

NC Bulletin (No.55) – Dec 14

Dear NC Members

This has been an outstanding year for the BDFPA in terms of membership, having for the first time gone well over 700. This is an excellent reflection within the organisation as a whole and also indicates the level of professionalism the BDFPA portrays and the level of commitment and dedication you as NC's provide to the BDFPA. On behalf of all members of the BDFPA, I thank you for all your efforts.



With such high membership numbers it is time for us to consider how we provide competitions at National level. Attached is a proposal to have the recently added Master Championship registered as a National event on top of our current National Calendar.

We have a very busy schedule next year with the National events in the first part of the year and the World Singles in June. I am anticipating a large uptake for the National singles in light of this and as such it is important that we encourage as many officials to participate as a referee in order for us to upgrade as many as possible in the next few months.

As with all areas of success we must also recognise areas where we have not been as fortunate as an organisation and this year we have seen some fond members of the BDFPA pass on. This year we have lost four members/past members who were inspirational in their own way, these are detailed at Annex A as is the manner in which they will be remembered.

One area of concern is the growing trend of lifters to be a dual member in organisations that do not meet the requirements of the WDFPF and additionally the membership requirements of the BDFPA due to their drugs testing ethos or programme. It must be made clear that the only organisation that is considered acceptable to be a dual member of is the GBPF due to its testing. This is not however linked to the increased number of drugs test failures we have seen this year. This increase is considered to be in line with the increased programme and the diligence of members in identifying those who do not share our vision of fair competition.

Yours in Drug Free Powerlifting.

Neil Thomas MBE
President BDFPA

New Business

Awarding of record Appeal

Guy Romano has had a record declined as he was not a member for 3 months prior to breaking a National Record. Until Ballot 53 the 3 month rule was implied and as such we needed to vote to have it implemented. Guy and his coach Danlyo Chepa have requested the NC consider the attached circumstances for the NC to decide whether or not the record should stand or as a result of the individual not being a member for 3 months the record remain under the current figures set. The chain of e-mails is attached for your consideration.

Age of participation

The current rule for participation indicates that an individual must meet the age requirements for the championships they intend to enter. This affects the manner in which the younger lifters are able to enter the sport particularly at T1 level. For instance an individual that turns 14 in May would not be old enough to enter any of the National events and as such would not have qualified for any International events. In the next membership year they would be able to undertake National events and above but would have already lost a large proportion of their T1 status thus affecting their ability to set records.

It is therefore proposed that individuals be allowed to enter events in their 14th year of birth and as such are in a position, with parental consent, to enter events from the age of 13 upwards and meet the T1 age criteria.

Age records

It is proposed by the WM that where an individual has limited time to meet record criteria that the 3 month rule is not applied on the basis of a one chance only situation of a lifter who will be too old the next time they lift. All aspects of performance including the referee criteria must be met. The Ballot question below gives 3 options in order to meet the proposal or uphold the current ruling system.

New National Championship framework

The success of the BDFPA is now allowing the Association to consider splitting the National Championship events in order to prevent excessively long events and also allow the competition calendar to be more extensive. It is proposed that the National Full Power Event be now split into a Masters/Junior and Open event.

The current National Full Power is a lengthy intensive event and a split event would allow for referees and lifters to be more flexible in how they attend and support events. Last year's Nationals saw such numbers as to prompt this consideration and as numbers grow, it is crucial that we develop the manner in which we provide qualification events for the International seasons.

The split Nationals have been approved via WDFPF, though lifters can **ONLY** have **ONE** chance during calendar year at breaking respective International records within their age/weight/category.

This would also mean that any National event covers any International event with the qualification criteria of the BDFPA, for example:

National Open – Mar 15 – Covers all International Events until next Open Nationals

National Masters/Juniors – Aug 15 - Covers all International Events until next Masters/Juniors Nationals

If agreed where this would be identified is the recent Scottish event where all those who lifted will have National Qualification status for International events and will be qualified to attend all International events in 2015 up to the next Masters Full Power event which would then cover the next year. The 2014 Championships saw 94 lifters on Day 1 and 54 on Day 2 this is broken down into the following:

Day 1:

Masters/Juniors – 44

Open - 50

Day 2:

Masters/Juniors – 36

Open – 18

Based on these numbers the events would be approximately:

Masters /Juniors – 80

Open - 68

The numbers demonstrate that it would be possible to now hold 2 x one day events or a much more relaxed pace 2 x two day events. The one day events would reduce the cost to individuals to acquire Hotel accommodation and the cost on the infrastructure to officials etc.

Drugs Control Regional Officers

The position of the BDFPA Drugs Control Officer is still run by the President. There has been one enquiry but the individual stipulated their own requirements that were considered to be outside of the roles' area of responsibility. Two individuals have come forward to be regional coordinators that will add to the efficiency of the roles and add to our already outstanding drugs testing ethos and testing regime.

Ballot 54 Results

	Item	Vote: Y/N/Ab
1	An increase in membership fees from the current rate to £2.50 across all types of membership, less Officials who will still be free membership.	Carried
2	The inclusion of 3 Regional Championship events within the BDFPA Calendar that allows individuals to enter on an open basis in order to support those divisions that are currently gapped an NC member and those unable to lift at their own divisional event.	Carried
3	Joe Webb's statement of appeal for the awarding of his National record. (see next page)	Carried
4	The introduction of a system of membership suspended animation to meet long term absence without losing membership seniority.	Carried
5	To elect to the National Council for the Southern Counties Division: Megan Bachelor Matthew Bolton and Bret Le Cras (joint NC)	Megan Bachelor
6	To elect to the National Council for the North East Division: Dave Heath Dominic Banks	David Heath

BALLOT QUESTIONS ON NEXT SHEET.....

Please return to pat@foodalive.org in first instance and cc in to neil.thomas848@hotmail.co.uk

Could you please be prompt in returning your ballots!

Any reps who will be organising competitions to let Pat Reeves (as the temporary Permit Secretary) know about your event ASAP. This ensures that the BDFPA rules are followed and website is updated.

**POSTAL/E-MAIL VOTING RETURNS - NC Elections and Other Business
(Yes/no/abstain – total votes available, but excluding President's vote – which is a deciding vote only)**

BDFPA Ballot 55

From.....

	Item	Vote: Y/N/Ab
1	Awarding of record for Guy Romano. The NC is requested to consider the information provided in the e-mail chain on the next page and indicate whether the record should be awarded.	NO
2	The age of competition is adjusted to allow those who turn 14 in a competitive year are allowed to participate in events with parental consent.	CARRIED – Details on how this is to be implemented are to follow
3	Where an individual has only one opportunity to set a record due to age constraints the 3 month rule be superseded to allow the individual to set a new national Record. For example - If a lifter turns 16 (T2) in February of the membership year but they join in January of the membership year and lift at an event that month they be allowed to set a new national T1 record despite only being a member for 1 month. The Rationale being that they will never be in the T1 category again when they lift next and would be denied the record based on membership time.	NO
4	<p>The implementation of a new National Championship Framework in order to support current lifter numbers at National events: The NC are to vote for either:</p> <p>a. There are 3 defined National Championships:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The National Single Lifts 2. The National Open Full Power 3. The National Junior and Masters Full Power <p>OR</p> <p>b. There remain the current 2 National Events split into Full Power and Single Lift</p>	A - CARRIED

5	<p>To elect to the position of Deputy Drugs Control Officers North and South:</p> <p>Gaby Coia – Scotland</p> <p>Danylo Chepa – England and Wales</p> <p>These are non NC positions but will be utilised by the DCO in the provision of testing in regions and at events.</p>	CARRIED

Statement of Appeal by Dan Chepa re Guy Romano:

From: Dan Chepa [mailto:dan_chepa@yahoo.co.uk]
Sent: 26 November 2014 22:35
To: Neil Thomas
Cc: Pat Reeves; pete@bdfpa.co.uk
Subject: Re: Guy Romano - National Record

Hello Neil,

Thank you for your quick reply on the matter.

I take your point and explanation of your understanding, but disagree with your statement that rule was always there.

Section of the rule book for "Selection and Qualification of Lifters" refer to a criteria required for participation in events, this clearly stated in the first line of the section: **All lifters participating in sanctioned events....**

I agree that conditions outline in section "Selection and Qualification of Lifters" would be applicable, if national record would be broke at national event, as it clearly outlines in the condition for breaking of national record: **NATIONAL - General conditions apply as for 'Selection and Qualification of Lifters'.**

However, there is as second option to break national record is at divisional event: **National records may be broken at divisional competitions, provided that appropriate referees adjudicate, and that calibrated equipment is used.** This is a separate option, as it separated from previous by full stop. It actually refers to it as different "case" in the next sentence: **In this case lifters must claim formally by notifying the national records registrar.** And Guy's fully satisfy conditions for this second option or a "case".

Furthermore according to section "Selection and Qualification of Lifters", there are two conditions for participation at national event, and both need to be met: **....minimum 3 months and participation in at least one prior BDFPA competition.** Currently refusal of recognising Guy's records based on 3 months membership only, and at no point "...one prior BDFPA competition." mentioned by anyone. I personally was present at the divisional events previously where national records were broken by first time participants, although I can not comment on the length of their membership. Clearly if the rule is applicable it should be used in full, but so far only "half" of the rule being referred to.

If that rule was always in the book, why it was amended in new addition of the book? Wasn't it due to previous wording being a bit "grey" and caused a confusion, hence amendment was implemented in new book to make it clear?

Neil, I am not asking for recognising of Guy's record by exception to any rules. All I am asking is for this matter to be discussed and voted by NC due to lack of clear rule at the time of Guy entering WM event. I believe this request is reasonable and my above point could be taken into account during discussion by NC.

On 25 Nov 2014, at 19:58, Neil Thomas <neil.thomas848@hotmail.co.uk> wrote:

Dan,

Please see the below from the old rule book indicating that the lifter must be a member for 3 months ie they must meet all the standards in the qualification and selection of lifters hence 3 month membership has always been there.

From Selection:

NATIONAL - current BDFPA membership. (For new members – minimum 3 months and participation in at least one prior BDFPA competition). NB Those whose membership of the Association has lapsed for a full membership year or more - will also be classed as “new” members, and be subject to the 3 month minimum (NC Ballot Nov 2003).

From records:

Conditions for the Establishment or Breaking of Records

DIVISIONAL - General conditions apply as for 'Selection and Qualification of Lifters'. Divisional records may also be broken at national competitions, but in such cases lifters must claim formally by notifying their Divisional Records Registrar.

Lifters claiming divisional records must have their permanent address in the division concerned at the time of breaking the record.

NATIONAL - General conditions apply as for 'Selection and Qualification of Lifters'. National records may be broken at divisional competitions, provided that appropriate referees adjudicate, and that calibrated equipment is used. In this case lifters must claim formally by notifying the national records registrar.

From: Dan Chepa [mailto:dan_chepa@yahoo.co.uk]

Sent: 25 November 2014 18:47

To: Neil.Thomas848@hotmail.co.uk

Cc: Pat Reeves; pete@bdfpa.co.uk

Subject: Guy Romano - National Record

Hello Neil,

Hope you are well.

I've received update on the subject from Pat, and I believe that you see no reason why this should not go to an NC vote.

I would like to ask you review your position and subject could be discussed and voted by NC. Your above statement would be correct based on the latest rule book, dated September 2014, where 3 months membership rule appear. Clearly this should be applicable for competition which are minimum 3 months away from the date of new rule, and can not be applied immediately, as some members would be already register for divisional competition in October.

Previous book, I have copy in front of me, defining following condition for establishing new national record at divisional competitions:

1. Appropriate referees - 3 national/international referees were refereeing Guy's lifts.
2. Calibrated Equipment was used - to my knowledge equipment at WM Divisional was compliant with BDFPA requirements (as other records were set at same event)

No further conditions outlined and Guy's lift is compliant to both above. In addition he was drug tested at event and results are negative.

Look forward to hearing from you on this subject.

Kind Regards,

Dan Chepa

Annex A to Ballot 55 – Dec 2014

BDFPA schedule of remembrance

The following individuals have passed away over the last 12 months. During their time as members of the BDFPA each has contributed to the Association in their own unique way, whether that be by inspirational performance in terms of dedication or age or been an integral part of the development of Powerlifting and the organization we lift in today.

Listed below are those who will be remembered in the 2015 Competitive season:

Andrew Varley	National Full Power	Best Heavy Weight
Ken Smith	National Full Power	Competitive Spirit
John Fulton	National Single Lift	Best Senior Master Bench
Gren Elmore	National Single Lift	Best Senior Master Deadlift