

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



Competitions Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on

Tuesday 11 August 2015 at 1300

at the BMFA Office, Chacksfield House, 31 St Andrews Road, Leicester LE2 8RE

Present:	Brian Vacher	-	Chair
	Jason Kelleher	-	Discipline Rep: FS
	Gavin McLeod	-	Discipline Rep: CF
	Ian Marshall	-	Vice Chair, Dis Rep: Classics
In attendance:	Tony Butler	-	Chief Operating Officer (COO), to item 39
	John Hitchen	-	Vice President, STC Chair & IPC Alternate Delegate
	Helen Lucas	-	Committee Secretary
	Martin Soulsby	-	Chair of Council (to item 46)
	Weed Stoodley	-	Discipline Rep: Arts & VFS
Observers	Natasha Higman	-	for item 48.2
Apologies	Mike Lewis		
	Michael Lovemore	-	Discipline Rep: Speed
	Adam Mattacola		
	John Smyth MVO	-	Vice President & IPC Delegate

Item Minute

37/15 **Declarations of Interest**

Declarations of interest will be listed under the relevant items.

38/15 **Any Other Business** – Taken from agenda order as COO was to attend a meeting at the offices of the BPA.

38.1 BPA Office staff workload

The COO briefly outlined the impact of the increased work of administrating competitions, both nationally and internationally, and suggested that the Committee may agree in principle that extra help is needed or that some of the responsibilities may be contracted to outside companies. After discussion Jason Kelleher proposed that the Committee recommend to Council at its meeting later in the day that there is a review of current staff roles and that there may be a need to employ an additional member of staff to cover the extra workload.

Seconded by Gavin McLeod.

Carried unanimously – recommend to Council

38.2 Wingsuit Delegation feedback – item held in camera.

John Hitchen, Tony Butler and Martin Soulsby were invited to remain in the meeting.

The Committee thanked those that had provided feedback through email and through direct phone call with the Chair of Competitions. The Committee recognised that there were differing issues but the outward manifestation through some not wearing delegation uniform was ultimately the responsibility of the Committee. Brian Vacher proposed that he write to the delegation members to remind them of their obligation to wear delegation uniform at World Class events. Seconded by Jason Kelleher.

Ian Marshall counterproposed the Chair's proposal with the addition of that the Wingsuit Discipline Rep should take on more of the responsibility, as she was aware of the rules, and be removed from the post of Discipline Rep. Seconded by Gavin McLeod. The vote was tied. Therefore the Chair used his casting vote against the counterproposal which was not carried. The original proposal was then carried unanimously.

The meeting then resumed in open session.

39/15 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16 June 2015 had been approved electronically by the Committee, ratified by Council, and published on the BPA website:

<http://www.bpa.org.uk/member/agendas-and-minutes/>

40/15 Matters arising

40.1 National token gift

After discussion surrounding the decline of the swapping of gifts such as pendants and tokens the Chair proposed that the Committee not pursue the purchase of items for distribution at international meets at this time. Seconded by Gavin McLeod. The vote was For: 3 Against: 1

Carried - No further action

40.2 Competitor Contract

After brief discussion it was agreed that the non-funded competitor contract should be an agreement only. However as the contracts had been distributed for this year this could be looked at for the 2016 competition season.

40.3 Funding Criteria document and Team selection criteria (item 11 on the agenda, taken from agenda order)

The Committee thanked Mike Lewis on his production of the draft funding document and Jason Kelleher for his FS selection document, then discussed:

- September deadline may not be enough time for team planning, therefore changing the Application for funding date to 31 October
- Removal of term '1st category event' and specifying 'World Cup or 'World Championship'
- Invitation to compete at a World class event and application for funding was to be kept separate
- In order to be eligible for invitation and possible funding the team must have competed at that year's Nationals and those who had not would not be considered
- The policy and the ability to recoup funding should the team then withdraw from a world class competition after drawing down funds
- World Air Games selection will relate to the previous year's Nationals
- World Cup will require the addition that intermediate teams will be considered
- A 2 year detailed team training plan would be acceptable.

The Chair proposed adopting the method that entry fees are held back from any given funding, and that funding is given towards jump fees, coaching and tunnel time. The document was to be amended as such. Seconded by Jason Kelleher. The vote was For: 2 with 2 abstentions. **Carried**

The FS Discipline Rep would reformulate the team selection and circulate to Committee. The Committee Secretary would inform Mike Lewis of the changes.

Action: FS Discipline Rep and Committee Secretary

41/15 Report on IPC and RAeC

The Committee thanked John Smyth for his report and noted that he had been requested by RAeC to be Head of Delegation (HoD) for all UK air sports at the World Air Games, Dubai. John had accepted the role but had reiterated that his priority would be the British parachuting delegation. The Committee Secretary queried as to the payment of HoD costs and it was decided to wait until the official invitation had been received from RAeC. Further news will be noted under the relevant item in the minutes.

42/15 Report on Indoor skydiving meeting with wind tunnel operatives

The Chair who had attended the meeting would report at Council later that evening.

Report at Council

- 43/15 Domestic Competitions 2015** – completed
Results uploaded to BPA website: <http://www.bpa.org.uk/competition/>
- 43.1 UKSL Meet 2, APA, 20-21 June**
The meet completed successfully and was a very positive event.
- 43.2 Grand Prix VFS 2-way Meet 2, Skydive Buzz, 27-28 June**
Due to inclement weather the meet did not go ahead and only 1 team had registered. Ways forward to improve the competition was the need to promote, possible signing in on the Saturday rather than the Friday and making it a Nationals competition where competitors may double up on events.
- 43.3 BPA Open Nationals in CF, BKPC, 10-12 July**
The Discipline Rep, through his report circulated before the meeting, noted that whilst there had been minor judging issues and an internal DZ hitch, the meet had been a successful well attended and well run event.
- 43.4 UKSL Meet 3, Skydive Buzz, 18-19 July**
The meet completed in 1 day and aside from a few teething issues it was a well-attended successful event that had completed in 1 day.
- 43.5 BPA Open Nationals in CP, Skydive Buzz, 24-26 July**
The weather had not been too cooperative but the competition had completed in 1 day with new Speed and Distance UK records set. There were a few issues around the pond and judging of which the CP Discipline Rep would make the Judges Coordinator aware.
- 44/15 Domestic Competitions 2015** – to be completed
The Artistics & VFS Discipline Rep believed they may be struggling for judges at the VFS 4-way Nationals.
There were no issues highlighted with other domestic competitions.
- 45/15 International Competitions 2015**
- 45.1 8th FAI European & 5th FAI Junior Freefall Style & Accuracy Championships, 22-29 Aug, Erdan, Bulgaria**
There is no delegation.
- 45.2 8th FAI World Cup of Canopy Piloting, 23-29 Aug, Farnham, Canada**
There were no issues at his time.
- 45.3 20th FAI World Cup & 13th FAI European Championships in FS, 11th FAI World Cup & 10th FAI European Championships in Arts, 2nd FAI World Cup in Speed Skydiving, 8-12 Sept, Teuge, Netherlands**
There were no issues at this time.
- 45.4 1st FAI World Indoor Skydiving Championships, Prague, Czech Rep, 21-24 Oct 2015**
Weed Stoodley declared an interest as a member from a potential team but stayed in the meeting to comment as Artistics and VFS Discipline Rep.
The Committee Secretary and Discipline Rep had highlighted to the Committee discrepancies in the selection of teams. The Committee acknowledged that the Discipline Rep should have been involved and that they had unknowingly made mistakes on the selection. Moving forward, should indoor skydiving come under BPA policy the Committee would develop more robust criteria.
- 45.5 2015 World Air Games, 1-12 Dec, Dubai**
- 45.5.1 Team Selection**
The Committee thanked John Smyth for liaising with FAI to get the VFS team QFX back in the delegation after the organisers had communicated that GB was not on the selection list.
Team Voodoo had communicated on 4 Aug that they would not be able to attend.
Team Vision99 was prepared to step into the slot and the Committee looked to John Smyth as Delegate to IPC to communicate as to how the team could be successfully swapped rather than GB losing the invitation. Martin Soulsby also made the

Committee aware that Helen Honeybone was now unable to attend but that Ian Matthews, from the original team line-up, would be taking her place.

[Secretary's note:17/8/15 The FS Discipline Rep confirmed that Vision99 had received invitations and had registered through the World Air Games registration portal]

45.5.2 Funding Request – Vision99

The Chair thanked the team for their request and proposed that they refer to new funding process when available, and that they are made aware that there is no funding available for the World Air Games as this year's funding budget has already been allocated. Seconded by Ian Marshall.

Carried unanimously

46/15 Competitions Budget 2014/2015 and Action Plan 1 July 2014 – 30 June 2015

Weed Stoodley spoke to her budget spreadsheet circulated to Committee before the meeting and stated that a figure of £69250 could be carried forward to Target 1 - World Class Performance of the 2015/2016 Action Plan and Budget. The Chair would take this recommendation to Council later that day.

Recommend to Council

Weed noted that there had been a significant overspend of Target 3 – Judging Team and due to the increased amount of competitions and disciplines suggested that the budget for 2015/2016 may need to be increased to £14000. The Chair asked the Discipline Reps to check if there were any other expenses that may be coming.

Action: Discipline Reps

47/15 Skills Coaching Roadshows

CF – Chatteris, was a good roadshow which was well attended with very good weather. FS – Chatteris, went well but required more coaches. The Committee discussed the coach/student ratio and reiterated to the FS Discipline Rep to ask for more coaches if required.

48/15 Judging Matters not already covered

48.1 Up & Coming Cameraperson Award criteria

It was still not known if the criteria were available, therefore the Chair would follow up with the Judges Coordinator.

Action: Chair

48.2 Judges ratings held at more than 1 NAC/NGB

The Committee Secretary had queried FAI as to the holding of judges ratings for 2 countries. FAI had confirmed that it was possible to hold ratings for 2 countries both at National and International level; however it would be subject to BPA rules and regulations. The Committee requested that the Committee Secretary ask the Judges Coordinator to clarify in writing the BPA's stance in order that it may be discussed at the next Competitions Committee meeting.

Action: Committee Secretary, agenda - next meeting

49/15 Any other business

49.1 Wingsuit Record feedback

The Committee noted an email circulated from Dave Butterell, Rob Gray and Mark Harris, as organisers of the 1st British Wingsuit Formation record which thanked those involved within the BPA, judges and DZ.

noted

50/15 Date of next meeting – Tuesdays 6 October and 1 December at 1300, BMFA office, Chacksfield House, 31 St Andrews Road, Leicester. LE2 8RE.

The meeting closed at 1635

Ratified by the Council on 02/09/15

Published on 02/09/15

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Competitions Action Plan: 1 July 14 to 30 June 15

Target	From	To	By	How	Budget
1. World Class Performance	2014 medal winning performance	2015 Continued medal winning performance	Jun 2015 and on-going	Funded support to BPA selected teams based on performance in competition 2014	£77024
2. Coaching Road Show Events	2014 Supported events	2015 Continued support of events	Jun 2015	Run coaching road show events at BPA Drop Zones to support competitive interest and enhance members skills	£6000
3. Judging Team	2014 UK pool of 18 Judges	2015 UK judging team retained/increased and improved ratings	Jun 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support all currency requirements under FAI rules • Provide financial help with pre-season refresher training • Supply judges to non-National UK events • Encourage/train new judges to gain International ratings • Supply of Judges Jackets & T-shirts 	£12000
4. Retain, improve and maintain competition equipment in line with IPC requirements	2014 Current holding	2015 Equipment stock in line with IPC changes	Jun 2015	Purchase / Hire of equipment as rules evolve and dictate	£6000
5. Delegation Uniform	2014 Delegation uniform	2015 Continued issue of uniform	Jun 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue of T-shirt generic BPA design • Issue of BPA logo embroidered badges • Supply Jackets & polo shirts 	£5000**
6. Off year targeted coaching support for National non-senior champion teams / competitors	2014 Not available Off year	2015 Coaching Support	Jun 2015	Coaching support for National Champion 2014 teams of all disciplines moving to progress to higher event that meet the criteria of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having won Nationals in 2014 • Have 75% of their team (flexibility for Freestyle & Freely) • Compete in 2015 Nationals at a higher level 	£10000
7. Development of a Committee Handbook	2014 Not available	2015 Booklet available to Committee members	Jun 2015 and on going	Reference guide to include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of Reference • Roles of Committee members & ex officio • Agenda salient points and timetable • Secretariat role • Forms for reference 	£1000
**Target 5: Uniform will continue to be funded from the British Team Fund					

Competitions Action Plan: 1 July 15 to 30 June 16

Target	From	To	By	How	Budget
1. World Class Performance	2015 medal winning performance	2016 Continued medal winning performance	Jun 2016 and on-going	Funded support to BPA selected teams based on performance in competition 2015	£97,323
2. Coaching Road Show Events	2015 Supported events	2016 Continued support of events	Jun 2016	Run coaching road show events at BPA Drop Zones to support competitive interest and enhance members skills	£10,000
3. Judging Team	2015 UK pool of 20 Judges	2016 UK judging team retained/increased and improved ratings	Jun 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support all currency requirements under FAI rules • Provide financial help with pre-season refresher training • Supply judges to non-National UK events • Encourage/train new judges to gain International ratings • Supply of Judges Jackets & T-shirts 	£12,000
4. Retain, improve and maintain competition equipment in line with IPC requirements	2015 Current holding	2016 Equipment stock in line with IPC changes	Jun 2016	Purchase / Hire of equipment as rules evolve and dictate	£6,000
5. Delegation Uniform	2015 Delegation uniform	2016 Continued issue of uniform	Jun 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue of T-shirt generic BPA design • Issue of BPA logo embroidered badges • Supply Jackets & polo shirts • Offer for tender design, manufacture and distribution 	£5000**
**Target 5: Uniform will continue to be funded from the British Team Fund					



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Competitions Dates 2015

British Open Nationals 2015

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Dates</i>
VFS 4-way	Skydive UK Ltd Dunkeswell	15 – 16 Aug 2015
Formation Skydiving 4-way	Target Skysports, Hibaldstow	22 – 24 Aug 2015
Artistic, FS 8-way Speed Skydiving		29 – 31 Aug 2015
Wingsuit Performance	APA Netheravon	12 -13 Sept 2015
Speed 8	UK Para, Sibson	26 – 27 Sep 2015

UKSL & Grand Prix 2015

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Dates</i>
GP Accuracy	Skydive Headcorn	19 – 20 Sept 2015
GP Canopy Formation Meet 2	Army Parachute Association	19 – 20 Sept 2015
GP Canopy Piloting Meet 3	Skydive UK Ltd Dunkeswell	18 – 20 Sept 2015