
Safety & Training Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on

Thursday 6 February 2020 at 1900

at British Skydiving HQ, Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester LE2 9TF

Present:	Jeff Montgomery	-	Chair STC/STO
	Pete Sizer	-	Chair Riggers' Subcommittee/Headcorn
	Richard Wheatley	-	Skydive Langar
	Alex Busby-Hicks	-	Skydive Tilstock
	Nick Robinson	-	Air Adventures Wales
	Ryan Mancey	-	Go Skydive
	Gary Small	-	Skydive Chatteris
	Hans Donner	-	JSPW(N)
	Noel Purcell	-	Skydive Hibaldstow
	Paul Floyd	-	London Parachute School
	Stuart Meacock	-	Hinton Skydiving
	Stacey Canning	-	APA
	Sara Orton	-	Skydive GB
	Kieran Brady	-	Skydive Strathallan

Apologies: Martin White, Mike Carruthers, Andy Clark, Dylan Bartle, Paul Yeoman, Jason Farrant, Dave Wood.

In Attendance:	Tony Butler	-	Chief Operating Officer
	John Hitchen	-	Vice-Chair STC
	Mark Bayada	-	Council / Chair Canopy Working Group
	Mary Barratt	-	Council
	Kate Lindsley	-	Council
	Trudy Kemp	-	Assistant to COO/STO

Observers: Iain Grant, Ally Milne, Martin Harris, Karen Saunders, Steve Saunders.

The Chair welcomed Paul Floyd (new CI of London Parachute School)

ITEM MINUTE

1. DECLARATIONS OF ANY CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Any declarations of interest would be made at the item/s to which they relate.

2. MINUTES OF THE STC MEETING OF 14 NOVEMBER 2019

It was proposed by Nick Robinson and seconded by Ryan Mancey that the Minutes of the STC Meeting of 14 November 2019 be accepted as a true record.

Carried Unanimously

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE STC MEETING OF 14 NOVEMBER 2019

Page 2, Item 3 - Matters Arising. Mark Bayada updated the Committee on the progress of the Canopy Working Group. He reported that he had also updated the DZOs and membership at the Expo.

Mark Bayada presented a maximum wing loading chart, which the WG believe should form the basis of the new system for controlling the type and size of main canopy to be used depending on the skydivers' weight and experience.

Mark stated that the WG were looking at developing a simple method for those jumpers who may qualify for 'grandfather' rights, which would be based on currency, jump numbers, licences held etc. He stated that once the WG have finalised its recommendations, it is expected that a proposal will be put forward for consideration at the April STC meeting.

Mark Bayada stated that he envisaged there would be an annual review of the new system, which would also take into consideration any new canopies coming through. He also referred to an App he would like to be developed to enable jumpers to easily identify what canopy size they can use. A copy of the wing loading chart would be sent to CIs within the next week or two for consultation.

4. RIGGERS' SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING OF 14 NOVEMBER 2019

Pete Sizer reported that there were no matters arising from the Minutes of the previous Riggers' Subcommittee Meeting.

It was proposed by Noel Purcell and seconded by Gary Small that the Minutes of the Riggers' Subcommittee meeting of 14 November 2019 be accepted as a true record.

Carried Unanimously

Pete Sizer reported on the Riggers' Subcommittee meeting held in the afternoon and stated that the Subcommittee had discussed the subject of reserve re-pack cycles, which in turn had generated discussion on other areas related to reserve packing. He stated that a Working Group would be formed to look at the whole subject area.

Pete Sizer stated that the Subcommittee had also discussed the maximum exit weights for Icarus Tandem canopies. A MAUW chart for Icarus Tandem canopies would be attached to the outgoing Minutes for information (Appendix A).

5. PILOTS' SPECIALIST INTEREST GROUP MEETING OF 25 JANUARY 2020

The Chair reported that the Notes from the Pilots' SIG Meeting of 25 January 2020 had been circulated with the Agenda. He stated that the Notes were for information only, unless any STC members had any questions. There were no actions for STC to consider within the Notes.

The Chair reported that following the memo that had been sent out towards the end of last year regarding the overall ban on passengers being carried on skydiving flights, and the requirements for task specialists to be specifically referenced in SOPs, would require an amendment to the Operations Manual, which would be proposed at the April STC meeting.

It was proposed by Noel Purcell and seconded by Stuart Meacock that the Notes of the Pilots' SIG meeting of 25 January 2020 be accepted.

Carried Unanimously

6. INCIDENT/INJURY REPORTS – RÉSUMÉ

The Chair reported that there had not been a great deal of skydiving activity since the last meeting and this was reflected in the low number of Incident/Injury reports that had been received:

- i) There had been 3 Student injury reports received since the last meeting. All males. One student sustained a sore eye when the elastic snapped on a training vest during ground training. The remaining 2 were minor landing injuries.

- ii) Since the last meeting there had been one Injury report received for a 'D' Licence jumper with approximately 2,000 jumps, who made a 90-degree toggle turn, slid along the ground and dislocated his elbow.
- iii) There had been 4 Student Malfunction/Deployment Problem reports received since the last meeting. 3 males and 1 female. 2 were static line students whose canopies deployed ok, but they had control problems and carried out their emergency drills. One freefall student had twists and his canopy was turning, he then carried out his emergency drills. The final student on her first static line jump had a weak exit and forward looped into the lines as the canopy was deploying. One line went between her legs, she managed to release the line within about 10 seconds, the canopy then deployed fully.
- iv) There had been 7 Malfunction/Deployment Problem reports received for 'A' Licence skydivers or above. 6 males and 1 female. 3 had under 100 jumps. 3 had between 100 and 500. One had between 500 and 1,000, who was a wingsuit jumper with line twists which he was unable to clear.
- v) Since the last meeting there has been one Tandem Injury report received. A male. The student had a dislocated shoulder. He had previously dislocated his shoulder but did not declare it.
- vi) There had been 2 Tandem Malfunction/Deployment Problem reports received. One was twists that could not be cleared. The other was knotted lines.

The Chair stated that around the table was a chart that gives the maximum all-up weights for various Icarus Tandem canopies manufactured by different companies, as they differ depending where they were made. Therefore, when completing Injury/Incident reports, CIs were asked to please ensure that they, or whoever completes the reports, states the manufacturer's name on the report.

- vii) There had been 4 'off landings' reports received since the last meeting.
- viii) There had been 2 reports of items coming off jumpers in freefall. An altimeter and a helmet.

The Chair stated that he would be grateful if CIs could look back through their Injury books and see what had been written down regarding the injury, as HQ receive a high number of reports each year that do not provide enough information to obtain relevant data. For instance, stating 'back injury', 'leg injury', 'suspected leg/ankle injury', 'possible sprain/twist/break', does not help to categorise whether the injuries are serious or minor. He stated that it's realised that the person filling in the book may not know at the time of the injury what the actual injury is, but by following up with the injured jumper later, CIs should be able to supply the correct information, which could be done by a follow up e-mail and would enable the database to be updated, and at the end of the year better information and more accurate statistics can be provided.

7. **PROPOSED ADDITIONAL PLAS**

Two proposals for additional PLAs had been circulated with the Agenda, one for Skydive Tilstock and the other for GoSkydive.

i) Skydive Tilstock

Skydive Tilstock's proposed second PLA is located in field near the PTO clubhouse. Pictures of the proposed landing area, including overshoot and hazardous areas had been included with the proposal.

To the South and West of the proposed PLA is a wood, a cottage and the aircraft hangar. To the North and West is the solar panel array, and there are a small number of trees along the eastern edge. The current PLA is located to the North and there is an overshoot immediately to the East.

The proposal is to limit this PLA to Tandems and camera flyers with a minimum of 400 jumps. Jumpers will land in the centre of the PLA and not intentionally within 25m of the edge of the PLA. Due to the possibility of turbulence being created by the obstacles to the South and West of the PLA it will not be used if the winds are between 110° and 290° and are in excess of 10knts.

Alex Busby-Hicks provided further details to those present and stated that this had been part of the original PLA used by Tilstock prior to the solar panel array being built.

Following consideration, it was proposed by Ryan Mancey and seconded by Gary Small that the above request be accepted.

For: 14 (incl 2 by proxy), Against: 0 Abstentions: 1 (Alex Busby-Hicks)

Carried

ii) GoSkydive

GoSkydive's proposal was for an alternative landing area to be used when their current PLA cannot be used, at Old Sarum Airfield. Pictures of the proposed location of the landing area were included with the proposal.

The area will start 20 meters from the airfield fence allowing adequate separation from the spectator area and will extend with a 20-metre buffer to the runway. This large, flat area with overshoots on three sides has already been inspected by the COO who supports the proposal.

In stronger Northern or Southerly winds, the landing area will revert back the original PLA. A 'B' licence minimum restriction will be placed on the new alternative PLA and only individuals who have demonstrated competence to the CI will be permitted to land there.

Following consideration, it was proposed by Paul Floyd and seconded by Alex Busby-Hicks that the above request be accepted.

For: 14 (incl 2 by proxy), Against: 0 Abstentions: 1 (Ryan Mancey)

Carried

8. INSTRUCTOR COURSES

i) Instructor Course 4-19

British Skydiving wished to thank Target Skysports, Hibaldstow, for hosting Instructor Course 4-2019, from 11 – 19 November. The course report had been circulated with the Agenda and was for information only.

ii) Instructor Course 1-20

British Skydiving also wished to thank the Army Parachute Association, Netheravon, for hosting instructor Course 1-2020, from 3 – 6 February. The course report had been tabled to those present and was for information only.

9. PERMISSIONS

An email from Martin White had been circulated with the Agenda requesting an extension to the CSBI rating of Anthony Hyland, whose current rating expires at the end of February 2020. It was hoped that Anthony would be ready to attend the CSI course in May. Due to military commitments Anthony was unable to attend the February course.

It was proposed by Hans Donner and seconded by Pete Sizer that Anthony Hyland be given a 6-month extension to his CSBI rating.

For: 14 (incl 1 x proxy)

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Carried

10. A.O.B

- i) Circulated to those present was an e-mail from Ady King requesting a 6-month extension to the CSBI rating of Ross O'Rourke, whose rating expires at the end of February 2020. Ady King's e-mail provided further details of the request.

It was proposed by Stacey Canning and seconded by Hans Donner that the above request be accepted.

Carried Unanimously

- ii) The Chair reported that at the Tandem Instructors' Personal Development & Safety Day, held on the Industry Day at Skydive the Expo 2020, Noel Purcell had presented statistical findings for the last 4 years regarding Tandem injuries and incidents. Noel Purcell gave an overview of his findings to STC, which were comprehensive and well received.

A résumé of Noel Purcell's statistical analysis would be circulated with the Minutes for information.

The Chair thanked Noel Purcell for his presentation and for the work involved in producing the various stats.

The Chair reported that it is the intention to collate this information together with stats from other nations and governing bodies to produce a magazine style publication to also include case studies and various articles. It is hoped that this would provide further education and to assist Tandem Instructors with identifying trends etc. It is hoped that this would be available for circulation around mid-July.

The Chair reported on the various other presentations at the Tandem Instructors' Personal Development & Safety Day, which would shortly be available on the British Skydiving's YouTube channel.

11. DATES OF 2020 MEETINGS

The dates of 2020 STC Meetings are as follows:

2 April, 28 May, 23 July, 17 September, 12 November.

Thursdays at 19:00hrs, at British Skydiving HQ.

Distribution: Chair British Skydiving, Council, CIs, All Riggers, Advanced Packers, CAA, Editor – Skydive, File

Approved by STC on 2 July 2020

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