



**Annual General Meeting
Irish Athletic Boxing Association
11h October 2025 10.30am Held at Girdwood Community Hub
MINUTES**

(In Attendance)

Board: Chair Niall O’Carroll, Ted Barry (TB), Art O’Brien (AO) Charles Toland (CT) , Gus Farrell (GF)
 Company Secretary: John Nangle (JN)
 Officers: Stephen Connolly (Registra)
 Auditors: Ciara Fitzgerald Nexus
 CEO: Gary Stewart
 Staff: Ciara Plunkett, Rachel Moffat, Stephen Flynn, Clare McCauley, Bridget Scott, Liam Corr , John Mackey.

**Agenda Item 1
Opening of Meeting
and Chairs/CEO
Address**

Meeting delayed 30 minutes and commenced at 11.00am.

Quorum
 The Company Secretary confirmed that the quorum of members, namely a minimum of 40 members was present.

The chair welcomed everyone declaring the meeting formally open. Apologies for absence National President Anto Donnelly, Anti-Doping Officer Sean Crowley.

A roll call was taken with standing orders read out. A full list of delegates is attached Appendix A.

The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting on 7th December 2024 have been available on the company website and were approved by the board.

On behalf of Ulster Boxing Council, Antrim County Board, Ulster president Kevin Duffy welcomed delegates and attendees to the AGM expressing thanks to the board for holding the 2025 AGM in Belfast. The Association has faced many hurdles in recent times, and that it was necessary now to implement a clear membership engagement strategy and improved communication flow so that members could make informed decisions.

The Chair clarified his own position and that he would be stepping down in the near future, calling on the need for a new rulebook, with a boxing congress arranged in the new year. Informed the meeting that a resolution would be determined by way of a show of hands or by poll later and the results would be announced following the conclusion of the voting.

	<p>Gary Stewart CEO began by thanking delegates and attendees and gave an overview of his background, career to date and his observations three months in the role. Having a robust membership engagement plan is key to keeping members connected. Stronger communities, more volunteers, and increased event attendance all result from engaged members.</p> <p>National Governing Bodies are generally formed to organise competitions to have a national team and govern the sport and this will be the focus over the next three to five months months, revising the organisational structure, improving efficiency, communication flow, productivity and the decision making process. Developing national strategies supporting clubs, athlete development, pathways, new membership system, changing the perception and branding.</p> <p>Jon Mackey National Performance Director provided an overview of the past six months conducting programme wide reviews. An independent cultural review has taken place and its recommendations will be taken on board to improve the experience of boxers in the programme. New selection and assessment proposals have been worked on, improving communications, planning and more integration with the pathways. Provided an update on the Commonwealth nomination process and the consultations that would take place.</p>
<p>Agenda Item 2 Anti-Doping Report:</p>	<p>Ciara Plunkett read out the report.</p> <p>IABA is proud to support clean sport through the provision of education opportunities, and partnering with Sport Ireland and other anti-doping agencies in the facilitation of testing. Anti-doping is a vital tool in ensuring a level-playing field for all athletes. Testing Over the past 12 months Sport Ireland have completed 82 anti-doping tests on IABA athletes, of which 18 were In-Competition and 64 Out-of-Competition – there were no adverse analytical findings and all tests were 100% clean.</p> <p>15 IABA athletes are members of the Sport Ireland Registered Testing Pool this year, and all were tested, at random, outside competition. All 17 boxers selected to represent Ireland were tested ahead of the World Boxing World Championships in Liverpool, ensuring that only clean athletes travelled. In Competition testing was completed at the National Elite Championships, Elite Open Competition and National U23 Championships. Testing was conducted at semi-finals and finals stages.</p> <p>This is an important development as, historically, testing has been confined to champions. More random, widespread testing is desirable, and it's excellent to progress this volume of testing. Education The focus this year has been improving Anti-Doping Education and Awareness. Workshops were in January/February for the circa 40 athletes across the HPU Senior and Priority Development Squads, in addition to online e-learning provision.</p> <p>We also staged, in collaboration with Sport Ireland, Anti-doping Outreach programs in the National Stadium in May & August during the National Senior Cadets, U15 and U23 Championships - providing learning opportunities to over 400 athletes, their parents/guardians, club coaches and clubs.</p>

	<p>Developing our Programmes: In 2026, it is intended to expand the number of IABA Anti-Doping Tutors, with training scheduled for early next year. Bolstering the number of educators within the Association means accurate, timely anti-doping information will be more widely available to boxers, club coaches, clubs and parent/guardians.</p> <p>Additional Outreach programmes will take place, in collaboration with Sport Ireland, at National Championship events and we hope to further expand in-competition testing at domestic events. This is my first annual report as IABA’s Anti-Doping Officer, and I’d like to take this opportunity to commend the work of my predecessor, Larry Morrision. Larry served as the Association’s Anti-Doping Officer for almost 2 decades, during a period of frequent change and development in the worlds of testing and education and it is his work on which we now build.</p> <p>Sean Crowley IABA Anti-Doping Officer.</p>
<p>Agenda item 3 Safeguarding Report</p>	<p>Stephen Flynn IABA National Safeguarding Manager read out his safeguarding report.</p> <p>National Committee: Jennifer O’Sullivan-Coffey (Chairperson/Munster CPO) Anto Donnelly (Board of Directors) Anna Moore (Central Council) Ronan Kelly (Dublin CPO) Sibheal Greene (Connacht CPO) Margeret Lambe (Leinster CPO) Padraig Laverty (Antrim/Ulster CPO) Stephen Flynn (SGM IABA/Secretary)</p> <p>Firstly, I would like to recognise the work of the Committee, not only in their time in attending meetings, but in their role in policy development, case management, vetting reviews, feedback and support over the past year. Safeguarding Training The IABA’s proactive approach to supporting our clubs in best practice through education is evident in the number of Safeguarding Courses delivered both online and in person in 2025 throughout the Association.</p> <p>To date in 2025, we have delivered 15 Safeguarding 1 basic awareness courses (SG1) online and in person, an additional 5 SG1 courses scheduled for the remainder of the year. There have been 251 coaches and club administrators trained on SG1 – a record for IABA-delivered training in this space. 32 Club Children’s Officers have availed of IABA-delivered Safeguarding 2 courses. This significant learning provision would not have been delivered without the availability of our trained IABA Safeguarding Tutors.</p> <p>The Committee would like to recognise Bridget Scott and Gabe Cronnelly for their support in delivering training throughout the year.</p> <p>*Data Taken 02/10/2025 Safeguarding/Pre-Affiliation Workshops: In preparation for affiliation for the 2025/2026 season, 27 online workshops were held across weekday lunchtimes, evenings and Saturday mornings on the updated member management system to track Garda Vetting, updating coaching qualifications, and include all members for insurance purposes and the practicalities of managing a Safeguarding matter, should it arise at club level.</p>

50% of clubs attended these workshops, which were designed to support clubs in in their day-to-day management.

I would like to thank all who delivered and made the workshops possible, and all club representatives who took the time to attend. Vetting: The upward trend in members applying and completing vetting applications has continued through 2025. Applications have increased by 11% on 2024 in the year-to-date. The Committee thanks all the Club Children's Officers and administrators who process and send applications on behalf of their members.

There was a significant increase in the processing of completed applications again this year compared to 2023/2024 with notably fewer incomplete applications or expired invites.

2023 & 2024 full year data, 2025 Data up until 02/10/2025 From a compliance perspective, IABA has successfully completed an Access NI audit - our gratitude to Ulster colleagues who continue to be diligent and ensuring highest standards on processing applications for our members. IABA welcomes and facilitates on-going spot checks and compliance audits from the National Vetting Bureau at random intervals.

A full audit on compliance is due in early 2026. Some new changes have occurred on both platforms in recent months, and a suite of Lunchtime learning will be delivered in Q4 to help support clubs and members adjust to those changes. It highlights greater need with completion of forms and acceptance of the verification documentation on both sides. Greater EU wide checks are now carried out and will increase waiting times by a minimum of 10 days. Some other important milestones for mention: Review of the Safeguarding Strategic plan 2024-2028: This is a live document and is reviewed twice annually, in addition to an audit by CPSU in Northern Ireland.

We continue to implement the best practices across all 32 counties, and more work will be required on this. The next scheduled review of this document will be November 2025. Safeguarding and Policy Review: In line with best practice, a review of our National Policy and its appendices were conducted by Tulsa's compliance department early in 2025. The feedback was largely positive, particularly in areas of reporting and case management practices. IABA's National Safeguarding Statement is due for review in 2026 and our suite of policy documents will be updated at that time, accordingly.

The Safeguarding Statement is a living document that requires refreshing every two years and is linked to our funding with Sport NI and Sport Ireland. Underage Team Ireland: 2025 was a very successful year both inside and outside the ring for our international boxers at juvenile level. All training camps and away trips were supervised and delivered to the highest standard. Feedback and continual improvements into our preparation of our Team Managers, coaches, parents/guardians and boxers prior to and post trip is an area we wish to strengthen looking ahead to 2026.

We have given additional training to our Team management pool and this has paid dividends in terms of coach and boxer feedback. Our congratulations to all

	<p>who represented their county in 2025. Youth Mental Health First Aid: IABA added Youth Mental Health First Aid Training added to our suite of club supports in the final quarter of 2024.</p> <p>The training, delivered in partnership with Mental Health First Aid Ireland, is free for all IABA participants and is funded and supported by the HSE and St. John of Gods Services. We delivered two online and one in person course during 2025, with 32 attendees in total.</p> <p>There are plans to host one more session in Quarter 4 of 2025. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion: We would like to recognise the importance of this work over the past 12 months by our colleague Patrick Adejayan and the number of volunteer members that engaged and assisted in the progression of our 360 EDI policy. A suite of training was delivered over the course of the year on Inclusion, Diversity, Disability Awareness, Autism in Sport, Unconscious Bias and High Five to name just a few of the topics that our membership availed of during the year. We are also thankful to Active Disability Ireland for their guidance on expert input into the training.</p> <p>Summary As we continue to work toward our ambitious goals as set out in our Safeguarding Strategy and within the framework of our 2024-2028 Strategic plan, In Your Corner, there are big opportunities for making the sport of boxing a leader in safe sport and inclusivity. Some strides will be required on updating our governance practices in the sport and technology will play a major part in bring those advancements forward. We look forward to working innovatively with our members on a practical and top-class solution in this space.</p> <p>One of the big-ticket items the Association has on its agenda for 2026 calendar year is capturing the youth voice in sport. We are aiming to partner with some universities to conduct a research project in early 2026 and then establish a youth forum/ council to inform the association on different matters. This is widely best practice across many of the top sports Nationally and Internationally.</p> <p>I would like to commend the thousands of volunteers who coach, administer and support our members on a daily and weekly basis helping foster young athletes love for boxing and lifelong learning in a child centred environment.</p> <p>Stephen Flynn National Safeguard</p>
<p>Item 4 Auditors Report</p>	<p>Ciara Fitzgerald of Nexus presented the financial statements and auditors report ,including the income and expenditure and balance sheet for year ended 31st December 2024. The books of accounts have been appropriately maintained and was complementary to the finance team for the assistance during the audit.</p> <p>The member were given the opportunity to ask questions which were answered by the company.</p> <p>Resolved that the audited Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure along with the notes forming part of the audited financials for the financial year ended 31st December 2024 along with the Auditors report and Directors Report thereon for</p>

	<p>the financial year ended 31st December 2024, are hereby taken as read, approved and adopted by members.</p>
<p>Item 5 Reappointment of Auditors</p>	<p>The chair confirmed that Nexus had express willingness to be reappointed as the company’s statutory auditor, inviting queries from members present in respect of the eligibility of the auditor. No queries were received.</p> <p>It was resolved that Nexus Chartered Accountants be reappointed as auditor of the company. Proposed Eugene Duffy, Seconded Charles Totland.</p>
<p>Item 6 Motions</p>	<p>The Chair moved onto Agenda item 7 – Motions.</p> <p>There is one motion being put forward Ordinary Resolution as notified. That, on foot of the overwhelming vote (99%) at the EGM to join World Boxing that the members resolve that it is for the good of boxing in Ireland to disaffiliate with the International Boxing Association (IBA) and to affiliate solely with World Boxing and to give effect to same in the Rules and administration documents in IABA.</p> <p>The Chair stated that generally every motion at a meeting of Members shall be decided in the first instance by a show of hands unless prior to or following a show of hands, the chair of the meeting determines, or a majority of Members present and entitled to vote thereat resolve, to vote on the matter by ballot.</p> <p>The chair asked members to vote by raising their hand if they wanted the Ordinary resolution today to be by hand or ballot. Of the votes cast 26 in favour 14 against. As the majority present voted in favour the ordinary resolution will be voted by a show of hands.</p> <p>Dino Dallat Ballymote spoke about values and standards as outlined to coaches at level 1 and that members should look at their own values and standards in making their decision today.</p> <p>Darren McGavin Neilstown felt that the drive away from the IBA was politically motivated, that threats to funding were unfounded, criticising the chair and the board, questioning the complete u-turn on the previous EGM, recommending the constitution needed to be updated by the members, change is needed for the members.</p> <p>Gary Faye Phoenix Ballyboughal, expressed his dismay recalling a previous appeal which he didn’t feel was fairly dealt with. Today’s vote didn’t make any difference as the Association would clearly not be entering any further IBA competitions, but looked forward to 2026 and seeing a new structure in place.</p> <p>Mal Scott, questioned who was negotiating on the clubs behalf with the Olympic Council of Ireland and the government, felt that it was politically motivated and questioned who was pushing the agenda for the clubs and what was wrong with saying in both organisations.</p> <p>Paddy Gallagher Maynooth, queried the reason for leaving the IBA, clubs should stay in both.</p> <p>Gary Stewart addressed the reason why the association should leave, that the IOC wrote to all its local Olympic federations and has mandated the Olympic</p>

	<p>Federation of Ireland that they cannot accept new members that are members of IBA.</p> <p>Jimmy McGrath St Anges suggested democracy is respected here today , free speech and debate is welcome but it is now time for the members to vote.</p> <p>The IOC directive will not permit the Olympic Federation of Ireland to grant membership to the IABA if affiliated with IBA. Irish boxers would not be allowed to compete in the 2026 youth Olympics nor LA Olympics if the IABA is still a members of the IBA.</p> <p>The Chair called on voting delegates to raise their hand with the Green card if in favour of the resolution and to raise the Red card thereafter if they were against the resolution. In favour 35 Against 5 overall majority of votes cast 87.5% Motion passed.</p>
Meeting Closed	

Appendix A

Arbour Hill, Ballymore, Ballymote, Ballymun, Banbridge, Bishop Kelly, Castlebar, Castleblaney, Cavan, Clonard, Corpus Christi, Dublin Docklands, Glengormley, Golden Gloves Kilkeel, Holy Family Golden Gloves, Holy Trinity, Immaculata, Lisburn, Lucan, Maynooth, Monivea, Monkstown, Monkstown Dublin, Mulhuddart, Neilstown, Oakleaf, Ormeau Road, Phoenix ABC, Phoenix of Ballyboughal, Riverstown, Smithfield, Saints, St. Agnes, St. Catherine's, St. Francis, St. Joseph's, St. Matthew's, St. Paul's ABC (Antrim), St. Michael's Athy, Star, Saviour's Crystal, Two Castles Olympic, Whitechurch.

Scrutineers: Kevin Duffy, St. Joseph's BC, Derry; Alan Donnellan, Monivea BC, Trish McLoughlin, St. Catherine's BC, Dublin.