

British Parachute Association

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Competitions Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on

Tuesday 6 September 2006 at 1810

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

Present:	John Smyth	-	Competitions Chairman
	Ian Marshall	-	Discipline Rep: CF (from item 46)
	John Page	-	Discipline Rep: Classics
	Grant Richards	-	Discipline Rep: CP
	Elizabeth Stoodley	-	Discipline Rep: AE
In attendance:	John Hitchen	-	NCSO
	Martin Shuttleworth	-	Secretary-General
Apologies for absence:	Paul Applegate	-	
	Kate Charters	-	Judges' Co-ordinator
	Andy Scott	-	Discipline Rep: FS

Item Minute

44/06 Minutes

John Page proposed, and Elizabeth Stoodley seconded, a motion that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 July 2006 be approved as a correct record.

Approved

45/06 Matters arising

45.1 Sale of accuracy tuffet and trailer (minute 34.1)

John Page clarified the price of an air blower for an inflatable tuffet. This was £200-£250 for an electric blower, and about £350 for a petrol-operated blower.

45.2 Update of anti-doping code and rules (minute 34.6)

The BPA's anti-doping rules were being updated at the request of UK Sport to meet UK Sport's revised requirements, which now harmonised with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) code.

Action: BPA Office

45.3 Trophies (minute 34.7)

John Page confirmed that he planned to carry out a review of BPA competition trophies.

Action: John Page

The Chairman reported that Kate and Bob Charters had kindly offered to donate a trophy for the rookie class in next year's 4-way FS. Andy Scott had asked, in his paper to the Committee, for the BPA to purchase a shield for the new 4-way FS A Class, to match the shield awarded to the other classes, to be presented at the AGM. The Chairman deferred further discussion until the next meeting, when Kate Charters and Andy Scott would be present.

Action: Next meeting

45.4 Computer / audio visual equipment for judging (minute 35.3)

This was deferred for consideration at the next meeting.

Action: Next meeting

45.5 FS World Cup 2007 (minute 36)

John Hitchen said he understood it was planned that up to 4 teams per nation would be eligible to compete. However, confirmation would not be available until the IPC meeting in January 2007.

45.6 Judging issues raised by Sue Skull (minute 39)

Elizabeth Stoodley reported that blank score sheets for Artistics had been obtained from the World Meet. She said that a letter from Kate Charters to host DZs about computer and audio-visual equipment for judging (minute 45.4) would help to address the concerns that Sue Skull had raised. Elizabeth Stoodley would continue to liaise with Kate Charters on judging matters in her capacity as Artistics Discipline Rep.

45.7 Magazine article on the Airkix Fund (minute 40)

The proposal for an Airkix Fund for skydiving was being progressed by the Development Committee.

46/06 Nationals and Grand Prix 2006

46.1 Grand Prix

The Chairman said that a round up of all Grand Prix held since 11 July would be a main agenda item for the next meeting.

Action: Next meeting

46.2 FS, Artistics and Speed Nationals

The Chairman reported that the FS Nationals, held at Target Skysports, Hibaldstow, on the long weekends of 19-21 and 26-28 August 2006, had been a resounding success. 48 FS teams had entered on an off year. The Chairman had been present at the start of the 4-way to make an opening speech and thank everyone for competing. John Hitchen had been the Meet Director for the second weekend which had comprised the FS 8-way and Artistic and Speed Nationals. There had been a hiccup in the prize-giving for Artistics about the allocation of British and Open medals when it had been misinterpreted that the top open (ie, non-British) team got a gold – this had been wrong, the top open team took whatever medals they were placed to receive, in this case an open team came second so their medal was a silver. The Chairman said that there was only one set of medals, for first (gold), second (silver) and third (bronze) place. If a team was British, their medal would be a British National medal. If a team was an open team, their medal would be a British Open medal. Each medal (gold, silver or bronze) could be awarded only once for each event, to a British or an Open team as appropriate. The Committee noted that the wording about this in the rules could be written more clearly, and agreed to do this in next year's rules.

Action: Rules meeting, February 2007

John Hitchen emphasised that the rules on the award of medals could be changed if the Committee so wished. But the above was the position as of now.

Elizabeth Stoodley (Artistics Rep) reported that 23 teams had taken part in the Artistics Nationals, including 4 each in the senior category of Freely A and Freestyle A. The feedback had been generally positive, and it had been good to see some new competitors. The compulsory round in the B category had been warmly welcomed, because it had given a focus for competitors who were learning and developing their skills. In fact, it had proved to be so popular that competitors had asked for a second set of compulsories to be introduced to the B category next year.

Action: Rules meeting, February 2007

The weather had been unsettled during both weekends and the completion of the meets on time had been due to a very impressive organisational and manifesting performance by Target Skysports. The Chairman reminded the Committee that the British FS Nationals were the second largest FS nationals in the world. The Chairman said he would write to thank Target Skysports.

Action: Chairman

47.1 FS and Artistic - Gera, Germany: 6-11 August 2006

The Chairman, who had been Head of Delegation, reported that he had circulated a briefing note to the full Council. Team Airkix were World Champions in women's FS 4-way. This had been an exceptional performance from a team that had been together for just two years – and the team had subsequently won the British National Championships in the open (open to male and female) category, outperforming the best British male teams. Everyone on the British delegation in Gera had had a great spirit and this had been a memorable event for all who had taken part. The delegation had been good-humoured and had been excellent ambassadors for the UK. Ruth Cooper, Karla Cole and Bob Charters had all been judges. Sue Skill had been on the judges' seminar and had earned her ratings as an FAI International Judge in Artistics. The good vibrations throughout the delegation had more than made up for the atrocious weather. The Chairman thanked Andy Scott, Delegation Manager, and said that a full report would appear in *Skydive Magazine*. He also thanked Council Members John Horne and Paul Moore who had taken the trouble to visit the delegation in Gera, which had been greatly appreciated.

The Chairman referred to an e-mailed suggestion (circulated) that Team Airkix might be nominated for the Sports Team of the Year, being one of the categories of the BBC's *Sports Personality of the Year* television programme to be aired in December 2006. The Committee unanimously supported the team's nomination. However, the Office had been unable to find any details of how to make a nomination, and was not sure if this might be because the closing date had already passed. The Office would therefore write to BBC Sport to clarify the position.

Action: BPA Office

The Chairman said that he was delighted to report that Pete Allum, who had represented Italy at WPC Gera 2006, had won a Bronze Medal in 4-way FS. Pete Allum had competed in WPCs for around 20 years, previously for Britain, and he had made a tremendous contribution to the sport over a sustained period of time. This was his first WPC medal, so very well earned, and the Committee warmly congratulated him.

47.2 CF and Classics - Stupino, Russia: 12-20 August 2006

John Page, Delegation Manager, reported that the delegation's departure date for Stupino had coincided with a terrorist alert that had affected air travel from all UK international airports. Flights had therefore had to be re-scheduled, and refunds on the original cancelled flights were due. Competitor Nick Johnston had unfortunately not been in a position to re-schedule his flight and he had not therefore competed as planned.

John Page said that John Hitchen, who had been Head of Delegation, had done a splendid job and, even though he had not attended in an official IPC capacity, it had been extremely helpful to have our IPC Delegate leading our delegation. The results of the competition had been circulated. Our accuracy competitors had achieved better scores than had been seen for a long time.

Our CF 8-way team had performed very well, and had achieved every formation except the final one, and in one round had outscored the USA. They had won the bronze medal. Ian Marshall said that there had been no wraps or cutaways.

John Hitchen thanked all delegation members for their spirit and camaraderie, and for their determination to overcome the travel difficulties at the start of their trip.

John Page asked the Office to send a letter to British Airways seeking recognition of parachuting kit as sports equipment, as it did not currently feature on the list of sports equipment on BA's website. He understood that such recognition would allow an additional bag of the same weight as the normal luggage limit for sports equipment in the hold, although this may have changed as a result of the new rules introduced as a result of the recent terrorist alert.

Action: BPA Office

Ian Marshall said that the letters and e-mails (circulated) from CF competitors at the WPC had proven that the Head of Delegation and Team Manager come into their own when there were

problems, such as the travel disruption from the UK because of the terrorist alert and the consequent late arrival in Stupino. He said that the competition results did not really do justice to the British CF team, to which he paid tribute, and he outlined a number of points about the rules concerning the size of canopies and wing loadings.

The organisation of the WPC in Stupino had been incredibly good and the DZ had been well run. The British delegation had conducted itself well and had received pats on the back from other nations. John Page said that he was in the process of preparing a written report on the meet.

47.3 Canopy Piloting – Vienna, Austria: 23-27 August 2006

The Chairman, who had been Head of Delegation, and Grant Richards, Delegation Manager, reported that the first World Championships in Canopy Piloting had been part of a bigger public *Skyday 06* event that had been driven by media coverage. The Canopy Piloting Championship had been something of a side-show whose timetable had been determined by the needs of the media, which had included holds in good weather to fit the media timetable. All rounds had been completed, with an average of over 15,000 spectators over the 7 days of the event. The body of water used for the competition had been an incredible feat of engineering as it had not been sunk into the ground, but built upwards. The topographical conditions had been extremely challenging, with the landing area in a public park with a 150m tower. The jury had been kept busy with some 30-40 protests, many stemming from high winds that had not been catered for in the rules. The British delegation had conducted itself well, and Paul Rossouw (who had been funded by the BPA) had won a bronze medal in the accuracy event. Michael Holmes had come fourth in the speed event. The 'new' competitors in the British delegation had done well, and the Chairman said he had been proud of the whole team's approach to the challenging conditions, with several of their performances wind-affected.

Congratulations were also due to Kate Charters, who had earned her FAI International Judges' rating in Canopy Piloting, so becoming the first Canopy Piloting judge in the UK. The Chairman said it had been a good meet, although Vienna at the height of the tourist season had proved to be a very expensive venue. The late announcement of the recommended hotel, subsequent to publication of the Bulletin, had resulted in the delegation being split between two hotels, which had not been ideal.

The Chairman reported that Paul Rossouw had had to go back to his university studies immediately after the WPC and had therefore been unable for the time being to offer himself as a coach at BPA Skills Coaching Roadshows in Canopy Piloting. His position was made more difficult because if he travelled outside the USA on too many occasions, he might find it difficult to return – he needed a letter from the BPA to ensure that he could compete at the WPC in Vienna. Paul Rossouw had, however, offered to coach any British CP jumpers who were able to go to his DZ in the USA. He had also told the Chairman that, following completion of his studies, he planned to come to in the UK and would then be in a position to coach Canopy Piloting Roadshows. The Committee was grateful for this explanation.

47.4 WPC 2006 general

The Chairman said that the lesson learned from this year's WPC meets was that the BPA should always endeavour to field professional delegations in all disciplines, including wherever possible, both a Head of Delegation and a Delegation Manager. The Chairman said that he had personal experience in the past of the extreme pressure that performing both roles put on one individual. This year, having two delegation officials had time after time proven to be invaluable, especially when there were urgent and important issues that needed to be looked after on behalf of the delegation, as so often there turned out to be, however good the advance planning and preparation might have been.

In summary, the Chairman thanked all of the athletes and their supporters and helpers who had been part of the British delegations at the three WPC meets this year, and to the Members of the Competitions Committee who had helped to co-ordinate and manage the delegations. He said that overall, in all disciplines, this year had been an outstanding success for British skydiving. All BPA-funded athletes – Team Airkix in FS and Paul Rossouw in Canopy Piloting – had brought home medals, proving beyond doubt that BPA funding was an excellent investment. We had even won an unfounded medal, in Canopy Formations, too.

48/06 European Skydiving League Finals: Spa, Belgium, 7-10 September 2006

Andy Scott reported in a note (circulated) that the ESL Finals in Spa, Belgium was due to start with the draw on Thursday evening 7 September, followed by the competition from Friday to Sunday. The judges planned to use the Danish version of Omniskore, and Andy Scott had asked Liz Warner to let Kate Charters know how it had performed to see if it might be suitable to use for the FS Nationals in future. The UK had eight teams and one judge at this year's ESL Finals.

Andy Scott reported that members of the ESL delegation had received a T-shirt complete with GB team logo and BPA logo as had the 2005 squad. He had obtained a number of quotations (spreadsheet circulated) for supplying the T-shirt and had selected Sportsprint at a cost of £466.50 + VAT for 45 T-shirts. Ian Marshall proposed, and Grant Richards seconded, a motion that the British Team Fund should meet the cost of these T-shirts.

Carried unanimously

49/06 British delegation uniform

This led to a discussion about team uniform for British delegations to international meets. John Page then proposed, and Ian Marshall seconded, a motion that in future, the Committee should consider providing an item of clothing such as perhaps a polo shirt, that would serve as a uniform item for the whole British delegation, and not just the FS delegation.

Carried unanimously

John Page said he believed that other competitors representing Britain at international events should receive an official uniform from the BPA. He cited as an example Glenn Stephenson who represented the UK in Classics in the Europa Cup. The Committee agreed. John Page therefore proposed, and Ian Marshall seconded, a motion to send Glenn Stephenson a cheque for £10 from the British Team Fund as a contribution towards the cost of a customised T-shirt.

Carried unanimously

Elizabeth Stoodley suggested that it would be more economical if the BPA were to bulk purchase a standard design of T-shirt for our international competitors, rather than continue to have small, and therefore more expensive, runs of customised designs for each particular meet. John Smyth said that the culture of international delegations was such that the T-shirt, or other item of uniform, was always unique to the event and was personalised as such. A standard, all-purpose, design of a T-shirt for British delegations to international meets simply would not be worn by the competitors.

There followed further discussion on British team uniform. John Page was concerned that competitors in international FS events, such as ESL, appeared to be receiving T-shirts from the BPA whereas our Classics competitors attending European or other international Classics events did not. The Chairman pointed out that the British Team Fund, which covered the cost of British delegation uniforms, had been built up largely from a levy of £1 per jump at the Nationals and that, since FS was the discipline that attracted the greatest number of competitors at the Nationals, the single greatest contribution by discipline to the British Team Fund was by FS competitors. It was not therefore unreasonable that FS, as a discipline, should make the greatest call on the Fund. John Page was concerned that this might imply bias: the Chairman assured him this was not the case. The Committee would continue to look at each event on its own merits. The Chairman reminded John Page that the Chairman did not vote on such matters (except for the casting vote if there was a tie) and that decisions on delegation uniforms were taken democratically by the whole Committee.

50/06 World Cup 2007

The World Cup 2007 in FS, Artistic and Accuracy would take place in Stupino, Russia, from 4-12 August 2007. John Page said he would prepare a briefing note on how to apply for a Russian visa, which might form the basis for an article for the Magazine or the BPA website. In discussion, the Committee noted that care might need to be taken in publishing any such article in the public domain, particularly if it contained informal advice or 'tips' on how to apply for a visa that might vary from the official advice published by the Russian Consulate. However, there was no reason why informal advice should not be supplied in writing to members of the British delegation who would be travelling to Stupino for the World Cup 2007, to use at their own risk.

Action: John Page

The Committee noted that the World Cup 2007 in Canopy Piloting was due to be held in Sydney, Australia, from 7-11 November 2007.

The composition of the British delegation to WPC 2007 would be considered at the next meeting, although it was noted that the number of teams eligible to enter from each nation would not be officially confirmed until after the IPC meeting in January 2007 (minute 45.5).

Action: Next meeting

51/06 European Classics Championships

John Page reported that IPC had accepted a bid for the European Classics Championships 2007 to take place in Croatia. It might also include CF.

52/06 IPC meeting 2007

The Chairman reported that judge Karla Cole had asked to attend as the annual IPC plenary meeting in Florence, Italy, on 24-28 January 2007, on a self-funded basis, as an observer. After discussion, John Page proposed, and Grant Richards seconded, a motion that the Committee approved of any judge who wished to attend the 2007 IPC meeting as an observer and was prepared to pay their own way.

Carried unanimously

The Chairman advised that observers would not have access to the closed sessions at the IPC meeting.

The Committee asked the office to request payment to the BPA from Karla Cole, and then to include her name as an official observer on the IPC registration form, and to remit her registration fee along with the UK Delegate and Alternate Delegate's fees.

Action: BPA Office

53/06 Consideration of bids received for the Canopy Piloting and Classics Nationals 2007

Bid forms for the first Canopy Piloting Nationals in 2007, and for the Classics Nationals 2007, had been issued (minute 34.2) with a call-back date of Monday 4 September.

53.1 Canopy Piloting Nationals 2007

Grant Richards reported that the draft rules issued with the bid form had listed the events as zone accuracy, distance and speed, but at the WPC there had in addition been an overall winner of the combined events and he believed that this should also be included in the Nationals.

Action: Rules meeting, February 2007

The Chairman said that prior to what would be the first British National Open Championships in Canopy Piloting, a one or two day seminar should be held on how to approach the different CP events, to include practice jumping. The seminar should be run by one or more of the British team. There should, within the seminar, be an assessment jump which would be a qualifier to demonstrate the level of competence and skills in canopy piloting to be eligible to enter the 2007 Nationals. Jumpers who were deemed not yet competent would be advised to undertake further training and development ahead of next year's qualifiers, and would not be eligible to enter the 2007 CP Nationals.

The Chairman said that specialist equipment was required to run a CP competition, and that 'Renee' of Empuriabrava had kindly offered to help – if he was available he would assist in setting up the course.

Two bids (tabled) had been received to host the CP Nationals 2007, from JSPC(L)/RAPA Bad Lippspringe, Germany, and Black Knights Parachute Centre (BKPC) in Cockerham, Cumbria. However, the Office reported that the BKPC bid had not been received until today, as BKPC had worked to the usual return deadline of the day of the meeting rather than the two days' earlier deadline that had been specified on this occasion. The Committee agreed, without creating a precedent, to treat the BKPC bid as eligible for consideration on this occasion.

The Committee compared the RAPA and BKPC bids in respect of cost, facilities, aircraft and location. After discussion, the Chairman called for a vote, which was as follows:

BKPC – 2, RAPA - 2

It therefore fell to the Chairman to make a casting vote. The Chairman said that both bids were strong contenders but that, having listened carefully to the discussion, he would cast his vote for RAPA on the grounds that they had previous experience of running CP competitions.

Carried – JSPC(L)/RAPA to host first CP Nationals in 2007

The Chairman thanked BKPC for bidding, and hoped that, using the body of water they potentially had available, they would play a full part in Skills Coaching Roadshows for Canopy Piloting such as the Pre-Nationals Training and Selection event. He asked Grant Richards (CP Discipline Rep) kindly to liaise with BKPC to arrange a suitable programme.

Action: Grant Richards

53.2 Classics Nationals 2007

Three bids (tabled) had been received to host the Classics Nationals 2007, from BKPC, JSPC (L)/RAPA, and NWPC Cark.

BKPC had bid only to host a combined meet with the CP Nationals. As the CP Nationals were to be held at JSPC(L)/RAPA (minute 52.1), the BKPC bid was not considered further, leaving the two bids from NWPC Cark and JSPC(L)/RAPA on the table. The Committee now evaluated these bids in respect of cost, facilities, aircraft and location. The Committee noted that NWPC Cark had not listed arrangements for backup aircraft.

John Page (Classics Discipline Rep) said that he would prefer to find an event with which to couple the Classics. The Chairman agreed, saying that it may be worth trying to get some cross-fertilization of media interest from Canopy Piloting to the Classics. The Chairman then called for a vote, which was:

RAPA – 4, NWPC Cark – 0

Carried – JSPC(L)/RAPA to host the Classics Nationals in 2007

The Chairman thanked all three Centres for bidding, and asked the Office to advise the dates of the Classics and CP Nationals to *Skydive Magazine*, and to liaise with the Centres that had put in bids to advise them of the Committee's decisions on the bids and the reasons behind them.

Action: BPA Office

54/06 Bid form for other Nationals and Grand Prix 2007

A draft bid form for the other Nationals and Grand Prix 2007 had been circulated. The Committee made a number of clarifications to the wording. Andy Scott had circulated some suggested dates for FS competitions, but some of these clashed with the dates of the just-arranged CP and Classics Nationals (minute 53). The Committee therefore asked Andy Scott kindly to revise the suggested dates for FS for inclusion in the bid form, following which the Office would issue the form. The call back date for completed forms would be noon on the date of the next meeting, Tuesday 24 October 2006.

Action: Andy Scott / BPA Office

55/06 Speed Skydiving Discipline Rep

The Committee noted an e-mail (circulated) from Mark Calland, who had not been active as Discipline Rep for Speed Skydiving following a road traffic accident that had prevented him from jumping. He had recently offered to continue in the capacity of Discipline Rep for Speed Skydiving and the Committee unanimously invited him to do so and looked forward to welcoming him back as a co-opted non-voting member of this Committee.

Resolved

56/06 Skills Coaching Roadshows for non-senior teams

The Chairman said that the Skills Coaching Roadshow programme for non-seniors had enjoyed another successful year. A Canopy Piloting Roadshow was due to take place at UK Parachuting, Norfolk, in two weeks' time, with Mark Bayada and Deane 'Smudge' Smith as coaches.

Ian Marshall reported that a CF Roadshow had been held at Langar last weekend, but strong winds had restricted it to ground briefings and videos. Three local jumpers had been coached on how to become CF coaches. Ian Marshall said that no expenses would be claimed.

Elizabeth Stoodley reported that two Artistics Roadshows had been held since the last meeting. One had been at Langar, coached by Tim Porter, at which the weather had been poor, and the second had been at NWPC Cark, as part of its 'Cark Week' which had helped to ensure good attendance as the Collegiates had been there.

The Chairman asked that an update on the costs of the Skills Coaching Roadshow programme for the financial year to date should be considered at the next meeting, and he asked John Gretton kindly to supply the Committee with the figures on expenditure on the Roadshows.

Action: Jon Gretton / Next meeting

Andy Scott in his notes for the meeting (circulated) had suggested that the Committee might provide customised 'coach' T-shirts to help to identify coaches at Grand Prix and Roadshows. However, reservations were expressed from around the table because the pool of coaches was constantly changing. The alternative suggestion of a cap or armband was made, and there was some sympathy with the view expressed in a note from Paul Applegate (circulated) that jumpers who had attended the initial briefing would know who the coaches were – Elizabeth Stoodley said there was no need for a coach's T-shirt at Artistics events, although the Committee accepted it may well not be as straightforward easily to identify coaches at a busy FS meet.

No proposal for coaches T-shirts was forthcoming, so it would be up to Andy Scott to present the case in person at the next meeting if he wished to pursue it.

57/06 Elite coaching for National Champions

The Chairman said that elite coaching for National Champions in all disciplines was part of the current year's Competitions Action Plan Matrix. National Champions could apply for BPA support to contribute towards the cost of coaching by top international coaches. The funding was not, however, to be used for jumps, even for jumps by the coaches, for tunnel training time, or for travelling or accommodation, etc. National Champions should identify a coach of appropriate international standing, and obtain a quotation for coaching from him or her, which would normally be expressed as a daily rate for a predetermined number of days' coaching as set out in a timetabled training plan. The application should include the coach's bank account details, because the BPA funding would be paid direct to the coach. All of this could be fitted onto one side of A4.

The Chairman said that the purpose of this funding for elite coaching was to encourage our National Champions to develop their skills still further, and to encourage them back to the following year's Nationals, and to transfer their skills by coaching up-and-coming non-seniors at Skills Coaching Roadshows (minute 55). The amount of funding available for elite coaching would depend on the number of National Champion teams or individuals (for the Classics) who applied. If the National Champions in any discipline did not wish to apply for such funding, the opportunity would cascade to the second placed team, and so on. The training had to take place during the period of the current Action Plan, before 30 June 2007. In a previous year, the 8-way FS team VNE had benefited from such funding, where the BPA had paid a percentage of the fees of a top international coach.

On a point of clarification for the Classics, the Chairman said that the individuals eligible to apply for funding for elite coaching were the top five men and top five women from the selection Nationals, not the top team in the Classics team event.

Elizabeth Stoodley asked about the Freestyle Artistics team Tumbleweed, in which the performer Deb Clarke had unfortunately been unable to compete because she had broken her leg. Had she been able to compete, Tumbleweed would have been likely to have become Female National Champions (although there were not a separate open and female categories in the Nationals, as there were at the WPC). The Chairman said that, depending on Deb Clarke's recovery from the injury, on which he wished her well, there remained the possibility that next year's Committee could be asked to consider an application from Tumbleweed for funding for elite coaching, although he could not guarantee the outcome.

58/06 Judging matters

The Chairman reported that Kate Charters, Judges' Co-ordinator, had prepared three documents to be tabled at tonight's meeting but they had been received in a program that the BPA computer system had been unfortunately unable to read. The Chairman had therefore spoken by telephone to Kate Charters before the meeting, and had reported the points she had made in various items of business during the course of the meeting.

58.1 Artistics

Elizabeth Stoodley reported that, in view of the time required to judge the Artistics disciplines, Sue Skull had asked for a helper at the Nationals next year. The Chairman said that Sue Skull was now an FAI International judge and was welcome to make a written representation to the Committee on this matter through the Judges' Co-ordinator or the Artistics Discipline Rep.

58.2 CF

Ian Marshall expressed concerns at the disparity of judging between the individual judges at the WPC, which he said was the most pronounced disparity in CF judging that he had ever encountered. It had also been apparent at this year's CF Nationals that the UK CF judges would benefit from further training. Ian Marshall emphasised that it would be necessary to obtain copies of the video discs from the WPC with the score sheets for training purposes – without the score sheets, the discs alone would be useless for training. John Hitchen said that the IPC Judges' Committee would publish a report with a video or disc, and that it would be made available only to certain people. As an FAI judge and UK Judges' Co-ordinator, responsible for training our National judges, Kate Charters would be eligible to apply for a copy. The Chairman said that these matters should be referred to Kate Charters for consideration at the next meeting.

Action: Next meeting

59/06 Criteria for British records

Elizabeth Stoodley asked for guidance on the criteria for British records because a Freely jumper was planning a British record attempt. She said she had eventually received outline information from Kate Charters but needed further clarification. The Chairman said that British records were not within the terms of reference of the Competitions Committee, although such records were not infrequently set at competitions. The Chairman said that a British record claim needed to be verified by the CCI together, ideally, with a video or photographic record. British record claims would stand until they were broken, and often the only way of establishing such a record for certain was to publish it in the Magazine and see whether any claims of having broken that record were received.

After further discussion, the Chairman clarified to Elizabeth Stoodley the difference between British record attempts and World record attempts. World record attempts had different, more rigorous, criteria set by the FAI.

60/06 Royal Aero Club Awards 2006

The Committee discussed possible nominations for the Royal Aero Club awards 2006. At the last Council meeting, the Chairman had requested all Council members to let him know of any suggested nominees by the date of the next Council meeting, on Tuesday 10 October.

61/06 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 24 October 2006 at 1800 at the BPA Office, Glen Parva, Leicester. Grant Richards tendered his apologies for absence.

The meeting closed at 2200.