

BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION
SAFETY AND TRAINING COMMITTEE MEETING
BPA OFFICES, 5 WHARF WAY, GLEN PARVA, LEICESTER
THURSDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2010

Present:

John Hitchen	-	Chairman of STC
Pat Walters	-	Tilstock
Matty Holford	-	Silver Stars
Stuart Meacock	-	Hinton Skydiving
Mike Rust	-	NLPC
Dave Wood	-	Cornish PC
Nigel Allen	-	Skydive South Coast
Andy Goodall	-	JSPC (N)
Andy Montriou	-	Skydive Jersey
Paul Hollow	-	Target Skysports
Jason Farrant	-	Skydive UK
Richard Wheatley	-	BPS, Langar
Chris McCann	-	UK Parachuting (Sibson)
John Page	-	Skydive London
Ian Rosenvinge	-	Peterlee
Paul Applegate	-	Chairman Riggers

Apologies: Keiran Brady, Jason Thompson, Pete Sizer.

In Attendance:

Tony Butler	-	Technical Officer
Trudy Kemp	-	Assistant to NCSO/TO

Observers: Nick Brownhill, Ben Wood, Maddy Heath-Kelly, Gordon Blamire, Alec Flint, Ray Armstrong, Chas McNeil.

ITEM

1. MINUTES OF THE STC MEETING OF THE 26 NOVEMBER 2009

It was proposed by John Page and seconded by Mike Rust that the Minutes of the STC Meeting of the 26 November 2009 be accepted as a true record.

Carried Unanimously

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE STC MEETING OF THE 26 NOVEMBER 2009

Page 3, Item 4, Incident Reports (x). The Chairman reported that the Working Group looking into the qualifications and training of pilots flying foreign registered aircraft had almost finished their work. He stated that they still had to go through a consultation process before their report could be presented to STC.

Page 7, Item 9, AOB (ii). Mike Rust had requested that a meeting take place prior to this STC meeting to discuss his suggested training system (TAFF), using both Tandem and AFF to train student parachutists. The Chairman reported that the meeting had taken place that evening. Mike Rust advised those present that himself and Paul Hollow would be

undertaking some more work on the suggested system before bringing it back to STC for further discussion.

Page 7, Item 9, AOB (iii). The Chairman reported that the two incidents involving Tandem Instructors not connecting or fully connecting their Students prior to take-off had been discussed by the Committee at the last meeting. STC had decided that one instructor would be written to reminding him of his responsibilities. The other instructor would have his Tandem rating suspended for three months. STC had also decided that the jumpmasters and pilots from both incidents should also be written to reminding them of their responsibilities.

The Chairman reported that STC's decisions had been implemented except that the pilots had not yet been written to. This was because himself and the T.O, on reflection believed that the pilots had not done anything wrong. The Chairman had therefore asked Council to consider this at the Council meeting of the 8 December. He stated that Council had supported the Chairman's concerns and requested that STC be provided with his observations on the incident.

The Chairman was therefore requesting that in this instance STC rescinds its decision to write to the pilots concerned.

It was proposed by John Page and seconded by Stuart Meacock that the above request be accepted.

Carried Unanimously

3. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE RIGGERS' SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE 26 NOVEMBER 2009

There were no matters arising from the previous Riggers Meeting.

It was therefore proposed by Paul Applegate and seconded by Richard Wheatley that the Minutes of the Riggers' Sub-Committee meeting of the 26 November 2009 be accepted as a true record.

Carried Unanimously

Paul Applegate then reported on the meeting held that evening and stated that the Committee had discussed and accepted a Student Harness & Container System – Initial Clearance request submitted by Nick Brownhill of the Royal Engineers. Nick Brownhill was in attendance at STC and presented the equipment to the meeting.

The equipment presented was a Student Icon container used for AFF. The manufacturer (Aerodyne) had produced the container with a BOC pocket with the secondary deployment handle, similar to that used on Javelin and Telesis containers.

Paul Applegate advised STC that from a rigging point of view the Riggers Committee had no problem with the construction and workability of the system. He stated that one Rigger had expressed some concern, which was on some trials carried out in the past on a similar construction of pouch, but this had been on an entirely different rig.

Following some discussion, it was proposed by Andy Montriou and seconded by Matty Holford that the deployment system on the Student Icon as presented be accepted for Student use.

Carried Unanimously

4. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PILOTS' SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE 16 JANUARY 2010

Tony Butler was able to answer any questions relating to the Pilots' Meeting Minutes.

It was proposed by John Page and seconded by Paul Hollow that the Minutes of the Pilots' Sub-Committee meeting of the 16 January 2010 be accepted as a true record

Carried Unanimously

5. INCIDENT REPORTS - RESUME

- i) There had been 7 Student Injury Reports received since the last STC meeting. 5 male and 2 female. One report was for an accident, which happened last July, however, the report form was only completed in January. The incident involved two first-time static line jumpers who collided under canopy. Both parachutists landed under partially inflated canopies. One Student sustained a back injury and the other experienced shock. Another incident involved a Student with 17 jumps who landed off the PLA and struck the side of a building, became suspended and had to be rescued by the fire service. The Student concerned sustained a sprained ankle.

The Chairman reminded CCIs of their responsibility to submit incident reports as soon as possible following an occurrence.

- ii) Since the last meeting there had been 1 Injury Report received for FAI 'A' Certificate parachutists or above, a male. The parachutist concerned sustained a broken ankle on landing.
- iii) There had been 2 Student Malfunction/Deployment Problem Reports received since the last meeting. One male and one female.
- iv) There had also been 11 Malfunction/Deployment Problem Reports received for FAI 'A' Certificate parachutists or above. 10 male and 1 female.
- v) Since the last STC there had been 6 Tandem Reports received. 2 malfunctions and 4 injuries.
- vi) There had been 9 reports received of 'off landings' at clubs, including a Tandem, 1 parachutist that landed in a tree, and one landed on a caravan and 1 hit the side of a house.

6. PERMISSIONS

The Chairman reported that a request had been received from Andy Goodall for Wayne Costello to be able to renew his instructor ratings (for ground instruction only), as he had been unable to complete the required 60 jumps in the previous two years because of injury.

The Committee was advised that Wayne Costello had been involved in a serious tandem incident in Aug 07. His student sustained only minor injuries but Wayne had taken the full force of the impact. He broke his back in five places and broke an ankle. He had undergone several major operations since and had been attending an intensive physiotherapy and rehabilitation programme at Hedley Court.

The Chairman stated that Wayne Costello had made significant progress with his recovery. However, it was unlikely that he would be fit enough to jump in the near future. Although he has every intention of jumping as soon as he is fit enough to do so.

Following some discussion, it was proposed by Andy Goodall and seconded by Chris McCann that the above request be accepted.

Carried Unanimously

7. A.O.B

- i) The Chairman reported that the Parachute Club at Bridlington had not operated for more than a year. However, Skydive GB, run by Ray Armstrong, the former CCI of Skydive Brid would be opening a parachuting operation at the same location, subject to Club Affiliation. He stated that the DZ/PLA had been re-inspected by the Technical Officer on the 8 February and there were no changes to the site, other than there was no longer a hangar there. This was for information only.

- ii) The Chairman reported that some Instructor course candidates were not applying for radio licences, FAI licences, coaching ratings etc until just prior to an Instructor course, which could lead to them not receiving them in time for the course, which in turn could prevent them from being permitted to attend the course. The Chairman urged CCIs to ensure that candidates they recommend have all the required ratings/ qualifications well in advance of the course.

Date of next Meetings: Thursday 8 April 2010
 Thursday 10 June 2010
 Thursday 5 August 2010
 Thursday 30 September 2010
 Thursday 25 November 2010

BPA Offices, Glen Parva, Leicester
at 7.00 p.m

12 February 2010

Distribution:

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