

BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION
COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
5 WHARF WAY, GLEN PARVA, LEICESTER
WEDNESDAY 9 AUGUST 2000 AT 1830

Present: John Smyth - Chairman
Tim Andrewes
Paul Applegate
Chris Clements
Dona Crum
Mick Danby

In attendance: Kate Charters - Judges Liaison
John Hitchen - NCSO
Martin Shuttleworth - National Administrator
Glen Turnbull - Development Officer

Observers: Bob Charters
Liz Groucott
Ian Matthews
Andy Pook
Esther Reynolds

ITEM MINUTE

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence had been received.

2 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 30 MAY 2000

Paul Applegate proposed that the minutes of the Competitions Committee meeting held on Wednesday 30 May be approved. Mick Danby seconded the proposal and it carried unanimously.

Approved

3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12 APRIL 2000

Page 1 - item 3, Bob Card's article for Skydive magazine It was hoped that this would appear in the August issue.

Page 2 - item 4, Classics WPC in Japan – 6-16 October 2000 The official registration of four self-funded competitors comprising the GB team (Jeff Chandler, Nicky Johnston, Esther Reynolds and Glenn Stephenson) had recently been made.

4

SELECTION FROM THE NATIONALS 2000 FOR THE WORLD AIR GAMES 2001

Based on performance in the National Championships at Hibaldstow from 15-30 July 2000, competitors could now be selected for the GB team for the World Air Games in Spain from 23 June to 1 July 2001. Selection would be based on the following criteria:

For funding: performance at the Nationals that would have secured fourth place or better at the last world championships

For selection as a self-funded competitor/team: minimum attendance requirements.

4-way open FS

XL achieved an average score of 17.8 at the Nationals - 17.2 was required for funding. Team to be congratulated and invited by the BPA to represent GB at WAG 2001 with BPA funding (amount to be decided). Proposed by Dona Crum, seconded by Chris Clements.

Carried unanimously

The Chairman read aloud a letter from XL outlining their training plans which aimed to increase their average score to 20 points over 800 training jumps at Sebastian.

Women's 4-way FS

VMax achieved an average score of 12.5 at the Nationals, which was an improvement on their Gold Medal performance at the last world cup. Team to be congratulated and invited by the BPA to represent GB at WAG 2001 with BPA funding (amount to be decided), subject to confirmation by the IPC that there will be a women's 4-way FS event at WAG 2001. Proposed by Tim Andrewes, seconded by Dona Crum.

Carried unanimously

Liz Groucott of VMax outlined the team's training plans for 10 weeks' training, including 6-8 weeks in the USA if sponsorship could be found.

8-way open FS

VNE achieved an average score of 9.2 at the Nationals compared with 14.6 required for funding, so had not met the funding criterion, but had met the attendance criterion. Team to be congratulated and invited by the BPA to represent GB at WAG 2001, self-funded. Proposed by Dona Crum, seconded by Tim Andrewes.

Carried unanimously

Andy Pook outlined VNE's training plans for camps in the USA and UK.

CF 4-way sequential

Team X achieved an average score of 6.8 compared with 7 required for funding, so had not met the funding criterion, but had met the attendance criterion. Team to be congratulated and invited by the BPA to represent GB at WAG 2001, self-funded. Proposed by Tim Andrewes, seconded by Mick Danby.

Carried unanimously

CF 4-way rotations

No team had met the criteria for funding or attendance.

Classics

At the Nationals, Dave Ballard had met the criterion for funding in senior accuracy. He was to be congratulated and invited by the BPA to represent GB at the WAG 2001, with BPA funding (amount to be decided).

The following competitors had not met the funding criteria but had met the minimum attendance requirements. They were to be congratulated and invited by the BPA to represent GB at the WAG 2001, self funded:

Men's event:

Carl Williams, Nicky Johnston, Jeff Chandler, Tim Andrewes

Women's event:

Katherine Andrewes, Debbie Curtis, Esther Reynolds.

Special congratulations were due to Katherine Andrewes as overall champion at the Nationals.

Proposed by Mick Danby, seconded by Chris Clements.

Carried unanimously

Men's Skysurf

Clockwork Orange had scored an average of 80.06 at the Nationals, compared with 85.1 required for funding. The scoring at the Nationals had been a little high. The team had met the attendance criterion. Team to be congratulated and invited by the BPA to represent GB at the WAG 2001, self-funded. Proposed by Tim Andrewes, seconded by Paul Applegate

Carried unanimously

Paul Applegate would telephone Clockwork Orange to advise them of the above decision.

Action: Paul Applegate

Men's Freestyle

Roddy Mackay and Tim Porter had scored an average of 75.18 at the Nationals, compared with 75.50 required for funding. The scoring at the Nationals had been a little high. They had met the attendance criterion. Roddy and Tim to be congratulated and invited by the BPA to represent GB at the WAG 2001, self-funded. Proposed by Paul Applegate, seconded by Tim Andrewes.

Carried unanimously

Tim Andrewes and Paul Applegate would contact Roddy Mackay and Tim Porter to explain the funding requirements, as they had written to seek clarification.

Action: Tim Andrewes/Paul Applegate

Men's Freely

Playboys had scored an average of 87.06 at the Nationals, but to date there had been no world meet in this discipline against which to compare the score. (The first world cup would however be taking place in November 2000, which should provide a benchmark.) The team members were based in the USA and were understood to have taken out temporary membership of the BPA for the Nationals. Subject to all team members becoming full BPA members for both this year and next, they would be invited by the BPA to represent GB at the WAG 2001, self funded. Proposed by Paul Applegate, seconded by Dona Crum.

Carried unanimously

All letters of invitation to prospective members of the GB team to WAG 2001 would request a reply by 9 September. The allocation of funds to individuals and teams would depend on the total size of the pot.

5

REVIEW OF THE NATIONALS 2000

The consensus was that holding an event seeking to combine all four disciplines had not, after all, been successful. It had really been two separate weeks, each finishing on a Thursday, without any cross-fertilization at the weekend. Some national and regional TV interest had been generated.

A major problem had been the high late entry fee of £50 which had discouraged fun teams and competitors. This had been one of the factors that had prevented an increase in the number of entries. The committee believed that next year there should be no late entry fee, or a much smaller one. Also, it would consider changing the deadline date for late entries to 1000 on the start date of the competition, to encourage last minute fun jumpers to enter.

Concern had been expressed by competitors about the policy of Hibaldstow to charge a separate entry fee for each event, rather than for the meet as a whole or for each week. The bid had not specified for what the entry fee would be charged. Competitors had confirmed that this

charging policy was seen as excessive as it had discouraged entries for more than one event. There had also been difficulty in obtaining jump refunds, and the wording in FS competition rule 4(e) needed to be revisited. The event had been poorly promoted with neither free editorial or paid advertising in Skydive magazine being taken up. From next year, the Committee believed that adequate event promotion should be a requirement of the bid.

The Chairman invited Tim Andrewes to discuss the above issues with Steve Swallow, the DZ operator at Hibaldstow.

Action: Tim Andrewes

The Chairman had received a letter from Jeff Chandler who had withdrawn from the Nationals, but wanted his scores to stand, which was unfortunately not possible. The Chairman would reply.

Action: Chairman

Kate Charters reported that Scott Smith, the US judge, had been excellent. He had helped three judges reach national standard in New Age. The Chairman would draft a letter of thanks to be signed by Chris Allen.

Action: Chairman

The Chairman thanked Kate and Bob Charters for their excellent judges' report on the Nationals, which had been tabled.

6

JUDGES' FUNDING TO WORLD AIR GAMES (WAG) SPAIN 2001

The Chairman reminded the Committee that the BPA had previously funded the flight only of one judge per discipline in each of the four world championships (judges' entry fees were paid by the IPC). He proposed, and Tim Andrewes seconded, that the WAG, one judge per discipline should be similarly funded if invited by the IPC, which could be up to four judges.

Carried by a majority

Kate Charters said that the judging panel would be much reduced at the WAG, making it more difficult for UK judges to be selected for international events. Mick Danby proposed that the BPA should fund flights for whatever number of judges were invited, but this was unseconded.

Kate Charters raised the issue of funding trainee judges to world meets. This would be considered at the next committee meeting.

John Hitchen was asked to clarify the position on nationality requirements in the case of Karla Cole, a UK judge who held a German passport.

Action: John Hitchen

7 HEAD OF GB DELEGATION TO WAG SPAIN 2001

The Chairman reported that the Head of Delegation would be John Hitchen. If John was invited to take an IPC post, Chris Allen would be invited to be Head of Delegation.

8 ALASTAIR MACARTNEY

Alastair Macartney had sent an e-mail that raised a number of competitions issues. The Committee believed that a face-to-face discussion would be helpful, and invited him to attend the next meeting.

Action: Chairman

9 COACHING / REGIONAL COMPETITIONS

Chris Clements introduced this item. Mick Danby agreed to co-ordinate a list of coaches for publication by the BPA, which had been suggested by a letter from Alan Fielding.

Action: Mick Danby

A competitions roadshow was planned which would visit drop zones, using the expertise of the coaches.

Chris Clements tabled a map showing a possible division of drop zones into north, central and south for regional competitions. There was a problem with regionals in that sometimes more than one club in the same region might bid for a particular discipline, and on other occasions no club from a region would bid. Solutions included the use of military drop zones (in the south only), using flexible regional boundaries, or replacing the regionals by a series or league. These options would be considered at the next meeting, at which the original briefing note on regional competitions (from 8-10 years ago) would be consulted.

10 COMPETITIONS FUNDING

The Competitions Committee unanimously agreed to request the BPA Council to enter into a partnership to fund our eligible competitors for the year from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001. The strategy for the BPA's contribution would be worked out within the next two months.

Secretary's note:

Following extensive telephone consultations after the meeting, during which all interested parties were contacted, it was resolved that XL, VMax and Dave Ballard would be asked to submit a formal budget to the next Competitions Committee meeting on Wednesday 13 September 2000. At this meeting, a comprehensive business action plan would be formulated to present for consideration by the Council on Tuesday 17 October.

The Chairman said he would be unable to attend the next Council meeting on 22 August 2000 but would write a briefing note. He asked

other members of the Competitions Committee who could not attend to send a proxy vote in favour of the competitions funding partnership proposal. [Note: This will no longer be necessary as the funding proposal will now go to the Council on 17 October 2000, after formulation by the Competitions Committee on 13 September.]

11 TROPHIES

Tim Andrewes reported that some of the trophies were in a poor state. The Committee agreed that he should find out the cost of refurbishing the overall champion's cup for the classics, which was one of the oldest.

Action: Tim Andrewes

12 WORLD RECORD CLAIM

VMax had achieved a score of 19.0 on 19 July 2000 at the Nationals, which was a new world record claim in women's sequential FS. Claims normally had to be made within 7 days of the event, however BPA would do all it could to encourage FAI to consider it.

Action: BPA Office

13 XL BRITISH RECORD

Kate Charters would find out and report back on which of XL's records was the new national record.

Action: Kate Charters

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 13 September 2000 at 1830 at the BPA Office.

The meeting closed at 2300 .

Distribution:

Council
Vice Presidents
Treasurer
Tony Butler - Technical Officer
John Hitchen - NCSO
Martin Shuttleworth – National Administrator
Glen Turnbull - Development Officer
Jon Gretton - Financial Administrator
Lesley Gale - Editor, Skydive Mag
Kate Charters - Judges Co-ordinator
Ian Marshall - Co-opted CF Adviser