



EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL ASSOCIATION PROPOSAL FOR DISSOLUTION

Summary

This document outlines the proposed process for dissolution of the East Midlands Regional (EMR) Association from England Boxing's membership between the period of June 2026 - September 2027. It also outlines the proposed process for ensuring that clubs and neighbouring regions are properly consulted, communicated with and supported through the process.

Background & Context

The EMR has been part of England Boxing's membership for approximately 25 years. The region was originally founded as the sport was growing rapidly at the time, and it was felt by neighbouring counties & regions that clubs could be better served and supported by amalgamating 5 counties (Derbyshire, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire & Nottinghamshire) to form a new association.

Ever since that time, there have been political divisions amongst several key clubs, members and counties. Specifically, factions within Derbyshire largely do not cooperate with their counterparts in Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire, and vice versa.

These counties, clubs and members have deep-rooted divisions and mistrust for one another, and over the last 10 years in particular, these have escalated and grown to such an extent that in 2021, EB instructed solicitors and independent experts to conduct a review (full report available [HERE](#)) of the Regional Association at great expense (circa £100,000) to its primary funders, Sport England. The review was conducted with the aim of establishing a strong, well-governed organisation with suitably appointed and experienced volunteers to try and bring stability to the region and its members.

Since then, EB has worked closely with the EM region to conduct mediations, resolve complaints, hold transparent AGM's, update their governance and constitution, and appoint a semi-autonomous committee of representatives from clubs within the region in early 2025. These measures have unfortunately failed to achieve their aims and culminated in late 2025 when a group of regional members – including some of the semi-autonomous committee members appointed by the EB Board – and EB were publicly criticised in an article by the Daily Mail (see [HERE](#)). It is widely accepted that these reports were likely made by individuals from competing factions to create further divisions within the region and cause disruption within the EMR committee, and EB as a whole.

EB Compliance Department have also spent a disproportionate amount of time dealing with complaints and reports from within the EMR for many years, leading to a loss of staff time and development work that could be beneficial to the sport and its members, as the chart below of complaints & safeguarding referrals from January 2025 (29% of referrals) and January 2026 (14% of referrals) demonstrate.

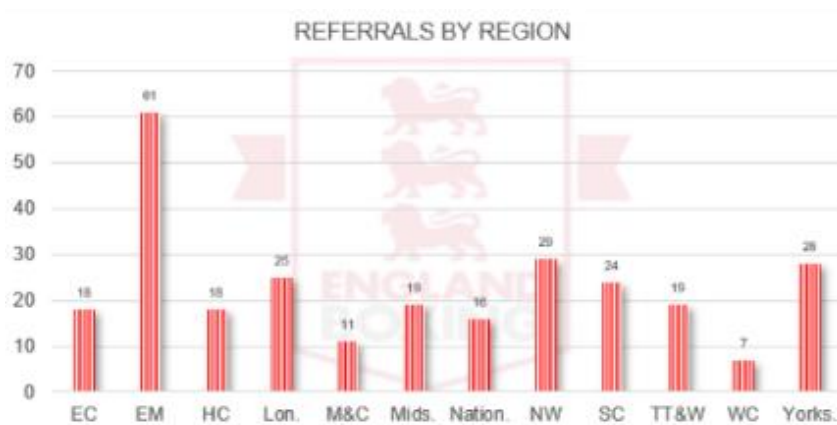


Chart 1 – January 2025 Compliance Referrals by Region

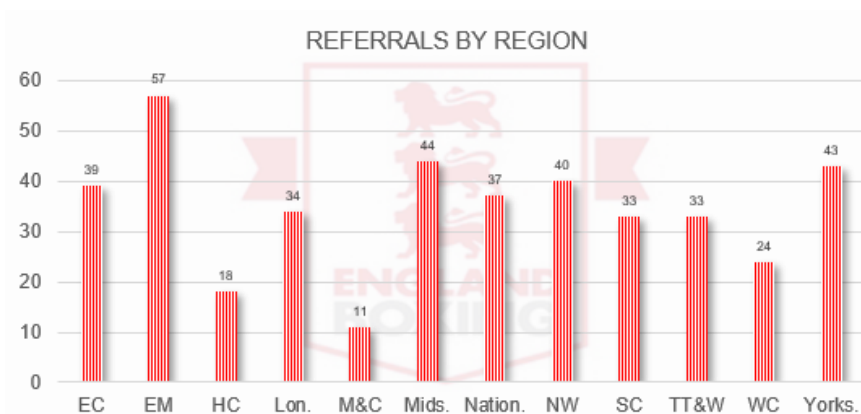


Chart 2 – January 2026 Compliance Referrals by Region

A majority of these complaints are seen as further attempts by EMR members from rival factions to slander or remove individuals from regional committee positions, and

whilst the proportion of referrals has reduced over that time period (29% reducing to 14%), the number of referrals has remained largely static (61 down to 57).

In late 2025 – due to complaints remaining consistent and the Daily Mail article being published – it became apparent that the semi-autonomous committee appointed by the EB Board was not functioning as hoped (Appendix 1). As a result, the Board sought the support of neighbouring regional volunteers to help form an external committee (known as East Midlands Operational Committee / EMOC), that would be separate from any past politics or biases, and to help bring stability to the region over a period of 12 months whilst demonstrating best practice in governance to the clubs & members within the region.

Reports from the EMOC over the 6 months from October 2025–April 2026 have shown that the divisions and toxicity within the region run so deep to the extent that they do not believe stability can be achieved any time soon. The toxic environment and instability within the EMR has had a very negative impact on these volunteers, so much so that they have communicated to the EB CEO and Board members that they will not be remaining in-post beyond the end of the 2025-26 Championship season (May 31st 2026).

As a result, both the EMOC and EB Board have regrettably concluded that the EMR should be dissolved and clubs / counties from rival factions dispersed to join neighbouring regional associations in time for the start of the 2026/27 season.

Legal, Governance & Policy Basis

As the sole National Governing Body (NGB) for amateur boxing and recognised by [Sport England](#) – the governments arm’s-length organisation for sport from the Department for Culture Media & Sport (DCMS) – EB is entrusted to govern the sport in its best interests and in accordance with its governance structure. As such, EB is empowered and supported to regulate the sport and its members in accordance with its governance structure.

Some members of the EMR may attempt to resist EB moving to dissolve the region and relocate clubs to neighbouring regions on the grounds that it is a constituted organisation with an independent committee. However, EB’s Articles of Association state (clause 28) that “*...in the event of any conflict between any provision in these Articles from time to time and any provision in the constitutional documents of a Club Member or Associate Member, the provision in these Articles shall prevail*”. Therefore, should a conflict arise between EB and the EMR seeking to argue that it is autonomous and able to self-govern in accordance with its constitution, EB’s Articles of Association would provide it with the ability to overrule Regional Association’s (Associate Members) governing documents as necessary in the best interest of the sport.

Additionally, clause 17 of the EB Articles – with reference to Associate Members including Regional Associations – outlines that “...an organisation must...meet such reasonable conditions as may be determined by the Board from time to time”. As EB has worked closely with the EMR committee to resolve their issues over many years by providing significant support and guidance, the EB Board has now taken the difficult decision to enact this clause by requiring that the Regional Association cease its operations – a condition which in itself is reasonable given the long history and negative context of the region.

Further to this, clauses 73-75 outline that the Board has the right to make, replace and amend various rules, policies, procedures and codes as part of its governance over the sport. One such policy – adopted and approved by the Board in 2023 – is the [Regional Associations Policy](#) which outlines the key parameters governing the relationship between EB and Regional Associations as membership bodies within the organisation. This policy was drafted by England Boxing’s solicitors at ‘Onside Law’ in late 2022 to ensure legal compliance and effective governance.

Section D of the policy outlines the obligations of Regional Associations. A majority of these clauses have been breached – some on multiple occasions – by the East Midlands Regional Association in recent years.

Section E of the policy specifically outlines the provision of powers and options available to England Boxing for addressing instances of non-compliance of the clauses outlined in section D.3.

Section E.2 also states that EB shall write to the Regional Association outlining the instances of non-compliance and set out the actions it requires the Region to take in order to rectify them, as well as provide the opportunity to make representations to EB to either evidence that it has not failed to comply, or outline how it will remedy the non-compliance to the satisfaction of England Boxing within a reasonable period of time.

On each occasion of non-compliance, EB has written to the Regional Association and provided it with opportunity to make such representations. On each occasion, the Regional Association has ultimately failed to rectify the instances of non-compliance to the satisfaction of England Boxing.

As a result, in early 2025 England Boxing actioned clause E.1(b) (“*require the dismissal and/or replacement of any personnel of the Regional Association*”) by implementing the previously mentioned semi-autonomous committee, with the aim of supporting clubs within the EMR to regain stability within the Region.

Following the breakdown of this committee and further instances of non-compliance from within it, EB actioned clause E.1(d) (“*suspend, withhold or reduce all or any part of the funding payable to the Regional Association*”) & E.1(e) (“*take control itself of the Regional Association’s responsibilities (or parts thereof) and/or engage a third party to do so*”) by the implementing the EMOC in late 2025.

As this measure has also ultimately failed to achieve its objective of bringing stability within the Region – and following a prolonged period of disruption within the Region – EB have unfortunately been left with no choice but to support the actioning of clauses E.1(f) (“suspend the membership of the Regional Association until further notice...”) and E.1(h) (“impose any other measure that it deems appropriate in the circumstances”) by splitting up the Regional Association and its clubs in distributing them to neighbouring Regional Associations, and distributing the funds held by the Regional Association in accordance with the wishes of the EMR Member Clubs following a period of effective consultation.

EMR Membership & Proposed Re-Structure

The EMR is made up of 102 clubs (9% of EB total) and 2,140 individual members (5%) which in turn are made up of 1,257 licensed boxers (6%), 549 licensed coaches (11%), and 63 licensed officials (8%) amongst other recreational and volunteer members.

EB clubs in the EMR are currently bordered by 6 neighbouring Regional Associations – Eastern Counties, Midlands, Home Counties, Merseyside & Cheshire, North West and Yorkshire (see Figure 1 below). It is proposed that these clubs be distributed to 5 of these neighbouring Regional Associations in-accordance with Table 1 below:

<u>EMR Counties</u>	<u>Number of Clubs</u>	<u>Proposed Regional Relocation</u>	<u>Current No' of Clubs</u>	<u>New No' of Clubs</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
Derbyshire	23	Merseyside & Cheshire	61	84	37%
Leicestershire	18	West Midlands	109	128	17%
Lincolnshire	23	Eastern Counties	66	89	34%
Northamptonshire	10	Home Counties	62	72	16%
Nottinghamshire	27	Yorkshire	122	149	22%
Warwickshire	1	West Midlands	See Above	See Above	See Above
Grand Total	102		420	522	

Table 1 – Proposed Regional Club Relocation per County

ENGLAND BOXING – Region Map



Western (inc Jersey & Guernsey)	London	Southern
West Midlands	Home Counties	Eastern
Merseyside & Cheshire	East Midlands	Yorkshire
North West	Tyne, Tees & Wear	

Figure 1 – EB Regional Association Boundary Map

It is recognised that of primary concern to EB clubs and Regional Associations are the organisation and logistics of club shows (a key source of fundraising and income for EB clubs), Regional Championship rounds, and the appointment of sufficient official numbers to officiate at those events¹. As such, the number of officials in each County

¹ For many years, it has been recognised – not only in amateur boxing, but across the grassroots sporting sector as a whole – that the demands on voluntary officials and a lack of succession / recruitment of new / younger officials is impacting on the ability of many Regional Associations to be able to cover all events & shows requested by clubs

relocating to neighbouring regions and the impact this will have on the number of officials per region is detailed below:

<u>EMR Counties</u>	<u>Number of Officials</u>	<u>Proposed Regional Relocation</u>	<u>Current No' of Officials</u>	<u>New No' of Officials</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
Derbyshire	23	Merseyside & Cheshire	16	39	143%
Leicestershire	9	Midlands	16	25	56%
Lincolnshire	9	Eastern Counties	13	22	69%
Northamptonshire	5	Home Counties	8	13	62%
Nottinghamshire	12	Yorkshire	31	43	39%
Outside	5	Midlands	See Above	See Above	See Above
Grand Total	63		84	142	

Table 2 – Proposed Regional Relocation per County & No' / % of Officials

EMR Finances – Considerations & Impact on Clubs

It is recognised that the EMR holds significant funds belonging to member clubs that is allocated to supporting the delivery of inter-regional shows and regional championship rounds.

It is important to ensure that clubs are consulted on how they would like these funds to be allocated, distributed or used during the transition phase of clubs joining neighbouring regions, and for EB to support EMR clubs to ensure that their wishes are upheld by those former EMR committee members who still have access to the regional bank account. Details on regional funds held are outlined below and are based on figures from the last EMR AGM held in mid-2025:

Regional Association	Average Monthly Expenditure	24-25 Surplus / Loss	Current Reserves (May 2025)	Months in Reserves	6-Month Reserves
East Midlands	£4,292.41	£13,101.17	£38,398.59	9	£25,754.46

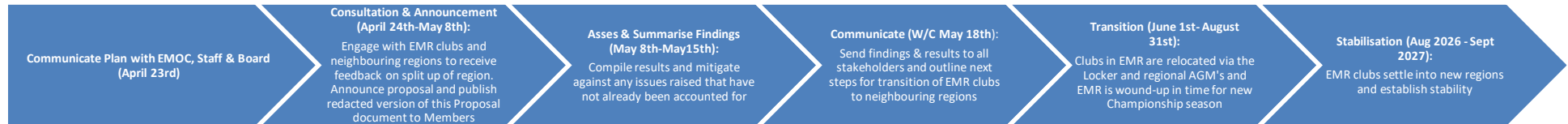
Table 3 – EMR Bank Account Holdings

In addition to EMR funds, it is important to note that clubs will be concerned about changes to their fees and general financial circumstances as a result of the move. Each Regional Association in EB has slightly different fees for permits to host amateur boxing shows and this will impact on clubs to a small extent in most cases. Full details of the impact on clubs are outlined below:

REGIONAL FEES - MARCH 2026				
REGION	DINNER SHOW PERMIT	CLUB SHOW PERMIT	CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY	REGIONAL AFFILIATION FEE
Home Counties	£120	£65	£12	£150
East Midlands	£50	£50	£5	£30
Midlands	£70	£50	£5	£0
Eastern Counties	£70	£50	£10	£0
Yorkshire	£50	£50	£5	£0
Merseyside & Cheshire	£100	£50	£10	£0
IMPACT ON EMR CLUBS PER ANNUM				
REGION	DINNER SHOW PERMIT	CLUB SHOW PERMIT	CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY	REGIONAL AFFILIATION FEE
Home Counties	-£70	-£15	-£7.00	-£120
East Midlands	£50	£50	£5	£30
Midlands	-£20	£0	£0	£30
Eastern Counties	-£20	£0	-£5	£30
Yorkshire	£0	£0	£0	£30
Merseyside & Cheshire	-£50	£0	-£5	£30

Table 4 – Regional Fees & Impact Assessment on EMR Clubs

Proposed Regional Relocation Process & Timeline



Appendix 1

East Midlands Regional Governance June 2025 to October 2025

On 03 June 2025 England Boxing wrote to the then appointed EM Committee members and under the powers provided in the Regional Associations Policy, EB cited that the current EM Committee and structure was not representing its clubs and members with their best interests centremost. That breach of the Regional Associations Policy allowed EB to cite non-compliance and invited representations from the committee to challenge the above statements. No representations were made and EB therefore implemented measured conditions.

The measured conditions implemented to remedy the non-compliance, was the adoption of the updated Regional Constitution and EB's direct appointment of six members of an Interim-RMB. The EM Committee was therefore stood down by EB at the AGM on 08 June 2025 and EB appointed six members of an Interim-RMB as approved by the EB Board. Ultimately this process was unsuccessful.

Following complaints received by the England Boxing between June 2025 and August 2025, EB independently reviewed the context of the allegations raised regarding the implementation of a digital allocations platform for officials in the EM Region. On 22 August 2025 EB confirmed with the Interim-RMB that the actions of Mr Randle did not constitute any breach of any kind and that the actions of Mr Kahn, whilst remiss in respect of data handling, could be resolved with support.

On 28 August 2025 the Interim-RMB determined the removal of two of their EB appointed members, going against the directions of England Boxing's review. The remaining Interim-RMB members (minus one member who had declined to become involved and resigned) removed Mr Randle and Mr Khan from their roles. This was an action taken by the Interim-RMB not EB.

The new appointments to the roles of RWO and Appointments Secretary were made by the Interim-RMB, not EB, and the post holders were not verified with EB prior to appointment. Due to the impending decisions of the EB Board and the implementation of the Operational Management Committee these appointments although unapproved, were not challenged. Formal communication to all clubs was then made on 17 October 2025 informing them of this transition and the standing down of the Interim-RMB members both EB and Interim-RMB appointed.