

Richard Brooke

ENG

Candidate to the position of World Boxing Finance & Audit Committee Chair

Candidature nomination form - sections 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9

Section 5 –Qualifications and professional background

This section asks about your qualifications and professional background.

Your answers will help Members assess your knowledge, skills and experience and how they support your ability to perform this role.

List your relevant qualifications

Qualified accountant in the UK

List any governance or board training.

Extensive experience as board member and Chair of multiple commercial and public organisations.

List any professional memberships or licences.

None

Explain how your background will help you in this role.

I have been responsible for the financial management of a number of major international companies with turnover in excess of £1bn; in recent years I have been chair of several organisations and have shown successful leadership and stewardship with tangible results.

Section 6 –Boxing and sport experience

This section asks about your experience in boxing and insport. Your answers will help Members assess your knowledge of the sport and how your experience supports your ability to contribute to WorldBoxing.

Your experience in boxing

Chair of England Boxing since 2022.

Your experience in sport

Strong background in pay television, particularly around sport broadcasting, rights acquisition and management.

Your knowledge of international sport.

Gained at England Boxing

Your experience at events

Gained at England Boxing

Explain how this experience helps you in this role.

General experience of chairing and managing sports organisations.

Section 7 –Governance experience and capability

Good governance is important to ensure that World Boxing is well managed, makes sound decisions and acts in the best interests of the sport. The questions below help show your experience and ability to contribute to this.

List your board or committee roles including with World Boxing

Chair, England Boxing

Chair, CleanEvent Services Ltd

Interim Chair, World Boxing FAC

Areas of knowledge or expertise (tick as many as apply or None)

Strategic planning

Governance

Finance and budgeting

Policy development

Stakeholder engagement

Risk management

Legal and compliance

Communications

Give examples of your governance work if applicable, including a difficult decision you have had to deal with:

Governance example 1

Issue/Topic:

Ensuring that England Boxing's governance arrangements were fit for purpose during a period of growth and increasing complexity.

My Role:

Chair of England Boxing.

My Actions:

Since becoming Chair, I have led a programme of governance reform. We have refreshed the composition of the Board to make it more diverse and representative of the boxing community we serve. I oversaw a restructuring of Board Committees to improve effectiveness, clarify responsibilities and ensure that attention is focused on the areas that matter most. I also placed a strong emphasis on improving communication and engagement with our membership so that the Board has a better understanding of the needs and aspirations of clubs, boxers and volunteers, and members have a clearer understanding of the organisation's direction and priorities.

Result:

England Boxing now benefits from stronger governance structures, more effective Board oversight, broader representation and improved engagement with members. These changes have helped create a more inclusive, transparent and strategically focused organisation.

Governance example 2

Issue/Topic:

Transforming a financially distressed business into a sustainable and growing market leader.

My Role:

Chair and co-owner.

My Actions:

I led a comprehensive review of the business, strengthened financial controls and reporting, introduced clear performance measures and accountability, and rebuilt the senior leadership team. I worked closely with management to establish a culture of transparency, responsibility and continuous improvement while ensuring that strategic decisions were supported by robust financial analysis and effective risk management.

Result:

The business was successfully transformed and is now recognised as the UK market leader in its sector, with strong governance, sustained profitability and a reputation for delivering high-quality services to major sports, leisure and retail clients.

Governance vs Operations

Governance is about setting the direction of an organisation, ensuring proper oversight, managing risk and making sure decisions are taken in its long-term interests. Operations are about delivering the day-to-day activities that make the organisation successful.

One of the most important responsibilities of a Chair is understanding the difference. The Board should not run the organisation; it should ensure that the organisation is well run. My role is to provide leadership, ensure that the right structures and controls are in place, support and challenge management appropriately, and make sure that decisions are aligned with the organisation's strategy and values.

Good governance is not about creating unnecessary process. It is about ensuring clarity of purpose, accountability, transparency and effective decision-making. At England Boxing, for example, we have strengthened governance by improving Board composition, restructuring committees and improving communication with our members, while leaving operational delivery to the executive team.

I believe the best decisions are made through open discussion, careful analysis and mutual respect. Committee members should be willing to challenge constructively, listen to different perspectives and act with integrity at all times. When difficult decisions arise, I focus on the facts, the long-term interests of the organisation and the principles of good governance rather than short-term pressures or personal interests.

Describe what you think this role involves:**a. Main responsibilities**

The main responsibilities are set out clearly in the Terms of Reference and form an important part of World Boxing's overall governance framework. The Committee's role is to provide oversight of financial management, financial reporting, budgeting, risk management, internal controls and audit matters, while supporting the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities in these areas.

In addition, World Boxing is still a relatively young organisation and I believe the Committee should play a constructive role in supporting the development of the finance function. This requires not only oversight and challenge, but also advice, guidance and mentoring where appropriate.

b. What you would need to do at meetings

Meetings should be focused, well prepared and aligned with the Committee's priorities and work plan. The Chair's role is to ensure that all relevant issues are properly considered, that members have the opportunity to contribute, and that discussions lead to clear decisions and actions. I am an experienced Chair and understand the importance of maintaining a disciplined and efficient approach while ensuring that all viewpoints are heard.

c. How you would work with other Board or Committee members

Effective committees depend on good relationships and open communication. I would seek to maintain regular contact with Committee members between meetings and encourage them to contribute their expertise on an ongoing basis. I believe that the best outcomes are achieved when members feel engaged, informed and able to challenge constructively.

d. How you would deal with difficult decisions

Difficult decisions are an inevitable part of leadership. My approach is to ensure that decisions are based on the available evidence, informed by appropriate advice, and considered in the context of World Boxing's long-term interests. I believe in open discussion, constructive challenge and collective decision-making, but I am also prepared to make difficult recommendations when necessary. In all circumstances, I would put the interests of World Boxing and the sport first.

Section 8 –Motivation for nomination

This section asks why you are seeking this role and what you would bring to World Boxing. Your answers will help Members assess your motivation, judgement and ability to contribute to the leadership of World Boxing.

Why do you want this role?

I am seeking election as Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee because I believe I have the skills, experience and commitment to help guide World Boxing through an important stage of its development.

As Interim Chair, I have gained a good understanding of the responsibilities of the role, the challenges facing the organisation and the opportunities ahead. World Boxing has achieved a great deal in a relatively short period of time, including securing boxing's future within the Olympic Movement. The next challenge is to build a sustainable and well-governed international federation that can support its members and the long-term development of the sport.

I have been involved with World Boxing from an early stage through England Boxing's support for the organisation and have seen first-hand the commitment and effort that has gone into its development. I would welcome the opportunity to continue contributing to that work and to help ensure that World Boxing is financially strong, well governed and equipped for future growth.

What will you contribute?

I will contribute my time, experience and expertise gained over many years in senior leadership, finance and governance roles.

I believe that effective financial oversight requires more than technical knowledge. It requires sound judgement, independence, transparency and the ability to work constructively with colleagues. As Chair, I would seek to create a committee culture that is rigorous but supportive, providing appropriate challenge while helping management continue to develop World Boxing's financial systems and processes.

I would bring experience of working with organisations at different stages of development, from large international businesses to growing organisations undergoing significant change. I would also bring a practical approach to governance, focusing on the issues that matter most and ensuring that the Committee provides clear and effective support to the Board.

Most importantly, I would bring a strong commitment to acting in the best interests of World Boxing and its members.

What experience or judgement do you bring

I bring more than forty years of experience in finance, governance and organisational leadership.

My career has included senior finance roles with major businesses, including Sky, where I served as Group Finance Director during a period of rapid growth and corporate development. Since then, I have chaired organisations in sport and business, including England Boxing, CleanEvent Services Ltd, and GBI Racing. I have had two periods as Interim Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee so I understand the role and its requirements.

Section 9 –Candidate statement

This is your principal statement in support of your campaign for election. This will be published as you write it. It will not be edited. You are responsible for its content. If you have used AI tools or other external assistance in preparing this statement, you must disclose this so that Members can make an informed assessment of your candidature. Failure to disclose the use of AI tools, or presenting AI-generated content as your own, may constitute a breach of the World Boxing Code of Ethics and may result in action being taken under the World Boxing Rules and Policies.

Candidate statement

World Boxing is an extraordinary project that has given us back control of our sport and restored boxing to its rightful place within the Olympic movement. While much has been achieved since its inception and formation, there is still a great deal to do to complete this journey. World Boxing has to become a sustainable, financially sound international federation with strong governance, transparent accounting and the full trust of its membership and the IOC. This will require much work from its leadership, its staff, its board and not least from its Finance and Audit Committee (FAC) who have oversight and responsibility for this area.

I have now served two periods as FAC Interim Chair, and delivered the financial report to Congress in 2025, as I will at Panama in 2026. I am confident in my ability to carry out these duties having had many years experience of finance leadership working with large commercial organisations in the UK and Europe, becoming familiar with the challenges and requirements of establishing financial integrity.

From a finance background I have developed my leadership skills and over the last fifteen years have acted as chair of several organisations. I have served as Chair of England Boxing since 2022 and over this period membership has grown substantially, the performance pathway has been outstandingly successful, and it has become a more diverse, accountable and effective National Federation. One of my earliest priorities was for England Boxing to back World Boxing in its formative stages, become a founder member, and to offer our support throughout. It is essential for England Boxing, and for me as it's Chair, that our sport remains part of the Olympic movement.

We now face another crucial period of activity for World Boxing and my approach to the role of FAC Chair will be to establish the core objectives, ensure that they are clear and understood by all stakeholders, communicate clearly, and maintain that focus across all activities. With initial funding now flowing from the IOC the finance function will be operated from our headquarters in Lausanne and dedicated staff will manage the finance function internally. This is a welcome development and the next task is to develop the reporting, budgeting and financial controls required. New auditors have been appointed and their reports are key to transparency and compliance. And most importantly we need to show that we are a credible, sustainable and trusted IF so that long term funding from the IOC – which is potentially available but is not yet fully released - is secured.

A note on AI. I find it an extremely useful tool that I use extensively in my work to assist in administration, data and information. I have not used AI to write this statement, these are all my own words.

I believe World Boxing has a bright future and I am happy to provide my time and expertise to deliver its success. I look forward to your support to enable me to do so.