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iaba.ie

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Ref: AGM

Dear Members,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am writing to confirm that the Irish Athletic Boxing Association (IABA) Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place at **10:30am on Saturday October 11**th **at the Girdwood Community Centre, Belfast.**

The AGM immediately proceeds Day 3 of an International U23 Round Robin, involving Ireland, Hungary, England and an Ulster Select. This international is an important part of the preparation of Team Ireland for the World Boxing European 23 Championships. All attendees of the AGM will receive free entry into the Round Robin and lunch.

A separate *Boxing Congress* will be scheduled in the coming months. This will be a full day of indepth discussion of all boxing and rule book matters. The *Boxing Congress* will give every member of every club the opportunity to debate, exchange ideas and elevate our sport.

This upcoming AGM will focus on company matters with one ordinary resolution; disaffiliation from IBA. Recent developments, including IBA's focus on bare-knuckle fighting, have reinforced long-standing concerns around IBA governance.

Back in April, our members voted overwhelmingly (99%+) to remove reference to the IBA from our constitution. We now wish to go a step further and remove reference to IBA from all of our administrative documents, and fully disaffiliating. As it stands, ongoing membership of IBA will prevent us from competing at the 2026 Youth Olympics in Senegal, and the 2028 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

IBA is a toxic organisation, with no communicated amateur competitions for 2026. Disaffiliating will allow Irish Boxing to move forward and finally put this issue to bed.

At you know, we are now a member of World Boxing. This is a progressive, athlete-centered governing body that has already demonstrated its capacity to deliver. The recent World Championships in Liverpool were an outstanding success under their stewardship, and World Boxing will shortly be publishing a comprehensive and inclusive international competition calendar for 2026. This will provide our athletes, coaches, and clubs with clear pathways, consistency and opportunities for growth. I look forward to seeing you in Belfast.

Best Wishes,

Niall O'Carroll - Chairperson I.A.B.A