



AGM 2016

ENGLAND BOXING

England Boxing is the sport's national governing body. It was formed in 1880 and is responsible for the administration, development and promotion of Olympic-style boxing throughout England. It also represents England as a member of the International Boxing Association (AIBA) and the European Boxing Council (EUBC) and is a shareholder in the British Amateur Boxing Association (BABA)

England Boxing is funded by Sport England and, within this funding, is responsible for delivery of the Whole Sport Plan 2013-17 for boxing. This aims to grow and sustain participation in the sport and create opportunities and pathways for the most talented athletes to progress to the elite level.

England Boxing is a non-profit organisation and is overseen by a board of directors. It oversees a network of affiliated boxing clubs and is responsible for the national schools, junior, youth and elite championships. It is also responsible for the delivery of community work and boxing fitness programmes both within boxing clubs, schools, sports venues and community settings.

MISSION

England Boxing continually strives to develop the sport through effective governance and strong leadership ensuring that all members can personally develop through boxing. At the heart of England Boxing's business and operations lies the principle of treating everyone fairly and ethically and ensuring that boxing is a sport for all.

VISION

To be a world leader in the sport of boxing and enable English boxers to excel and win medals at the Olympic Games and in other international competitions.

To drive and sustain participation in amateur boxing through the development and provision of a club and venue network that delivers a high quality experience.



THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



The State of Boxing in England

It is often too easy to overlook the success that we as a nation have achieved over the last year, there has been much. Our schoolboy boxers returned from the European Championships in Croatia with the best results since we hosted the championships in 2007. At the GB Schools Three Nations England dominated winning 44 medals. GB qualified 12 out of a possible 13 boxers for the Olympics, all bar one of whom was from England, and won three medals; although we reached the medal target, I was more than surprised and disappointed at some of the other results; I believe our boxers performed better in Rio than the medal tally might suggest.

Since the last AGM England Talent, which had been removed from the NGB under the previous Board, returned to us, as Sport England are now satisfied with our Corporate Governance.

We will continue to invest in talent, ensuring the widest possible structure for identifying talent, retaining talent and ensuring our boxers have national and international experience. Our aim

is to be amongst the top three amateur boxing nations in Europe by result, consistently, over the next five years.

Participation

It is excellent to see that at grass roots participation in boxing as measured by the active people survey continues to increase.

Clubs numbers meanwhile are showing that there are as many clubs as there have ever been with a number of applications to form new clubs.

Our focus for the coming year will be to drive participation with large cohorts, so a focus on schools, FE Colleges, Universities and Prisons will hopefully yield increases, while commercial discussions with gym companies we hope will result in even greater participation through fitness channels. We will continue to promote our Box Product. We will be starting an initiative to try to link boxers to apprenticeships.

The Vault

Change is never easy or popular but in the Vault we have a platform to address many of the shortcomings for which the NGB was rightly criticised.

First, we will be able to communicate directly with our membership, for the first time we will be able to communicate with everyone in amateur boxing, the regions, clubs, boxers and volunteers. This has never been possible before and will significantly improve the professionalism of communications.

Second it will allow us to ensure the well-being of our boxers. Never before have medical statistics been recorded on a central basis.

Doing so will ensure that we can see how injury patterns work and whether or not our rules are reflecting independent and empirical statistics. Up until now views on medical wellbeing have been largely a personal view, but this will change in the future. The Vault will also ensure that a boxer will never compete uninsured.

Third, best practice from GB and England talent teams and all the resources they have can be shared, training and coaching, nutritional and sports science related via the locker room feature that will soon be populated. This will allow grass root boxers to have the same information as the elite boxers, it represents real sharing of knowledge.

All forms and cards in the future will be electronic, cutting down on admin time and costs in future years. I hope in the future too we can move to canvassing the membership more easily and even perhaps vote electronically.

Excitingly we have just started work on the matchmaking functionality of The Vault. This when its finished will allow Clubs and Coaches a free service which again should save them precious financial resources to direct elsewhere in their clubs.

If you are having any difficulties registering or using the Vault then please ring Sheffield and the office will be more than willing to help.

Change to Voting Rights and the Democratisation of Amateur Boxing in England.

When I became Chairman I did not understand why only clubs with 20 or more members could vote. It is a narrow representation of participants.

I am therefore proposing that any Club with carded boxers is henceforth a Voting Member of England Boxing. I hope this allows for greater voices and more input from a much wider base than is now the case.

Professionals in the Olympics.

As you may be aware I have previously stated that no professional would be considered for Rio 2016. This came after the AIBA vote to allow member countries to decide for themselves whether or not professionals should be allowed to box for their national team.

It was interesting to see the failure of those few professionals who did attend Rio.

Going forward a focus group has been set up by GB Boxing. We will work with them closely and consult and debate widely and listen very carefully to all voices, we know how strong views are on the issue. It is essential that we have strong grass roots in amateur boxing and continue to protect Olympic Boxing.

Engagement

This year has seen a concerted effort to up engagement with the membership and their Regions. Two Boxing Advisory Panels have taken place and a series of Q and A sessions led by the CEO have also taken place.

It is our intention to ensure that this is a regular occurrence and that we meet with as many as possible during the course of the year.

I hope as many Secretaries as possible attend the Chairman/CEO dinner meeting at the end of September.

Future Funding Environment

It is no surprise that as we enter a new funding cycle post 2017

we find ourselves in a more cash strapped society.

All NGBs are required by Sport England to submit a new strategy document which will form the basis of future funding. We are in the process of writing this document and so far we feel we are well placed against the criteria we have been set by Sport England.

Financial Transparency

It is essential that all members know exactly where all our money is spent. To that end a pie chart is attached giving a breakdown of spending. In addition, all expenses will now be available to the public. Everyone should be able to see what is being claimed by board members and directors. Please note that no one on the board with the exception of the CEO receives a salary.

AIBA

It has been disappointing to see the recent upheaval at AIBA. I would like to make our position clear. AIBA remains the world governing body for amateur boxing, and like many international federations, it is not a perfect organisation.

We sincerely hope that AIBA can raise the standard of all officiating and governance to that of the very highest level – as it has pledged to do.

We remain committed to working from within in order to do our very best to ensure the highest standards are maintained wherever we are involved. To this end we have three boxing directors who are actively involved in AIBA or EUBC commission work.

NGB and Board Composition

The Board comprises eight boxing Directors and three Independent Non -Executive Directors, and an

independent Chairman.

Our boxing Directors handle decisions and sub committees which need an in-depth understanding of the sport.

Our INEDS come from legal, commercial, marketing and communication and financial backgrounds. This allows them to run the non- boxing related sub committees. The board is running very effectively. We are always on the lookout for more talent so please do apply to join if you feel you can add value.

I am delighted that Paul Porter who was appointed as interim CEO was the successful candidate in the process of appointing a full time CEO. I do believe it benefits the sport to have a CEO from a boxing background, both as a participant and running a boxing club. I am delighted with the energy and enthusiasm that Paul has brought to the job.

The sub committees in the main work very well and I am grateful to all those on the Board who put so much time and work into their commitment to the sport.

We have had a focus on the use of technology in order to drive down costs related to governance, primarily to cut travel costs for sub- committee meetings.

In Sheffield and beyond the NGB regular staff works unfailingly hard and I would like to express my very real thanks to them. It is a thin team, much smaller than many NGB's but they love the sport and are unbelievably committed.

Breakaway

Members will be aware that there is a small element of the boxing community who wish to break away and form their own organisation. Will a break away benefit the sport? The answer is a categorical no. The opportunities

for boxers will diminish. Those who side with a new alliance will have severely reduced opportunity. I say this not in any way as a threat. I acknowledge the right of people to not re-affiliate, but I must point out the result. It has been confirmed that they will not be able to box against anyone affiliated to one of the AIBA national federations, they will not be able to box against any England Boxing affiliated club, they will not be recognised by Sport England for any funding. They would never box for their country or region or progress to whatever their potential may be.

I would like to make it clear that if you are a boxer or a coach at a club that has decided to join the alliance that does not mean in any way that you cannot, as an individual, vote to remain. That would of course entail joining another club which may not be easy for everyone. I would urge the consensus voice to be that of the boxers and coaches, not the administrators.

I genuinely am not sure of the motivating factor with the break away. The major concerns I have heard have in the main either been addressed or are being addressed and debated. We should have a robust respectful environment where debate and discussion for the improvement of the sport is the norm and no individual should be self-interested in their decision making.

A decision by clubs not to re-affiliate would be a very sad day for the sport; it would not benefit those who break away or those who stay loyal. I sincerely hope that nobody's prospects are curtailed as a result of a damaging split.

New Regional Officers have been, or are being appointed in those areas where it is required. At the

time of writing this I am pleased to report that many more than the usual number of clubs who affiliate by this time of year have re-affiliated, over 650.

Commercial.

When I took over there was no commercial income at all generated out of Sheffield. I am delighted to say that that has changed, we are likely to reach or exceed our commercial target for the year, with in excess of £100,000 committed. I believe next financial year we can more than double this amount.

This has been achieved by hiring a full time commercial manager, by creating an ambassador programme, by bringing in a title sponsor for a number of our competitions and by reaching agreements with companies for the supply of goods, as well as digitising our archive.

We have reached an agreement with a large Thai business who are to provide England Boxing equipment and also run an online boxing retail area of our site.

It is my intention is that every penny that is raised beyond our base commercial salary cost is distributed to clubs and grass roots boxing and to charitable boxing funds.

Disciplinary procedure.

The new disciplinary procedure has been implemented. The aim is to make it a fairer easier and more robust system that follows the laws of natural justice and above all seeks to be open and independent. An excellent video explaining the new process is now available.

Charity

I have always been very impressed by the charity for injured jockeys based out of Newmarket. It

struck me as odd that something similar did not exist for distressed former amateur boxers. With this in mind we have formed a new charity, On The Ropes. We will be asking sponsors to donate but it's formation will also allow Clubs, Regions or anyone else to give a proportion of any fund raising to the charity should they choose. More will be announced on the Trustees and Administration of the charity shortly.

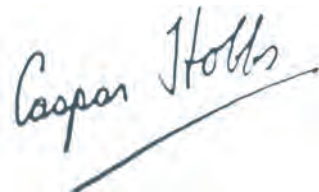
The Future

There remains a very great deal to do. I am very aware that we are not perfect and have much to improve but I do believe we are making good progress. I firmly believe that when the pain of initial registering on the Vault has finished our communication will be fit for purpose.

Clearly there are a huge number of matters we must execute, from our new strategy to the creation of a recognised form of disabled boxing, to the general promotion, protection and regulation of boxing. It is of regret of course that much time has recently been taken up with firefighting other matters as inevitably this causes opportunity cost.

Most of all I would like to thank all the Volunteers who put so much time into making dreams a reality. You are the backbone of the sport.

I do believe that we are positioned for success and that 2016/17 will be an excellent year for our sport, without doubt the greatest sport to grace our planet. Thank you for your support.



CJA Hobbs
Chairman

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

Welcome to the 2016 England Boxing AGM.

The immediate post-Olympic period is often marked by realignments within sport, and late-2016 in boxing is no exception. This year has seen significant changes in the way clubs, coaches, boxers, officials and other members affiliate to England Boxing. The launch of our new online registration system, The Vault, will revolutionise the way England Boxing communicates with all members, and will help us to become a more accountable and responsive National Governing Body.

The past four years have seen the female side of the sport grow in strength and depth both domestically and internationally, book-ended by London 2012 and Rio 2016. Nicola Adams winning a second gold medal, and a very creditable performance from Savannah Marshall, helped to show the general public that female boxing in England is here to stay.

The introduction of women's and girls' boxing was a huge change, but it has now reached such full acceptance from grass roots to elite level that it is difficult to think back to a time when there was a great deal of resistance to it within the sport, or indeed a time twenty years ago when it didn't exist at all.

My own memories of boxing in my teens and earlier are of smoke-filled halls and my kit stinking of that same stale smoke the morning after when I opened my sports bag. That was the case for young boxers until 2007 when smoking in most public places was banned, amidst a furious reaction from many smokers, but when we look back on that change now, almost a decade later, it seems incredible that such an unhealthy environment for youth sport prevailed for so long.

And so, returning to the changes of 2016, England Boxing has launched its online registration system and revamped the introductory stages of its coaching programme. Both of these look like huge changes viewed from today, but in the future they will become part of the fabric of our sport, and their benefits will be taken for granted as being good for grassroots boxing. The Vault will help to leverage funding into many of our hundreds of clubs, and into the sport regionally and nationally.

The Vault will also support the development of talent by improving communication between the England Talent Pathway coaches and club coaches. In addition to Nicola's gold, Joe Joyce's silver and



Joshua Buatsi's bronze medals at the Rio 2016 Olympics under GB Boxing, the England Talent section, returning to England Boxing after more than two years under the umbrella of GB Boxing, has produced a fantastic series of performances at European Championship level. Since the return to England Boxing in April, our schoolboys, juniors and youths have won a total of 14 medals, including 4 golds.

I am more optimistic than ever before that the future for boxing in England is bright, from grassroots to elite level, and that its social and health benefits will increasingly be recognised within our society.

Paul Porter
England Boxing
Chief Executive Officer

ENGLAND BOXING LIMITED (FORMERLY THE AMATEUR BOXING ASSOCIATION OF ENGLAND LIMITED)


ABBREVIATED BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2015

		2015		2014	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	2		99,806		118,423
Investments	2		1		1
			<u>99,807</u>		<u>118,424</u>
Current assets					
Debtors		299,145		387,380	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>863,201</u>		<u>529,215</u>	
		1,162,346		916,595	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
		<u>(684,529)</u>		<u>(400,167)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>477,817</u>		<u>516,428</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			577,624		634,852
Accruals and deferred income					
			<u>(98,687)</u>		<u>(125,617)</u>
			<u>478,937</u>		<u>509,235</u>
Capital and reserves					
Profit and loss account			<u>478,937</u>		<u>509,235</u>
Shareholders' funds			<u>478,937</u>		<u>509,235</u>

These abbreviated accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board for issue on 3 November 2015



C Hobbs
Director

Company Registration No. 02817909



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