

BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL MEETING
5 WHARF WAY, GLEN PARVA, LEICESTER
TUESDAY 18 APRIL 2000 AT 6.15 PM

Present: Chris Allen - Chairman
Kieran Brady - Vice Chairman
Mike Allum
Paul Applegate
Dona Crum
Mick Danby
Ian Midgley
John Saunders
John Smyth
Lofty Thomas
Richard Tregaskes

In attendance: Debbie Carter - Treasurer
Lesley Gale - Editor, Skydive Mag
Tony Butler - Technical Officer
John Hitchen - NCSO
Sharon Norris - National Administrator
Jane Doughty - Secretary

Observers: Karen Farr
Dave Morris
Craig Poxon

ITEM MINUTE

013/00 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies from Tim Andrewes, Tye Boughen, Chris Clements and Dave Hickling.

014/00 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 2000

Mr. Midgley proposed that the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 15th February 2000, be accepted as a true record, Mr. Danby seconded the proposal and it carried unanimously.

Approved

015/00 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 2000

Page 2, item 004/00. The Chairman informed Council that he had written letters of "mediation" rather than letters of arbitration to Mr. Boughen and Mr. Marshall. He stated that he had received a fax from Mr. Hickling stating that the 'mediation'

meeting should be in front of the whole of Council. Council were satisfied with the action taken by the Chairman.

Page 4, item 006/00 (2, Competitions). The Chairman drew Councils attention to the newspaper article he had distributed. He informed Council that the section of the Competitions Committee Development Plan Matrix, referring to the 'World Class performance' grant application would be pointless to pursue.

016/00

REPORTS FROM THE SUB-COMMITTEE'S OF COUNCIL: -

A. To ratify the minutes of the Development Committee meeting, held on Tuesday 15th February 2000

Mr. Midgley proposed that the minutes of the Development Committee meeting be ratified by Council. Mr. Brady seconded this proposal and it carried unanimously.

Ratified

B. To ratify the minutes of the STC meeting held on Thursday 6th April 2000

The Chairman raised a point of issue on page 6, item K of these minutes. Mr. Saunders stated that the Safety & Training Committee had accepted that the person in question was able to skydive.

The Chairman also pointed out that there was a typing error on page 5, section G, the word through needed to be replaced with throw.

Mr. Saunders proposed that with the above-mentioned correction, the minutes of the STC meeting be ratified by Council. Mr. Applegate seconded the proposal and it carried unanimously.

Ratified

C. To ratify the minutes of the Communications Committee meeting, held on Tuesday 15th February 2000

Mr. Brady proposed that the minutes of the Communications Committee meeting be ratified by Council. Mr. Thomas seconded the proposal and it carried unanimously.

Ratified

Note: - *At this point a request was made to the Chairman that item 7 (on the agenda), be dealt with as it was not possible for Mr. Morris (who was attending to brief Council on the matter) to stay for the whole of the meeting.*

019/00

BRITISH WORLD SKYDIVING RECORD

Mr. Morris gave a brief to Council and answered some questions from Council members.

there had never been a minimum criteria set for attendance of a World meet.

Mr. Smyth briefed Council on the very successful 'Open Forum' that the Competitions Committee had held at the AGM.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Smyth on behalf of Council for holding the forum.

Mr. Smyth proposed that the minutes of the Competitions Committee meeting held on Wednesday 23rd February 2000, be ratified by Council. Mr. Danby seconded the proposal and it carried unanimously.

Ratified

D. To ratify the minutes of the Competitions Committee meeting held on Wednesday 12th April 2000

The Chairman informed the Committee that Chris Clements had forgotten to submit her membership renewal form, and that at the time of this meeting she was not a member of the BPA.

Mr. Smyth explained to Council that because the Competitions Committee was small in number, without Miss Clements votes being counted; the Committee was not quorate.

Mr. Brady proposed that Council ratify the minutes of the Competitions Committee (dated 12th April 2000), despite the Committee not being quorate at the time. Mr. Danby seconded this proposal and it carried unanimously.

Carried unanimously

Page 2, item 14. Mr. Smyth informed Council that the Dr. Flinn issue had been resolved.

Page 3, item 6. Mr. Smyth informed Council that the Competitions Committee had acquired Sebastian XL to coach at the Nationals.

Mr. Smyth thanked the discipline Representatives for their hard work in producing the National rules.

Page 4, item 7. Mr. Smyth informed Council that the Competitions Committee had decided to fund the hire of Omniscore for the Nationals.

Note: - *At this point Mr. Allen handed the chair to Mr. Brady, he and Mr. Hitchen left the room, as the discussion of item 12, page 5, involved them. After handing over the chair, Mr Allen stated that he was accepting the nomination as he had been asked to do so and that he did not wish it to appear that he was standing against a member of permanent staff. He also asked Council that during their deliberation they should take into account that he would not be able to attend the IPC meeting prior to the competition due to other commitments.*

Page 5, item 12 - Nominations for the Head of Delegation, for the W.A.G. 2001.

Mr. Smyth briefed the remaining members of Council on who the nominations were. Council then discussed the nominations, and a secret election was held:

Bob Card: 1
Chris Allen: 4
John Hitchen: 4

Council then decided to discount Bob Card as a nominee, and they voted again:

Chris Allen: 4
John Hitchen: 5

Mr. Smyth proposed that Council select Mr. Hitchen as Head of Delegation to the W.A.G. 2001, with Mr. Allen as an alternate. Mr. Midgley seconded this proposal and it carried by a majority.

Carried by a majority

Note: - *Mr. Allen and Mr. Hitchen were then invited back into the room, and Mr. Brady informed them that it had been a very difficult decision to make. He went on to inform Mr. Hitchen that he had been elected Head of Delegation for the W.A.G. 2001, and that Mr. Allen had been elected alternate Delegate.*

Mr. Smyth proposed that the minutes of the Competitions Committee meeting held on Wednesday 12th April 2000, be ratified by Council. Miss Crum seconded this proposal and it carried unanimously.

Ratified

017/00 ROYAL AERO CLUB MATTERS

Mr. Smyth briefed Council on the award ceremony that had taken place, stating that all members of the 'parachuting' delegation had thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

018/00 REPORTS FROM CLUB REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Allum briefed Council on the reports that had been submitted. He stated that all of the Club Reps were busy and had either made visits or had visits planned.

During one of the Reps visits, the issue of students having to take out full BPA membership before proceeding onto freefall had been raised. Council discussed this matter briefly.

020/00 APPLICATIONS FOR RE-AFFILIATION

RAPA - Mick Nealis. Mr. Saunders proposed that Council accept the re-affiliation of RAPA. Mr. Brady seconded this and it carried unanimously.

Carried unanimously

CCSPC - Steve Thomas. Mr. Saunders proposed that Council accept the re-affiliation of CCSPC. Mr. Danby seconded this and it carried unanimously.

Carried unanimously

021/00

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Drop Zone Operators Survey. The Chairman brought the 'Drop Zone Operators Survey' to Council's attention, asking them if they had any questions or objections to it being distributed as written? No objections were made.

Letter from RAPA. Council had received a letter from Major Wright of the Rhine Army Parachute Association, explaining that because all foreign skydivers had to take out full BPA membership to skydive at RAPA, they had experienced a serious drop in skydivers attending the DZ. He asked for an exemption on this ruling.

The Chairman asked Mr. Butler to brief Council on the situation. There followed a great deal of discussion on the matter.

Mr. Midgley proposed that only experienced German skydivers should be exempt from this ruling at RAPA. Mr. Applegate seconded this proposal and it carried unanimously.

The Chairman actioned the office to write to Major Wright, explaining Council's decision. He also stated that this exemption to the Operations Manual had been given because of the special circumstances in Germany.

Carried unanimously

Action: BPA Office

Simon Wards letter. Council had received a letter from Mr. Ward asking to have Base Jumping covered in the Magazine.

After some discussion, Council concluded that Base Jumping was nothing to do with BPA and that it should not appear in the magazine due to the following concerns: - The legality of Base Jumping, Insurance implications, and lack of regulation.

Staff Holidays. Council held this part of the meeting in 'camera'; all non-Council members and the staff left the room.

Mr. Saunders proposed that the 3 - 4 day closedown period over Christmas was not considered to be part of, nor deducted from the normal holiday entitlement. Mr. Brady seconded this and it carried unanimously.

Carried unanimously

Mr. Saunders proposed that all members of staff were awarded an additional 2 days annual entitlement for each full-uninterrupted period of 5 years employment by the BPA, to a maximum of 25 days. Mr. Brady seconded this and it carried unanimously.

Carried unanimously

The Council meeting then came out of 'camera' and the staff were informed of Councils decision.

Mr. Butler thanked Council on behalf of all the BPA staff.

Edge Ellison seminar. The chairman informed Council that he had attended a seminar held by Edge Ellison on discipline, litigation and arbitration. He stated that if any members of Council wanted information on these matters they should contact him directly.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

Distribution:

Council
Vice Presidents
Treasurer
Tony Butler - Technical Officer
John Hitchen - NCSO
Sharon Norris - National Administrator
Jon Gretton - Financial Administrator
Lesley Gale - Editor, Skydive Mag