

British Parachute Association

5 Wharf Way
Glen Parva
Leicester
LE2 9TF

Tel: 0116 278 5271
Fax: 0116 247 7662
e-mail: skydive@bpa.org.uk
www.bpa.org.uk



Competitions Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on

Tuesday 20 September 2005 at 1825

at the BPA Offices, 5 Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester

Present:	John Smyth	-	Competitions Chairman
	Paul Applegate	-	Asst Discipline Rep: AE
	Nigel Holland	-	Discipline Rep: AE
	Ian Marshall	-	Discipline Rep: CF
	Geordie Page	-	Discipline Rep: Classics
	Andy Scott	-	Discipline Rep: FS
In attendance:	Bob Charters	-	Judge
	Kate Charters	-	Judges' Co-ordinator
	John Hitchen	-	NCSO
	Ian Matthews	-	Competitor
	Martin Shuttleworth	-	Secretary-General
Apology for absence:	Jim White	-	Discipline Rep: CP

Item Minute

54/05 Minutes

Nigel Holland proposed, and Paul Applegate seconded, a motion that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2005 be approved as a correct record, subject to the alteration, at the request of Steve Saunders, of the sentence starting on line 3 of minute 42.1.5 concerning the CF Grand Prix at BPS Langar on 16-17 July 2005 which read 'Those that had competed had also been participating in a 50-way event over the same weekend.' This was changed to read 'Some did not compete in CF because they were taking part in the 50-way event held during the same weekend.'

Approved

55/05 Matters arising

55.1 Compatability of WADA and UK Sport Anti-Doping Code (minute 41.1)

Correspondence between the Chairman and UK Sport's Director of Drug Free Sport had been circulated. The Chairman said he had reiterated the BPA's support of Drug Free Sport at the last Royal Aero Club Council meeting. The UK Sport Drug Free Sport Code and the World Anti-Doping Agency Code were being harmonised, and everything now appeared to be on an even keel.

55.2 Certificate of Achievement: Paul Rossouw (minute 41.2)

Paul Rossouw could now be awarded his Certificate of Achievement for winning the Silver Medal in the Intermediate category at the 2nd World Cup in Canopy Piloting held earlier this year at Lake Wales, Florida, USA.

Action: BPA Office

55.3 Judges' training in speed skydiving (minute 41.4)

Kate Charters confirmed that Judges' training had taken place at the Speed Skydiving Nationals from 6-8 August 2005.

55.4 Speed Skydiving coaching at Artistic Roadshows (minute 41.6)

Nigel Holland reported that Speed Skydiving coaching had not taken place at any Artistic Roadshows this season.

55.5 Acro Festival: Léman, France, 28-31 July 2005 (minute 41.8)

Geordie Page reported that the UK Classics parachuting team at the Acro Festival had comprised Fran Shaskova, Esther Reynolds, Jeff Chandler and Robin Mills. It had been an excellent event, and the team had won 200 Euros each. Geordie Page said it had been a great shame that there had been no team uniform supplied by the BPA. The Chairman pointed out that this was a competition where all travel and expenses had been paid by the organisers. He therefore did not consider it unreasonable to expect the team to provide their own T-shirts at a cost of about £10 each.

55.6 Possible AGM presentation (minute 41.9)

Andy Scott said that he had heard nothing more and therefore it looked unlikely that Craig Girard would be able to accept the invitation to present a seminar at the AGM.

55.7 Competitions Action Plan: 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 (minute 45)

The Chairman confirmed that the Competitions Action Plan was now being implemented for the year 2005/6. A main goal was identifying and funding those competitors who had demonstrated a realistic prospect of bringing home a medal from the World Parachute Championships by meeting the strict performance criteria for funding.

55.8 Parachuting and the London Olympics 2012 (minute 51)

This was being dealt with by the Council (Council minute 48 refers).

55.9 New Sport England-sponsored website (minute 52)

A link would be put on the BPA website to the new Sport England-sponsored website designed to promote participation in sport. Ian Marshall had called this to the Committee's attention at the last meeting.

Action: BPA Office

56/05 Nationals 2005

56.1 FS Nationals - Target Skysports, Hibaldstow: 30 July-1 August and 6-8 August 2005

Andy Scott reported that 53 teams had taken part, and the meet had been completed on schedule despite weather holds. The majority of competitors had been very satisfied but, unfortunately, a few had not. This was the first time that the FS Nationals had not completed on the first weekend, so the only time the rollover weekend had been put to the test in five years of the weekend format.

The issues that had arisen had centred on certain competitors wishing to be told exactly how the rollover scenario was to run. Andy Scott said he believed the lesson to be learned for the future was the need to set out the rollover arrangements more prescriptively in the rules. In his paper (circulated), he had recommended that it should be clear that 4-way competitors from the first weekend would complete during the second (rollover) weekend. He had written an article on this basis for publication in the October 2005 issue of *Skydive Magazine* and Ian Matthews had written an accompanying article from a competitor's perspective.

After discussion, the Chairman asked Members of the Committee kindly to consider Andy Scott's proposals for more prescriptive rules for the rollover weekend at the FS Nationals next year, so that they could be discussed at the next meeting.

Action: All Committee / Next meeting

The Chairman, on behalf of the whole Committee, congratulated Target Skysports, Hibaldstow; John Hitchen, Meet Director, and the Judging team for running an excellent Nationals which had finished in two weekends notwithstanding weather holds during the first weekend.

The Committee congratulated women's 4-way FS team *Airkix* who had set a new World Record at the Nationals of 30 points in one round. Initial notice of the record had been lodged

with FAI and full support documentation was now being provided within the 120-day period allowed.

Action: BPA Office

56.2 Artistic Nationals - Target Skysports, Hibaldstow: 6-8 August 2005

Nigel Holland reported that the Artistic Nationals had gone well, although there had been fewer teams than last year because despite extensive efforts to avoid clashes of dates, there had been a clash with another, non-BPA, event. The number of teams competing had been: Freestyle A – 4 teams, Freestyle B – 4 teams, Freestyle A – 4 teams (including 1 women's team), Freestyle B – 2 teams, Skysurf A – 1 team, Skysurf B – no teams. The results had not yet been circulated to the Committee, but this would be done shortly. Nigel Holland reported that some competitors had expressed concern about the judges of the A category consulting each other before writing down their scores. The Chairman said that such consultation was an officially recognised and essential stage of the judging procedure for Artistics, and was known as benchmarking. The competitors should have no worries at all about this.

56.3 Speed Skydiving Nationals - Target Skysports, Hibaldstow: 6-8 August 2005

Kate Charters reported that there had been three competitors. Mark Calland had agreed to prepare a training programme for Kate Charters to train more judges.

As Speed Skydiving was not currently an officially recognised FAI/IPC discipline, it was not eligible for funding even though Mark Calland and Clare Murphy were the World Champions in Speed Skydiving. The Chairman asked John Hitchen to lobby for official recognition of Speed Skydiving by the IPC.

Action: John Hitchen

56.4 Classics Nationals – NWPC, Cark: 5-9 September 2005

Geordie Page reported that the Classics Nationals had been poorly attended with 17 male and 3 female competitors. He believed that next year's the Classics Nationals might be better held over a weekend rather than during the week. He thanked NWPC for their hospitality and excellent organisation in hosting the meet, with special thanks to Stuart Morris and his co-owner of NWPC Mike Carruthers, who had been a superb pilot.

56.5 CF Nationals – NWPC, Cark: 5-9 September 2005

Ian Marshall reported that there had been 13 competitors in the CF Nationals, who had jumped for three out of the five days of the meet. He said it would not have been possible to have got so many jumps into a weekend. There had been an exciting jump off in rotations following a tie in round 6. The 2-way had also been a close competition. The 8-way team that had generated emails complaining about the weekday format did not show up at the meet – the Chairman said this had been their loss. There had been a new event judge who had been under a lot of pressure, and Bob Charters as Chief Judge had done an excellent job, as did the team at NWPC. It had been one of the closest and most exciting CF competitions for some time.

57/05 National teams to represent the UK at WPC 2006

57.1 FS

No FS team had met the performance criteria for funding at the Nationals, although the women's National Champion 4-way FS team *Airkix* had missed funding by a score of only 0.3 points. The Committee agreed that a letter of invitation to represent the UK at WPC 2006 on a self-funded basis would be sent to team *Airkix* (Claire Scott, Amanda Kemp, Emma Hammersley, Julia Foxwell and Andy Wright (camera)).

Action : BPA Office

In FS 4-way open, National gold medallists team *Spank* had declined to go to the WPC, so a letter of invitation to represent the UK at WPC 2006 on a self-funded basis would be sent to the silver medallists, the British Army 4-way team (Dave Tyler, Dane Kenny, Alastair Macartney, Aaron Faith and Spencer Hogg (camera)).

Action : BPA Office

In FS 8-way, National gold medallists *VNE* had declined to go to the WPC, so a letter of invitation to represent the UK at WPC 2006 on a self-funded basis would be sent to the silver medallists, team *Whatever* (c/o Ian Hodgkinson at Langar).

Action : BPA Office

57.2 Artistics

Nigel Holland asked how many teams per country could enter for the WPC 2006 in Artistics. John Hitchen said he believed that it was one team per country, from 2006. Nigel Holland said that no teams had met the performance criteria for funding at the Nationals, although National Champion Freestyle team *Freejive* (Tim Porter, Chris Lynch and Rob Silver) had missed funding by a score of only 0.1 points. The Committee agreed that a letter of invitation to represent the UK at WPC 2006 on a self-funded basis would be sent to team *Freejive*.

Action : BPA Office

In Freestyle, National Champion team *Style Jiver* (Tim Porter, Chris Lynch and Rob Silver) would be sent a letter of invitation to represent the UK at WPC 2006 on a self-funded basis.

Action : BPA Office

In Skysurf, National Champion team *Insanely Board* (Rohan Beal and Richard Wiggins (camera)) would be sent a letter of invitation to represent the UK at WPC 2006 on a self-funded basis.

Action : BPA Office

57.3 Classics

A National Style & Accuracy team comprising five men and five women could be entered for the WPC 2006. No competitor had met the performance criteria for funding. There had been only three female competitors in the Classics Nationals 2005 (Katherine Andrewes, Esther Reynolds and Fran Shashkova), and the Committee agreed to send a letter to invite each of them to represent the UK, on a self-funded basis, at the Classics WPC 2006.

Action : BPA Office

For the men's team, the Committee was aware that certain of the top five competitors had indicated that they would not be available to compete in the WPC. The Committee therefore decided to issue an invitation to the top five and a provisional invitation to the next-placed four men's competitors, to represent the UK on a self-funded basis at the Classics WPC 2006. The letter to the 6th to 9th place competitors in the Nationals 2005 would specify that the offer was conditional on a higher-placed competitor declining.

Action : BPA Office

57.4 CF

No CF teams had met the criteria for funding at the Nationals 2005. The Committee agreed that the National Champions in CF 4-way rotations, team *CFUK* (Colin Dixon, Paul Speller, Adam Johnson, Eugene Brennan, Pat Hammond (camera)), should be sent a letter of invitation to represent the UK at WPC 2006 on a self-funded basis.

Action : BPA Office

In CF 4-way sequential, the Committee agreed that the National Champions team *Outcasts* (Steve Saunders, Paul Yeoman, Gordon Mission, Ian Marshall and Eugene Brennan (camera)) should be sent a letter of invitation to represent the UK at WPC 2006 on a self-funded basis.

Action : BPA Office

John Hitchen said it was not yet clear whether or not there would be a CF 2-way or CF 8-way event at WPC 2006. The Committee therefore agreed that provisional letters of invitation to represent the UK on a self-funded basis at the CF WPC 2006, subject to there being an event in the category, be issued to 2-way CF National Champions team *Outcasts* (Steve Saunders, Paul Yeoman, and Ian Marshall (camera)) and 8-way CF National Champions team *CFUK* (Steve Saunders, Paul Yeoman, Gordon Mission, Eugene Brennan, Ian Marshall, Adam Johnson, Paul Speller, Colin Dixon and Pat Hammond (camera)).

Action: BPA Office

57.5 Canopy Piloting (CP)

In the absence of a 2005 Nationals in Canopy Piloting, the Committee had previously agreed that the World Cup in Austria from 24-28 August 2005 would be used for selection. The number of team members in a national team for the WPC 2006 in Canopy Piloting was not yet known – it was believed it might be 4 or 5. The Committee therefore agreed to write to Brian Vacher, Team Captain, to ask him to rank the top 4 or 5 UK competitors from the World Cup who would be willing to represent the UK, on a self-funded basis (except for Paul Rossouw, who had met the performance criteria for funding, see below), at WPC 2006 in Canopy Piloting.

Action: BPA Office

Paul Rossouw had won the Silver Medal in the open category at the CP World Cup in August 2005 and had met the performance criteria for funding. The Committee congratulated him on this achievement. He had sent an email requesting funding for 40 training jumps per month. The Chairman said that the budget for funding competitors who had met the performance criteria to train for WPC 2006 set out in the Competitions Action Plan Matrix was £41.5K maximum. By custom and practice, eligible 4-way teams in the past had been funded up to £30K, which equated to up to about £6K per individual.

Jim White proposed by proxy, and Nigel Holland seconded, a motion originated by Jim White and augmented by the Committee that Paul Rossouw should be funded by the BPA up to a maximum of £6K, to be released in tranches subject to approval by the Competitions Committee of a detailed training plan, a signed funding agreement from him to include, *inter alia*, acknowledgement to the BPA in any media coverage, and official invoices or receipts for authorised expenditure on training jumps. It would be clear that the total funding released could be any amount up to but not exceeding the maximum, and that this would depend in part on the possibility of other calls on funding if any teams in other disciplines achieved the performance criteria for funding at the World Cup in Eloy on 24-29 October 2005.

Carried unanimously

The Chairman would write to Paul Rossouw after ratification of this decision at the Council meeting on 11 October 2005.

Action: Chairman / BPA Office

The Chairman reported that the CP World Cup in Austria from 24-28 August 2005 had used a lake. The competitors had been required to land in deep water. Because of this, there had had to be repacks. Some of the CP team had asked for help from the British Team Fund to pay for the cost of repacks and the cost of repair to Cypres AADs damaged by water. John Hitchen advised the Chairman to speak to Bob Card, who had been the meet director, before coming to a decision on this request.

Action: Chairman

58/05 FS 4-way Grand Prix - PPC, Sibson: 9-11 September 2005

Andy Scott reported that no jumping had taken place because the weather had not been good, and because judge Ruth Cooper had had to pull out. However, there had been an extensive coaching programme that had been thoroughly enjoyed by the competitors.

The Committee congratulated FS intermediate 4-way team *Helix*, who had won the triple crown of the Nationals, the Grand Prix and the European Skydiving League – a splendid achievement. The Committee also thanked Andy Scott and his fellow coaches for their hard work throughout the season.

59/05 Bid form for Nationals, Grand Prix and Skills Coaching Roadshows 2006

A draft bid form, based on last year's but with updated FS dates for 2006 from Andy Scott, had been circulated. This was agreed with a number of variations, and Andy Scott proposed, and Paul Applegate seconded, a motion that the bid form should be issued to all UK Clubs & Centres with a callback for completed bids of no later than noon on Tuesday 1 November 2005. The next meeting, which would choose the successful bids, would be held on that evening.

Carried unanimously - Action: BPA Office

60/05 International competitions

60.1 European Skydiving League

Andy Scott reported that the UK delegation to the ESL finals weekend at Spa in Belgium over the weekend 2-4 September 2005 had comprised six 4-way FS teams. In all, 28 teams from 6 countries had taken part. In the triple A (senior) category, team *Optic* (who had been last year's ESL single A (intermediate) champions) had put in a very creditable performance to come fifth and they had been pleased with their average score of 11 in their first season as seniors. In the single A (intermediate) category, our three teams – *Helix*, *Damn Zebra* and *Evolution* - came first, second and third: and in the rookie (junior) category, our two teams – *Escondido* and *D4* – had come first and second. The Committee congratulated all our teams on their performances.

At a meeting with competitors, there were strong indications that next year ESL might be likely to adopt more UK practice. Our intermediates and juniors had outstripped their categories, so ESL was considering the introduction of an additional category of double A, to come between single A (the present intermediate) and triple A (senior). Andy Scott said he would discuss this with competitors and the membership, and expected the issues would generate much interest on the afternoon of the AGM. He was much encouraged because ESL was getting better and better and our teams were playing a significant part in this. The date of the ESL finals in 2006 had yet to be decided.

The Chairman thanked Andy Scott for his great enthusiasm and energy which had helped the UK to play such a leading part in ESL, and which boded so well for the future.

60.2 World Cup - Eloy, Arizona, USA, 21-29 October 2005

The UK delegation, which was mainly FS but with one Artistics team, *Tumbleweed*, had now been registered by the office - all were self-funded. Nigel Holland said he hoped that National Champions Tim Porter, Chris Lynch and Rob Silver would register as late entries in Artistics. The Chairman said that there would be no Head of Delegation on this occasion.

Andy Scott proposed, and Nigel Holland seconded, a motion that the BPA should supply T-shirts to be worn during the opening ceremony for the UK delegation to the World Cup 2005 in Eloy, the cost to be covered by the British Team Fund. The design would be adapted from the successful design for the UK delegation to ESL.

Carried unanimously - Action: Andy Scott

60.3 World Parachuting Championships 2006

The Committee noted that the World Parachuting Championships 2006 would be held on different dates during August 2006, in three different countries, as follows:

- FS and Artistic - Gera, Germany: 6-11 August 2006
- CF and Classics - Stupino, Russia: 12-20 August 2006
- Canopy Piloting - Stubenberg, Austria: 23-27 August 2006.

61/05 Skills Coaching Roadshows for Juniors and Intermediates

The Chairman reported that the Skills Coaching Roadshows were on budget, with a total expenditure of just over £5K. Andy Scott thanked the coaches who gave so freely of their time to BPA Coaching Roadshows, a point he said was not always recognised by competitors. Ian Matthews noted that much coaching was now being done at competitions, but said that competitors liked stand-alone coaching Roadshows too. Andy Scott said he would reconsider for next season the balance between stand-alone Roadshows and Roadshows at competitions.

62/05 Judging matters

62.1 FAI judges

A discussion took place about current UK-registered FAI judges. The usual annual return to FAI/IPC would be submitted by the Judges Co-ordinator, through the BPA Office, in December.

Action: Kate Charters / BPA Office

62.2 Competitions equipment co-ordinator

A letter from Frank Mallabone had been circulated in which he had resigned as Competitions Equipment Co-ordinator. John Page said that what Frank Mallabone had said about the reason for the cancellation of the Classics Grand Prix at St Andrews on 9-10 July 2005 had been true – it was because no competitors would have been there, not because of problems in transporting the tuffet to or from the host centre. Geordie Page said that the accuracy tuffet would be stored at UK Parachuting in Norfolk for the winter, and that Frank Mallabone planned to return the rest of the competitions equipment he held to the BPA Office. After discussion, John Page said he would speak with Frank Mallabone at the Classics Grand Prix to be held at UK Parachuting on 24-25 September, and report back to the next meeting.

Action: Geordie Page

62.3 Bob Soutar

Kate Charters reported that Bob Soutar, a BPA judge, has a physical disability and some issues had arisen in connection with his work as a judge. The Committee agreed that the

Chairman should write a letter to Bob Soutar to suggest a way forward. Pursuant to minute 47.2.1, the Chairman would also rely to a question Bob Soutar had asked about expenses.

Action: Chairman

62.4 CP National Judges' Certificates

Kate Charters requested, and the Committee agreed, that National Judges' Certificates for Canopy Piloting should be available from this year. She confirmed that there was a body of water at RAPA that complied with FAI/IPC requirements for Canopy Piloting competitions.

Agreed

62.5 UK FAI Judges expenses to a World Cup

Bob Charters said he had paid his own expenses to go as an invited judge to the World Cup 2005 in Eloy. However, he recalled that the Competitions Committee had some years ago agreed that the BPA would fund the travel costs of judges invited to World Cups. The Chairman asked the Office to try to find the relevant item in the back minutes.

Action: BPA Office

63/05 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 1 November 2005 at 1830 at the BPA Office, 5 Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester LE2 9TF.

The meeting closed at 2150.