CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR SEASON 2024/25

INTRODUCTION

As Chair of the British Biathlon Union (BBU) for the past eight years, I am proud to report that the 2024/25 season has marked another significant step forward for our sport. British Biathlon has continued to gain momentum, with both our men's and women's teams climbing the international rankings across all levels of the sport. We had our largest team at the Junior World Championships and for many years at the World Championships as well, marking the depth and quality in our current talent pool of Biathletes and an exciting future ahead. On the IBU Cup we enter all the mixed relays and saw the Women's Team secure an additional start place for next season! It was also a full season away from International Biathlon Union circuit where we had representation at both the European Youth Winter Olympic Festival and the World University Games.

We conclude the season in a strong position as we look ahead to the Milan Cortina Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. We are delighted to confirm that **Scott Meenagh has officially qualified to represent Team GB at the Paralympic Games**, and we remain optimistic about securing representation at the Olympic Games after narrowly missing qualification for the Beijing 2022.

This season has also been defined by the launch of our ambitious new strategic vision **Target 2030** which sets a bold direction for the future of biathlon in Great Britain. We are very proud of the work the BBU Senior Leadership Team undertook to develop this new direction, the British Biathlon Union Strategy 2030 driving a bold new chapter in the sport's evolution in the UK. Building on significant recent growth and a rising national profile, the strategy outlines our ambition to embrace excellence at every level and to position biathlon as a thriving, high-performance sport underpinned by a strong and inclusive community.

With renewed energy, focus on investment, and long-term goals, **Target 2030** serves as our blueprint to inspire the next generation of British biathletes and to establish the UK as a credible force on the international biathlon stage.

STRATEGIC VISION – TARGET 2030

The BBU is entering a transformative era, marked by **strategic clarity**, **professional leadership**, and **an unwavering ambition** to establish Great Britain as a serious contender in global biathlon.

Target 2030 is our roadmap to deliver Olympic and Paralympic impact through to the 2030 Winter Games and beyond. It is grounded in: **high performance, inclusion**, and **long-term sustainability**.

Aligned with the objectives of the **International Biathlon Union** and the mission of **UK Sport**, we are leading the transformation of British biathlon through:

- A fully integrated Olympic and Paralympic pathway
- A commitment to data-informed, athlete-focused development
- Investment in world-class coaching, performance, and governance systems

We are embedding **para-biathlon** at the heart of our structure to ensure equity of opportunity and a unified athlete journey from grassroots to elite level. Our mission goes beyond winning medals it's about **redefining British Biathlon's potential** by growing participation, enhancing resilience, and strengthening community connection.

By investing in innovative delivery models and building robust partnerships, we aim to create a sustainable ecosystem where **athletes thrive**, **coaches lead with excellence**, and **supporters feel part of the journey**.

FINANCE & SPONSORSHIP

Despite progress, financial challenges remain a reality. While our partnerships with the **International Biathlon Union**, **Biathlon Canada**, and the **Swedish Biathlon Federation** have provided valuable support, we continue to seek additional sponsorships and strategic investment to support our athletes and sustain our growth.

Over the past quarter, we've undertaken extensive work as part of the **UK Sport French Alps 2030 Investment Review**. Although current indicators suggest that direct investment is unlikely at this stage, we remain optimistic that strong performances in the upcoming season could shift that perspective. UK Sport's investment model is driven by a trajectory toward **top-8 Olympic finishes** in 2030 a goal we are committed to pursuing.

GOVERNANCE

We are pleased to report that the BBU continues to meet the **UK Sport Tier One Code of Sports Governance**. Over the coming year, we will work diligently to achieve **Tier Three compliance**, ensuring best-in-class governance and organisational excellence across all levels.

THE FUTURE

Target 2030 is more than a strategy—it is our commitment to a new era for British Biathlon.
It is about growing a sport built on precision, resilience, and ambition, while creating an environment in which athletes, coaches, and communities can flourish. Our legacy will not be measured only in medals, but in the meaningful, measurable progress we make across every pillar of the sport.

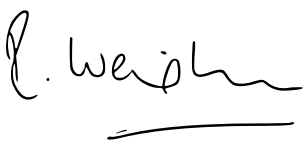
The season ahead will be exciting with both the Winter Olympics and Paralympics taking place in Milan Cortina, the launch of our fourth talent campaign and many of our junior athletes transitioning onto the senior levels of competition.

CONCLUSION

As I prepare to step down as Chair on **31 August 2025**, I do so with immense pride in what we have achieved together. The past eight years have been a transformative journey, and I am confident that the BBU is now stronger, more resilient, and better prepared for the future than ever before.

It has been an absolute honour to serve the BBU, and while I will no longer be at the helm, I will remain a passionate supporter of British Biathlon. I am working closely with **John Mead**, who, subject to ratification by the Board, will take over as Chair, ensuring a smooth and effective transition over the summer months.

Thank you to our athletes, coaches, volunteers, partners, and supporters – you are the heart of this movement and have taken British Biathlon to a whole new level. Well done!



Rob Weighill CBE
Chairman, British Biathlon Union

18 July 2025