

# British Parachute Association

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## Competitions Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on

**Tuesday 3 October 2017 at 1300**

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

<b>Present:</b>	Brian Vacher	-	Chair
	Mark Bayada		
	Emma Hart	-	Discipline Rep: Arts
	Michael Lovemore	-	Discipline Rep: Speed
	Ian Marshall	-	Discipline Rep: Classics
	Gavin McLeod	-	Discipline Rep: CF
	Georgie Vacher (GV)	-	Discipline Rep: FS
	Mike Williams	-	Discipline Rep: WS
	Michael Wilson-Roberts	-	Discipline Rep: VFS
<b>In attendance:</b>	Tony Butler	-	Chief Operating Officer (COO) (to item 58, then intermittently throughout the afternoon)
	Helen Lucas	-	Committee Secretary
	John Hitchen	-	Vice President
	Meghan Sheedy	-	Competitions Coordinator
	Martin Soulsby	-	Chair of Council (from Item 58)
	Liz Warner	-	On behalf of Acting Judges Coordinator
<b>Apologies</b>	Tash Higman	-	Vice Chair, Acting Judges Coordinator
	Pete Mather (PM)	-	Discipline Rep: FS
	John Smyth MVO	-	Vice President & IPC Delegate

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### Item Minute

#### 52/17 Opening remarks

Those present welcomed Liz Warner to the meeting.

#### 53/17 Declarations of Interest

These would be minuted as they arose.

#### 54/17 Minutes and Matters arising

The Committee were content for the Chair to sign the copy as a true record of the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8 August 2017 which had been circulated electronically to the Committee and Council, and would be ratified at Council later that evening. The Minutes were to be published on the BPA website: <http://www.bpa.org.uk/member/agendas-and-minutes/>

There were no matters arising.

#### 55/17 Judging Matters

##### 55.1 Judges expenses

Liz Warner spoke of the proposal from the Acting Judges Coordinator, which had been electronically circulated before the meeting, which proposed the increase of subsistence allowance for Judges when attending BPA UKSLs and GPs, from £50 per day to £65 per day,

on par with the Examiners subsistence allowance, and that all allowances should be updated should there be any agreed change in the future. Due debate surrounded

- HMRC dispensation
- Examiners subsistence was increased with a condition to cover the extra cost
- Possible loss of free membership for those judges who meet agreed criteria
- The increasing cost of accommodation, that all BPA volunteers faced.

The Chair, on summing up, explained that the Competitions Committee could not agree changes that would potentially affect the volunteers acting under the objectives of other Committees, and therefore recommended to Liz Warner to advise the Acting Judges Coordinator to refer her proposal to Council.

**Action: Acting Judges Coordinator – refer to Council**

### **55.2 New Judges Ratings**

The Acting Judges Coordinator, via email circulated with the agenda, asked that the Committee accept the new judges' ratings, and that they be award certificates at the 2018 BPA Awards Ceremony to be held on Saturday 27 January 2018, after the AGM:

Don Tomkinson – National rating in Accuracy Landing

Nancy Grieger – National rating in Canopy Piloting

Lucy Westgarth – National rating in Formation Skydiving

**Unanimously agreed**

### **55.3 Artistic Event Conference April 2018**

Liz Warner had informed the Committee by email, of her invitation to attend the conference which would assist her in training future Artistic event judges. The Chair recommended that once travel costs were known that she present these to the Committee for consideration to having these costs reimbursed.

### **56/17 BPA Competitions 2017 – completed**

Results published on the BPA website

#### **56.1 BPA National Championship in 4-way Formation Skydiving, 19-21 Aug, Target Skysports**

The Committee thanked Ruth Cooper for her Chief Judges report which was taken as read and echoed her sentiments with thanks to the organiser for a smoothly ran competition. The FS Rep (GV) would take on board the recommended rules changes for the 2018 competition season.

**Action: FS Reps**

#### **56.2 BPA National Championship in Artistics, Speed and FS 8-way, 26-28 Aug, Target Skysports**

Those present thanked Liz Warner - Artistics, and Tash Higman - Speed Skydiving, for their reports circulated before the meeting. Liz informed the Committee that team Nova had missed their lift, but there was no final call for manifest by the organiser. The Committee thanked Target Skysports for hosting the event and advised that any issues should be raised direct to the organiser.

#### **56.3 BPA National Championship in Canopy Piloting, 1-3 Sep, Skydive Buzz**

The Committee acknowledged the points as raised in the reports presented by Liz Warner and those of the Chief Judge – Björn Korth, who's report was taken as read. The Committee thanked all those involved.

#### **56.4 BPA National in Canopy Formation, 8-10 Sep, BKPC**

Those present acknowledged the report by Frank Mallabone which was taken as read.

#### **56.5 BPA National in 4-way VFS, 16-17 Sep, Skydive Buzz**

The Committee thanked Liz Warner for report as Chief Judge, which was taken as read.

#### **56.6 UKSL 2017 – competitor feedback**

Those present acknowledged receipt of the feedback provided by Peter Leach of team Poor 4 Cast. The Committee welcomed positive feedback and were glad the team had found the series, especially the coaching at the UKSLs, beneficial.

57/17 **Domestic Competitions 2018 –**

**57.1 BPA Nationals – The future of Speed 8**

The 2017 BPA National Championship in Speed 8 had been cancelled by the host DZ as judge had had to step down due to short notice work commitments. Whilst coverage was available for the Saturday it took Frank Mallabone to volunteer for the Sunday judging between his shift work before it was agreed with the DZ to go ahead.

This raised points including:

- No FAI FCE in this discipline,
- Judge availability and date clashes with other disciplines
- Without a BPA judge there could be no declaration of a World Record

The FS Discipline Rep (GV) proposed that FS 8-way Speed no longer be classed as a BPA National event, and that the DZs host it as their own event, of which the FS Reps would be happy to support if required. Michael Wilson-Roberts seconded.

For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 3 (Ian Marshall, Mikey Lovemore and Mike Williams) **Carried**

An amended bid form will be circulated to all DZs. **Action: Discipline Rep: FS & Secretary**

**57.2 BPA National Championship in CF**

The Secretary apologised for the omission of the CF National on the bid form for 2018, and would include it in the re-circulation of the forms to DZs. **Action: Secretary**

**57.3 BPA Competitions: bid forms received** - Dates on appendix ii

Mark Bayada declared his interest as a CI of a PTO who had placed a bid, then withdrew that bid. Tony Butler, John Hitchen and Liz Warner were invited to remain in the meeting for the insight they may give.

**57.3.1 BPA Grand Prix in Canopy Formation**

The Committee thanked Skydive North West for their bid which the CF Discipline Rep proposed to be accepted. Seconded by Ian Marshall. **Carried unanimously**

**57.3.2 BPA Grand Prix in Accuracy**

3 bids had been received, from Skydive Buzz, Skydive North West and Skydive Headcorn. After due consideration the Accuracy Discipline Rep proposed 2 Grand Prix – May: Skydive Headcorn and August: Skydive Buzz. This was seconded by Michael Wilson-Roberts. **Carried unanimously**

**57.3.3 BPA UKSLs in FS 4-way: May, June and July**

Mark Bayada officially withdrew the bid received from APA Netheravon.

4 further bids were deliberated over, from Skydive Langar, Target Skysports, Skydive Buzz and Skydive North West. The FS Rep (GV) proposed that Skydive Buzz be awarded the May event, Skydive Langar for the June event and Skydive North West for the July event, with preference to the dates being 7-8 July. Michael Wilson-Roberts seconded. **Carried unanimously**

The Secretary would confirm the dates with the successful bidders before informing the Editor of Skydive the Mag and creating a calendar.

**Action: Secretary**

**57.3.4 BPA National Championships 2018**

Those present were disappointed at the lack of bid forms received for the Nationals, and thanked those who had sent in forms.

Concerns had been raised surrounding the recent falls in attendance. Research had revealed that many factors may have put members off from competing.

The FS Discipline Rep (GV) proposed that there be no rollover weekends for any BPA National competitions. Seconded by Michael Wilson-Roberts.

**Carried unanimously**

The FS Rep further proposed that FS 4-way and VFS 4-way be held together over a 4-day weekend. Seconded by Michael Wilson-Roberts.

**Carried unanimously**

The FS Rep proposed that due to there being a significant format change that all PTOs are contacted to resubmit bids for all BPA National championships in 2018, and asked that included on the bid form would be the recommendations of 4-way FS & VFS be held together and that every discipline would be a single weekend event.

**Action: FS Discipline Rep (GV) & Secretary**

**58/17 International Competitions 2017 - completed**

**58.1 FAI World Cups & European Championships in Canopy Formation, Speed Skydiving, Artistics and FS, 7-12 Aug 2017, Saarlouis, Germany**

The Committee thanked Craig Poxon for his detailed Head of Delegation report and asked that the issues raised in the report be addressed at the next IPC Plenary meeting in January 2018 through the BPA Delegate to IPC – John Smyth and the Speed Rep – Mikey Lovemore. Those present congratulated team Volosity on their Bronze in Freestyle Open, and were pleased to note the delegation had been an excellent example of Team UK.

**58.1.1 Possible part refund from host**

As the weather had been atrocious and not all rounds completed the organisers had communicated to the world delegations during the Closing Ceremony, that they would look into a part refund of entry fees for the jumps that had not taken place. However, the Competitions Coordinator informed those present that she had received a full and frank statement from the host to say that it was unfeasible to make any sort of refund. She would make the delegation members aware.

**Action: Competitions Coordinator**

**58.1.2 Single room occupancy refund**

The Competitions Coordinator, on speaking to her correspondence with James Parker who had to pay the single room occupancy fee in order to register at the event reported that this had occurred due to miscommunication from both parties. Mark Bayada proposed that the extra fee of €180 be refunded to James Parker. Seconded by Mikey Lovemore.

**Carried unanimously. Action: Competitions Coordinator & Financial Administrator**

The Committee thanked both Craig and Ian for their support of the delegation.

**58.2 9<sup>th</sup> FAI European & 6<sup>th</sup> Junior European Championships in Style & Accuracy, 24-31 Aug 2017, Podgorica, Montenegro**

The Committee thanked Ian Marshall for his report, tabled at the meeting. Ian reported that a number of international delegation members had gone out of their way to support newcomer Isaac Brown, and that they and the host had been very welcoming. Although no medals were awarded to Team UK the Committee were pleased that Ian and the delegation were so well received and were good ambassadors for the discipline.

**59/17 International Competitions 2018 – to be completed**

**59.1 2<sup>nd</sup> FAI World Cup of Wingsuit Flying, 2-8 Nov 2017, Overton, USA**

The Competitions Coordinator informed those present that a member of an acrobatic team had pulled out due to medical reasons, and that his replacement kept the team within the eligibility criteria.

[note 10/10/17: On Friday 8 September an email vote by Competitions Committee concluded that Tash Higman had been elected to act as Head of Delegation]

**59.2 9<sup>th</sup> FAI World Cup of Canopy Piloting, 27 Nov-1 Dec, Dubai, UAE**

There were now only 3 attending. The CP Rep believed this may have been due to the costs involved.

**59.3 2<sup>nd</sup> FAI World Indoor Skydiving Championships, 19-22 Oct, Laval, Quebec**

There was nothing of note at this time.

**60/17 International Competitions 2018**

The Competitions Coordinator confirmed that she had now the team lists for those eligible to be invited to the UK delegation for each international competition.

**60.1 1<sup>st</sup> FAI European Indoor Skydiving Championships, 11-14 Apr, Norway**

As this was a late addition to the FAI list of events the Competitions Coordinator required clarity as to who may attend. The Committee confirmed that the selection of teams would be as for the Indoor World Parachuting Championships 2018.

**61/17 Competitions Budget & Action Plan: 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018** – appendix i  
A breakdown of the budget had been provided to the Committee by the Vice-Chair, which was taken as read.

**61.1 World Class Performance** – Sponsorship allocation

The Chair spoke to his proposal document, circulated by email before the meeting, and invited those present to present any comments they may have. After long discussion Mark Bayada proposed that the objectives and procedure be adopted on a trial basis for this year, that all applications should be submitted in the usual process and sent to the Secretary by 31 October 2017, to be discussed and confirmed individually at the November meeting.

Seconded by Michael Wilson-Roberts. **Carried unanimously, Agenda – next meeting**

The Competitions Coordinator, who held the list of eligible teams/individuals would circulate the updated BPA Competitor Sponsorship document that includes the application form (Form 284) with return of completed forms by 31 October.

**Action: Competitions Coordinator**

**61.2 BPA Wingsuit mounts and altitracks**

The WS Discipline Rep tabled the new Flysights at the meeting, and had furnished the BPA Financial Administrator with the serial numbers for insurance purposes. The Chair confirmed that the flysight mounts and old altitracks would be returning to the office.

[note: 10/10/17 – The old altitracks were with the Secretary on 4/10/17]

**61.3 Judging laptops**

The COO informed those present that civil action had been taken and that BPA had been awarded a County Court Judgement against Kate Charters, and that further discussion would continue at Council later that evening.

**62/17 BPA Skills Coaching Roadshows**

Reports had been circulated with the agenda but there had been no time to discuss any issues that they may contain.

**Action – Agenda next meeting**

**63/17 Date of next meeting** – 1300 on Tuesday 28 November at BPA HQ.

The meeting closed at 1755

Ratified by the Council on 30/10/17

Published on 30/10/17

Distribution: Competitions Committee/Council, Vice Presidents, Acting Judges Coordinator & Deputy, Judges, Staff, Editor.

## Competitions Action Plan: 1 July 17 to 30 June 18

Target	From	To	By	How	Budget
1. World Class Performance	2017 medal winning performance	2018 Continued medal winning performance	Jun 2018 and on-going	Funded support to BPA selected teams based on performance in competition 2017	£55,862* <del>£69,600</del> £125,462
2. Coaching Road Show Events	2017 Supported events	2018 Continued support of events	Jun 2018	Run coaching road show events at BPA Drop Zones to support competitive interest and enhance member's skills	£4,670* <del>£10,000</del> £14,670
3. Judging Team	2017 UK pool of 13 Judges	2018 UK judging team retained/increased and improved ratings	Jun 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support all currency requirements under FAI rules</li> <li>• Provide financial help with pre-season refresher training</li> <li>• Supply judges to non-National UK events</li> <li>• Encourage/train new judges to gain International ratings</li> <li>• Supply of Judges Jackets &amp; T-shirts</li> <li>• Judging Equipment Specialists</li> </ul>	£30,000
4. Retain, improve and maintain competition equipment in line with IPC requirements	2017 Current holding	2018 Equipment stock in line with IPC changes	Jun 2018	Purchase / Hire of equipment / specialist equipment, as disciplines and rules evolve and dictate	£6,000
5. Delegation Uniform	2017 Delegation uniform	2018 Continued issue of uniform	Jun 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue of T-shirt generic BPA design</li> <li>• Issue of BPA logo embroidered badges</li> <li>• Supply Jackets &amp; polo shirts</li> <li>• Offer for tender design, manufacture and distribution</li> </ul>	£5,000**
6. Targeted coaching support for National non-senior champion teams / competitors	2017 Coaching Support	2018 Coaching Support	Jun 2018	Coaching support for National Champion 2017 teams of all disciplines moving to progress to higher event that meet the criteria of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Having won Nationals in 2017</li> <li>• Have 60% of their team remain the same – including videographer (flexibility for Freestyle &amp; Freely)</li> <li>• Compete in 2018 Nationals at a higher level</li> </ul>	£8,000 <del>£3,000</del> £11,000
7. Heads of Delegation & Team Manager/s	2017 5 Officials	2018 Continued funded support	Jun 2018	Funded support for BPA Officials attending FAI 1 <sup>st</sup> Class events to cover <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entry Fees</li> <li>• Reasonable Travel Expenses</li> </ul>	£8000***
*Targets 1 and 6: brought forward from the 2016/2017 Action Plan **Target 5: Uniform will continue to be funded from the British Team Fund ***Target 7: Reoccurring item					



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### BPA Grand Prix 2018 & BPA UKSL 2018

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Dates</i>
UKSL FS 4-way Meet 1	Skydive Buzz, Dunkeswell	5-6 May 2018
UKSL FS 4-way Meet 2	Skydive Langar,	9-10 June 2018
UKSL FS 4-way Meet 3	Skydive North West, Cark	7-8 July 2018
GP Accuracy Meet 1	Skydive Headcorn	19-20 May 2018
GP Accuracy Meet 2	Skydive Buzz, Dunkeswell	4-5 August 2018
GP Canopy Formation	Skydive North West, Cark	23-24 June 2018