**Update on the Work of Competition Climbing Performance Group**

As you will have read in a previous News Item, the BMC has set up an internal department, GB Climbing to look after and give future direction to all things connected with Competition Climbing. When we say competition climbing we imply all BMC related comps; Bouldering, Lead Climbing, Speed Climbing, Paraclimbing, Ice Climbing and Ski Mountaineering.

GB Climbing is headed up by CCPG, a Group of experts who work with, advise and plan for the future of competitions. Last week, CCPG had its first meeting, albeit a conference call, when all of its members were virtually present.

After the normal welcomes were made, discussions followed:

* Details of the role of CCPG was debated and it was decided that some changes would be needed to clarify how CCPG will operate within the BMC.
* CCPG needs to have an Athlete on board representing the thoughts and wishes of the Athlete community. As yet no selection process is in place, after discussion the Role Description for the rep was adopted. Details of how that selection will take place will be agreed over the coming weeks. In light of there being no Athlete Rep at present , invites were accepted by Molly and Billy to sit in on this meeting.
* The final topic for discussion was that of the Work Streams which CCPG and GB Climbing will have to address. The most pressing subject was “ What are the Aims of GB Climbing?” and “ How do we achieve those goals?” When we know the Aim then it is possible to construct a plan for making it happen. GB Climbing has already been working on this aspect for some time and so it was agreed that a presentation should be made by GB Climbing so that the experts on CCPG and staff on GB Climbing could work together and so combine to devise the appropriate aims and strategy for getting there.
* The next meeting will be 23rd April 2020

The meeting lasted 2 hours, was thoroughly constructive and all decisions were made unanimously. Thanks go out to all who participated especially to Molly and Billy who were drafted in at very short notice.

Thank you,

Rab Carrington (Chair)

1. **Members:** Rab Carrington (Chair), Paul Davies (Independent & Dep Chair), Paul Drew (BMC Board rep), Rich Emerson (Chair ABC), Jamie Smith (ClimbScotland), Nick Colton (Lead Officer GB Climbing), Lorraine Brown (Observer, Head of Managed Sport, EIS) and invited from the Athletes, Molly Thompson Smith and Billy Ridal.
2. **Role of CCPG:** the role of CCPG is put forward in its Terms of Reference, a document prepared by the BMC Board which clarifies the power that is delegated to it. The document also outlines where responsibilities lie between GB Climbing, CCPG and BMC Board of Directors and what reporting channels need to be in place.
3. **Selection Process and Role Description:** CCPG and the BMC are keen that there should be as openness is the selection of those sitting on CCPG. The position of Chair and Independent member was carried out by a process of application and interview. Mountaineering Scotland, Association of British Climbing walls (ABC), and BMC Board member were all selected by their organisations to be representatives. It is important that the Athlete rep is selected transparently by an established process. The role description is adopted and now advertising for post will go out to potential candidates for selection.
4. **Work Streams:** There are many different work streams that CCPG and GB Climbing need to tackle. Knowing what the Goals are, and accepting that is what we are all aiming for, will simplify the process of how to get there. The various workstreams might be; Performance strategy, Development strategy also working with Partners, Communication and Marketing, Financing and sponsorship, athlete wellbeing.
5. **Presentation:** GB Climbing have for the past 6 months been working on developing some of those strategies. At the next meeting, GB Climbing staff will be given the opportunity to expand on where they are up to in this work and ask where necessary help in developing those plans utilising the strengths and skills which lie in CCPG