

British Parachute Association

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Competitions Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on

Tuesday 16 August 2011 at 1300

at the BMFA Office, Chacksfield House, 31 St Andrews Road, Leicester LE2 8RE

Present:	Steve Saunders	-	Chairman
	Ian Marshall	-	Discipline Rep: Classics
	Paul Moore	-	Discipline Rep: CP
	Weed Stoodley	-	Discipline Rep: AE / VFS
In attendance:	Tony Butler		Technical Officer (from item 37 to Item 41)
	Kate Charters	-	Judges Coordinator
	Michael Lovemore	-	Discipline Rep: Speed
	Helen Lucas	-	Administration Secretary
	Martin Soulsby		Chair of Council
Apologies	Richard Head	-	Discipline Rep: FS
	Martin Reynolds	-	Technical Rep: CP

Item Minute

The Committee wished to record its congratulations to Richard and Laura Head on the birth of their baby boy James Michael.

35/11 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 21 June 2011 had been ratified electronically by the Council and published on the BPA website: <http://www.bpa.org.uk/minutes>

36/11 Matters Arising

36.1 Sale of outdated equipment (min 16.3)

Ian Marshall stated that he had not heard of any further progress with this item. Martin Soulsby assured the committee that it was an agenda point for action at Council later this evening.

The Committee confirmed that any funds raised through the sale would be returned to the General Funds.

36.2 Stolen equipment

To note that the Insurers had reimbursed the BPA for the equipment and the funds were to paid into Target 4 of the 2011-12 Action Plan. Weed Stoodley would inform Jonathan Gretton, BPA Financial Administrator.

Action: Weed Stoodley

Ian Marshall had been researching a new generator/blower, and tabled a quote at the meeting which was significantly lower than others. Ian required clarity as to the leads and power output that may be required. Steve Saunders replied that the leads had not been stolen and would not need to be replaced. Weed Stoodley proposed that the stolen equipment be replaced, up to the value of £750, and be delivered to the BPA office for testing by a competent person with suitable experience before being delivered to Langar for the forthcoming 50th Anniversary Boogie. Seconded by Paul Moore.

Carried unanimously, Action: Classic Discipline Rep

Weed Stoodley questioned if Andy Houston had received a letter reminding him of his responsibilities whilst the equipment was in his holding. Ian Marshall replied that Andy was aware.

36.3 Any other matters arising not covered on the agenda

36.3.1 Classics Nationals 2011 – Letter from Katherine Andrewes

A letter had been received from Karen Andrewes, which had been circulated to the committee before the meeting, which raised issues of the event such as the inability of Novice intermediates to entry on the day. Whilst the Chair and Paul Moore informed the Committee that Katherine was happy with the verbal explanation of the late entry rule on the day, the Chair would write to her to confirm.

Action: Chair

It was agreed that for future events to encourage novice participation, where possible, late entry may be accommodated, even if a late entry fee payable. Katherine had also suggested combining Classic, CF and CP as 1 event which may make running a competition more viable. The committee agreed this to be a good idea.

37/11 Domestic Competitions 2011 - completed

37.1 British Open Nationals CP, 7-9 July, RAPA

Kate Charters reported that it had been a brilliant event, shared with the German Parachute Association (DFV), with 42 competitors, including approx 17 UK competitors. There were no safety issues, no red or yellow cards being issued to competitors, and that the working relationship with the non BPA judges had been excellent. This concept made the event more cost effective and allowed excellent cross fertilisation of experience for both competitors and judges alike. Weed Stoodley proposed that a letter of thanks be written to RAPA for hosting the event and to confirm that £500, as previously agreed, was available towards the cost of the judging equipment. Seconded by Ian Marshall.

Carried unanimously, Action – Chair

37.2 UKSL FS 4-Way 16-17 July, Target Skysports

Kate Charters briefly reported that 32 teams had attended the event, one of the highest attendances, and that the event was completed on Sunday. A report would follow to be forwarded to Competitions Committee via email.

Action: Judges Coordinator

38/11 Domestic Competitions 2011 – yet to be completed

38.1 British Open Nationals FS, VFS, Artistics & Speed 13-15 Aug & 20-22 Aug Target Skysports

Kate Charters gave a brief summary of the completed FS and VFS section in lieu of the Chief Judges report when the whole event was completed. 58 teams comprising 55 FS 4-way; 17 of which were Senior (AAA) and 3 VFS teams competed over the 3 days. After some discussion with the AAA team leaders regarding the top 10 teams going through to round 9 and the top 6 into round 10, they felt it was a little unfair that 2 open teams were included in these numbers because the next teams scores were so close. Kate stated that the rules could not be changed for this event but would pass on their comments to the Committee for possible future changes. It was then agreed that all AAA would do rounds 9 and 10 for personal best but only the top 10 scores would still count. Weed Stoodley proposed that for future Open Nationals for semi-finals or 'cut-offs' and finals a minimum number of 10 British Teams and 6 British teams be applied within the rules. Seconded by Ian Marshall. Kate Charters would inform Richard Head of the decision.

Carried unanimously

38.2 British Open Nationals 8-Way Speed 3-4 Sept, NLSC Chatteris

Kate Charters reported that there were a possible 5 teams and that preparations were well under way.

38.3 British Open Nationals CF 24-26 Sept, APA Netheravon

Steve Saunders had not yet received clarity as to the CF teams having a dispensation from the local SOP that AADs must be worn. Tony Butler informed the committee that APA were closed at the moment but he would try to find out.

Action: Technical Officer

[note: Tony Butler has informed the Chair that APA would allow the CF competitors a dispensation from the use of AADs on 22/8/11]

39/11 Domestic Competitions 2012 – Bid forms for 2012 meets

The bid form was to include an option of running events that may work well together, such as CF and Classics, as this may make the competition more viable to the hosting centre. The trial of hosting a National competition for 3 consecutive years had been deemed a success as the centre had been able to prepare in good time and had gained media coverage. In order to encourage more centres to bid Paul Moore proposed, seconded by Ian Marshall that the bid forms for 1 year be released to all BPA parachuting centres with the facility to indicate the centres ability to host from 2013 onwards for a maximum of 3 years, for all disciplines.

Carried unanimously, Action: BPA Office

40/11 British Open Nationals 2012 – Canopy Piloting

Paul Moore reported that logistical issues such as landowners' permissions may have prevented the centres from offering information regarding local areas that may be made available for a swoop pond. However 2 centres had shown an interest. Tony Butler stated that a new pond would have to be approved by the Safety and Training Committee before it could be put to use. Paul Moore would liaise with Martin Reynolds, CP Technical Rep, and would offer any assistance to the centres on behalf of the committee.

Action: Discipline Rep - CP

41/11 International Competitions 2011 - completed

41.1 8th World Cup & 7th European Championships Artistics and 17th World Cup & 10th European Championships FS. 1-7 August 2011 Saarlouis, Germany

The Head of Delegation report from Ash Kemp had been received and forwarded via email on Monday 15 August and was tabled at the meeting with time given to those who had not yet seen it.

The committee were disappointed to note that there had been 2 incidents where the delegation were not seen in the best light. The report did not name competitors and the consensus of the committee was that more information was required. Weed Stoodley proposed writing to Ruth Cooper, Karla Cole and Ash Kemp for details of the incidents. Seconded by Paul Moore. These details would be sent to Council via email and if they believed it was warranted the person/s involved would be invited to the next Competitions committee meeting.

Carried unanimously, Action – Chair

Ash Kemp had also written of issues concerning the accommodation with some competitors having to sleep in double beds with people they did not know and of others made to sleep on cushions, sofas and camp beds. This issue had been raised at the event to the BPA office who, after seeking advice from John Smyth, Delegate to IPC, had advised Ash to bring those concerns to the attention of Graeme Windsor, IPC President and Silvia Wagner, FAI Controller, both of whom were in attendance at the event.

Other problems reported with the event as a whole were

- a. Only one shuttle bus for all delegations which at times didn't show
- b. Frequent schedule changes
- c. No notice of start times or of start times being posted too late

Ash praised all the UK delegation for their enthusiasm and 'colourful presence', and in particular Al & Pixie Hodgson (Airkix Freestyle) for their Bronze medal.

The Committee echoed Ash's praise to the delegation and added their thanks to Ash Kemp in his role of Head of Delegation.

41.2 6th FAI World Cup & 2nd European Championships CP 22-27 Aug. Klatovy 2011, Czech Republic

41.2.1 List of Competitors

The Official registration had been returned, with a delegation of 5 competitors: Martin Reynolds, Spencer Hogg, Matt Sweeney, Brian Vacher and Wez Westley.

41.2.2 Head of Delegation

As this was a small delegation it was initially believed that there would be no need for a Head of Delegation but only a competitor acting as Team Manager. However the consensus of the meeting, following advice that 1 competitor was entitled to external assistance, that CP had the greatest potential for injury, was that the responsibilities of

Head of Delegation should not fall to the competitor. Kate Charters stated that it was unrealistic to have to wait until this meeting which was 2 days before the date, to know if it had been decided if she should attend. Weed Stoodley proposed, seconded by Paul Moore, that should Kate Charters be able to attend at this late stage, that Kate to act as Head of Delegation be put forward to Council at its meeting tonight.

Recommend to Council

The Chair apologised to Kate Charters for the lateness of this decision. However there had been circumstances beyond the control of the BPA as to whether this competition would be going ahead.

41.3 6th FAI European Freefall Style & Accuracy Championships 18-28 Aug, Kikinda, Serbia

To note that the UK would not be represented at this event.

Noted

41.4 3rd Dubai International Parachuting Championships & Gulf Cup 29 Nov-10 Dec, Dubai

To note that Jeff Chandler had provided a list of competitors had been circulated to the committee and that on completion of the entry form the BPA office would sign on behalf of NAC as required by the organisers.

Noted

42/11 Process for selection – Head of Delegation

Martin Soulsby said that there was confusion as to whether Council or Competitions committee select the Head of Delegation and recommended that the committee devise a process of selection in order to select a suitably qualified person for the role. Paul Moore proposed that in future Competitions Committee will recommend to Council qualified nominees for Council's ratification. Seconded by Ian Marshall.

Carried unanimously

Weed Stoodley proposed re-visiting the Head of Delegation Terms of Reference to be sent to Competitions Committee for agreement. Seconded by Ian Marshall.

Action: Discipline Rep - Artistics

Regarding the selection process. The consensus of the meeting was that each individual suggested be considered through their experience (IPC delegate/Discipline Reps/judging/previous competitor), size of delegation, category & size of the event and individuals availability. A list of suitable people should be considered in a timely manner.

43/11 Budget & Competitions Action Plan 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 see appendix i

The committee had now received its budget for the 2011-12 season and all Action Plan targets had been allocated.

In addition, running items not included in the Action Plan would include:

Heads of Delegation/World Meet Costs - £3000

Medals - £2000

General Expenses -£1000

44/11 Non-Senior Funding and Skills Coaching Roadshows

An email received by the BPA office from Mark Skarratts of Team Aerodyne PH36 had been forwarded to the committee previous to the meeting. Mark stated that he had heard rumours of BPA CF roadshows and was disappointed that these did not appear to have been publicised. Mark added further to offer his and his team's assistance and, should the rumours not be true, to ask to arrange one in the future. Steve Saunders, as CF Discipline Rep had replied to the email which applauded the team's own free coaching sessions and that there had been no BPA CF coaching roadshows this year. Also Mark had read from the minutes of the Feb 2011 Competitions meeting (min 9) that the Intermediate 4-Way CF team were eligible for coaching funding as they met the criteria but as yet they had not received correspondence regarding the funding. Steve Saunders would reply that the team were eligible for coaching support funding.

Action: Discipline Rep - CF

45/11 Judging Matters not already covered

45.1 Non-attendance at BPA Competitions

Kate Charters required guidance on the preparation of a letter to a judge, who had not attended a BPA competition for 3 years despite indicating that they would be in attendance. The Committee clarified that the communication should come from the Judges Coordinator in the same manner as for other judges. The BPA office offered to read the draft of the letter and advise should Kate require it.

Action: Judges Coordinator

45.2 Criteria for gaining National rating

Kate Charters and Weed Stoodley had been working on the format of the form setting out the criteria of how to become a BPA Judge and maintain a BPA Judges rating. The form would be ready for the December meeting.

Ongoing

45.3 Funding to assist Judges travel expenses CP Nationals 2012

Steve Saunders stated that previously the Committee had capped qualified judges travel expenses to £150 as he had been made aware of 2 invoices produced for a higher amount. Kate Charters said, to clarify, that the 2 judges involved had been at a Judges' Evaluation seminar and were not judging at the competition and that as they had qualified as FAI CP Judges they were entitled to claim for their expenses.

Weed Stoodley suggested that for future reference it would be helpful if Kate could provide a break-down of who may be attending for budgeting purposes.

46/11 Any other business

The BPA office believed that as all disciplines would be represented at the forthcoming 2012 Mondial in Dubai there would be an overburden of admin duties so appealed, in good time, to the Committee for assistance. Suggestions of

- 1) Delegation Uniform - Approaching the BPA Shop to order and distribute.
- 2) Discipline Reps liaising with Team Leaders.
- 3) Head of Delegation taking a more hands on approach before the event
- 4) Spreadsheets to be completed by the competitor so admin arrives back to the office in a structured manner.

47/11 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 11 October 2011 at 1300 BMFA office, Chacksfield House, 31 St Andrews Road, Leicester. LE2 8RE

The meeting closed at 1718.

Ratified electronically by the Council and published on 7 October 2011

Distribution: Competitions Committee/Council, Vice Presidents, Judges Co-ordinator & Deputy, Judges, Staff, Editor, BCPA and Dayfile

Competitions Action Plan: 1 July 11 to 30 June 12

Target	From	To	By	How	Budget
1. World Class Performance	2011 double medal winning performance	2012 Continued medal winning performance	Sep 2012	Funded support to BPA selected teams based on performance in competition 2011	£88931*
2. Coaching Road Show Events	2011 Supported events	2012 Continued support of events	Jul 2012	Run coaching road show events at BPA Drop Zones to support competitive interest and enhance members skills	£6000
3. Judging Team	2011 UK pool of 20 Judges	2012 UK judging team retained/increased and improved ratings	Jul 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support all currency requirements under FAI rules • Provide financial help with pre-season refresher training • Supply judges to non-National UK events • Encourage/train new judges to gain International ratings • Supply of Judges Jackets & T-shirts 	£10,000
4. Retain, improve and maintain competition equipment in line with IPC requirements	2011 Current holding	2012 Equipment stock in line with 2011 IPC changes	Jul 2012	Purchase / Hire of equipment as rules evolve and dictate	£8000
5. Delegation Uniform	2011 Delegation uniform	2012 Continued issue of uniform	Jul 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue of T-shirt generic BPA design • Issue of BPA logo embroidered badges • Supply Jackets, trousers & polo shirts 	£5000**
6. Survey of Competition running costs	2011 At no cost to BPA	2012 Informed position of 'at no cost to BPA'	Jul 2012	To ascertain the costs involved in running a Nationals Competition	£500
<p>*Target 1: includes £28000 carry forward and CF B team coaching funding unused budget from 2010/11 as agreed</p> <p>**Target 5: Uniform will continue to be funded from the British Team Fund</p>					



Competitions dates 2011 *(as at 10 January 2011)*

British Open Nationals 2011

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Classics	Peterlee Parachute Centre	Fri 17 - Sun 19 June 2011
Canopy Piloting	RAPA	Thurs 7 – Sat 9 July 2011
Canopy Formation	APA, Netheravon	Sat 24 – Mon 26 Sept 2011 Reserve: Fri 30 Sep – Sun 2 Oct 2011
8-Way Speed	NLSC, Chatteris	Sat 3 - Sun 4 Sept 2011
Formation Skydiving & Vertical Formation Skydiving	Target Skysports, Hibaldstow	4-way & VFS: Sat 13 - Mon 15 August 2011 8-way, 4-way reserve and VFS Reserve: Sat 20 - Mon 22 August 2011 8-way reserve: Sat 27 - Mon 29 August 2011
Artistic, Speed Skydiving		Sat 20 - Mon 22 August 2011 Reserve: Sat 27 - Mon 29 August 2011

UKSL & Grand Prix 2011

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Dates</i>
GP Accuracy	Headcorn	Sat 7 – Sun 8 May 2011
GP Canopy Formation	BPS, Langar	Sat 6 - Sun 7 August 2011
UKSL FS 4-way	APA, Netheravon	Sat 7 - Sun 8 May 2011
UKSL FS 4-way	BPS, Langar	Sat 11 - Sun 12 June 2011
UKSL FS 4-way	Target Skysports Hibaldstow	Sat 16 - Sun 17 July 2011