

GPC AGM 2013

THE GPC AGM took place on Thursday 26th September in Hotel Park & Eger, Eger, Hungary.

Present: Board Members – Lee Marshall (President), Jan Matej (European Vice President), Frank McGivney (Treasurer), Ger McNamara (Technical Officer), Anita Mahony (Secretary).

Record Keeper: Tina Gacnik

Voting Representatives (and members) from: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, France, GB, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia & South Africa.

Apologies: – Technical Officer - Peter Tregloan, Gregor Jankovic – Slovenia, Toni Haaparanta- Finland, Daniel Skopec – Croatia.

The minutes of the 2012 AGM were circulated. There were no matters arising.

The Board Members made reports.

The President Lee Marshall thanked Hungary for a superb competition. He mentioned that Ian Morris the former World Vice President had resigned and thanked him for his contribution to the GPC over the years. He thanked Julia for keeping the GPC World & European records up to the World Championships and welcomed the new recordkeeper Tina Gacnik.

The Treasurer Frank made his report stating that the number of paid up members remained consistent with the year before. As the GPC is a company registered in Ireland, a full set of accounts had been prepared and would be available at the end of November on www.cro.ie. He reported that the board had put financial measures in place to allow for growth in the GPC, had expenditure for badges, refereeing etc and retained a surplus of €2000. Paypal will also be set up so that it will be convenient for nations to pay their membership or pay for record certs. Nations will receive the invoice & registration form from him and a certificate of registration when membership is paid.

The European Vice President gave his report on the three sanctioned events in 2012 – The European Championships in Bled, Slovenia, (235 lifters) the World Championships in Bardejov, Slovakia (471 lifters) and the World Youth Cup in Giraltovece, Slovakia (59 lifters) GPC athletes taking part in international events has increased annually as follows: 2009- 362 from 16 countries, 2010- 581 from 18 countries, 2011- 624 from 19 countries & 2012 – 765 from 28 countries. Mr Matej was very pleased with the quality of the organisation of the World Championships in Bardejov & the 2013 Europeans in Knjazevac Serbia. Such high standard championships will help retain existing members and attract new lifters and new nations. He concluded by thanking the Hungarian organisers for their efforts with this year's world championships.

The Secretary Anita Mahony made her report, she thanked the Slovakian organisers for a fantastic world championships in 2012, and the Serbian organisers for the wonderful European championships in 2013 as well as the current world championship organisers. She hoped everyone was satisfied with her in the role of secretary and that she was able to keep everyone informed of the happenings around the world through the Global Powerlifting Facebook group and being available to answer all queries. She also welcomed new affiliates from USA, India, Latvia, Brazil, Kazakhstan & Poland and looked forward to being able to welcome others in 2014, particularly in South America.

AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. That the thumb must be wrapped around the bar in the Benchpress**
Yes – 21 No – 1. This was passed
- 2. That the start signal on the bench be reintroduced.**
The arms must thus be locked before the referee gives a start signal
Yes - 19, No - 3 - This was passed
- 3. That GPC International Referees who referee at Invitational Events judge using the GPC ruling in particular to depth.**
Yes – 22 No – 0 - This was passed unanimously
- 4. That the entry forms for World/Continental Championships are not included in the Championships website. A standardised form and team list can be emailed to each nation by the Secretary. Individual lifters from non-affiliated countries can request a form from the Secretary.**
Yes – 22 – No -0 This was passed unanimously
- 5. That the World Vice President will not be expected to attend the European Championships and the European Vice President will not be expected to attend the World Championships when held outside of Europe, unless they wish to do so.**
Yes – 22 – No – 0. This was passed unanimously
- 6. That for additional fee, Teen, Junior and Master lifters may enter BOTH their age class and the Open if they so wish.**
Yes – 2 No – 20 After much discussion, this motion was not passed
- 7. That a 4th referee be appointed to inspect the lifters equipment before the lifter is called to the platform to lift.**
After much discussion, there was no vote on this motion. As per the rulebook, lifters are responsible for knowing if their equipment is legal or not so must take responsibility for it themselves. If lifters are in any doubt, they can approach the technical officers to ask about the legality of their equipment.

- 8. Every affiliate should send to GPC the results of the national competitions and should be posted on the website**

As a new website is to be designed for the GPC, which should contain all such details, this motion was not voted on.

- 9. The record keeper should be at the International events to issue record certificates as requested by lifters. If the record keeper is not going to be available, then blank records should be available to be written & distributed at the championships.**

A new record keeper has been appointed so this will be addressed

- 10. Records should also include the bodyweight of the lifter.**

This was deemed unnecessary as the current record must be exceeded not matched by a lighter lifter to be broken

- 11. The results from the European and World records should be checked by the Technical Officer.**

This was deemed impractical but the logic behind it led to the introduction of a new motion – No. 12

- 12. That all the staff on the scoring table be made aware of the rules regarding attempts (ie minimum. 5 kgs between first & second attempts for men, openers must be changed 5 minutes before the start of the flight etc).**

Yes – 22 – No – 0. This motion was passed.

Further Motions were introduced under Any Other Business that arose during the meeting or since the distribution of the agenda.

- 13. That briefs may be of any height because they do not give additional assistance if high.**

Yes – 13 – No – 1. This motion was passed.

- 14. That the ruling on what constitutes a T-shirt (sleeves/no sleeves) be clarified in the rulebook**

Yes – 14 - No – 0. This motion was passed

- 15. That world championships be scheduled in October or November and not September as it doesn't give lifters sufficient time to train after the summer.**

This item was not voted on as it depends on when the Meet directors can get the venue etc but from 2015 on, organisers will be requested to organise the championships in October or November, possibly to coincide with mid-term at schools (although this varies from country to country) as many of our teen lifters are still in school.

CHAMPIONSHIPS PRESENTATIONS

2014 World Championships – Argentina

Rafael Larraburu the organiser of the 2014 World Championships in Argentina had travelled over expecially to see how the 2103 organisers were running this year's world Championships and to inform the participants of the details of the event. Participants received the brochure of the hotel and the area as well as a DVD.

Dates: **29th September 2014 – 4th October, 2014**

Location: **Iguazu Falls, Argentina**

Venue: **Hotel Amerian Portal del Iguazu** (5 star hotel)

<http://www.portaldeliguazu.com/eng>

The Iguazu Falls are surrounded by Brazil, Uruguay & Argentina. There are huge waterfalls and a tropical rainforest. The venue is big, there is air conditioning and livestream and lots of places to eat. The organisers are working very hard to ensure the event is run efficiently.

They are 3 years in the GPC and many years in powerlifting. There is an airport 14km from the venue (Iguazu airport). It is better to book flights to Sao Paulo and fly to Iguazu than to fly to Buenas Aires to connect to Iguazu. Rafael hopes that lifters from every GPC country will come to Argentina and that South American will have representation from Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay and Chile at least.

2014 European Championships - Czech Republic

Libor Hurdalek presented the participants with a package of information about Trutnov where the Europeans will take place from 2nd – 7th June 2014 (Please note this is a change of date to that distributed at the meeting). Trutnov is located 170km from Prague. Transportation will be organised from three airports. Pardubice Airport (74km)- Pardubice, Czech Republic ([PED](#) / LKPD), Copernicus Airport Wroclaw (129km)- Wroclaw, Poland ([WRO](#) / EPWR), [180 km](#): Prague (180km) Václav Havel Airport - Prague, Czech Republic ([PRG](#) / LKPR).

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS BIDS

2015 World Championships - Two bids– USA & Israel

Ger McNamara presented the bid for the USA as he had been at their nationals. The championships director would be Jesse Rodgers a very experienced Meet Director with the SPF and Ger predicted that could be as many as 600 American lifters present and Jesse Rodgers has limitless top class equipment available. The proposed venue was Las Vegas.

Ariela Amitay presented the bid for Israel. She stated that they had been looking at two possible locations – Tel Aviv or Tiberius on the Sea of Galilia. It would be a great opportunity to combine a sport & tourist package for participants and would be cheaper for Europeans to get to than Vegas. She stated that the Israeli lifters have been supporting the GPC for many years and it would be nice to see the GPC recognising that by granting them the World Championships.

The result of the vote was as follows:

USA – 11 votes – Israel – 11 votes.

Because it was a split vote, the President Mr. Lee Marshall had the casting vote. In view of the fact that Israel doesn't yet have all the required equipment in place, Israel have yet to run a major championships and none of the Board have been to events in Israel, he voted for the USA.

Therefore the 2015 World Championships will be held in the USA (Las Vegas).

Dates yet to be confirmed but the organiser, Jesse Rodgers will be requested to host it in October.

2016 World Championships – Two bids – Serbia & the unsuccessful 2015 bidders (Israel)

The Serbian contingent made their presentation, stating the event would be in Nis, the team were experienced, having run the 2013 Europeans. There were hotels for 800 people in Nis and transportation will be arranged from Belgrade airport 200km away and there is a local airport also.

Ariela Amitay then withdrew Israel's bid for the 2016 World Championships as out of friendship between Serbia & Israel and respect for the Europeans they ran, they did not want to stand against Serbia.

Therefore, Serbia will host the 2016 world championships in Nis.

BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS

The first election was for **World Vice President.**

There were three candidates standing for this position.

Brian Johnston from Canada

Gregor Jankovic from Slovenia

Jan Matej from Slovakia.

Gregor & Jan had circulated their CV when the Agenda was sent out. Brian introduced himself in person to those present, Jan Matej did also and Tina Gacnik spoke on behalf of Gregor Jankovic who could not be present.

The election took place and the voting was as follows:

Brian Johnston – 11 votes

Jan Matej – 9 votes

Gregor Jankovic – 0 votes

Brian Johnston was thus elected as the new GPC World Vice President.

The second election was for European Vice President

There were three candidates standing for this position.

Gregor Jankovic from Slovenia

Jan Matej from Slovakia

Libor Hurdalek from Czech Republic

As Gregor and Jan had already been introduced Libor Hurdalek introduced himself, having circulated his CV with the AGM agenda. However, he withdrew his name from the election in support of Mr. Matej's candidature prior to the election taking place.

The election took place and the voting was as follows:

Jan Matej – 15 votes

Gregor Jankovic – 4 votes

Jan Matej was thus re-elected as the European Vice President.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Frank McGivney spoke about insurance and how International Championships directors have to have insurance in place 6 weeks before the event (as per last year's AGM). Some countries seem to have difficulties getting insurance so Frank has been working with Canadian lifter Liane Sabourin to put a package in place with an insurance broker in Canada. He will also check out the possibility of a broker in Ireland offering insurance packages since the GPC is a registered company in Ireland. There still has to be work done on this as it only cropped up the week before the AGM. The option for Individual lifters to get insurance, national federations and Championships organisers will be looked into. Working as a federation as a whole rather than individual nations may lead to better prices and ease of getting different options for insurance cover for all nations.

That concluded the matters of the meeting.