

British Parachute Association

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Competitions Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on

Tuesday 6 August 2019 at 1300

at the offices of BPA, 5 Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester LE2 9TF

Present:	Brian Vacher		Chair
	Mark Bayada	-	Vice-Chair (from item 45.1)
	Mary-Lou Barratt	-	Discipline Rep: CF
	Tim Gaines	-	Discipline Rep: VFS
	Sam Lee		
	Ian Marshall	-	Discipline Rep: Classics
	Liz Warner	-	Judges Coordinator
	Mike Williams	-	Discipline Rep: WS
	Georgie Vacher	-	Discipline Rep: FS
In attendance:	Tony Butler	-	COO (to item 48.4)
	John Hitchen	-	Vice-President
	Marie Kent	-	Competitions Coordinator
	Helen Lucas	-	Committee Secretary
	John Smyth MVO	-	Vice-President & IPC Delegate
Observer	Wes Guest		
Apologies	Michael Lovemore	-	Discipline Rep: Speed

Item Minute

41/19 **Competitions Coordinator**

Those present warmly welcomed Marie to the team.

42/19 **Declarations of any conflicts of Interest**

These would be declared under the relevant item.

43/19 **Committee Structure**

The Chair asked for feedback on the circulated draft of the virtual meeting by the Council Working Group. The consensus was that there may be leeway with regard to the dates of the meetings but that it was practicable to keep the Competitions Committee to six meetings a year with consideration to the competition season.

Action: Feedback to Council - Chair

44/19 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

Those present recognised that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2019 had been approved electronically and published on the BPA website. The Chair duly signed the master copy as a true record.

45/19 Matters arising

45.1 Item 34.1 Sporting Licence application requirements

Those present agreed to adopt the amendments to Form 110 – Sporting Licence Application to the requirements as proposed by Sam Lee, and seconded by the WS Rep, that one government issued, or 3 Alternative documents as listed on the circulated proposal be produced on application for a Sporting Licence. **Carried unanimously**

46/19 BPA Competitions 2019

46.1 BPA Nationals in CP, 14-18 Aug, Klatovy, Czech Rep

After extensive research into the cost of sending the trophies to the event and in consideration of their safe return the Chair informed the Secretary that only medals would be awarded, and the trophies kept in the safe keeping of the BPA office until the BPA AGM Day where they may be awarded at the Competitions Open Forum. The Committee thanked the Judges Coordinator for her kind offer of taking the medals and admin pack to the Meet.

46.2 BPA Nationals in FS 4-way & VFS, 24-27 Aug, Skydive Hibaldstow

Regarding the RAeC Queens Cup, the Chair of Council and Angel Fernandez – BPA Communications Manager had been in liaison with Ash Kemp of Skydive Hibaldstow, and had confirmed to him that

- a. Hibaldstow would be required to pay for the engraving of the medals with words to the effect of “2019 winner of the Royal Aero Club Queens Cup”
- b. There would be no afternoon tea reception
- c. He was to liaise with The Chair of RAeC with regard to set-off time

46.3 BPA Nationals in FS 8-way, 31 Aug-2 Sep, Skydive Hibaldstow

No issues.

46.4 BPA Nationals in CF, 8-10 Sep, Skydive Buzz

No issues.

47/19 BPA Competitions 2019 – completed

47.1 BPA Nationals in WS Performance, Acrobatics and Tracking Suit, 1-4 Jul, Skydive Buzz

Those present thanked the Rep, Judges and competitors for their reports, circulated with the agenda on a well-attended and organised Meet, and echoed the Chief Judges thanks to Skydive Buzz for their hospitality. The Rep recognised some amendments required within the rules which would be considered for the 2020 competition season.

47.2 BPA GP in Accuracy, 8-9 June, Skydive Headcorn

All 6 rounds had been completed on the Sunday due to inclement weather.

47.3 BPA GP in CF Meet 1, 15-15 Jun, Skydive Northwest

Initial communication issues had been resolved but on the whole, it had been a well-attended and successful event.

47.4 BPA GP in CF Meet 2, 13-14 Jul, Skydive Langar

22 competitors had completed 6 rounds, except one team in Senior 4-way sequential who, after a decision regarding the weather conditions, completed two rounds.

47.5 BPA UKSL Meet 2, 8-9 Jun, Sibson Skydivers

The Chief Judge reported that all the trainee judges showed significant promise which would continue with further practice and more experience of competitions.

47.6 BPA UKSL Meet 3, 6-7 Jul, Skydive Buzz

A well-attended meet that afforded the trainees some good experience.

Both UKSL Meets had had issues with the Omniskore judging system and the Judges Coordinator look into a new system, such as InTime. **Action: Judges Coordinator**

47.7 BPA Nationals in Accuracy, 3-4 Aug, Skydive Buzz

14 jumps were made, 6 rounds had taken place as the weather was not cooperative. Unfortunately, there had been almost no publicity made by the hosting centre.

47.8 BPA Nationals in Artistics and Speed, 3-4 Aug, Skydive Buzz

47.8.1 Speed

A well-attended event, with 10 UK athletes and 2 from overseas. The weather had not been the best, but 8 rounds were completed.

47.8.2 Artistics

5 teams had competed in Freestyle A, which completed 7 rounds, 2 teams in Freestyle B, 2 in Freestyle A and 1 team in Freestyle B. The Meet had completed in 1 day.

Those present thanked the judges, hosting dropzones and athletes on their successful competitions.

47.9 Flysight Purchase

Quotes had been received from Skydive Now and Sky Gear UK. An e-vote to decide between the 2 quotes agreed the purchase of 10 Flysight units from Skydive Now, totalling £1,710.

48/19 International Competitions 2019

48.1 4th FAI World Cup of Speed Skydiving, 12-15 Aug, Skydive Buzz, Dunkeswell

48.1.1 Head of Delegation

The Chair confirmed the e-vote decision of Jason Bird to act as Head of Delegation (HoD) for the forthcoming Meet. John Smyth, an experienced HoD, had briefed Jason on the task in hand and the Competitions Coordinator would get on to providing uniform and the HoD pack. **Action: Competitions Coordinator**

48.2 10th FAI World Cup, 8th FAI European Championships in CF, 17-20 Aug, Strinic, Romania

The Secretary reported that all relevant documents had been sent to the organisers and that the HoD had been sent his pack and uniform.

48.3 3rd FAI World Cup in WS, 23-30 Aug, Ravenna, Italy

The Admin was all in place, and the new Competitions Coordinator would be sending the HoD his pack soon after the meeting. The Secretary thanked the WS Rep for circulating Bulletin 2 to the athletes. **Action: Competitions Coordinator**

48.4 13th FAI World Cup of Artistic events, 22nd FAI World Cup of FS, 7-12 Oct, Eloy, Arizona

The Secretary and Competitions Coordinator were working towards the Official registration, to be returned by 15 August. **Action: Secretary & Competitions Coordinator**

48.4.1 VFS

IPC had released in error news that the VFS event would not take place as the Event Entry Criteria - Para 4.4.3.1 of the FAI Sporting Code General Section had not been met, and had since retracted the statement.

Those present required confirmation that team Horizon's were not attending.

[Secretary's note: An email to the previous Coordinator from a team member on 16/4/19, confirmed that the team were declining sponsorship and the invitation to the World Cup]

48.5 10th World Cup of CP, 20-24 Nov, Pretoria, RSA

The Preliminary registration had been completed and the Secretary was aware that Bulletin 1 had been released. The Competitions Coordinator would work towards registering the selected athletes. **Action: Competitions Coordinator**

49/19 International Competitions 2019 – completed

49.1 14th FAI World Cup of Freefall Style & Accuracy Landing, 19-25 May, Cordoba, Argentina – Head of Delegation report

The Accuracy Rep, in his report circulated at the meeting, made those present aware that there had been significant issues with the accommodation resulting in a number of delegations, including our own, moving to another hotel at their own cost and that the transportation had not appeared. The scoring tuffet was hard, resulting in a number of injuries, one of which included a Team GB member. Those present hoped that these issues would be reported at the IPC Plenary Meeting to be held in January 2020.

50/19 **Judging matters**

50.1 **Stepping down of a senior judge**

Those present were saddened to hear that a senior judge no longer wished to judge. The Committee recognised the significant effort the Judges Coordinator had made in finding replacements for the competitions he was due to judge at, which included FS – 2 panels of 3 judges, at which the Judges Coordinator may have to sit on a panel whilst also being Chief Judge. The CF Nationals would be covered by 2 qualified judges and 2 previous judges that were now uncurrent.

50.2 **Scoring system**

The Judges Coordinator informed those present that the CF scoring system does not work on the BPA judges laptops, and that the camera format, i.e. changing the camera resolution in order for the laptops not to crash may require a rule addendum. Feedback to both the Communications Officer and to the IT providers – Computerlink, was required in order to bring the laptops up to date.

50.3 **IPad video review**

IPads had been used at the international Accuracy meet, and whilst it was agreed that they were a useful addition they were not necessary and that a better system may be available in the future.

50.4 **Texair Contract**

The Chair reminded the committee that the Texair contract to service and provide the equipment was due to expire in January 2020. Those present discussed the various possibilities, such as Texair supplying the equipment and a trained technician running the equipment at the event. The Classics Rep was to look into tendering the service and the Chair would feedback to Texair and ask further of his intentions.

Action: Chair and Classics Rep

50.5 **New Judge**

The committee congratulated Jimmy Frith on obtaining his National CP Judge rating. His certificate would be presented at the Awards Ceremony 2020 on 25 January 2020.

51/19 **Action Plan & Performance Metrics**

51.1 **Competitions Finances & Performance metrics**

Sam Lee spoke to his pre-circulated documents and made those present aware that the 1 July 2018 to 31 June 2019 Action Plan and Budget had now ended.

51.2 **Targeted Coaching Support – Forms 300 and 143a**

Various correspondence from teams had highlighted to the committee that Form 300 did not make it clear enough that a non-senior team must compete in a Nationals competition the following year with the same team line-up or within the allowable team changes in a higher category before the support fund could be claimed for. Form 300 – Targeted Coaching Support and Form 143a – BPA Officials Expenses Claim would be updated to better reflect this information.

Action: Committee Secretary

52/19 **Skills Coaching Roadshows**

52.1 **FS 4-way, 18-19 May, Skydive Hibaldstow**

All members of the sponsored team NFTO had attended and were kept busy by approx. 24 attendees. A great success.

52.2 **Accuracy, 1-2 June, Skydive Headcorn**

Coaches Janos Leszko, Esther Reynolds and Pete Sizer had 8 participants. Unfortunately, there had been little in the way of publicity which may have had a negative impact on the attendance.

52.3 **FS, 22-23 June, Skydive Northwest**

This was reported as a successful event.

52.4 **CF, 22-23 June, Skydive Buzz**

4 coaches and 8 attendees had made a total of 57 jumps despite worsening weather conditions on the Sunday. A well organised event by both the coaches and host DZ.

52.5 Speed, 6-7 July, Skydive Langar

No report at this time.

52.6 Accuracy, 13-14 July, Peterlee

Unfortunately, the request form had not been received from the host and despite attempts to get one organised it had been left too late.

The meeting then moved in-camera.

The committee agreed that the coach, who tried to organise the roadshow as part of the terms and conditions of his sponsorship, had tried everything in his power to fulfil the terms and that circumstances were beyond his control. The FS Rep proposed, seconded by Sam Lee, that the Coach retain his sponsorship. For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 1 (IM) ***Carried***

The meeting continued in open session.

52.7 VFS, 6-7 July, Skydive Buzz

2 coaches with 4 attendees had completed 5 VFS filmed jumps and 6 solo coached jumps.

The attending judges appreciated the opportunity to judge VFS.

Those present echoed special thanks to Dr John Carter who had provided First Aid to an FS competitor who had broken her ankle at the event and wished her a speedy recovery.

52.8 VFS, 13-14 July, Netheravon

11 attendees had been tended to by 2 coaches, as 1 had unfortunately not been able to make it at short notice. 18 jumps had been made. Special thanks to Netheravon for their support.

52.9 CF, 3-4 Aug. Skydive Langar

3 sponsored athletes with 4 additional CF coaches and 1 trainee CF coach had worked with 9 CF students. With a total of 60 CF jumps good progress was made.

The committee were please to see that CF seemed to be rising in popularity.

Those present thanked the coaches, attendees and hosting DZs for their effort and support.

53/19 Any other business

There was no further business.

54/19 Date of next meeting – Tuesday 1 October 2019 at 1300.

The meeting closed at 1535

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BPA National Championships 2019

Competition	Location	Date (2019)
BPA National Championship in Canopy Piloting	Skydive Pink, Klatovy, Czech Rep	14-18 Aug
BPA National Championships in FS 4-way & VFS	Skydive Hibaldstow	24-27 Aug
BPA National Championships in FS 8-way	Skydive Hibaldstow	31 Aug-2 Sep
BPA National Championship in Canopy Formation	Skydive Buzz, Dunkeswell	8-10 Sep