

British Parachute Association

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Annual General Meeting

Minutes

Saturday 28 January 2012 at 1030

in the Premier Suite at the Reebok Stadium, Bolton, Greater Manchester BL6 6SF

Platform party:	Martin Soulsby	-	Chairman
	Craig Poxon	-	Vice Chairman
	Debbie Carter	-	Treasurer
Members present:	Approximately 500		
In attendance:	Tony Butler	-	Technical Officer
	John Hitchen	-	NCSO
	Trudy Kemp	-	PA to TO/NCSO
Apology for absence:	Mike Carruthers		

Item Minute

- 1 **Minutes**
Weed Stoodley proposed, and Kate Charters seconded, a motion that the minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 22 January 2011 be approved as a true record. **Carried**
- 2 **Chairman's Report**
The Chairman, Martin Soulsby, welcomed members to the meeting and presented his Annual Report. This was a review of the Association and its activities during the past twelve months, being the BPA's 50th Anniversary Year. A copy of the text of the Chairman's report would be published with the February 2012 issue of the *Skydive the Mag* and on the BPA website.

Mark Whitehead proposed, and Andy Scott seconded, a motion that the Chairman's Report be adopted. **Carried**
- 3 **Special business**
Martin Shuttleworth (Secretary-General) and Weed Stoodley (Council Member) presented an item of special business, to replace the current governing instrument, the BPA Memorandum & Articles of Association (which had been adopted on incorporation in 1966 with only minor variations since) with updated Articles of Association under the Companies Act 2006. The new Articles had been drafted by Co-operatives UK Legal Services to be fit-for-purpose for the BPA in the 21st Century. Weed Stoodley had also made a significant contribution to the development of the new Articles. A copy of the existing Memorandum & Articles and of the proposed updated Articles had been circulated with the December 2011 issue of 'Skydive the Mag', inviting comment from members.

Martin Shuttleworth reported that a letter had been received from a member which gave rise to some proposed additional wording to Article 97, to give specific authority to the Council to purchase insurance. Such insurance was already in place. The proposed additional wording was set out in the AGM programme document distributed today.

The presenters invited questions, and there were none.

The Chairman therefore called for a vote on formal adoption of the new Articles of Association, with additional wording to Article 97, now before the meeting, to replace the old Memorandum & Articles of Association. The motion was proposed, seconded and carried nem com. Two proxy votes in favour had been received.

Carried nem con

4 Subscriptions: 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013

Debbie Carter (Treasurer), recommended the usual increase of 3% in the BPA element of the subscription payable by non-provisional members (even though inflation was now running at around 5%), and reported that the insurers had quoted for a reduction in the insurance element of 5%. [This was subject to the insurers' usual proviso to their quote, of there being no significant new insurance claims between now and 1 April.]

The Treasurer's recommended subscription for renewal of full membership for the year beginning 1 April 2012 would therefore be £116.35, a reduction of £1.25 on the current year.

The Treasurer's recommendation was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously.

Carried unanimously

5 Council 2012

16 nominations had been received for the 15 seats on Council 2012. An election had therefore been held. The election had been independently administered by Howsons Electoral Services. The results were:

Number of eligible voters:		5024
Votes cast by post:	352	
Votes cast online:	505	
Total number of votes cast:		857
Turnout:		17.06%
Number of votes found to be invalid:		3
Total number of valid votes to be counted:		854

RESULT (15 to elect)

Paul Applegate	524	ELECTED
Karen Bain	547	ELECTED
Adrian Bond	494	ELECTED
Kieran Brady	430	ELECTED
Marc Fletcher	507	ELECTED
Richard Head	471	ELECTED
Ian Marshall	486	ELECTED
Paul Moore	512	ELECTED
John Page	460	ELECTED
Craig Poxon	572	ELECTED
Steve Saunders	430	ELECTED
Mark Skarratts	455	ELECTED
Martin Soulsby	569	ELECTED
Weed Stoodley	547	ELECTED
James Swallow	570	ELECTED
Alex Busby Hicks	423	

6 Close

The Chairman announced that the formal proceedings were now complete and closed the AGM at 1115.

Draft approved by the Council for publication on 21 February 2012. Published on 1 March 2012, draft updated 7 June 2012. For consideration for formal approval by the AGM 2013.

- end of AGM minutes -

Presentation Ceremony

Following the AGM, the Chairman presented a variety of BPA Awards as set out in the document '2012 AGM Presentations' (below).

2012 AGM PRESENTATIONS

The Jim Crocker Trophy for Outstanding Contribution to the Sport

The Jim Crocker Trophy for an Outstanding Contribution to Sport Parachuting has been awarded to Helmut Cloth. Our intention is for the award to be formally presented at the Royal Aero Club Awards Ceremony to be held in London this spring. Today, we take the opportunity to recognise Helmut, and honour his contribution to our sport.

In 1986, Helmut lost a good friend in a skydiving accident. He was determined to reduce the risk of the same thing happening to others. Back then, mechanical devices that opened reserve parachutes were either barometric or clockwork units that were heavy, and sometimes unreliable. After four years of intensive research, Helmut developed and trialed a new system based on cybernetics.

The small, lightweight electronic unit known as Cypres - *cybernetic parachute release system* - needs no introduction to those of us here in this room. Cypres has almost no working parts and very little user interface, which makes it highly reliable. The units are produced by Helmut's company, Airtec, and made their first live save in 1991. In 2003, a smaller, lighter version was launched, which is still in use today - including by Helmut himself, who remains an active skydiver.

To date, more than 148,000 Cypres units have been sold worldwide and approximately 3,000 lives have been saved.

The BPA Jim Crocker Award recognises this Outstanding Contribution to Sport Parachuting by Helmut Cloth.

The Taz Causer Trophy for Skydiver of the Year 2011

The Taz Causer Skydiver of the Year Award has not been awarded for 2011.

Instructor of the Year Trophy 2011

The NCSO and TO choose the Instructor of the Year, awarded to an Instructor who gained an Instructor rating within the past 12 months. The criteria used are that the Instructor not only did very well on the Instructor Course, but is also the type of Instructor that Students would be very happy to turn to for advice. The NCSO and Technical Officer have chosen Duncan Cockburn, from Target Sportsports, as Instructor of the Year for 2011.

The Mike Forge Trophy for New Skydiver of the Year 2011

CCIs or Advanced Instructors nominate the New Skydiver of the Year. The criteria used are that a relatively new skydiver is nominated, who has progressed well during the last year and is also considered to be a valuable member of his or her Club.

The 2011 Mike Forge Trophy (New Skydiver of the Year) winner started skydiving in mid April 2011, when he started his AFF course. His Level 1 AFF jump was his first time in a plane. He managed to complete his AFF course by the end of June and he did not miss a weekend at the DZ throughout the year. After gaining his 'A' Certificate, he got his 'B' Certificate within a month, then worked on achieving his FS1 with the FS coaches at his Club.

Since starting he has been at the DZ every weekend, wind rain or shine, jumping as much as he can and managing over 150 jumps. The majority of these have been FS, mostly 4-way, with some group tracking dives. He has also started having FF coached jumps. During this year he would like to get his FF1 and continue working on FS, and intends to join a 4-way Rookie team to enable him to enter the British National 4-way Championships. He hopes eventually to be good enough to become a coach and help give something back to the sport. Another of his goals is to be able to start wingsuiting.

His CCI states that within his time at the Club he has not met a more deserving candidate for the New Skydiver of the Year Award. His nominee is one of the most helpful and polite people he has ever met. He will come to the Club on a 'phone call's notice to help out at the Centre during the week, to do any task asked of him whether it be painting, emptying bins or installing and setting up their IT systems.

The 2011 winner of the New Skydiver of the Year award is Joe Newrick of the Silver Stars Parachute Club.

Certificates

FAI Judges Certificates

FAI Judges Certificates are awarded to the following Judges who qualified in 2011 in the following disciplines:

Richard Del-Toro	-	Canopy Piloting
Bob Charters	-	Canopy Piloting
Dougie Peacock	-	Style & Accuracy

BPA National Judges Certificates

BPA National Judges Certificates are awarded to the following Judges who qualified in 2011 in the following disciplines:

Susie Coleman	-	Artistics
Susan Del-Toro	-	Canopy Piloting

Jump/Freefall Certificates

A 14,000 Jump Certificate is awarded to Chris Lynch.

2011 Grand Prix / UKSL Overall Medallists

Overall Accuracy Landings Champions

Junior - Adam Smith; Intermediate - Del Hopkins; Senior - Pete Sizer.

Canopy Formation

CF 4-way Rotations Senior: Overall Champions (Gold Medal) - Team CFUK: Doug Preston, Gavin McLeod, Martin Robiette, Maria Russell, Colin Dickson.

CF 2-way Sequential: Intermediate Overall Champions (Gold Medal) - Team Rockwell PH36: Jamie Flynn, Kate Medd, Colin Dickson.

CF 2-way: Senior Overall Champions (Gold Medal) - Team Aerodyne PH36: Jamie Flynn, Mark Skarratts, Pete Lindstrand.

4-way Formation Skydiving

Rookie Class

Bronze Medallist winners - Team Fiasco: Pamela Hawes, Sarah Law, Danny French, Susan Lewellen, Sarah Neale.

Silver Medallist winners - Team 4mula: Kris Wojciechowski, David Rodgers, Simon Ashley, Marcus Wallen, Jon Trevor, Mike Coleman.

Overall Champions (Gold Medal) - Team RAFSPA Hurricane: Steve Lawrence, Alex Burnet, Simon Owen, Danielle Baker, Sharron Floyd, Simon Donnelly.

A Class

Bronze Medallist winners - Team RAFSPA Phoenix: Gary Davidson, Andrew Parry, Jon Bradley, Harriet McAuliffe, Sharron Floyd.

Silver Medallist winners - Team High Altitude Heroes: Roy Little, Cara Finn, Jamie Pockett, Karen Pockett, Dorian Harwood, Joel Gluth, George Impey.

Overall Champions (Gold Medal) - Team Raykipo: Mike Roberts, Katy Saxby, Liz Moor, Andres Von Walter, Sarah Neale.

AA Class

Bronze Medallist winners - Team Kryos Airkix: Audrey Rowe, Paul Rowe, Craig Poxon, Antonio Vlachopoulos, Pete Spedding, Mick Tyler.

Silver Medallist winners - Team Gr4vity: Chris Lewis, Jasvir Singh, Giedre Domzaite, Daniel Guest, Jonathan Ashe.

Overall Champions (Gold Medal) - Team Eclipse: Jonny Flowers, Jenny Buckle, Martin Cressey, Ben Lawford, Simon Chittick.

AAA Class

Bronze Medallist winners - Team Army Nemesis: Anna Hicks, Simon Guest, Kim Mason, Claire Scott, Marcus Speed, Dane Kenny, Spencer Hogg.

Silver Medallist winners - Team Kaizen: Liz Cathelain, Francois Cathelain, Jo Hawley, Dave Curtin, Rai Ahmed.

Overall Champions (Gold Medal) - Team Sonicnutz: Dave Honeybone, Helen Arnold, Simon Cathrine, Dave Butterell, Rob Frost, Darren Atter.