

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



Development Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on
Tuesday 6 December 2005 at 1630
at the BPA Offices, 5 Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester

Present:	Kieran Brady	Chairman
	Chris Allen	Chairman of Council
	Adrian Bond	
	Ralph Fielding	
	Tony Goodman	
	Eddie Jones	
	John Page	
Elizabeth Stoodley	Media Co-ordinator	
In attendance:	Paul Applegate	
	Tony Butler	Technical Officer
	Jon Gretton	Financial Administrator
	John Hitchen	NCSO
	Martin Shuttleworth	Secretary-General
Observer:	Roy Clarke	

Item	Minute
------	--------

37/05	<u>Minutes</u>
-------	-----------------------

John Page proposed, and Eddie Jones seconded, a motion that the minutes of the meeting of the Development Committee held on Tuesday 11 October 2005 be approved as a correct record.

Approved

38/05	<u>Matters arising</u>
-------	-------------------------------

38.1	<u>Wind tunnels (minute 33.2)</u>
------	--

John Page reported that he had visited both UK wind tunnels. He had not yet assembled any display material. He was hoping to get a large map of the UK on which to mark the location of every BPA Affiliated Club & Centre and provide their contact details. The *Freedom of the Skies* brochure was too small to use as display material. There was a possibility of getting the cover enlarged to poster size, although this was likely to be quite costly. John Page said he would liaise with Lesley Gale over possible display material.

Action: John Page

The Chairman reported that he had continued to liaise with Paul Meyer of the Bodyflight wind tunnel in Milton Keynes. Paul Mayer was preparing literature for the users of his wind tunnel, and had kindly agreed to include in it a note stating that BPA insurance was not valid for wind tunnels. The Chairman had been trying to contact Simon Ward of the Airkix wind tunnel to see whether he might be prepared to include a similar clarification in his documentation for users. John Page reported that Simon Ward understood that BPA insurance did not apply to wind tunnels. The insurance summary on the BPA website had been updated to include a note to this effect.

John Page further reported that Simon Ward of the Airkix wind tunnel in Milton Keynes had again raised the proposal he had made to this Committee at its meeting on 7 December 2004 (minute 45/04 refers). This was for the free wind tunnel time for BPA Members - for each BPA Member bringing three non-skydiving friends who would pay a discounted rate of say £30 each for tunnel time, with the BPA Member then getting 10 minutes' free tunnel time, worth about £75. The Chairman said that if this offer had been at no cost to the BPA, it would have been fine. However, in earlier discussions, Simon Ward had indicated that he wished to receive, in exchange, free advertising in *Skydive Magazine*, and a BPA membership contact list containing Members' personal data (names and postal addresses and/or email addresses). The offer had been debated long and hard by the Committee at the time, but current Council policy forbade sharing the BPA Membership database, or parts thereof, with third parties.

The Chairman said it was important for the membership to understand that this Committee would do nothing to stand in the way of any sort of deal or advantage for BPA Members, as long as it did not require some sort of payment in kind from the BPA. In this case, free or reduced-rate advertising and access to Members' data was the reciprocation that had been sought. This Committee had unfortunately not been in a position to grant that. The Chairman said that, to avoid any misunderstandings, the Committee's position would benefit from being clarified in the Committee's verbal report that he would be making to the full Council tonight.

Action: Chairman

38.2 Contract with the BPA Shop (minute 33.3)

Chris Allen reported that he had continued to liaise with Tony Knight, who was acting as an agent of UK Parachute Services Ltd, since the last meeting. Tony Knight had agreed to send a list of stock for sale at present, and had now asked the Committee to make a list of items it did not wish the BPA Shop to sell. Chris Allen suggested that the best way forward at this stage might now be to draft an interim letter of agreement rather than a full contract.

Eddie Jones said that a list of items that the Committee did not wish the BPA Shop to sell had been discussed at the last meeting. This had comprised parachute harnesses, mains and reserves or any other equipment that could fail in air. Tony Knight had pointed out to Chris Allen that altimeters came within the last category, and the BPA Shop had traditionally sold these. The Committee confirmed that it was happy for the BPA Shop to continue to sell altimeters, but because the Shop was trading in the BPA's name, it did not wish the range of stock carried by the Shop to increase without prior reference to, and approval by, this Committee

After discussion, Eddie Jones proposed, and Adrian Bond seconded, a motion that the Committee's refined list of items *not* to be sold by the BPA Shop was:

- main parachutes
- reserve parachutes
- harnesses or components thereof, including pilot chutes, and
- container assemblies.

Carried unanimously

39/05 Reports on areas of responsibility

39.1 Central Council of Physical Recreation

The BPA had not been represented at the initial CCPR-organised meeting about UK Sport's plans over the next two years to taper off to zero funding for non-Olympic sports, including sport parachuting. The BPA had, however, been represented by the Secretary-General at a follow-up CCPR-organised meeting with Sue Campbell, Chair of UK Sport, which had provided valuable information on which to hone the approach of the BPA's written response to UK Sport's consultations on funding cuts. This response had strongly objected to the cuts. The final decision of UK Sport, taking into account our response and others it had received to its consultations, was awaited.

39.2 Insurance

The Insurance Subcommittee was due to meet at 1730, following which David Hickling, the Subcommittee Chairman, would raise an item on insurance at the full Council meeting at 1830.

39.3 Media

Elizabeth Stoodley reported that team *Airkix's* world formations record had received a good deal of media coverage. Black Knights Parachute Centre had got some positive coverage from a female jumper in a women's magazine. Elizabeth Stoodley had helped with local publicity for jumpers involved in the *Jump for the Cause* campaign. She had also emailed the British CF jumpers involved in the CF world record about obtaining publicity for them in their local media, but she said that none had answered.

40/05 Development Action Plan: 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006

40.1 Publish a BPA web page for Members to make the most of the media

Elizabeth Stoodley reported that she had drafted an article on dealing with the media for publication in *Skydive Magazine*, which she had sent to Lesley Gale, Editor. Once the article had been published, and in the light of any feedback it generated, Elizabeth Stoodley planned to develop the webpage for Members on how to get skydiving news into the media, this being a Development Action Plan target.

Action: Elizabeth Stoodley

40.2 Research the potential of re-launching the BPA Affinity Credit Card

Up to the date of the last meeting, there had been 831 accounts transferred from the old card, 28 new accounts. A further update would be available in due course.

Action: Adrian Bond

40.3 Support and encourage Clubs & Centres to run safety evenings

The Committee agreed that the office should write to all BPA Affiliated Clubs & Centres to say that five grants of £100 each were available on application to support the travel expenses of specialist speakers from outside the Club's own geographical area at safety evenings. One possible speaker might be Rick Boardman, with his presentation on Fliteline checks.

Action: BPA Office

Chris Allen noted that progress on this Action Plan target had not been as rapid as on the other targets. He believed this was because the target lacked a prime mover on the Committee. He therefore suggested that the Development Committee 2006 should appoint one of its number as Safety Evenings Officer to progress this target.

Action: Next meeting

41/05 Display team links on BPA website

The Committee agreed to a request by the Royal Navy Raiders Parachute Display Team, which was BPA Registered, for a link from the BPA website to its own website. The Committee asked that all BPA Registered Display Teams should be offered a similar facility of a web link to their own websites.

Action: BPA Office

42/05 Date of next meetings

This was the last meeting of the current Committee before the Council election for 2006. The Chairman thanked all Members of the Committee for their valuable input to the Committee's discussions and to their hard work between Committee meetings throughout the year.

The date of the next meeting, which would be the first meeting of the Development Committee for 2006, would be arranged for the afternoon of the same day as the first evening Council meeting of the year, normally at 1630 on a Tuesday in mid-February, date to be confirmed at the inaugural Council meeting on Saturday 21 January 2006.

The meeting closed at 1720.