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EDITORIAL

Martin Laws

Dear Reader,

Welcome to this April edition of TRAMPOLINE NEWS 2006. My thanks to **John Beeton** the editor, for all his efforts to keep you all informed, and all those who have contributed to this important Newsletter. Please circulate this latest edition as widely as possible.

I have to start with a note about the sad news concerning **Chris Fordham**, and I am sure you all join with me in wishing his family well. Please see the ??? about Chris later in this news for those who didn't know him.

The funeral will form many lasting memories in my mind, the pink shirt and ties (Chris's favourite), so many team members attending with a sea of GB uniforms from at least 3 different eras, attendance's from all sections of our sports family from leaders to competitors, all gave comfort I know to those close to him.

Communication is one of our target work areas and is nice to hear from a few people who feel they can volunteer some help in this field, I am very sure we can use almost everyone somewhere in this problem, so don't be shy volunteer! Some issues seem to be circulating with a life of their own, so we do know there is a gossip system out there that is rocket fast and 45% accurate. I guess the challenge is to make the formal system better.....

As the teams now start to prepare either for the last trial or for the Europeans itself, I wonder just how set about making these events better supported. Metz in France is not far away it would be great to see lots of British faces out there cheering our teams on. We are all behind you, let's see British flags flying at every event!

There is as always a great deal of change just over the horizon and I would make one final plea to those clubs who have yet to start work on GymMark. We have been talking about this now for over three years and I worry that clubs are being left behind. Registration to start on the scheme costs nothing, but reviewing your systems and club to meet the demands of today's society..... PRICELESS..... Don't be left out, I can

guarantee you will regret that sooner or later....

>

**Christopher Fordham
1982-2006**

Chris died on Monday 27th February as a result of a serious accident sustained whilst training DMT at the Jumpers Rebound Centre, Gillingham on Saturday 18th February 2006.

Everyone in the sport is devastated by his untimely death.

He will be missed by a great many and our thoughts are with his family at this sad time.

British Gymnastics and the Trampoline world was shocked and distressed to learn of the untimely death on Monday 27th February, of one of Britain's most promising Double Mini Trampoline gymnasts. **Christopher Fordham**, an experienced International performer, had represented Great Britain on a number of occasions including the 2003 and 2005 World Championships.

Achievements:

Trampoline:

2002 Finalist-British Nationals

2003 Finalist-British Nationals

2004 Finalist-British Nationals

2005 Finalist-British Nationals 018 and Men

Double Mini-Trampoline (GB Representation):

2003 Portuguese Nationals

2003 World Championships

2004 Flanders Cup

2004 European Championships

2005 World Championships

These are just a few of Chris's successes over the last few years, Chris will however long be remembered for his desire to enjoy his sport and the challenge, humour and friendship he brought along with him. Rest in peace Chris. ML.

REVIEW OF COMPETITION STRUCTURE

The NTTC has instigated a Review of the Competition structure and the following the members have agreed to serve on the Commission:

- **Philip O'Reilly – Chair**
- **Monica White – Minutes Secretary**
- **John Beer**
- **Jack Kelly**
- **Sue Lawton**
- **Sean White**
- **Jake Bailey**
- **Richard Ollerenshaw**

Their brief is the following:

- **To investigate the current arrangements for trampoline competition in the UK and recommend changes where appropriate.**

The scope of their review will begin with the following:

- **To consider whether the current (or proposed) arrangements for trampoline competition are the best method for:**
- **Progression**
- **Selection of Champions**
- **National/Regional issues**
- **Talent spotting**

It is envisaged that the process will take approximately one year, with a further year before implementation.

The group will report to the NTTC Competitions Committee with their proposals and observations.

Public input to this group will be by email comps2007@bg-coaches.org

Murinova to compete for France

Marina Ducroux-Murinova former member of the Russian Trampoline Team, became a French Citizen on 23rd February 2006 and now intends to compete for France, with her debut most probably scheduled for the European Championships in May. Marina, formerly from St Petersburg RUS, was a member of the successful Russian Ladies Trampoline teams in both the

1997 and 1999 World Championships and holds three European Championship Trampoline team medals. Marina is also a former DMT World Champion (2001).

France can count themselves fortunate to have such a talented gymnast join their ranks.

4 x Nations Annual Match *GBR CZE DEN POR* Saturday 13th May 2006

Crowtree Leisure Centre, Sunderland

Competition begins at 1400 hrs

Contact **Bill Leach** for further details

44th Nissen Cup 2006 Junior Competition 24th to 26th August Savognin, Switzerland

Categories:

Individual Trampoline

- Junior Girls (International B Girls 1989 and younger)
- Junior Boys (International B Boys 1989 and younger)

Synchronised Trampoline

- Junior Girls (International B Girls 1989 and younger)
- Junior Boys (International B Boys 1989 and younger)

Entries:

- Declaration of Interest – 20th May 2006
- Definitive Entries – 20th June 2006
- Nominative Entries – 20th July 2006

Fees:

- Individuals EUR 30.00. Synchro EUR 30.00 (per pair)

Further information can be obtained at:

www.swiss-trampoline.org and www.savognin.ch

**British Gymnastics Annual
Conference, will be held at the
National Sports Centre, Lilleshall
26th-28th January 2007
(make a note in your diary now)**

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Rules for FIG International Age Group Competitions (IAGC)

Valid from 1.1.2005

These Rules are also valid for Age Group Competitions held in conjunction with Continental Championships.

1. Staging of the competition

- 1.1 The FIG International Age Group Competitions must be held in the same year as the World Championships.
- 1.2 The FIG International Age Group Competitions will be staged as a separate competition, and not in conjunction with any other competition.
- 1.3 Federations making an application for the holding of the World Championships may also apply for the FIG International Age Group Competitions.

2. Conditions of entry

- 2.1 Only entries made by affiliated federations of the FIG will be accepted. Any entry not so received must be returned to the sender.
- 2.2 A maximum entry of 80 participating gymnasts per federation is permitted. Maximum 4 (four) gymnasts [2 (two) pairs in synchro] per federation may enter per each age group and event in each discipline. (see §4 and §5)
- 2.3 Gymnasts who have competed in a discipline at a World Championship may not compete in the same year in that discipline at the FIG International Age Group Competitions.

3. Entries

See Technical Regulations.

4. Age groups

- 4.1 11 - 12 years old in the year of competition
- 4.2 13 - 14 years old in the year of competition
- 4.3 15 - 16 years old in the year of competition
- 4.4 17 - 18 years old in the year of competition

5. Events

Individual events in Trampoline, Double Mini-Trampoline, Tumbling and Synchro events in Trampoline:

- 5.1 11-12 year old boys

- 5.2 11-12 year old girls
- 5.3 13-14 year old boys
- 5.4 13-14 year old girls
- 5.5 15-16 year old boys
- 5.6 15-16 year old girls
- 5.7 17-18 year old boys
- 5.8 17-18 year old girls

6. Competition rules

The FIG Code of Points for Trampoline Gymnastics will apply with the following variations:

- 6.1 The starting order for the Qualifying Round will be decided by a draw.
- 6.2 In Trampolining, the Qualifying Round will consist of 1 (one) voluntary routine only (including difficulty).
- 6.3 In Tumbling, §5.1, 5.2, 5.3 and 5.4 of the FIG Code of Points will apply, with the exception that there is only 1 (one) pass in the Final.
- 6.4 No gymnast shall compete in other than his/her age group except in respect of 6.4.1.
 - 6.4.1 In synchronised competition, the age of the older gymnast determines the age group in which the pair must enter.
- 6.5 The gymnasts with the 6 (six) best scores from the Qualifying Round will go forward to the Finals.

Note: during the IAGC in Eindhoven last September, I was asked to clarify a number of "points" in relation to these competitions and if possible include the rules in a future Trampoline News, which I am more than happy to do. It should be noted however, that these rules are current, but may change prior to the 2007 IAGC in Quebec CAN. All will be notified accordingly if this is the case. **Ed.**

Trampolining North West 'Sports Personality of the Year 2005'

This award was presented to **Sarah Scott** of **Stockport Trampoline Club** for her selection as Coach to the GB team in DMT at the World Games last year. She coaches **Niki Pugh** who was our sole qualifier for the event, and who finished 6th in the event. Sarah is a trampoline coach as well and has coached Niki and many others to DMT success as well as trampoline success. She with the help of Michelle her sister presented an excellent review of DMT at the NorthWest Conference 2 years ago. She is now training to be a DMT tutor.

A Trampoline First

Trampoline Sports will feature for the very first time in the **Pacific Alliance Championships, Honolulu USA 14-15 Apr Ed**

Scottish Gymnastics

Honorary Life Membership Award

John Morrison

As Vice-President of Scottish Gymnastics I had the great pleasure of announcing two Honorary Life Member Awards at this year's AGM. Presentation of the award is in itself an unusual event, but what made this even more unusual was that this year both recipients have come from the sport of Trampoline.

JOHN BEETON

John Beeton from Stonehaven has been involved in the sport of trampoline for over 30 years, commencing his sporting career in 1975. He was originally elected to the post of regional organiser for Lothian & Borders, and was subsequently elected to Vice Chair of the Scottish Trampoline Association in 1978, a post he held until 1984.

In addition to the duties of the above posts, John also held positions as Competition Secretary for 9 years, International Organiser for 20 years and Junior Squad Coach for 4 years.

In 1984 John was elected to the post of Association Secretary, a post he retained until 1993. John's expertise, organising ability and knowledge was recognised in 1980 when he was appointed Chair of the Organising Committee for the European Youth Championships in Edinburgh.

John remained on the Executive Committee of the Scottish Trampoline Association until it transferred into the SGA Trampoline Technical Panel in 2000, where he once again acted as Secretary to the panel until 2004.

With the integration of trampoline into the gymnastics family, John was asked by British Gymnastics to join the National Trampoline Technical Panel where he continues to be responsible for World Class Liaison and International events

On the international scene, John initially gained his International Judge qualification in 1985 and was elected to the FIT in 1986 as Vice President. His interest in the sport continued with his appointment as Chair and founder member of the FIT Medical Commission lasting until 1990. He also established and acted as editor of the FIT Newsletter during the period 1987 – 1998.

Following the merger, John was elected to the FIG Trampoline Committee as Deputy-Secretary in 1999, and the following year as Secretary of the committee, a post he currently retains.

John's knowledge, contribution to the sport and international standing was recognised by the FIT in 1998 being awarded

Honorary Membership at their annual congress. He was further recognised in 2000 by British Gymnastics being awarded Distinguished Judge Award. John has judged in numerous European and World Championships and subsequently in the pinnacle of the sporting calendar, the Olympic Games

John Beeton, Great Britain's only FIG Grade 1 Trampoline judge has committed a lifetime to the sport and the award of Honorary Life membership of Scottish Gymnastics is a worthy recognition by his home country of his contribution to the sport he loves.

JOHN RIDGE

John Ridge, Head Coach at East Kilbride Trampoline Club recently announced his retiral from coaching after 40 years of involvement in his beloved sport of trampolining. Hailing from the Stoke on Trent area, John became involved in trampoline activities around 40 years ago before moving north to Scotland in the early 1970s. He subsequently became involved with East Kilbride Trampoline Club and the Scottish Trampoline Association.

John is recognised throughout Scotland and the rest of Great Britain for his coaching knowledge, expertise and standards. Through his direction and control, East Kilbride has risen to be the most successful Scottish trampoline club of recent times. Competition success at Scottish, British and World level have all been achieved through his club members and in July of this year, one of his club members became British Champion at Under 11.

In addition to his own club, John has always been willing to share his knowledge with coaches and competitors alike and he has shown great understanding in assisting newer coaches and competitors in competition. His coaching expertise has been shared through his organisation of coach education courses and many of his pupils from these courses are now actively running classes and session in the west of Scotland.

As a judge, he has officiated at just about every Scottish domestic competition in the last 20 years where again his experience and knowledge is well recognised by his peers.

John Ridge has been at the forefront of the development of trampoline in Scotland and his contribution to the sport in our country over the last 20 years is incalculable. The award of Honorary Life member of Scottish Gymnastics is therefore one that is richly deserved.

*This article appeared in the Spring 2006 Edition of **Scottish Gymnast** and is reproduced by kind permission of Scottish Gymnastics Ed.*

Asian Games, Doha QAT

Trampoline Sports are to feature in the **Asian Games** for first time during month of December 2006. **Ed.**

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Trampoline North West 'Services to Sport' Award 2005

The 2005 Services to Sport Award was awarded to **Ron Heathcote** at the NorthWest trampoline Championships in November. Ron in partnership with the late Dave Rankin developed trampolining in the NorthWest. They were life members 7 and 8 in the BTF. In the early days (1970's) Ron and Dave ran 2 day proficiency courses 6 or more times a year to give 40 plus people a chance each day to try out trampolining. Their enthusiasm knew no bounds. At the same time Ron was tutoring coaches and running a trampolining repairs business. After trampolines became common in most sports centres they stopped the courses but didn't stop tutoring courses and coaching. They also ran the Coaching courses at the Blackpool Easter School for teachers along with the likes of **Nick Stuart**. Ron's coaching continued at Manchester University where he still coaches. Many of the current competitive clubs in the North West is run by those who came under Ron and Dave's influence - to name a few - **Birkenhead, Aerodynamic, Stockport, City of Salford**.

Many people who never trampolined in their lives may well have come across Ron in his trampoline and diving acts which he did at holiday camps and shows. For those who know him he is renowned for his never-ending fund of hilarious stories. His name goes down in the book of honours of those who have played a major part in developing trampolining in the NorthWest. Long may he continue

Major International coup for GB

Agreement has been made with Gymnastics Canada to visit the United Kingdom in August 2007 with a full team of senior and youth gymnasts in TRA TUM and DMT for an international match with Great Britain.

Additionally, Germany has agreed to participate in the youth trampoline event as part of their bi-annual visit to Great Britain for the annual GBR v GER Youth Match.

The Canadian team are at present; one of the strongest nations in all three disciplines and the event is bound to draw a large audience.

Further details regarding venue etc will be issued in due course. In the meantime, keep the **25th August 2007** free in your diaries. **Ed**.

The next meeting of the NTTC is scheduled for 29 May 06 in **London**. Agenda items to **Martin Laws** or other TC member.

European Team Selection

Both senior and youth teams that will be representing Great Britain in **Trampoline Gymnastics** at the European Championships in Metz have been finalised and are as follows:

Head of Delegation:

John Beeton

Coaches – Senior Team:

Jack Kelly, Tracy Whitaker-Smith

Coaches – Youth Team:

John Beer, Sharon Woods

Judges – Senior/Youth Events:

Bert Scales (TRA) Steven Grist (DMT)

Physios:

TBA

Seniors Ladies:

Claire Wright, Jamie Moore, Katherine Driscoll, Stacey Dann

Synchro Pairs:

Claire Wright/Jamie Moore, Stacey Dann/Lauren Allen

Non travelling Reserve: Natalie O'Connor

Senior Men:

Gary Smith, Mark Alexander, Nick Joyce, Brian Camp

Synchro Pairs:

Gary Smith/Gary Short, Mark Alexander/Brian Camp

Travelling Reserve: Gary Short

Youth Boys:

Tom Lewis, Jack Helme, Andrew Freeman, Michael Freeman

Synchro Pairs:

Tom Lewis/Jack Helme, Andrew Freeman/Michael Freeman

Non travelling Reserve: Mathew Wright

Youth Girls:

Yasmin Gumbs, Katy Ianson, Laura Gallagher, Cara Jamieson

Synchro Girls:

Yasmin Gumbs/Danielle Pietruszka

Non travelling Reserve: Emma Scanlon

Both the Double Mini-Trampoline and Tumbling team selection are still ongoing as we go to print. However, both disciplines will be represented in Metz with full teams in both senior and Youth.

This will be the largest Great Britain team travelling to the European Championships and needless to say all are hopeful of building on the 2002 and 2004 successes achieved by previous Great Britain Trampoline Gymnastic teams.

The party will depart for Metz FRA on the 20th May and return after the championships on either 28th or 29th May.

The NTTC wish all gymnasts the very best of luck in France.