
		Scotland	3	8	12
		Wales	3	0	7
2016 GB Juniors HOST – Wales	30 April&1 May 2016	England	15	4	5
		Scotland	6	9	6
		Wales	0	9	12
2017 GB Juniors HOST – England	8&9 April 2017	England	19	13	13
		Scotland	2	4	10
		Wales	1	5	6
2014 GB Youths HOST - Scotland	7-8 March 2014	England	6	3	1
		Scotland	3	3	3
		Wales	1	3	2
2015 GB Youths HOST - England	18-19 April 2015	England	11	10	4
		Scotland	2	4	5
		Wales	1	1	6
2016 GB Youths HOST - Wales	30 April – 01 May 2016	England	5	5	1
		Scotland	4	5	1
		Wales	0	9	12
2017 GB Youths HOST - Wales	30 April – 01 May 2016	England	12	12	10
		Scotland	1	5	5
		Wales	4	0	4
2015 GB Elite HOST - England	23-24 May 2015	England	11	13	7
		Wales	4	2	7
		Scotland	2	2	7
2016 GB Elite HOST - Scotland	27 – 28 May 2016	England	7	5	2
		Scotland	6	8	7
		Wales	3	3	5
2017 GB Elite HOST - Wales	17&18 May 2017	England	10	5	1
		Scotland	3	8	4
		Wales	3	3	15

INVESTMENT AND ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE

We have enjoyed year on year sportscotland investment increases for the last 8 years.

Unfortunately, this changed as of 01 April 2017 when we were subjected to an aggregate £50,000 investment cut from sportscotland under instruction from the Scottish Government. Inexplicably, our annual and long-term targets remain the same.

For the 2017 – 2018 investment year, our performance programme investment was severed by £75,000 which will have wider negative implications to our 2018 Gold Coast preparations and beyond. Furthermore, we suffered a

£25,000 cut in our effective organisation investment meaning we now struggle to cover staff costs for certain roles.

Late July 2017, we discovered we would be required to repay a further £15,000 of 2016 – 2017 investment due to a perceived underspend in development funding. As a direct result, our 2016 – 2017 accounts will show a net loss of circa £13.5K for the year as a direct result.

The only positive to arise out of our 2017 – 2018 sportscotland investment award was the fact that investment continued to employ our East and North Regional development officers.

To provide further context, the following table demonstrates the progression of the core annual investment amounts received annually from sportscotland over the past nine financial years.

FUNDING YEAR	PERFORMANCE	DEVELOPMENT	STRONG PARTNERS	TOTAL
2008-2009*	£100,000	£0	£75,000	£175,000
2009-2010	£205,000	£35,000	£95,000	£345,000
2010-2011	£240,000	£35,000	£95,000	£370,000
2011-2012	£240,000	£35,000	£95,000	£370,000
2012-2013	£240,000	£35,000	£95,000	£370,000
2013-2014	£373,000	£35,000	£95,000	£503,000
2014-2015	£373,000	£70,000	£95,000	£538,000
2015-2016	£400,000	£160,000	£107,000	£667,000
2016-2017	£400,000	£160,000	£107,000	£667,000
2017 – 2018	£375,000**	£160,000	£82,000***	£617,000

* Investment stopped because organisation/General Council found to be unfit for purpose

** £450,000 committed in 2015 in-principle award

*** £107,000 committed in 2015 in-principle award

INVESTMENT AND ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE

It is still important at this juncture to thank sportscotland, and its institute of sport, for continued support and the vital nature of its financial investment.

However, along with all other funded Scottish sports, members must be made aware we face increasing Government austerity and potentially further cuts with regards to future investment.

The BSL Board was provided with the following investment briefing from members of the sportscotland senior management team on 29 March 2017:

- Following confirmation of the level of exchequer and Lottery funding available to sportscotland, confirmed levels of investment for Scottish Governing Bodies of Sport (SGBs) were made in early March 2017;
- sportscotland faces a 20 per cent reduction in combined National Lottery and Scottish Government investment levels from 2015/16 to 2017/18;
- The Scottish Government currently spends just £0.31 on sport from every £100 spent from its current health budget;
- sportscotland has prioritised and adjusted the level of investment into SGBs based on the amount of resource available aligned to its outcomes and investment principles;
- Where possible, cuts have been concentrated on programme investment rather than investment in staff to help safeguard jobs in the sector;
- sportscotland's investment in SGBs for 2017-18 has been reduced by £2,000,000;
- sportscotland has mitigated the impact of cuts, where possible, by considering implications across its core investment areas (effective organisation, development, performance). The aim is to protect the integrity of the World-class sporting system and the professional staffing infrastructure that underpins it;
- sportscotland followed the process below to allocate £2m in budget cuts across SGBs:
 - In Spring 2016, SGBs at the mid-point or end of their four-year strategy received one of two letters (mid or long term) inviting them to present to sportscotland senior staff;
- BSL was considered a mid-term sport and invited to present on progress towards its agreed long term outcomes so far, actions being taken if they are not on track, opportunity to request additional investment for specific activity or to re-align existing 'in principle' investment for the remainder of the cycle;
- Reviews with 35 SGBs were held between September and October 2016. The remaining 15 SGBs were either not at a mid or end point of their strategy or receive annual investment from sportscotland;
- The total additional investment request from SGBs was 20% higher than the investment committed by sportscotland for the previous four-year cycle;
- Following each meeting staff held an immediate review and made outline recommendations;
- Following completion of all review meetings senior staff and sportscotland's Senior Management Team held a review to ensure consistency and agree final recommendations to be approved by the sportscotland board in December 2016.
- Under normal circumstances SGBs are notified of their 'in principle' investment following sportscotland's board meeting in December.
- Once advised of the Scottish Government budget reduction and projected National Lottery downturn, this step was delayed as sportscotland undertook a further review of individual SGB investment.
- sportscotland's investment principles continued to underpin decision-making, along with the following additional principles:
 - Any planned increases to programme investment would not be implemented;
 - Aiming to spread the cuts across a large number of sports;
 - In the interests of inclusion and equality of opportunity, continued investment in a range of small SGBs;
 - Where possible, protection afforded to performance programmes for the Commonwealth Games 2018 and the Winter Olympics and Paralympics 2018;

INVESTMENT AND ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE

- Protect SGB staff investment where possible and focus cuts on programme investment areas;
 - Apply a degree of proportionality and relative scale to any reductions, where it is considered that the SGB can absorb the reduction without significantly impacting on the agreed outcomes;
 - Consider the impact the total reduction will have across the sport and not just the sportscotland invested activity area;
 - Any previously identified underspend by an SGB that had been recovered in the previous two years would be removed from 'in principle' investment going forward.
- SGB partnership managers inputted to this process using the above additional principles in January 2017;
 - SMT reviewed the revised investment figures prior to the final version going to board in February 2017 where they were approved.

IMPACT ON BSL

This will allow BSL to explain the reasons why an outcome or target may not be achieved. It also provides an opportunity to demonstrate which elements of the planned programme will have to be removed and the impact this may have;

Any potential modification of an outcome or target can then be discussed with the relevant information available;

Taking the above into account, our staffing structure remains unchanged since the last annual report. Our Board of Directors has been subject to one significant change which was the appointment of a new Chairman, Mr John Macpherson, officially announced on 09 March 2017

John is a 54-year lawyer and member of the Faculty of Advocates who said at the time of his appointment: "It's an honour to have been asked to become Chairman at a time when Boxing is enjoying such popularity. We are fortunate to have a fantastic team looking after our sport in Scotland. We must build on our recent international successes by continually identifying and developing new talent.

The board, staff and I are looking forward to working with the districts, clubs, and individual members not to just maintain but increase participation and provide the pathways to ensure that anyone who wants to can be part of our future success."

Commenting on the news, interim Chairman Kevin Bell who filled the Chair role following the passing of Mr Richard Thomas, said: "In appointing John, I am delighted that we have found someone with the right mix of skills required to lead Boxing Scotland. The need to appoint a new chair was as unexpected as it was unwelcome but it was vital that we got it absolutely right through a clear and transparent recruitment process. John's passion for boxing and his commitment to helping our clubs increase participation in the sport at every level shone through."

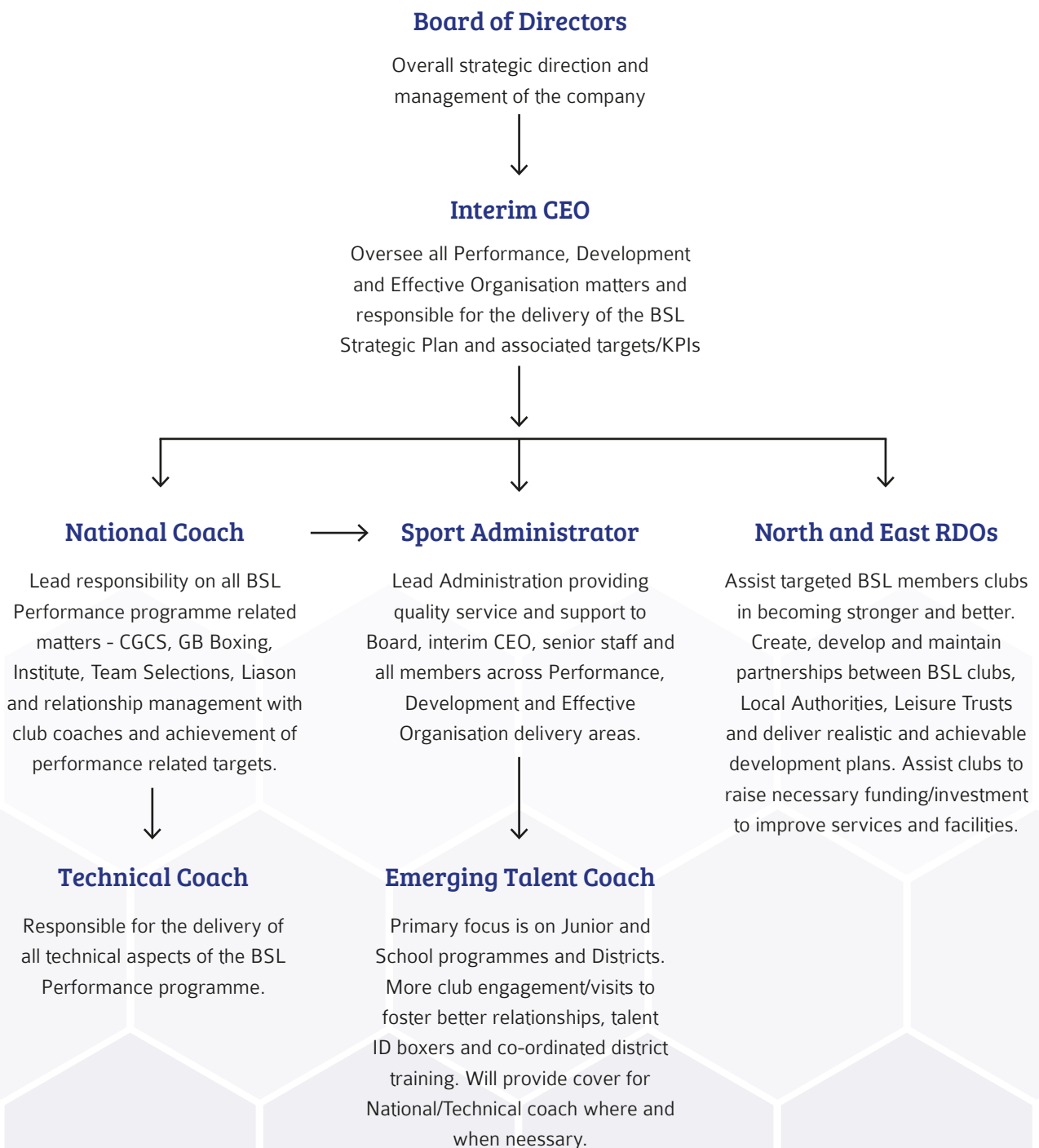
Fraser Walker, Boxing Scotland Interim CEO also added: "Boxing Scotland has a desire to develop at a grassroots and community level, with the aim of encouraging individuals to visit their local boxing gym to capitalise on the numerous positive benefits our sport provides.

John's appointment comes at a key time for the organisation as we look to grow the sport through strong vibrant clubs in which boxers, coaches, officials and volunteers are nurtured and supported. I look forward to working with John and to achieving the goals identified within our current strategic plan and beyond."




INVESTMENT AND ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE

The current BSL structure is as follows:



The following table highlights the annual investment targets BSL were set by sportscotland prior to the 2016 – 2017 season

KEY DELIVERY AREA	TARGET	RESPONSIBILITY	ACHIEVED	NOTES
1 Effective Organisation	Implement a process for 360 appraisals of Directors by 30 September 2016	FW		In Progress
	Implement recommendations from the February 2016 self-assessment audit by 31 March 2017	BOARD/FW		On target
	Demonstrate work towards Intermediate level of the equality standard	FW/MH		Achieved
2 Development	40 Coaches to complete the new level one qualification by 31 December 2016	FW/AT/BH		Achieved
	Increase registered boxing membership from 1485 to 1700 (14%) by 30 June 2016	FW/AT/BH		The total achieved was 1512
	Increase registered female boxers from 101 to 125 (24%) by 30 June 2016	FW/AT/BH		This stood at 122 registered female boxers as of 30 June 2016
	10 additional clubs (from last year's target of 3) achieve BSL enhanced (Silver) MORs by 31 March 2017	FW/AT/BH		Achieved
	80% of Boxing Scotland Limited Clubs achieve Bronze level by 31 March 2017	FW/AT/BH		Achieved
	Develop the new Boxing Scotland Ltd recreational membership scheme by 31 March 2017	FW		Achieved
	2 top eight finishes in the 2016 European Youth Championships	MK/CMcE/RG		Achieved
3 Performance	1 top eight finish in the World Youth Championships	MK/CMcE/RG		Achieved
	Win 2 Gold medals in the 2016 GB Elite championships	MK/CMcE/RG		Achieved

DOMESTIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

The quality and delivery of our National Championship events remains slick, professional and with the health, safety and welfare of our boxers firmly in mind at all times.

We enjoyed one of our biggest ever national championship subscriptions during the 2016 – 2017 season with an incredible 1013 entries and another extremely successful set of tournaments were delivered.

Once again, we must extend our thanks to our Boxers, Coaches, Officials, Parents, Supporters, Volunteers and BSL Staff that make our championship events such a success. As always, our Novice Championships started the season off with an incredible 401 entries. Our most heavily subscribed championship event never disappoints and resulted in 178 contests being completed over the course of two weekends. In total, 67 new Scottish Novice Champions were crowned.

Our Intermediate Championships were staged over the last weekend of January 2017. A total of 39 contests were completed and 21 new champions crowned including Lee Welsh, pictured below, who has made a remarkable and full recovery from Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

There was a slight tweak to the running order of the 2017 Championships and it was the turn of our School & Junior boxers to shine next. 288 of our champions of tomorrow entered to produce a fantastic weekend of boxing which saw 80 bouts contested in two days and 53 new champions crowned.



Our Elite and Youth Championships attracted 188 entries including a record high total of 40 female boxers. Over the course of the three weekends of our Open Championships, 94 bouts were staged with 12 youths and 15 elite boxers winning 2017 Scottish Championship titles.

Our 2017 Elite finals generated much wider interest than normal due to the fact it was the first of a series of Team Scotland (17 Commonwealth Games Sports) live streamed events by the BBC – the finals were viewed by over 10,000 people as well as the spectators who turned up on the evening to support the boxers. The event was so professionally delivered, standard of boxing so high and atmosphere so good that the BBC has committed to live streaming our Elite finals on an ongoing annual basis.

It is also, with some sadness, that we must say goodbye to Dr. Scott Henderson who has decided to resign from his position as Chairman of the BSL Medical Commission. Scott was a well known face to many at BSL club shows, District and National Championships and will be sorely missed.



A full set of three-year championship statistics can be viewed in the following table:

2014/2015 Novice Championships		2015/2016 Novice Championships		2016/2017 Novice Championships	
Schoolboy	138	School	136	Schoolboy	152
Junior	77	Junior	67	Junior	69
Youth	43	Youth	43	Youth	37
Elite Men	106	Elite Men	103	Elite Men	99
Schoolgirl	7	Schoolgirl	19	Schoolgirl	13
Junior Girl	11	Junior Girl	7	Junior Girl	13
Youth Female	3	Youth Female	8	Youth Female	0
Elite Women	17	Elite Women	18	Elite Women	18
TOTAL	402	TOTAL	401	TOTAL	401

2014/2015 Intermediate Championships		2015/2016 Intermediate Championships		2016/2017 Intermediate Championships	
Schoolboy	48	Schoolboy	41	Schoolboy	36
Junior	26	Junior	32	Junior	30
Youth	23	Youth	29	Youth	15
Elite Men	47	Elite Men	63	Elite Men	54
Schoolgirl	0	Schoolgirl	2	Schoolgirl	0
Junior Girl	0	Junior Girl	0	Junior Girl	2
Youth Female	0	Youth Female	0	Youth Female	0
Elite Women	0	Elite Women	9	Elite Women	10
TOTAL	144	TOTAL	176	TOTAL	147

2014/2015 Open Championships		2015/2016 Open Championships		2016/2017 Elite Championships	
Schoolboy	161	Schoolboy	133	Schoolboy	154
Junior	87	Junior	79	Junior	88
Youth	68	Youth	46	Youth	51
Elite Men	106	Elite Men	93	Elite Men	109
Schoolgirl	11	Schoolgirl	22	Schoolgirl	17
Junior Girl	10	Junior Girl	14	Junior Girl	18
Youth Female	4	Youth Female	5	Youth Female	8
Elite Women	22	Elite Women	21	Elite Women	20
TOTAL	434	TOTAL	469	TOTAL	465

DEVELOPMENT EAST REGION

Our East Regional Development Officer Asher Tufail is well into his second year of employment with BSL and will be a familiar face to many now. Asher has made a significant impact with both the targeted clubs he works with and on a more ad hoc basis as and when need be.

The following is a summary of his work for the last year.

Over the last 12-month period, there has been a specific focus on:

- Growing the sport of Boxing in Scotland
- Providing opportunity and increasing participation
- Supporting the creation of 'Better Clubs'.

This focus mirrors objectives detailed in BSL's strategic plan but also incorporates wider objectives, aligning with strategic aims of both sportscotland and the Scottish Government.

To summarise successes and impacts over the last 12 months:

- **Growth - New Clubs:** 9 new clubs have fully completed affiliated with Boxing Scotland
- **Opportunity:** Strong and established partnerships created grassroots opportunity. Over 3000 individuals were introduced to the sport through bespoke grassroots projects
- **Participation:** Over 2000 new members registered with Boxing Scotland, in line with new membership structure
- **Better Clubs - Funding:** Support was given to 28 clubs, who received over £244,218 from 32 different funding streams.

NEW CLUBS

Having stated in the 2016 Annual Report that it was a fundamental goal to grow the sport by creating new clubs, BSL are delighted to welcome four new clubs – MacTaggart Scott Boxing Club, The Edinburgh Boxing Academy, Trench Boxing Club and Rosyth Boxing Club – to the East Region.

In addition to the 2 new clubs in the North Region, ad-hoc support was also given to a further 3 clubs – Ecosse Boxing

Club, Bellshill Boxing Club and Irvine Elite Boxing Club – in the West Region to complete the affiliation process.

Undoubtedly, this increase in the number of clubs will significantly grow the sport, providing increased opportunity to participate at all levels of Boxing.

MEMBERSHIP

In line with the increased number of clubs, membership within the East Region has grown over the last 12 months.

The total number of registered boxers within the East Region has grown from 431 in 2016, to 619 in 2017 (increase of 188). In addition to this, a further 407 new 'Basic' and 'Fitness & Recreational' members have registered in 2017. Clearly the growth of the 'Basic' and 'Fitness & Recreation' members within the East Region is significant – BSL will continue to support clubs complete these returns on an annual basis.

GOVERNANCE & FUNDING

The impact of increased club governance via the revised BSL MORs can be evidenced in the total funding obtained by clubs over the last 12-month period - Funding can only be obtained if a club can evidence good governance and good practice.



DEVELOPMENT EAST REGION

In the East Region alone, since January 2016 a total of £167,218 has been obtained by 13 clubs from 17 different funding streams.

Clearly this investment into club level/grassroots Boxing will have a significant impact on how clubs can operate and on the activity that they can offer – There is no doubt that this funding will contribute towards creating increased opportunity to participate in Boxing at all levels.

There are 2 clubs in the East Region who have achieved 'Gold' MORs status, 7 whom have achieved 'Silver' and 26 'Bronze' clubs. There will be continued focus and support to help clubs enhance their MORs status over the next 12 months.

In addition to this general club development, although many clubs have made good progress in the last year, specific club development can be evidenced in the journeys of both Dunfermline and Livingston Boxing Clubs.

- Having had facility issues, Dunfermline Boxing Club were forced to leave their permanent home and operate from a temporary facility in Woodmill High School. Following discussion with the relevant parties, the club have successfully obtained full access to a local Council facility. In July 17, the club began operating from its new home – The club are now working towards obtaining ownership of this facility via Community Asset Transfer.
- Livingston Boxing Club were faced with a potentially similar situation within their Council facility. Overcoming several anomalies within their lease agreement, the club successfully negotiated with the Council and have been offered a 10-year lease on their current premises to continue operating sustainably into the long term.

Collectively, this evidences how strong, well governed clubs can successfully work cohesively with local Councils and sports development teams to gain beneficial access and support for the provision of Boxing.

COACHING

There are 110 registered coaches within the East Region. This has remained consistent. 19 of the 110 coaches have now passed the new BSL Level 1 Coaching Course – Undoubtedly this will contribute towards better quality of coaching – Naturally, better quality coaches will produce better quality boxers.

Over the next 12 months, additional coaches will be encouraged to complete the Level 1 course to continue this development. By extension, the Level 2 Coaching Course will be live within the next 12 months, providing an opportunity for coaches to continue their development, and to grow their skills and knowledges moving forwards.

RURAL & URBAN TRAINING SCHEME & SCOTTISH TRAVELLER EDUCATION PROGRAMME (STEP)

Following initial discussions with both RUTS and STEP, a partnership was proposed to work cohesively to deliver boxing in areas of deprivation (as per the SIMD) and to the traveller community/traveller groups.

Fundamentally, this partnership will marry the benefits of boxing with recognised vocational training and employability support to offer young people the opportunity primarily to:

- Become physically active;
- Engage in safe, meaningful, social interaction;
- Obtain recognised vocational qualifications;
- Become more employable/Gain employability skills and knowledges.

To support this, funding was sought from sportscotland via the Supplementary Funding for Equality and Inclusion. This application was successful, and this funding will be used to facilitate for the delivery (including the purchase of relative equipment and staffing costs).

Key objectives/targets of the project will include delivering over 300 hours of activity to at least 150 participants (30 of which are female), and for at least 15 of these participants to

DEVELOPMENT EAST REGION

progress to, and complete the BSL Level 1 Coaching Course (and therefore obtain a recognised vocational qualification) (3 of which are female). It is envisioned that an additional 30 participants will also complete RUTS existing SQA vocational qualification (SCQF Level 4 NPA).

ACTIVITY AGREEMENTS

The first Activity Agreement clients have commenced activity in Edinburgh at Clovenstone Boxing Club. In addition, bespoke activity has been/will be delivered in Magdaline and Bingham (Edinburgh), and West Pilton (Edinburgh).

Continued opportunity to participate is offered to all clients via club membership, and support is provided where possible.

SCOTTISH STUDENT SPORT (SSS)

A relationship has been established with SSS with a view to increasing student engagement in the new season. The Scottish Student Championships took place in April 17 – With increased input from SSS, it is hoped that this can be used as a catalyst moving into the new season. It is envisioned that BSL and/or SSS will meet with all student club committees at the beginning of the new academic year to ensure that the clubs are operating appropriately, and are aware of the development pathways available for their club members.

EAST LOTHIAN WORKS

Activity has now commenced in partnership with East Lothian Works. The intentions of this project are to provide both Boxing as a vocational activity out with the school curriculum, and marrying the benefits that Boxing has on these individuals with further employability support.

The Boxing sessions are delivered on alternate weeks from within The Bronx Boxing Club in Tranent. During the other weeks, the same participants attend bespoke employability and skills development sessions with the East Lothian Works staff.

Pupils from all 6 High Schools in East Lothian are participating in this initiative, and already the multi-faceted benefits that this has had on these individuals has been widely accepted by the partners and the schools involved.

ACTIVE SCHOOLS & BRING BACK BOXING

Active Schools delivery continues to be a success in line with the Bring Back Boxing Academy.

This has allowed over 3000 pupils to be introduced to Boxing for the first time. A summary of activity over the last 12 months can be seen below:

SPARTA BOXING ACADEMY: Initial taster sessions were delivered to the whole Primary 7-year groups at 2 x schools in Grangemouth – Following this, a 4-week block of activity was delivered in both schools.

5 pupils have continued their activity by joining the club and attending regularly.

DRUMCHAPEL: £600 was obtained from Drumchapel CSH to purchase equipment to facilitate for new activity – Activity was delivered in 5 x schools in the area.

There was notable success where activity was delivered to pupils with Assisted Learning Needs (see Equality summary).

SOUTHSIDE: Following initial taster sessions, funding was awarded from Langside Area Council to expand this delivery – To date, the club has delivered over 200 hours of activity to over 1000 pupils.

GLENROTHES: Club coaches delivered full school taster sessions in 12 schools in the area – Following this, the demand for cub/junior sessions increased significantly, and the club has now opened on an additional evening to cater for this demand.

DEVELOPMENT EAST REGION

HAMILTON: This activity saw selected pupils participate in Boxing over a 10-week period – Activity was progressed from the school Campus to more advanced sessions within the club gym itself – The club are now delivering the project to the third group of pupils (14 pupils per project).

CLOVENSTONE: Club Coach Rab McEwan has consistently delivered activity in 3 local high schools since October 2016 – In addition to this, the club has hosted sessions specifically for users in homeless accommodation/social care and users with a history of alcohol and substance abuse.

MIDLOTHIAN: In addition to regular community activity delivered via the local CSH, the club delivered activity within the local high school – Continuation of activity is offered via club membership.

FAULDHOUSE: Fauldhouse Boxing Club have delivered an extensive programme of delivery – Activity has been delivered in over 15 schools across West Lothian, with sessions varying from taster sessions to more advanced non-contact training.

ECOSSE: The club has delivered extensive activity in over 20 schools across North Lanarkshire – The bulk of this activity has been offered on the school curriculum as a vocational alternative.

HAWICK: The club have delivered continued and extensive activity via the Active Schools network across the Borders – The benefits of this is evident as the club has now a sustainable membership, and has secured a new secure facility.

EQUALITY

Essentially, the objectives of these partnerships are to increase activity and participation – By extension of this, BSL have a strong desire to make Boxing open and accessible to all.

We are pleased to report on activity that stands out as having a real impact, evidencing Boxing as an inclusive and powerful sport. Two specific examples include:

1. At Drummore Primary School, initial one-to-one sessions were delivered to a pupil who required additional support for personal development. Following this, the sessions were then opened up to an additional 6 male participants.

Feedback from the schools Deputy Head Teacher highlights the impact that this delivery had. She stated: “The child had a very unsettled home life. This is manifested into the child himself replicating these behaviours when upset or angry, including attempting to harm his siblings. He had experienced many changes within his family, include the breakdown of relationships between himself and the male figures within his life and did not trust adults of figures of authority.

The one-to-one sessions provided the child with a strong positive role model. It provided him with a safe space to explore ways in which to channel his anger and frustration, in a more disciplined and positive way.

Jo (the coach) was able to teach the child about respect and discipline within sport which the child responded very positively to. Boxing provided him with a focus that other aspects of PE did not provide.”

2. In addition to this, newly affiliated club Ecosse Boxing Club offers additional opportunity within the gym itself by ‘Fighting for Autism’ – The club has opened its doors to 15 users with autism who wish to participate in physical activity. These users are introduced to the club by ‘Hope for Autism’ which is a charity group established in North Lanarkshire who specifically encourage support, care and opportunity for young people with autism in this area.

Clearly, this reinforces the benefits that Boxing can have on individuals – We endeavour to work with clubs moving forwards to ensure that there is a commitment to becoming wholly accessible for all users.

DEVELOPMENT NORTH REGION

Our North Region Development Officer, Ben Holme has been in post for approximately 14 months now and has also made significant strides in helping develop the sport of boxing with the North region of Scotland.

In the past 12 months, there has been a varied approach to development in the North District, with a particular focus on;

- Growing the sport through the supporting of new clubs;
- Widening the reach and appeal of the sport through the Active Schools network and community projects;
- Creating better clubs through increased coach education, encouraging better governance through the BSL MOR's and assisting clubs with funding applications.

A summary of Ben's work over the last 12 months follows:

NEW CLUBS

After a decline in the number of clubs affiliated in the North District over the past few years, 2016-17 saw three new clubs welcomed to the BSL family. What was most pleasing about the additions was that they all came from geographical areas where there was not previously a boxing club, meaning the sport has been made available to a much wider audience.

Jacobite Boxing Club, based in Nairn, were the first to affiliate in September 2016, before Montrose based Hands of Stone Boxing Club completed the process in January 2017. Finally, Caithness Boxing Club became Scotland's most Northerly club when the club in Wick, more than 100 miles north of Inverness, opened its doors in March 2017.

It is expected that there will be even more new additions in the North District in 2017-18, with BSL currently assisting prospective new clubs in Arbroath, Comrie, Fraserburgh, Inverurie, Kirkton of Skene and Shetland.

GOVERNANCE

There has been a large focus on strengthening the governance of clubs through working to achieve the enhanced BSL MOR's. This in turn will lead to better run,

more sustainable clubs. 10 out of 26 clubs in the North District have so far achieved the enhanced MOR's (just under 40%) by progressing from 'Bronze' to 'Silver', whilst Granite City BC became the North District's first ever 'Gold' standard club in January 2017.

Meanwhile, in the past year Aberdeen BC, Byron BC, Granite City BC, Inch BC, Kingswells BC and St Mary's BC have all been awarded the Grampian 'ClubCAP' award for good governance after attaining the enhanced MOR's.

FUNDING AND FACILITIES

Assisting clubs to obtain funding to improve their facilities and to replenish equipment remains a critical element of development in the North District. In the past year 14 clubs (more than 50%), from five different local authority areas obtained more than £77,000. This money was received from 15 different funding streams.

Meanwhile, in April 2017 Inverness City BC completed their move into their new home at Merkinch Welfare Hall, which has been part of a £1.1m regeneration.



DEVELOPMENT NORTH REGION

COACHING

There has been a significant increase (more than 25%) in the number of registered coaches in the North District from the previous season, from 52 to 66. This has been helped in part by the addition of three new clubs.

However, most encouraging has been that in the past year more than 50% (34) of the North District's registered coaches have completed the new BSL Level One Coaching course, which only launched in early 2016. This SQA accredited course will help to increase the standard of coaching in the North District and thus lead to better boxers.

ACTIVE SCHOOLS

Just under one third of all clubs affiliated at the start of the 2016-17 season in the North District delivered a boxing project in partnership with local schools at some point throughout the season. This activity took place across three local authorities and reached 22 different schools. Full details can be found below;

ABERDEEN BC: Coach Leroy Smith delivered 10 sessions at Holy Family and Quarryhill Primary Schools that reached 188 children. After the summer, the club will also deliver the GB Boxing Awards to up to 90 pupils at Northfield Academy.

ABERDEEN UNI BC: Coach Sandy Scott-Wilson delivered four one-hour sessions to a group of pupils at Oldmarcher Academy in Bridge of Don.

CLAYMORES BC: Claymores delivered four taster sessions at Kinlochleven Primary School, that reached more than 50 children each time.

GRANITE CITY BC: Granite City delivered a comprehensive Active Schools programme throughout the 2016-17 season, that saw them deliver 3 x six-week blocks of sessions at St Machar Academy, in addition to six-week blocks at each of Kittybrewster, Riverbank and Woodside Primary Schools.

HIGHLAND BOXING ACADEMY: Highland Boxing Academy continued to deliver their long running programme of boxing sessions in partnership with Police Scotland to six High Schools in and around Inverness.

INSCH BC: Inch commenced an Active Schools programme in January 2017 that saw them deliver two taster sessions each in six local Primary Schools, that reached almost 150 children.

ST MARY'S BC: St Mary's offered a joint taster session for pupils from Kaimhill and Broomhill Primary Schools.

Most of these projects will be replicated in the 2017-18 season, while discussions have taken place with many other clubs to deliver sessions in the forthcoming season.

ACTIVITY AGREEMENTS

Five boxing clubs agreed to become partners of Aberdeen City Council's 'Activity Agreements' project, which focuses on young people who are leaving school with a high probability of entering a negative destination.

The project engages with young people aged 16-19-years-old who have left education and are not in employment and seeks to provide them with an informal learning experience through activities.

Aberdeen University BC, Byron BC, Granite City BC, Kincorth BC and Kingswells BC have all made themselves available to tutor any potential youngsters in the programme who wish to take up boxing.

HOMELESS PROJECT

Fair City Boxing club continued their project engaging with people who are suffering from homelessness. The project, which is run in partnership with Perth and Kinross Council and the Homeless Voice Association, sees the club host two one-hour boxing sessions each week.

DEVELOPMENT NORTH REGION

The planned outcome behind the project is that those people involved are able to take part in safe and purposeful activities that will improve their physical and mental well-being. This has been achieved, while there has also been an observable reduction in the participants use of alcohol and illegal substances, in addition to their involvement in criminal and anti-social behaviour being reduced to almost nil.

Perth and Kinross Council have claimed this to be their most successful ever project at engaging with homeless people, and discussions have been held with BSL to try and further implement this project in other parts of the country.

LGBT PROJECT

Aberdeen University Boxing Club ran a successful project in March 2017 for the LGBT community. The club offered an introductory boxing class for a period of four-weeks, with the aim to break down potential barriers to participation for the LGBT community in the North-east of Scotland.

The project was fully funded by LEAP Sports, an LGBT organisation, which allowed the class to be offered to participants for free.

The class proved to be really popular, with an average of 21 people participating each week, showing that there is a demand for such classes. There are already plans for Aberdeen University BC to run this again later in 2017, while BSL will look to see if there is the possibility for other University clubs to replicate this.

DISRUPTIVE CHILDREN PROJECT

Granite City Boxing Club ran a four-month project that saw them target disruptive children at a local school through a bespoke boxing programme. The Aberdeen based club launched the class with St Machar Academy in February 2017, whereby pupils were brought to the boxing gym during school hours and given an opportunity to use their energies in a positive fashion.

The children who could benefit from the class were identified by the school and by Sport Aberdeen's Looked After Children development officer, with around 10 pupils taking part every Wednesday afternoon.

The school were so pleased with the impact of the initiative that it was extended past its initial one-term agreement, with discussions now taking place about doubling the capacity for 2017-18. Also pleasing about the project is that more than 50% of the boys have joined the club on a regular basis and are now attending their evening sessions throughout the week.

OTHER

The North District welcomed the SSS Scottish University Championships in April 2017, with Dundee University BC playing host to the event. There more than 20 entries from four different Universities, with six well contested bouts taking place on the day. Whilst not the biggest competition, this was a big step in the right direction as the University Championships had not taken place for the past two years. It is hoped that next season's Championships will use this event as a springboard to be bigger and better.

What has also been pleasing is that on the back of the competition taking place, BSL has engaged with more Universities to affiliate a boxing club for next season, and it is hoped that the number of University clubs across the country will rise from six to 10 for 2017-18.

To conclude, both Asher and Ben must be congratulated on their work in their respective regions. Their efforts are beginning to pay considerable dividends in terms of the development of existing affiliated clubs, increased BSL membership and the establishment of new member clubs.

BSL CLUB CUB SCHEME UPDATE

To continue the development of our young boxers and provide much needed 'ring' experience, we revised our Club Cub membership strand for the commencement of the 2017 – 2018 season.

There were instances during the 2016 – 2017 season when certain BSL member clubs staged unsanctioned Club Cub 'sparring' shows akin to white collar boxing – an activity BSL does not condone in any way or shape.

It is hoped that the following updates to the BSL Club Cub scheme will end the practice of member clubs staging 'sparring' shows, based on the following:

- All Club Cubs must be medically examined prior to taking part in a Skills bout;
- The rest period between each round is 1 minute;
- Supervisors must complete a pre-Skills bout check to ensure all club cubs are eligible to take part (i.e. registration number, date of birth, age gap between opponent, satisfactory medical etc);
- Club Cub skills bouts are defined as follows:
 - As a means of allowing Club Cub boxers to gain experience in a controlled environment in which contact will be permitted. Skills bouts will be very strictly controlled by the referee under the close scrutiny and guidance of the Supervisor. During a Club Cub skills bout, competitive heavy blows are not permitted under any circumstances;
- The health, safety and welfare of all Club Cubs will be the primary concern during all Club Cub skills and all skills bouts will be at complete discretion of the Supervisor present;
- No Club Cub skills bout will be permitted with a weight difference in excess of 2kg;
- All Club Cub skills bouts must be between Club Cubs of the same sex;
- Coaches will not be permitted to coach in any form from the corner during Club Cub skills bouts at any time;
- Club Cub boxers cannot compete against registered BSL competitive boxers;

- All Club Cub boxers will be assigned a registration number with a CC prefix. When a club cub boxer becomes of eligible age, they should register as a competitive boxer with Boxing Scotland and will be issued with a new registration number and SME2 book;
- All Club Cub skills bouts will not count as experience and considered as & when a Club Cub decides to become a fully registered competitive boxer.

In terms of activity and the ability to take part in Club Cub skills bouts, the following will apply to each eligible year of birth:

- 2009 – No skills bouts. Club sparring only;
- 2008 – A maximum of three (3) Club Cub skills bouts per annum which can only be with other Club Cubs from the same club;
- 2007 – A maximum of six (6) Club Cub skills bouts per annum which must be as follows:
 - Three (3) skills bouts with other Club Cubs from the same club;
 - Three (3) skills bouts with Club Cubs from other affiliated BSL clubs.



MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS UPDATE

Effective and accurate reporting of our membership statistics to our key stakeholders, investors and ultimately the Scottish Government has become vitally important.

As a result, the collation of fitness and recreation boxers using our member clubs becomes all the more key. We believe if we can evidence our clubs positively impact on the health and wellbeing of individuals in Scotland's most socially and economically deprived areas, the better chance we have of securing additional investment to help clubs develop, strengthen and grow.

Many member clubs assisted BSL by providing fitness and recreation membership statistics during the 2016 – 2017 season. However, we estimate that we haven't even collected 50% of the data. With that in mind we will be doubling our efforts this season to assist clubs as much as possible in providing this valuable information.

Pleasingly, and after somewhat of a lull in the 2015 – 2016 season, the season gone saw some considerable growth in our numbers across the sport:

COACHES

339 Coaches registered during the 2016 – 2017 season:

- 110 in the East (33%);
- 66 in the North (19%);
- 163 in the West (48%).

What became apparent last season was that not all individuals receiving PVG certificates were registering to become coaches, officials and volunteers.



All individuals PVG certified with Boxing Scotland must now register either as a coach, official, volunteer or boxer in line with recent Government & Children First child protection recommendations.

BSL COACHING COURSE

Since the beginning of last season (01 September 2016) a total of 65 individuals have successfully passed the BSL nationally recognised BSL level one coaching qualification. Delivery of this will continue into the new season with the added incentive that our first level two course will ready for delivery in November/December 2017.

CHILD PROTECTION OFFICERS (CPOS)

The issue of child protection must be of utmost importance to all our members and it is only right that this matter receives continuous scrutiny at a club, district and national level. Last season, only 92 clubs registered details of their CPOs, 6 University clubs had no CPO (no registered under 18 boxers) and 19 clubs failed to register CPO details.

A zero-tolerance approach will be taken during the 2017 – 2018 season and all BSL member clubs must register CPO details otherwise face having their affiliation suspended until they comply.

BSL CLUB AFFILIATION AND MINIMUM OPERATING REQUIREMENTS

The table below summarises all relevant 2016 – 2017 affiliation and MORs information up to 01 July 2017.

	East	West	North	Total
Bronze	27	41	16	84
Silver	6	15	9	30
Gold	2	0	1	3
TOTAL	35	56	26	117

117 clubs affiliated during the 2016 – 2017 season and are listed below (MORS level indicated in colour):

NORTH (26)	EAST (35)	WEST (56)	
 Aberdeen	 1314	 Argo	 Kirkintilloch
 Aberdeen Uni	 Alloa	 Auchengeich	 Larkhall
 Arbroath	 Bannockburn	 Barrhead	 Linwood
 Byron	 Bathgate	 Bellshill Boxing Club	 Logan
 Caithness	 Broxburn	 Bellahouston	 Newarthill
 Claymores	 Cardenden	 Blantyre Miners	 Nith Valley
 Dundee	 Chirnside	 Bobby Keddie	 Noble Art
 Dundee University	 Clovenstone	 Bravehearts	 North Glasgow
 Elgin	 Craigmillar	 Broadwood	 North West
 Fair City	 Denbeath	 Cambusnethan	 O'Neils
 Granite City	 Dunfermline	 Cleland	 Partick
 Hands of Stone	 East Lothian	 Clydebank Osprey	 Port Glasgow
 Highland	 Edinburgh Uni	 Clydeview	 Priestfield
 Inch	 Fauldhouse	 Dennistoun McNair	 Renfrewshire
 Inverness City	 Galashiels	 Doon Valley	 Rob Roy
 Jacobite	 Glenrothes	 Doonhamers	 Solway Spartans
 Kincorth	 Hawick	 Drumchapel	 Southside
 Kingswells	 Heriot-Watt	 D-Unit	 Springhill
 Lochaber Phoenix	 Jonesy's	 Durie's	 Team Shire
 Lochee	 Kingdom	 Ecosse	 The Barn
 Perth Railway	 Leith Victoria	 Forgewood	 Viewpark
 Peterhead	 Livingston	 Forsyths	
 Robert Gordon's Uni.	 Lochend	 Four Isles	
 St. Francis	 Madison	 Garnock Valley	
 St. Marys	 Meadowbank	 Glasgow City	
 Wellmeadow	 Midlothian	 Glasgow Phoenix	
	 McTaggart Scott	 Greenock	
	 Rosyth	 Hamilton	
	 Sparta BA	 Hayfield	
	 St Andrew's Uni	 Irvine Elite	
	 Stewart's Melville	 Irvine Vineburgh	
	 The Bronx	 Jackton	
	 The Edinburgh BA	 Keir Hardie	
	 Trench	 Kelvin	
	 Zetland	 Kilsyth	

No affiliated member clubs progressed their MORs status from March 2017. However, 4 newly affiliated Clubs achieved Bronze level MORs prior to the season ending:

East Region - Bronze – 1 – McTaggart Scott Boxing Club

West Region – Bronze – 1 – Ecosse Boxing Club

West Region – Bronze – 1 – Bellshill Boxing Club

North Region – Bronze – 1 - Caithness Boxing Club

2016/2017 Registered Competitive Boxing statistics

CATEGORY	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
2006 School	140	17	157
2005 School	137	13	150
2004 School	104	17	121
2003 School	103	11	114
2002 Junior	124	18	142
2001 Junior	119	23	142
2000 Youth	177	17	194
1999 Youth	242	34	276
Elite	708	39	747
TOTAL	1854	189	2043

DISTRICT	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
East	548	71	619
North	521	41	562
West	785	77	862
TOTAL	1854	189	2043

2016/2017 Club Cub Registered Individuals

CATEGORY	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
2007 (10 years)	27	1	28
2008 (9 years)	29	3	32
2009 (8 years)	18	3	21
2010 (7 years)	3	3	6
TOTAL	77	10	87






DISTRICT	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
East	22	0	22
North	8	2	10
West	47	8	55
TOTAL	77	10	87



Fitness & Recreational Member Statistics **EASTERN DISTRICT**




CLUB	BASIC/RECREATIONAL MEMBERS		PENDING/EXPECTED MEMBERS
	Male	Female	
 1314	0	0	No response
 Alloa	0	0	No response
 Bannockburn	0	0	No response
 Bathgate	14	0	13 pending
 Broxburn	0	0	25 pending
 Cardenden	0	0	20 pending
Chirnside	8	2	37 pending
 Clovenstone	40	22	Further update pending
 Craigmillar	39	7	Further update pending
 Denbeath	0	0	No response
Dunfermline	4	0	Further update following club new premises
East Lothian	0	0	Stated that they have this time
Edinburgh Uni	0	0	94 pending
Fauldhouse	0	0	Further update pending
Galashiels	68	37	2 pending
Glenrothes	0	0	Further update pending
 Hawick	0	0	No response
Heriot Watt	0	0	No response
 Jonesy's	6	14	14 pending
Kingdom	11	0	3 pending
Leith Vic	29	6	Further update pending
 Livingston	7	8	Further update pending
 Lochend	0	0	250 pending
Madison	0	0	No response
Meadowbank	11	0	Further update pending
Midlothian	4	2	30 pending
Rosyth	10	27	50 pending
 Sparta Boxing Academy	7	1	62 pending
Stirling University*	0	0	45 pending
TEBA	0	0	20 pending
The Bronx	11	1	Further update pending
Trench	9	2	30 pending
Stewarts Melville	0	0	No response
Zetland	0	0	No response
	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
	278	129	695 pending
	TOTAL: 407		

Eastern District M/F fitness & Recreational member split = 68.4% Male and 31.6% Female




 Most Deprived 5%
  Most Deprived 10%
  Most Deprived 15%
  Most Deprived 20%
  Most Deprived 25%

Fitness & Recreational Member Statistics **WESTERN DISTRICT**

CLUB	BASIC/RECREATIONAL MEMBERS		PENDING/EXPECTED MEMBERS
	Male	Female	
 Argo	40	30	
Auchengeich			Pending
Barrhead	25		
Bellahouston	20	10	
 Blantyre Miners	30	10	
Bellshill			
 Bobby Keddie			Pending
 Bravehearts	15		
Broadwood	12		
Cleland	40	30	
 Clydebank Osprey			Pending
Clydeview			Pending
 D Unit			Pending
 Dennistoun Mcnair			Pending
 Doon Valley	40	20	
 Doonhamers			
 Drumchapel	10	10	
 Durie's Boxing Club	30	10	
Ecosse			Pending
 Forgewood			Pending
Forsyths			
Four Isles	30	10	
Garnock Valley			
Glasgow City	30	20	
 Glasgow Phoenix			Pending
Glasgow University			Pending
 Greenock	25		
 Hamilton	15		
 Hayfield	0	0	
Irvine Elite			Pending
Irvine Vineburgh			Pending
Jackton			Pending
 Keir Hardie	0	0	
Kelvin			Pending
 Kilsyth Golden Gloves			Pending
Kirkintilloch			Pending
Larkhall			Pending
Linwood	20	10	
Logan			Pending
Newarthill	5		
Nithvalley			Pending
 Noble art			Pending
 Northwest	70	30	
 North Glasgow	40	30	
 Partick			Pending
Port Glasgow			
O'Neil's	30	20	





 Most Deprived 5%
  Most Deprived 10%
  Most Deprived 15%
  Most Deprived 20%
  Most Deprived 25%

Fitness & Recreational Member Statistics **WESTERN DISTRICT CONTINUED**






CLUB	BASIC/RECREATIONAL MEMBERS		PENDING/EXPECTED MEMBERS
	Male	Female	
Priestfield	20	10	
 Renfrewshire	60	20	
 Rob Roy	30	10	
 Solway Spartans			Pending
Southside	20	10T	
	TOTAL 652:	TOTAL: 295	TOTAL: 27 Clubs Still to return
	TOTAL: 947		

Western District M/F fitness & Recreational member split = 68.9% Male and 31.1% Female

Fitness & Recreational Member Statistics **NORTHERN DISTRICT**

Club	Basic/Recreational members		Pending/expected members
	Male	Female	
 Aberdeen BC	7	10	17
Aberdeen University BC	60	50	110
 Arbroath BC	19	4	23
Byron BC	8	1	9
Claymores BC	5	1	6
 Dundee BC	40	20	60
Elgin BC	34	6	40
Fair City BC	7	0	7
Granite City BC	9	0	9
Hands of Stone BC	27	5	32
 Highland Boxing Academy	10	0	10
Insch BC	17	5	22
 Inverness City BC	7	0	7
Jacobite BC	29	19	48
Kincorth BC	19	0	19
Kingswells BC	2	0	2
Lochaber Phoenix BC	8	6	14
Lochee BC	N/A	N/A	N/A
 Perth Railway BC	11	1	12
 Peterhead BC	43	26	69
Robert Gordon University BC	22	9	31
 St Francis BC	N/A	N/A	N/A
St Mary's BC	5	1	6
University of Dundee BC	N/A	N/A	N/A
 Wellmeadow BC	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Total 389	Total 164	
	Total 553		

Eastern District M/F fitness & Recreational member split = 68.4% Male and 31.6% Female

 Most Deprived 5%  Most Deprived 10%  Most Deprived 15%  Most Deprived 20%  Most Deprived 25%

AIBA – PRESIDENT CHING-KUO WU VISIT

Following our 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games success and our first Youth World Championship gold in Saint Petersburg six months ago, Boxing in Scotland continues to enjoy a new surge in popularity and we aim to provide fresh opportunities for a new generation of champions.

We were of the belief that closer relations with the World Governing Body, AIBA, would be beneficial for BSL. What better way to do so than invite the President of AIBA to Scotland for a visit?

President Wu was asked if he'd like to come to Scotland during a casual conversation at the 2016 AIBA Extraordinary Congress Meeting held in Montreux, Switzerland in December 2016.

After showing an initial willingness to visit Scotland, a more formal letter was submitted to AIBA and it was confirmed that President Wu would visit Scotland with other members of AIBA senior staff in May 2017.

A week-long series of positive meetings between AIBA and Boxing Scotland were held as we aim to increase our presence on the international stage.

At the time of visiting, President Wu commented "I am very pleased to come and witness for myself the current dynamic growth around Scottish boxing and the valuable programmes which the National Federation is initiating for the benefit of all boxers. During my visit, I will extensively assess and propose AIBA assistance in all matters that can contribute to even greater success for Scottish boxing in the ring and at grassroots level"

President Wu's visit took place in both Edinburgh and Glasgow, and included strategic talks, a black-tie dinner featuring bouts between rising English and Scottish talents, tours of some of the country's leading boxing facilities and meet & greet opportunities with member clubs. BSL's own cutting-edge High Performance Centre in Bridgeton saw the AIBA HeadsUp programme make a donation of equipment, along with a visit to a European Championships preparation training camp.



AIBA – PRESIDENT CHING-KUO WU VISIT

“This is a very important and significant event in promoting Scottish boxing and its wider sporting achievements, particularly as we look to fresh successes next year at the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games,” said Boxing Scotland Chairman John Macpherson during President Wu’s visit.

“We are honoured and excited to welcome Dr Wu and his delegation, and believe there is a real opportunity here to invest in the future, both on a Scottish and global level. As mutual governing bodies with common aims, we share an unswerving belief in the power of boxing to transform lives, and hope to identify strategies that will assist in advancing the sport in Scotland and further afield.”

As of 30 June 2017, BSL has the following certified AIBA coaches and officials:

- 18 AIBA One Star Certified Coaches
- 2 AIBA Two Star Certified Coaches;
- 2 AIBA Three Star Certified Coaches.
- 10 AIBA One Star Certified R&J
- 2 AIBA 2 Star Certified R&J
- 1 AIBA 3 Star Certified R&J

BSL representatives will hold further discussions with AIBA during the 2017 World Championships in Hamburg. This will be with the aim of progressing previous discussions on qualifying more AIBA certified coaches & officials, staging a major international event such as a European Championship tournament, potential sponsorship and Scottish representation on AIBA committees/commissions.



EQUALITY

Since January 2017, BSL staff & board members have met a number of times to discuss matters relating to the development of a new BSL Equality strategy, which will tie in with our ongoing work towards achieving the Equality Standard for Sport Intermediate level.

There was agreement during the 2016 – 2017 season that:

- BSL needs to take a slower, more methodical approach to its Equality planning;
- Our RDO's will be key in the process of entrenching and promoting Equality at the heart of everything our clubs do;
- A generic BSL equality survey will be revised and re-issued via a web based survey tool in order to give us a more accurate benchmark ahead of commencing work to achieve the Equality Standard for Sport Intermediate level.
- BSL will also produce and circulate a standalone women's focus survey which will allow us to carry out a health check on Women's boxing.
- BSL will establish an Inclusion and Participation Advisory Group (IPAG) comprising two BSL members (one staff and one Board member) and individuals from such groups as Scottish Disability Sport, BEMIS, Leap Sport, someone from the justice rehabilitation sector etc. is recommended.
- BSL will examine the possibilities of sourcing its own Equality training/trainer to deliver a minimum of twice a year to all individual members (i.e. coaches, officials and general club volunteers).
- BSL has completed the sportscotland Equality health check document to provide a) a benchmark of where BSL currently sits in term of Equality and b) to evidence to sportscotland that work towards the Equality in Sport Intermediate level has commenced, in line with our annual investment targets;

An IPAG terms of reference document was approved by the BSL Board at its meeting in July, the content of which follows:

BOXING SCOTLAND LIMITED (BSL) INCLUSION AND PARTICIPATION ADVISORY GROUP (IPAG) TERMS OF REFERENCE

The principles of equality, inclusion and diversity in Scottish boxing are vital aspects of the ethos of Boxing Scotland and to the success and delivery of the sport across Scotland. However, we want to ensure that these are more than simply principles that are given lip-service or which have only importance in policy content or our 'public profile'.

Our aim is to reach a stage where inclusion, diversity and equality are embedded in our sport at all levels and in all aspects of our delivery and provision.

Our sport should be open to all to engage and participate and have access to the many benefits to physical and mental health and to social solidarity and wellbeing that boxing can provide whether through recreational participation or through competition.

Although we are continuing to make progress – for example through the Equality Standard Award – BSL want to make sure that our commitment to continuous improvement is clear and sustainable. The Advisory Group is established to assist with this.

REMIT

To assist and advise the Board, the Chief Executive and staff of Boxing Scotland Ltd (BSL) with their responsibilities on issues of equality, diversity and inclusion.

The Advisory Group will assist the Board of BSL and the Chief Executive in exercising their responsibility to:

- Promote equality, diversity and inclusion throughout Boxing Scotland and the wider boxing family in Scotland;
- Ensure implementation of all policies and directives related to equality, diversity and inclusion;
- Ensure that the governance, policies and operations of Boxing Scotland reflect our full commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion through a clear, evidenced and deliverable Action Plan;



EQUALITY

- Monitor and report on compliance with legislation relevant to equality, diversity and inclusion;
- Design and implement appropriate standards and indicators for monitoring and evaluation purposes;
- Ensure that Boxing Scotland and the wider boxing family in Scotland is continually made aware of issues of equality, diversity and inclusion and how these relates to the delivery, success and enjoyment of boxing in Scotland;
- Propose and review policy and procedure relevant to equality, diversity and inclusion;
- Support BSL in progressing through and sustaining Equality Standard for Sports at all levels;

This will be to further enable Boxing Scotland to meet its strategic objectives to make boxing open to all to engage and participate in and to have access to the many benefits to physical and mental health and to social solidarity and wellbeing that boxing can provide whether through recreational participation or through competition.

The IPAG will be purely advisory and has no direct responsibility or accountability for the implementation of policies which continue to lie with the Board and with the operational staff of BSL.

MEMBERSHIP

- Martin Henry (Chair) – Board of Directors: Boxing Scotland
- Fraser Walker - Interim Chief Executive: Boxing Scotland
- Tanveer Parnez – BEMIS
- Hugh Torrance - LEAP Sports
- Maureen McGonigle – Scottish Women in Sport (SWIS)
- Maureen Finn – Scottish Traveller Education Programme (STEP)

The IPAG may co-opt anyone who it thinks can make a valuable contribution to the work of the Advisory Group.

FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

The Advisory Group will meet three time a year and convene further meetings as agreed and as necessary.

AMENDMENTS

The landscape of equalities, diversity and inclusion in Scotland is continually developing both in terms of Government policy direction and legislation as well as cultural and community response. To reflect this the Advisory Group can recommend changes to the Terms of Reference as necessary. Any such suggested changes will require the endorsement of the Board of BSL.

BSL has agreed that its immediate inclusion and participation focus will be concentrated on:

- LGBT activity;
- Female participation;
- Learning Difficulties.

IN MEMORY

Last but not least, it is only right that we remember the great BSL servants & stalwarts that are no longer with us.

It deeply saddened us to inform members of the passing of Mr David Howie, Secretary of Blairgowrie's Wellmeadow Boxing Club during the 2016/2017 season.

David was an ever present Official over the decades at BSL Championships, Northern District and club shows all over the country & was well known and respected by everyone in Scottish boxing circles. He is gone but not forgotten.



