



**Annual General Meeting  
Irish Athletic Boxing Association  
7th December 2024 12 Noon Held at National Stadium  
MINUTES**

**(In Attendance)**

Board: Chair Niall O’Carroll, Ted Barry (TB), Art O’Brien (AO)  
 Company Secretary: John Nangle (JN)  
 Officers: Larry Morrison (Treasurer), Philip Rooney (Registra)  
 Auditors: Declan Fitzgerald, Shay Carins  
 Legal: Setanta Landis  
 Staff: Ciara Plunkett, James Geraghty, Stephen Flynn, Adam Hession,  
 Sally Kitch, Dave McCarthy, Patrick Adjayen

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

Before the formal business of the meeting a roll call was taken with standing orders read out. as the quorum had been exceeded the Chair opened the meeting at 12.30pm, welcoming all in attendance noting that the agenda and financial statements had previously been circulated in advance. A full list of delegates is attached Appendix A.

Jim Murrin (Edenderry BC) requested that all members present, should have the opportunity to speak today on each topic if they wished. The Chair explained that in order for proceedings of the annual general meeting to be carried out timely standing orders are generally in place. However, there will be opportunities within reason for everyone to speak today.

In his address the Chair highlighted that the AGM is a forum and a chance for all to reflect on the past year and attendees will hear reports from Anti-Doping, Safeguarding and the National Auditors. Recognising the performances of all our boxers particularly Kellie Harrington’s Olympic achievements, noting the work and commitment of coaches and volunteers.

However, achieving good governance is quite challenging as there is need to balance higher standards with fostering positive teamwork especially given the diverse and demanding nature within the association. Clearly the current structure and systems are not working effectively. In order, to develop a more effective governance model the board of directors commissioned Carmichael to carry out an independent review. The recommendations will now be worked through with a clearer framework of accountability and processes introduced.

A significant challenge within the association has been the online inappropriate behaviour and harassment by some of our members. Who feel that social media is an invitation for unrestrained nastiness or anarchy, this will need to be addressed as its not acceptable, reminding everyone of their responsibilities whenever they post online within an IABA forum. A commercial sponsor withdrew their support due to this online behaviour.

	<p>There will be a comprehensive review of the coaching commission and decisions made in, regard to team selection. Encouraging that central council would establish a club forum early in the new year.</p> <p>Overall, the operating results paint a positive picture, however the next 12 months will be vital for the future of the sport. The Irish Olympic Federation issued correspondence during the week terminating the IABA membership due to our alignment with IBA. We will remain unaffiliated until such time as the association affiliates with an international body approved by the IOC.</p> <p>Critical decisions will need to be made by members in 2025, as it stands the IABA will not be eligible to put forward boxers to the 2026 youth Olympics as the association is outside the Olympic family. OFI letter to be circulated to clubs.</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 2 Anti-Doping Report:</b></p>	<p>This year, 2024, will be recorded as a very successful year for the Irish Athletic Boxing Association, with 10 boxers qualifying for the Paris Olympic Games – the largest team since Rome of 1960. Of the ten boxers who qualified six were women and four were men. IABA was the only federation in Europe, and one of only three in the world, to qualify a full squad of women. One of our boxers Kellie Harrington won her second gold medal. She is the only IABA boxer to have won two Olympic gold medals.</p> <p>There are currently seventeen boxers in the Sport Ireland Registered Testing Pool at the High Performance Unit – however, any High Performance athlete can undergo anti-doping testing at any time. Boxers in the Registered Testing Pool are required to submit a whereabouts return to Sport Ireland, quarterly, which states where they will be on every day of the forthcoming three months. Failing or refusing to submit their whereabouts that boxers may receive a whereabouts filing failure. Three filing failures been recorded against a boxer in a twelve-month period may constitute an anti-doping rule violation. This may lead to a disciplinary hearing. If proven to be correct a ban on competition in boxing may be imposed on the boxer. No anti-doping rule violations were recorded in boxing this year.</p> <p>Anti-Doping Workshops are an important way to educate athletes on the principle of strict liability – that they are responsible for clean sport. Workshops outline who may be tested, how testing can occur, when it may take place and the sanctions for failed tests. Anti-Doping workshops were held for teams contesting the European U22 Championships, World Youth Championships, the 1st and 2nd Olympic World Qualifiers and the European Elite Championships. All boxers, and Paris coaches and support staff were required to undergo World Anti-Doping Agency and Sport Ireland anti-doping workshops. Additionally, all members of the IABA Team Manager pool, as part of their learning, took part in an Anti-Doping Workshop so that they can support boxers in the principle of strict liability.</p> <p>It's very important that, as well as boxers, coaches and team managers undergo Anti-Doping training. There are eleven anti-doping rule violations. Seven of these rules can apply to coaches and any athlete support staff.</p>

	<p>High Performance boxers receive very welcome funding and sports science medical support from Sport Ireland. Without this funding and these resources, there is no doubt boxing in Ireland would not receive the success it has and the recognition it has on the international stage.</p> <p>All notification of boxing championships issued by the Irish Athletic Boxing Association contain notification that anti-doping testing may occur during that championship.</p> <hr/> <p>Larry Morrison Anti-Doping Officer Irish Athletic Boxing Association</p>
<p><b>Agenda item 3 Safeguarding Report</b></p>	<p>Stephen Flynn IABA National Safeguarding Manager read out his safeguarding report. Noting the safeguarding committee members.</p> <p><b>National Safeguarding Committee:</b> Suzanne Peake (<b>Ballyhaunis BC</b>), Darren McGavin (<b>Moyle Park BC</b>), Pdraig McCullagh (<b>Tredagh BC</b>), Robert Woods (<b>Brosna BC</b>), Pdraig Laverty (<b>Antrim BC</b>) and Stephen Flynn (<b>SGM IABA</b>)</p> <p>Firstly, I would like to recognise the work of the committee not only in their time in attending meetings but for their role in policy development, feedback and support over the past 12 months.</p> <p><b>Safeguarding Training:</b></p> <p>From the outset of the year, we placed an emphasis on the proactive approach to supporting our clubs in best practices, through education. This is evident in the number of Safeguarding Courses delivered both online and in person in 2024. To date in 2024 we have delivered 14 Safeguarding 1 basic awareness courses (SG1) online and in person. There have been 207 coaches and club administrators trained on SG1. There was also the delivery of two SG2 courses with 28 Club Children's Officers trained. This would not have been possible without the availability of our trained IABA Safeguarding Tutors. We have also been able to add two new tutors to our list this year bringing our number of tutors to 8 in total.</p> <p>The was also the addition of Youth Mental Health First Aid Training added to our suite of club supports in the final quarter of 2024. The IABA through partnerships were able to train two Instructors to offer these training to our members to better support them in their roles in their respective community. The training is free for all IABA participants and is funded and supported by the HSE and St. John of Gods Services.</p> <p>A members discussion took place.</p> <p>Jim Murrin (Edenderry BC) congratulated Stephen Flynn on his report, querying if perhaps the vetting photo ID card could be reintroduced. Commenting on mental health as many young boxers have experienced mental health and wellbeing problems, and more support is needed. In addition, the process of team selection can also have a significant impact on mental health.</p> <p>Robert Murray (St Mathews BC) also felt that the ID badges should be reintroduced. Stephen Flynn explained that traditionally membership bodies issued membership cards for a variety of reasons and more often than not</p>

	<p>members don't carry cards with them, we are looking at e-membership cards as part of our now CRM platform</p> <p>Amanda Spencer (Jobstown BC) commented on the criteria of the recent under 18's assessment and the difficulties encountered with no one answering phone calls or responding to emails.</p> <p>Dominic Robinson (South East BC) made reference to the team selection process for the under 18's and threats made to the neutral team and coach.</p> <p>Darren McGavin (Moyle Park BC) touched on mental health, the frustration encountered by clubs on the selection criteria and sanctions. There needs to be greater accountability and queried if a directive was given by the board or central council to not to speak to the neutral team members. The chair confirmed that no such directive was issued by the board.</p> <p>Anto Donnelly (Dealgan BC) outlined his experience of mental health and encouraged those in the boxing community who are experiencing mental health problems, to talk to others about the problems they are facing.</p> <p>Johnny Joyce (Mullingar Olympics) highlighted the poor standard of the national elites and how it has declined over the years, that the coaching selection committee needed to be dissolved, whilst he wishes to remain within the Olympics, that fact of the matter is World Boxing doesn't have structure or anything for the youths or juniors, until such time as they do its pointless having a vote.</p> <p>Eugene Duffy (St Josephs BC) commented on the past two years of central council and that change needs to happen. Querying why there was no provincial presidents. reports being read out and why the AGM was not held in Ulster this year.</p> <p>Ted Barry (Riverstown BC) highlighted that the selection criteria was put forward by the coaching commission and was passed unanimously at central council, social media, online abuse and harassment is wrong and unacceptable.</p> <p>Tony Davis (Ardagh BC) queried why a member's nomination for president was left off the ballot. The chair advised that a nomination committee was put in place in accordance with the rulebook, a fit and proper persons criteria was in place and adhered too.</p>
<p><b>Item 4</b> <b>Auditors Report</b></p>	<p>Declan Fitzgerald of Nexus presented the financial statements and auditors report , including the income and expenditure and balance sheet for year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.</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 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 along with the Auditors report and Directors Report thereon for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, are hereby taken as read, approved and adopted by members.</p>

<p><b>Item 5 Reappointment of Auditors</b></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 Jim Murrin.</p>																										
<p><b>Item 6 Ordinary Resolution on the adoption of the IABA Rulebook.</b></p>	<p>The chair outlined the members consultation process and requested that member vote on the matter.</p> <p>National Auditor Shay Cairns read out the result of the ballot.</p> <p>15 votes in favour of resolution</p> <p>36 votes against resolution.</p> <p>Motion not carried.</p>																										
<p><b>Election of Officers and retirement of Officers Central Council</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">www.ne. info@ne.</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Total number of ballot papers returned</td> <td style="text-align: right;">219</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of invalid ballot papers</td> <td style="text-align: right;">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">—</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total valid poll</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>214</u></td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Officers</b></p> <p><b>Office of President</b></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Donnelly Anto</td> <td style="text-align: right;">97</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rooney Philip</td> <td style="text-align: right;">64</td> </tr> <tr> <td>White Nicky</td> <td style="text-align: right;">49</td> </tr> </table> <p>Anto Donnelly having received the largest number of votes is deemed elected</p> <p><b>Office of Vice-President</b></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Brereton Liam</td> <td style="text-align: right;">62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Duffy Eugene</td> <td style="text-align: right;">104</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Farrell Gus</td> <td style="text-align: right;">44</td> </tr> </table> <p>Eugene Duffy having received the largest number of votes is deemed elected</p> <p><b>Secretary</b></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Robbins Mari,Tara</td> <td style="text-align: right;">201</td> </tr> </table> <p>Tara Robbins Mari is therefore deemed elected</p> <p><b>Registrar</b></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Connolly Stephen</td> <td style="text-align: right;">195</td> </tr> </table> <p>Stephen Connolly is therefore deemed elected</p> <p><b>Treasurer</b></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Morrison Larry</td> <td style="text-align: right;">196</td> </tr> </table> <p>Larry Morrison is therefore deemed elected</p>	Total number of ballot papers returned	219	Number of invalid ballot papers	5		—	Total valid poll	<u>214</u>	Donnelly Anto	97	Rooney Philip	64	White Nicky	49	Brereton Liam	62	Duffy Eugene	104	Farrell Gus	44	Robbins Mari,Tara	201	Connolly Stephen	195	Morrison Larry	196
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	<p><b>Members</b></p> <p><b>The following members were elected:</b></p> <p>Joyce Johnny 159</p> <p>Gallagher John 147</p> <p>Keogh Philip 144</p> <p>Moore Anna 144</p> <p>Kelly Seamus 137</p> <p>Osbourne Paddy 131</p> <p>White Anto 125</p> <p>McGillion Gary 114</p> <p><b>The following members were not elected:</b></p> <p>O'Neill Jim 112</p> <p>McGavin Darren 75</p> <p>Peake Sue 73</p>
<b>Meeting Closed</b>	

## Appendix A

Arbour Hill BC  
ardagh crossmolina bc  
Avona boxing club  
Baldoyle boxing club  
Ballagh Boxing Club  
ballybough boxing club  
Ballyhaunis  
Ballymun BC.  
BAY CITY BOXING CLUB  
Bishop Kelly  
  
Castlebar boxing club  
Castleblayney  
Defence Forces  
Dealgan BC  
Donore BC

Ennis  
Enniscorthy BC  
Fr flangans  
Garda BC  
Glasnevin BC  
Glen Boxing Club  
Holy Trinity  
Jobstown boxing club  
Kilcullen boxing club  
Maynooth BC  
  
Monivea Boxing Club  
Monkstown Boxing Club, Dublin  
Moyle Park B.C  
Nafiannabc  
Neilstown BC

Riverstown  
Setanta Boxing Academy  
South East BC  
St Brigid's Edenderry  
St Francis Limerick  
St Joseph's BC  
St Matthew's Boxing Club  
St. Catherine's BC  
Swinford Boxing Club  
Togher boxing club  
Two Castles Olympic Boxing Club  
Westside Boxing Club  
Whitechurch Boxing Club

Dunboyne abc  
Drimnagh BC  
Eagle  
Edenmore.

Nutgrove  
Olympic boxing club Mullingar  
Raphoe BC  
Ratoath Golden Gloves