British Gymnastics Southern Region

Chair’s Report to the AGM December 13th 2015

Once again this has been a year of change. The Regionally based BG staff structure has been reviewed and modified to ensure that specialist knowledge is more readily accessed. This has resulted in Carina Brown, the Regional Workforce Coordinator being the only BG staff now based in the Region. The Committee and the clubs can now go to Customer Services at BG who will pass the queries onto the specialist teams.

Val Brown, the Regional Welfare Officer has stepped down. The Committee thanks her for her service to the Region. After many months without anyone in post, we welcome Brett Bader as the new Welfare Officer. He has been busy introducing himself to the regional clubs.

BG has established an online entry system which is available to all regional disciplines. It has been taken up by the WA committee.

The Committee decided to look at running discipline specific workshops and Technical Committees were asked to identify areas of need. The Trampoline Committee ran a workshop with 30 coaches attending. No other discipline identified a need.

The Regional funds are dwindling and clubs are still in need of financial help. It was decided that interest free loans was a better use of funds. Disciplines were asked to table applications. DMT has accessed a loan. A development fund of £1000 per discipline was made available for Technical committees to identify projects for development. Sports Acro and WA have accessed this funding.

EGA developments include an action plan which includes regional development. Technical committees were asked to look at the plan and begin to think how this might be implemented within their disciplines. One area is the development of discipline specific England Championships. Currently there are Women’s and Men’s Artistic England Championships. Plans are now being drawn up for Trampoline, Tumbling and DMT for 2016.

BSGA is now represented on the Committee and Technical Committees were asked to find out if there is any demand for schools competitions to be expanded within the region.

The Regional Competitive programme continues to be successful and individuals who have secured international places are to be congratulated. The Performance Pathway Programme has been implemented by BG to identify potential and assist with the development of the performer and coaches. Regionally based sessions are now more zonal or national based.

The plans for 2016 include a Regional Symposium on June 12th to include presentations on the BG Foundation, Dealing with the social media in the club and a Psychology presentation on how to prepare competitors to compete. There will also be a Safeguarding and First Aid courses. I am hoping that this will be well supported by the regional clubs.