

# **Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Irish Athletic Boxing Association**

**Ringside, Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

## **In Attendance:**

**Officers:** Larry Morrison (Treasurer); Philip Rooney (Registra)

**Board of Directors:** Niall O'Carroll (Chairman); Darren O'Neill

Company Secretary: John Nangle

**Nexus:** Declan Fitzgerald

**Legal Advisor:** Setanta Landers

**Staff:** Ciara Plunkett; Sally Ann Kinch; James Geraghty; Adam Hession; Sophie Doolan; David Macartney; Lisa Doyle

**Roll Call:** Angels, Arbour Hill, Ardagh Crossmolina, Arklow, Avoca, Baldoyle, Ballagh, Ballina, Ballinacarrow, Ballybough, Ballyhaunis, Ballymote, Ballymun, Ballynacargy, Bishop Kelly, Broadstone, Cabra, Camac, Carrickmacross, Castlebar, Castlerea, Cavan, Corpus Christi, Crumlin, Curadh, Curragh, Darndale, Dealgan, Derryveigh, Drimnagh, DCU, Dublin Docklands, Eagle, Edenmore, Elite Mullingar, Ennis, Enniskerry, Erne, Four Kings, Fr. Flanagan's, Galway, Garda, Gateway, Gilford, Glasnevin, Golden Cobra, Gorey, Holy Family Drogheda, Holy Trinity, IATBA, Jobstown, Kilcullen, Kilfenore, Loughrea, Marble City, Maynooth, Monivea, Monkstown, Moyle Park, Mulhuddart, Na Fianna, Neilstown, Nutgrove, Oakleak, Olympic Galway, Olympic Mullingar, Palmerstown, Paulstown, Phoenix, Phoenix of Ballyboughal, Portmarnock, Rathnew, Ratoath, Riverstown, Rush, Rylane, Saviours Crystal, Setanta, SETU Waterford, Smithfield, South East, St. Anne's Westport, St. Brigid's Edenderry, St. Brigid's Kildare, St. Catherine's, St. Conleth's, St. David's Naas, St. Joseph's, St. Matthew's, St. Michael's Athy, St. Michael's New Ross, St. Monica's, St. Paul's Antrim, St. Paul's Waterford, Star of the Sea, Sunnyside, Swinford, Swords, Titans, Tobar Peadair, Tredagh, Twin Towns, Two Castles, Underdog, Virginia, Westside, Whitechurch.

## **Commencement**

The event commenced at 11.15 am when the Chair noting that a quorum was present welcomed attendees, giving an overview of the agenda for the day, confirming that additional time was required for further consultation on the Rulebook due to concerns raised on the involvement of state services on central council, the vote on the Rulebook would now take place at the AGM and that the business of the meeting could begin.

Liam Mooney Crumlin Boxing Club proposed that the Association acknowledge full support of the defence force in the Lebanon, Seconded Philip Rooney.

The chair outlined his responsibility for the leadership of the board, ensuring its effectiveness of its governance role, commenting on recent challenges of central council team selection. The

coaching committee was put in place by Central Council with terms of reference and has selection criteria.

As the selection process for any boxer is always challenging, the key is communication, mainly keeping connected and explaining to boxers when not selected. However, there has been significant unacceptable bullying, harassment and abusive behaviour on social media resulting in members of Connacht Council resigning which will be dealt with. Whilst correspondence was circulated in respect of sanctioning, the chair gave a commitment that no youth boxer at the World Youth tournament would be sanctioned.

Today we will make a decision on whether to update the constitution by altering the main objective clause by removing AIBA (IBA). The decision is not about leaving IBA or joining another international federation.

## **Resolution**

To remove any reference to IBA (AIBA) from all relevant Objects in the IABA Constitution whether contained in the Memorandum of Association.

Setanta Lander explained the resolution, if a majority of members voted in favour today then a amended constitution with a special resolution would be required with a 75% majority in order to be adopted with 21 days, notice.

Ciara Plunkett reminded everyone of the standing orders, inviting the proposer JP Kinsella of Monkstown Boxing Club, Dublin, to speak.

JP outlined the rational for proposing the resolution, protecting Irish Olympic boxing. It was the IBA that got removed by the IOC, Irish boxing should not suffer due to IBA poor governance. Requesting clubs vote yes today.

Liam Brereton, Edenderry Boxing club, made reference to recent correspondence from the IOC demanding NGB's disaffiliate with IBA by December 2024. Making reference to the point that the majority of kids in the clubs won't make it to the Olympics, IABA must go forward in unity and work out a solution, requesting clarification that if clubs voted to remove IBA from the constitution today that it does not mean the association has the ability to leave IBA and requires a further vote from clubs.

Setanta Landers commented that the members vote today is to remove AIBA/IBA requiring majority but it will require a further special resolution to take effect.

Darren McGavin Moyle Park BC questioned if the vote was legal and if the association had heard anything from the IBA. In his view World Boxing is still not fully formed and doesn't have the required number of affiliated federations, the IOC is likely to have a new president in April 2025.

Darren O'Neill Board Member clarified that the vote today is to remove IBA from the constitution, its nothing to do with World Boxing. It would not exclude the IABA from IBA competitions nor would it tie the association to IBA.

Dom Robinson of South East BC made the observation that the IBA's framework is significantly superior to World Boxing's. questioned whether today's vote was necessary.

JP was commended by Andrew Duncan Rochfortbridge, BC, for bringing the proposal forward today. Every argument has merit, clubs would need to make the choices. The removal of the IBA from the constitution is the appropriate thing to do and ought to be approved by a vote, but he felt that World Boxing simply does not currently have the necessary framework in place; a decision on joining is for another time.

Johnny Joyce Olympic boxing made reference to the World Youths commenting that a team was travelling as guests and another as Ireland, requesting that the Association send one team.

The Chair called for the vote, three non-voting delegates were called to act as scrutineers.

Declan Fitzgerald Nexus - total votes cast 140. 73 in Favour, 40 Against, 27 Spoilt.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending, that it was a positive result and that the association could now look to move forward. The AGM would take place towards the end of November

**Meeting came to a close.**