

British Parachute Association

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Competitions Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on

Wednesday 15 October 2008 at 1810

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

Present:	Andy Scott	-	Chairman
	Paul Applegate		
	Weed Stoodley	-	Discipline Rep: AE / VFS
	Alex Wilson	-	Discipline Rep: CP
In attendance:	Kate Charters	-	Judges' Co-ordinator
	John Hitchen	-	NCSO
	Chris Hollis	-	Discipline Rep: FS
	Martin Shuttleworth	-	Secretary-General
Observers:	Tarnya Hollis		
	Alberto Fuertes		
	James Swallow		
Apologies for absence:	Ian Marshall	-	Discipline Rep: CF
	Paul Moore	-	Vice Chairman and Discipline Rep: Classics
	Clare Murphy	-	Discipline Rep: Speed Skydiving

Item Minute

81/08 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 3 September 2008 had been ratified by the full Council at its meeting on Tuesday 7 October 2008 (Council minute 79.14), and published on the BPA website.

Already ratified by the Council

82/08 Matters arising from the minutes

82.1 Budget (minute 71.1)

Good progress had been made in obtaining up-to-date and timely budget information on a regular basis, with the Office providing meeting-by-meeting updates to the Chairman.

82.2 Update of anti-doping code and rules (minute 71.2)

The Office reported that UK Sport appeared to be concentrating its Anti-Doping support to NGBs of Olympic Sports. It appeared that UK Sport no longer provided Therapeutic Use Exemption forms for non-Olympic sports such as skydiving. The Committee asked the Office to discuss the position vis-à-vis UK Sport's Anti-Doping support for the BPA, and also to write to FAI to seek clarification of its anti-doping requirements.

Action: BPA Office

82.3 In-competition records (minute 71.3)

Alex Wilson (CP Rep) still had an in-competition CP record to sign off. The Office would provide him with the relevant paperwork.

Action: BPA Office & Alex Wilson

82.4 Current judges (minute 71.4)

The updated list of judges had been circulated. The Chairman asked that the names of any qualified judges who were not currently active (because of illness or family commitments, etc), should be included on the list, with an appropriate note about their present unavailability.

Action: Kate Charters / BPA Office

82.5 Insurance of Pro-Tracks for the Speed Skydiving Nationals (minute 71.7)

The Office was awaiting a photograph of the Pro-Tracks to pass to the insurers.

Action: Clare Murphy

82.6 Coaching support to champion teams (minute 71.8)

The Chairman was pleased to confirm that the funds for the Honda bursary had been received. The Chairman again thanked Phil Curtis for kindly arranging the bursary. He confirmed that the bursary would be used for coaching support, and that he had explained the terms of the bursary – that it would be to fund coaching only - to the teams concerned.

82.7 Press and public relations (minute 71.8)

The Communications Committee was including arrangements for press and public relations in the Editorial Services Contract tender specification that it was currently formulating.

82.8 Modification of Accuracy scoring pads (minute 71.12)

Kate Charters said she would consult with some 'electronically-minded' people about this. The Committee put possible modification of the scoring pads from 3cm to 2cm on hold whilst she did so.

Action: Kate Charters

82.9 Competitions judging equipment checklist (minute 71.13)

This would be issued, with acceptance of bids, to Centres hosting Nationals or Grand Prix next year (minute 85).

82.10 RAeC award nominations (minute 78)

The Committee considered how to obtain information for the citations of nominees from the competitions area.

82.11 Post-scoring video of rounds from the FS & Artistics Nationals 2008 (minute 79)

Kate Charters reported that this footage was available for training purposes, and that she would pass it to Weed Stoodley in turn to pass on to the Artistics competitors who had requested it. The footage originated from the Cametrix system and Kate Charters was not sure whether there might be any technical compatibility issues in playing it on different users' computer systems.

Action: Kate Charters

83/08 Budget

The Chairman reported on expenditure to date against budget. All expenditure had been within budget.

84/08 Domestic competitions 2008 season

84.1 8-way Speed Nationals - Target Skysports, Hibaldstow: 27-28 September 2008

Two teams had competed over 6 rounds. The competition had gone well.

84.2 CF Nationals -Target Skysports, Hibaldstow, 27-29 September 2008

The Chairman reported that there had been some confusion among competitors (a letter from team CFUK had been circulated) about whether this had been a 2 day or a 3 day event. He said that, last year, competitors had asked for a 3-day event and the meet had been organised on this basis. The BPA web site and the Mag had incorrectly listed it as over 2 days, and 2 days (Sat and Sun) had been left, in error, in the body of the rules but with the correct dates shown on the front cover and in the body of the rules. However, at the judges' briefing at the start of the competition on the Friday, it had been made clear that it was a 3-day meet due to these published contradictions. All team leaders are required within the rules to attend the Team Leaders meeting.

The Chairman said he understood the concerns some competitors had raised. With 10 jumps to complete, judge Bob Charters had called for lifts on the Monday morning. If teams had not been present, they had been scored zero. There had been one jumper who had been jumping in every team. The Chairman said it had been sad that no senior teams had remained at the competition for the prize giving on the Monday. The Committee confirmed the results as posted, and that the CF Nationals 2009 would again be a 3-day meet.

The Chairman summarised the situation as a collective failure to identify the discrepancy of dates and days within publications. The Chairman thought the failure to spot this was by all

parties who create, validate, implement and adhere to these rules as no single observation had been made to this discrepancy.

84.3 Accuracy Grand Prix, Black Knights PC , 13-14 September 2008

Kate Charters reported that all rounds had been completed, but there had been an equipment problem with the inflatable tuffet (minute 84.5). The Chairman asked Kate Charters kindly to summate the scores for domestic Classics competitions in 2008.

Action: Kate Charters

84.4 Review of 2008 season

The Committee noted that FS 8-way Grand Prix had been poorly attended this year. It therefore decided not to include an FS 8-way Grand Prix the 2009 programme of competitions.

84.5 Competitions equipment co-ordinator

There was a need for a competitions equipment co-ordinator. The Office had circulated a draft role description, which the committee discussed and edited. The Chairman said he would ask one or two individuals who might have the wherewithal to undertake the role whether they might be prepared to take it on, if not he would arrange for a request to go in the Mag.

Action: Chairman

The compressor for the inflatable tuffet had not worked at the Accuracy Grand Prix at Black Knights. The Office said that Andy Houston of Texair, who had supplied it, had offered to help. The Chairman would get in touch with him.

Action: Chairman

85/08 Domestic competitions 2009

85.1 Bid form

The bid form had been issued, with noon today as the a call back cut-off for bids, for Nationals and Grand Prix 2009, except for the FS & Artistics Nationals that had already been allocated on an experimental 3-year basis (minute 61). The nine completed bids forms received, until now unseen by the Committee, were tabled to Committee Members only. The Committee then considered the bids on a meet-by-meet basis.

85.2 Nationals 2009

85.2.1 CF & Speed Nationals

Target Skysports had been the only bidder. The Committee considered the bid. Alex Wilson proposed, and Weed Stoodley seconded, that it be accepted. See appendix for dates.

Carried unanimously

85.2.2 Classics & CP Nationals

RAPA, Bad Lippspringe, Germany, (a British Centre) had been the only bidder. The Committee considered the bid. Weed Stoodley proposed, and Paul Applegate seconded, that it be accepted. See appendix for dates.

Carried unanimously

85.2.3 VFS Nationals

Two bids had been received, from Skydive Airkix and Target Skysports. The Committee considered the bids. On the basis of the dates offered, Weed Stoodley proposed, and Alex Wilson seconded, that Target Skysports bid be accepted. See appendix for dates.

Carried unanimously

85.2.3 8-way Speed Nationals

Two bids had been received, from Skydive Airkix and Target Skysports. The Committee considered the bids. On the basis of the dates offered, Weed Stoodley proposed, and Alex Wilson seconded, that Skydive Airkix's bid be accepted. See appendix for dates.

Carried unanimously

85.3 Grand Prix 2009

The Chairman said that points from the Nationals would count towards the overall Grand Prix Championships, making the Nationals in Grand Prix disciplines another leg of the Grand Prix.

85.3.1 UKSL 4-way FS

3 meets were to be allocated. The bids were considered on the basis of facilities, aircraft, cost and dates. The Committee sought the advice of Chris Hollis, FS Rep.

For meet 1 in May, there were three bids – from North West PC, Skydive Weston and Target Skysports, Hibaldstow. Weed Stoodley proposed, and Alex Wilson seconded, a motion to award meet 1 to Skydive Weston. See appendix for dates.

Carried unanimously

For meet 2 in June, there were two bids – from North West PC, Skydive Weston and Target Skysports, Hibaldstow. Paul Applegate proposed, and Alex Wilson seconded, a motion to award meet 2 to Target Skysports, Hibaldstow. See appendix for dates.

Carried unanimously

For meet 3 in July, there were three bids – from North West PC, APA Netheravon and Skydive Airkix. Paul Applegate proposed, and Weed Stoodley seconded, a motion to award meet 3 to Skydive Airkix. See appendix for dates. The vote was: For – 2, Against – 1 (Alex Wilson)

Carried

85.3.2 CF Grand Prix

Two bids had been received, from Black Knights PC and Target Skysports, Hibaldstow. Paul Applegate proposed, and Weed Stoodley seconded, that the bidders should each be allocated a CF Grand Prix meet. See appendix for dates.

Carried unanimously

85.3.3 Accuracy Grand Prix

One bid had been received, from Black Knights PC. Weed Stoodley proposed, and Alex Wilson seconded, that the bid should be accepted. See appendix for dates.

Carried unanimously

The Chairman thanked all the Centres that had submitted bids. He was pleased that the schedule of domestic competitions for next season had been settled in good time for the dates to be shown in the BPA Skydiving Calendar 2009.

86/08 International competitions

86.1 European Skydiving League finals 2008 - Texel, Netherlands, 5-7 September 2008

Chris Hollis congratulated the British ESL Team for winning the Spirit Trophy. The Chairman said the BPA was very proud of them, and he thanked Chris Hollis for his role as co-ordinator. Weed Stoodley asked Chris Hollis to consider for next year how ESL might benefit from the British Team Fund - from coaching, perhaps? Chris Hollis confirmed that, as overall champions, Britain had first refusal of organising the ESL Finals 2009. The Chairman said that a good opportunity to discuss this would be at the Competitions Open Forum on AGM day, Saturday 10 January 2009 at the Barcelo Hinckley Island Hotel (minute 88).

Action: Discuss at Comps Open Forum

86.2 13th FAI World Canopy Formation Parachuting Championships – Teuge, Netherlands: 9-14 September 2008

The Chairman reported that he had spoken to Ian Marshall who had said that it had been very well run meet with a good British delegation.

86.3 1st FAI World Cup in Vertical Formation Skydiving – Eloy, Arizona, USA: 26-28 October 2008

Weed Stoodley (Discipline Rep, VFS) noted with regret that no British teams had indicated they wished to compete at this meet. Kate Charters reported that she and Bob Charters had would be attending as invited judges.

Action: Weed Stoodley / BPA Office

86.4 2nd FAI World Canopy Piloting Championship - Wonderboom Airport, South Africa: 18-23 November 2008

The Committee wished well to our delegation, and to Kate Charters who was an invited judge, Ann Fowler, a trainee judge, and BPA Chairman John Smyth who had been invited by IPC to as a member of the Jury.

Action: Alex Wilson / BPA Office

86.5 World Air Games 2009 - Torino, Italy: 7-13 June 2009 - Freestyle, CF, CP & Accuracy.

The only British competitors might be in CP but this would depend on performance at the WPC in CP (minute 86.4 above).

86.6 World Games – Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei, 16-26 July 2009

The World Air Games would be an invitation meet to the top teams at WPC 2008 in the relevant disciplines. Documentation was awaited from the organisers. The Committee expected that British World Bronze Freestyle team Volairkix to receive an invitation from the organisers.

Awaiting details

86.7 World Cup - Prostejov, Czech Republic: 30 August - 6 September 2009 – FS & Artistics (European and World Cup) - 4 x teams per event

86.7.1 FS

Chris Hollis (FS Discipline Rep) reported that AA teams Kaizan (women's) and Phobia and AAA team Wingnuts had expressed an interest in competing in 4-way. No FS 8-way teams had expressed an interest to date. He would consult with teams and update the next meeting.

Action: Chris Hollis

86.7.2 Artistics

Weed Stoodley (Artistics Discipline Rep) reported that the following teams had expressed an interest: Freestyle: Volairkix Jive, Avalore, Jump in the Sun; Freestyle: Freestyle Airkix, Go Freestyle. Andy Lovemore had asked for his Team, Jump in the Sun Style, to be considered.

She reported that problems with Team Avalore at this year's WPC had only recently come to her attention for the first time. It appeared that the team had left early, which had been considered to be discourteous. The Committee decided to specify in future competitor contract that competitors were expected to stay until the end of the meet.

Action: BPA Office

86.8 British delegation T-shirts

The Chairman reported that Deane 'Smudge' Smyth had suggested that the BPA should have available a British delegation tracksuit to help the delegation to look as smart as some of the delegations from other countries at international meets. John Hitchen said that BPA tracksuits had used to be available, some years ago, but competitors did not like them because they had been uncomfortably hot to wear at meets. The Committee therefore considered other options for a delegation uniform, such as polo shirts that could be worn with dark bottoms. Alex Wilson offered to investigate the cost of polo shirts (which might be sold at cost to delegation members) and report back.

Action: Alex Wilson

86.9 Eligibility of a new member of Freestyle team Volarkix to compete for Britain

Paul Applegate raised a point of order that this item was not on the agenda. The Chairman ruled that the item was eligible for consideration.

Weed Stoodley (Artistics Discipline Rep) introduced Alberto Fuertes who was to fly camera in British World Bronze Freestyle team Volairkix. She explained that Andy Newell had stood down from this role after the WPC earlier this year, and Chris Lynch had taken the slot pro tem at the Nationals when the team had competed as Volairkix Jive.

Alberto Fuertes planned to compete in the team at the World Cup 2009 (minute 86.7.2). Although he was a BPA Member resident in the UK and educated here, and with a UK FAI A licence, he currently held a Spanish passport. He said he would become eligible to apply for a

British passport in September 2009. He confirmed that to date he had never represented any country.

Weed Stoodley asked for dispensation for Alberto Fuentes from the BPA requirement that competitors in the British Nationals and the British Delegation at international meets shall hold a British passport, until such time as he held a British passport.

John Hitchen tabled and quoted from the FAI Sporting Code, General Section, Section 8, from which the Committee noted that the FAI had a residency requirement of 185 days in its rules for national representation in the World Cup. Therefore, Alberto Fuentes met the FAI but not the BPA criteria to compete for the UK at the World Cup 2009. The Committee agreed to waive the BPA requirement for the World Cup to allow Alberto Fuentes to compete for the UK as a member of Freely team Volairkix.

Weed Stoodley emphasised that Alberto Fuentes was committed to this British team for the long-term, through the Nationals 2009 and the World Cup 2009 with the ultimate goal of medalling at the World Parachuting Championships in 2010. Because of this timetable, which extended over the period when she expected Alberto Fuentes to have made a successful application for a British passport, Weed Stoodley asked that favourable consideration be given to his request to be eligible to compete as part of a British team in the selection Nationals 2009 as opposed to the Open Nationals, as this was the key first step to success at WPC 2010.

After a lengthy discussion, the Committee could not reach a conclusion on Weed Stoodley's request for Alberto Fuentes to be granted a permission against the requirement to hold a British passport to allow him to compete in the British Nationals 2009. Alex Wilson said the question should be referred to the full Council and the Chairman agreed.

Action: Refer to Council

87/08 Competitions Action Plan: 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009

87.1 Target 1: Train BPA coaches in non-skydiving specific coaching skills

A taster workshop had been scheduled for Saturday 22 November at and facilitated by Loughborough University Sports Science Department, with about 12 coaches from across most of the disciplines, as put forward by the Discipline Reps. The Chairman and NCSO would also attend. The day would be evaluated from both the BPA coaches and the facilitators' perspectives with a view to organising a number of other workshops for BPA coaches this winter.

On target

87.2 Target 2: Coaching support to non-senior champion teams

Qualifying non-senior champion teams to be offered this coaching support were noted as:

4-way FS: Phobia

Freely: Chick Trix

Freestyle: Flyami Vice

CF: Les Gattos? To be confirmed by Ian Marshall (Discipline Rep) **Action: Ian Marshall**

Accuracy: One jumper to be confirmed by Paul Moore, Discipline Rep **Action: Paul Moore**

The budget would allow up to £600 per team (or individual in accuracy).

The Committee decided that if any of the teams etc did not take up the above funding that had been allocated to them under this target, one place would be made available to Canopy Piloting (where there was no non-senior category) and Alex Wilson, Discipline Rep, would identify a suitable jumper to benefit. Any further places not taken up would be allocated pro-rata to the other eligible disciplines.

Action: Discipline Reps / Next meeting

87.3 Target 3: Skills Coaching Roadshows for Non Seniors

Discipline Reps reported on Roadshows held recently including Black Knights for Artistics (reports circulated) and an FS 8-way coaching weekend at Skydive Airkix. Weed Stoodley reported that Artistics Roadshows at Dunkeswell and St Andrews had had to be cancelled for logistical reasons. She asked that it be noted that Dunkeswell, St Andrews and Hinton had

been offered first refusal for Artistics Roadshows next season, and noted that Dunkeswell, St Andrews, Hinton and Skydive Airkix had all requested to host Artistics Roadshows in 2009.

Positive feedback had been received (circulated) on CF Roadshows held at Dunkeswell and Black Knights, thanks were due to Team outcast as coaches.

Alex Wilson suggested the use of big name coaches from outside the UK next year, budget permitting.

87.4 Target 4: : Retain the level of UK National and International judging expertise

Kate Charters reported that she would be discussing arrangements for the re-evaluation of FAI/IPC-qualified international judges with IPC judges' representatives to seek a solution to the apparent problem of there being too few category 1 meets for all current international judges to have the opportunity for re-evaluation, thereby maintaining the currency of their ratings. She would report back in due course.

Action: Kate Charters

The Chairman reported that to date approximately £3400 of the £6K budget for the achievement this target had been spent, with a further £750 reserved for judges' jackets.

Kate Charters said that trainee judges such as Ann Fowler (minute 86.4), who were going to IPC training seminars at world meets, needed to have repatriation insurance.

88/08 Competitions meetings and seminars on AGM Day, Saturday 10 January 2009

The Committee considered competitions meetings and seminars, etc, at the BPA AGM Day on Saturday 10 January 2009 at the Barcelo Hinckley Island Hotel and agreed to include the following, the presentations being subject to availability of speakers.

- Competitions Open Forum, to include discussion of rules for CF 2-way, events for FS 8-way, off-year Action Plan funding, funding of British ESL delegation.
- Judges' meeting
- Presentation on Freely by Team Volairkix
- Presentation by British women's 4-way FS World Champions Team Bodyflight Storm
- Acceptance of an offer by competitor Liz Boniface of a presentation on neurolinguistic programming for competitors.

89/08 Correspondence

The Chairman read aloud an e-mail from CF competitor Paul Yeoman received at the Office shortly before the meeting concerning a previous WPC in CF. The Chairman said he would reply after checking the facts.

Action: Chairman

90/08 End of meeting

The Chairman said this had been the last scheduled meeting of the Committee for the calendar year 2008. He thanked all Members of the Committee and the staff for the hard work they had put in and all that had been accomplished during the past 12 months.

The meeting closed at 2257

Competitions Action Plan: 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009

BPA budget: £50,083 (excludes Honda bursary of £5K to target 2, and BingoLotto contribution of £1022 to target 3)

Target	From	To	By	How	Budget
1. Support development of established BPA competition coaching personnel - in order to strengthen the skill base of the current competition coaching team, provide access to world-class competition coaches who can work on specific skills.	Internal BPA coaching qualification	Targeted non - technical coaching skills development	June 2009	Use of outsourced coaching workshops for at least 2 coaches	£10K
2. Coaching support to champion teams - support non-senior 2008 National Champion teams with access to coaching for progression into senior category and access to category 1 events.	No Support	Assisted transition for non senior champions into Senior Category	May 2009	Support of coaches expense claims to assist coaching of champion non senior teams	£3K
3. Raise standards of UK competitor base - provide at least 6 coaching events throughout the period where established champions and expert coaches can work with competitors	4 stand alone coaching events	6 coaching events or competition based event coaching	June 2009	By Running skills coaching at competition events and as stand alone coaching road shows – to see transfer of skills from our existing National and International champions to emerging competitors	£12K
4. Retain the level of UK National and International judging expertise to current establishment and maintain suitable judging equipment stock	UK pool of 17 individual Judges	UK pool of 17 individual judges	June 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) re-evaluation of judges b) training seminars for judges c) recruit at least 1 new judge d) evaluate and refresh judging equipment 	£6K
<p>Note: The 2008/09 budget for Competitions is lower than usual, so we can carry forward £19,083 towards sending our National teams to future World Championships in which we expect to be successful and offer exposure to the international media.</p>					

British Open Nationals 2009

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Classics & Canopy Piloting	RAPA, Bad Lippspringe, Germany	Thurs 23 - Sat 25 July 2009
Formation Skydiving & Vertical Formation Skydiving	Target Skysports, Hibaldstow	4-way & VFS: Sat 8 - Mon 10 August 2009 4-way reserve and 8-way: Sat 15 - Mon 17 August 2009 8-way reserve: Sat 22 - Mon 24 August 2009
Artistic, Speed Skydiving & Canopy Formation		Sat 15 - Mon 17 Aug August 2009 Reserve: Sat 22 - Mon 24 August 2009
8-way Speed	Skydive Airkix	Sat 5-Sun 6 September 2009

UKSL & Grand Prix 2009

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Dates</i>
UKSL FS 4-way	Skydive Weston	Sat 23 - Sun 24 May 2009
GP Canopy Formation	Target Skysports, Hibaldstow	Sat 13 - Sun 14 June 2009
UKSL FS 4-way	Target Skysports, Hibaldstow	Sat 20 - Sun 21 June 2009
GP Accuracy	Black Knights	Sat 27 - Sun 28 June 2009
UKSL FS 4-way	Skydive Airkix	Sat 11 - Sun 12 July 2009
GP Canopy Formation	Black Knights	Sat 18 - Sun 19 July 2009