



## **Congratulations Peter!**


Congratulations from everyone in the North Region to Mr Peter Crawford BEM, our President. Peter received the award of British Empire Medal in the recently announced Queen's Birthday Honours, for his voluntary service to gymnastics in the North of England.


Many of you will know Peter as a judge, coach and coach educator, but he has held many different roles in the sport and managed over 70 years of service since he joined Billingham Synthonia Gymnastics Club as a young gymnast in 1952.


At the age of 18, he was elected to the North of England Amateur Gymnastics Association Executive Committee, the youngest person ever to have been elected to this organisation. He has held several roles including that of MTC Chair, Regional Chair, Regional Treasurer and General Gymnastics Committee member. He has also represented the region on the BG and England Boards. During this time Peter has worked as a tutor and assessor for coaching courses, coached some notable gymnasts, including Matt Baker and Craig Burton, judged numerous competitions, presented thousands of medals and attended hundreds of hours of meetings, all as a volunteer.


Peter has been instrumental in developing the network of clubs and committees, all working together on a common structure and he has helped the North region to grow from a handful of clubs in the 1960s to the many clubs you all represent today.


Peter is no stranger to awards for community service and has been awarded Honorary Life Membership of British Gymnastics, attended BBC Sports Personality of the Year as the winner of Sport England North Unsung Hero in 2012, and he was presented with the BG Frank Edmonds trophy for life-time achievement by a volunteer in 2015. He will now go to the Palace to receive the ultimate recognition.

 **BG MEMBERSHIP: Reminder** – Club affiliation to BG was due on October 1<sup>st</sup> and members individual affiliations are due this month.


 **NEGA Affiliation:** Clubs have from October 1<sup>st</sup> until November 31<sup>st</sup> to pay, without an additional penalty. Affiliation is a two-part process, please ensure that you Club Affiliation Form is returned along with the payment

 **COACH EDUCATION:** BG coach education is still suspended other than the virtual courses. The problem is with the practical work as 'supporting' is of course, not allowed and social distancing issues too.

 **SAFEGARDING:** For coaches who are due to refresh their Safeguarding, this can be done on-line via the BG website. TTL courses should be available for access on-line through the BG website very soon.

 **COMPETITIONS:** With all national and regional competitions cancelled for the rest of the year, and into 2021 the only way is **VIRTUAL! Closing dates are coming up soon!**

- All NEGA affiliated clubs can currently access a virtual Floor exercise competition with flexible rules to suit gymnasts of all ages and abilities. Scores for this competition are not shared, with other clubs – just returned to you. Entry is £1.50 per gymnast to include the medal. Closing date November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- TeamGym Micro Competition 3 for all ages closes on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Entry fee £1.50 per gymnast to include the medals.
- Back to Competition – Acro has been advertised with entries due by November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- More events will follow over the next few months. Ideas welcome!! This is a good opportunity to get your gymnasts back into ‘competition mode’ and keep them motivated too! If you want to enter, but the dates are an issue, perhaps you have just re-opened, just get in touch

 **NEGA SPECIAL AWARDS:** Information about the ‘Special Awards 2020’ has been circulated to all clubs. If your club has a nomination, please return the paper work by **OCTOBER 30<sup>th</sup>**. We have already received some really lovely nominations, detailing some outstanding contributions by people of all ages, during the past months. Nominations can be made for outstanding individual contributions as well as for groups of volunteers working together to support their club.