

British Parachute Association

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Safety & Training Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on

Thursday 6 April 2017 at 1900

at BPA HQ, Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester LE2 9TF

Present:	Jeff Montgomery	-	Chair STC/STO
	Rob Spour	-	Target Skysports
	Richard Wheatley	-	BPS, Langar
	Jay Webster	-	London Parachute School
	Iain Anderson	-	Skydive St Andrews
	Ian Rosenvinge	-	Peterlee
	Pete Sizer	-	Skydive Headcorn
	Jason Farrant	-	Skydive Buzz
	Steve Saunders	-	Wild Geese
	Sara Orton	-	Skydive GB
	Paul Yeoman	-	Black Knights
	Stuart Meacock	-	Hinton Skydiving
	Mike Rust	-	Skydive Chatteris
	Mark Bayada	-	APA
	Kieran Brady	-	Skydive Strathallan
	Ryan Mancey (<i>from item 5</i>)	-	Go Skydive
Apologies:	Dylan Bartle, Andy Duncan, Dennis Buchanan, Reg Green (new CI of the Pilgrims), Brucie Johnson, Alex Busby-Hicks, Matty Holford, Dave Wood.		
In Attendance:	Tony Butler	-	Chief Operating Officer
	John Hitchen	-	Vice Chair STC
	Paul Applegate	-	Chair Riggers' Subcommittee/Council
	Dr John Carter	-	BPA Medical Adviser
	Trudy Kemp	-	Assistant to COO/STC
Observers:	Andy Pointer, Sean McKenna, Gary Stevens, Joe Graves, Karen Saunders.		

Declarations of interest

The Chair invited declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda for this meeting. None were stated.

ITEM MINUTE

1. MINUTES OF THE STC MEETING OF 2 FEBRUARY 2017

It was proposed by Mark Bayada and seconded by Steve Saunders that the Minutes of the STC Meeting of 2 February 2017 be accepted as a true record.

Carried Unanimously

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE STC MEETING OF 2 FEBRUARY 2017

Page 5, Item 7 (Age Requirements Working Group). This was a main agenda item.

Page 5, Item 8 (Proposed Amendments to Section 9 (Flying) of BPA Operations

Manual). Following the last STC at which several amendments were made to the Flying Section of the Operations Manual, Tony Knight had requested a further amendment be made. The request is to delete paragraph 2.1.2 (a) which currently restricts the use of parachuting aircraft over a MTOW of 5700 kg to those which are only on the UK register. The basis of the application was that the current (and very old) ruling was no longer appropriate given that foreign registered aircraft used in the UK now must go through an approval process via the CAA who act, in these instances, on behalf of the DfT. There had been an instance where this regulation would have prevented the use for parachuting in the UK of a foreign registered Dornier G92 which was slightly over the 5700 kg weight limit. The amendment is: **BPA Operations Manual, Section 9 (Flying), Delete sub-para 2.1.2 (a). previous sub-para b & c now become a & b.**

It was proposed by Paul Yeoman and seconded by Stuart Meacock that the above amendment to the BPA Operations Manual be accepted.

Carried Unanimously

3. RIGGERS' SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING OF 2 FEBRUARY 2017

Paul Applegate (Chair, Riggers' Subcommittee) stated that he had nothing to report from the previous meeting.

It was therefore proposed by Pete Sizer and seconded by Jay Webster that the Minutes of the Riggers' Subcommittee meeting of 2 February 2017 be accepted.

Carried Unanimously

Paul Applegate reported on the meeting held this afternoon (6 April) and stated that the Riggers' Subcommittee had accepted the SWS 'Fire' 2R-C Tandem container and harness system including the Emergency Drills for the system.

It was proposed by Pete Sizer and seconded by Kieran Brady that the SWS 'Fire' 2R-C Tandem container and harness system including the Emergency Drills be accepted for general use.

Carried Unanimously

Paul Applegate stated that the manufacturers stipulate that the use of the Strong Master reserve is not to be used in the equipment. However, other suitably sized reserves are permitted. Also, when replacing parts, only the manufacturers original components can be used.

Paul Applegate reported that the Riggers' Subcommittee had also accepted a modification to add a Y strap to a Paratec Tandem Student Harness. This had followed a request for a number of variations to the original modification

It was proposed by Jay Webster and seconded by Pete Sizer the above modification be accepted for general use.

Carried Unanimously

4. INCIDENT/INJURY REPORTS – RÉSUMÉ

- i) There had been 8 Student Injury reports received since the last STC meeting. 5 males and 3 females.
- ii) Since the last meeting there had been 4 Injury reports received for 'A' Licence parachutists or above. 3 males and 1 female.
- iii) There had been 5 Student Malfunction/Deployment Problem reports received since the last meeting. 2 males and 3 females.
- iv) There had been 15 Malfunction/Deployment Problem reports received for 'A' Licence parachutists or above. 13 males and 2 females.

- v) Since the last STC there had been 5 Tandem Injury reports received. 1 male and 4 females, including an instructor.
- vi) There had been 7 Tandem Malfunction/Deployment Problem reports received.
- vii) There had been 29 'off landings' reports received since the last meeting. 9 of which were Tandems. The Chair stated that this was not a very good start to the year!
- viii) Six reports had been received of items coming off jumpers on exit or in free fall. 2 Student Tandem helmets, 2 other helmets and 2 shoes.

5. AGE REQUIREMENTS WORKING GROUP – MEDICALS, PROPOSED NEW DECLARATIONS/MEDICALS & OPERATIONS MANUAL AMENDMENTS

The Chair reported that Mark Bayada and Dr John Carter (BPA Medical Adviser) had updated the Committee at the last STC meeting regarding the next stage regarding BPA Medicals. Details had been circulated with the agenda, including the proposed new Self-Declarations and Medical Certificate for 'Solo' Students and Licenced Parachutist, together with slightly updated Tandem Student forms, which had also been circulated with the agenda, along with a proposed update of the Medical Section of the Operations Manual to reflect the changed forms.

Both Mark Bayada and Dr Carter were present at the meeting to provide further details.

Mark Bayada reported that the Age Working Group had met this afternoon and stated that a number of slight amendments had been made to the paperwork that had previously been circulated, including the re-numbering of some of the Medical Declarations. Mark then summarised the items discussed which included:

Solo Student Parachutists. They will be able to self-declare, regardless of age, as long as they can comply with the requirements of BPA Form 115C. Any that cannot will need a Doctor's Medical Certificate (BPA Form 115D).

Licenced Parachutists. Licenced parachutists will also be able to self-declare, regardless of age, using BPA Form 115E. Any that are unable will require a doctor's medical certificate (BPA Form 115F).

Minimum/Maximum Age. The rules regarding the minimum age of jumpers and the maximum age for jumpers to be permitted to carry out initial 'solo' parachute training will remain unchanged.

Tandem Students. The Student Tandem Medical Declaration (BPA Form 115A) has been amended to include a height and weight chart.

Ian Rosenvinge stated that he felt that by including the height and weight chart may in some instances put off a potential Tandem Student from participating in the sport.

Mark Bayada stated that the chart had been included in an effort to help make potential Tandem Students understand the increased risk of sustaining an injury on landing if their weight is above the level set for their height.

Ian Rosenvinge stated that he felt that further explanation should be included on the Student Tandem Medical to further clarify the risks involved, which would assist potential participants and PTOs.

Mark Bayada reported that the Working Group had considered the validity of Solo Student, Licenced Declarations of Fitness and Tandem Students, and had agreed that these Declarations be valid for 3 years or until any of the medical requirements listed cannot be met.

Instructors. Changes to the medical requirements for Instructors would be proposed at the June 2017 STC meeting. It was envisaged that there will be a staged validity, and the Working Group asked for further input from the Committee.

Ground Instructors/Riggers/Advanced Packers. The Working Group would continue to look at Medical Declarations for Ground Instructors, Riggers and Advanced Packers and the Working Group asked for further input from the Committee.

The Working Group had also considered the proposed amendments to **Section 11 (Medicals), Paragraphs 1 & 2 of the Operations Manual:**

Section 11 (Medicals), Paragraph 1 (Medical Requirements to Parachute). Sub-para 1.1, Change to read:

- 1.1. All parachutists must be in possession of a completed Self-Declaration of Fitness to Parachute or Doctor's Medical Certificate appropriate to the type of activity. (see 1.1.1 – 1.1.7. below).
- N.B. Electronic Fitness to Parachute forms issued by BPA Affiliated PTOs are acceptable for ab-initio Student Parachutists provided they contain at least the same medical information as the appropriate BPA form.*
- 1.1.1. **Form 115A. Student Tandem Parachutist Medical Information and Declaration** is valid only for Student Tandem parachute jumps.
- 1.1.2. **Form 115B. Student Tandem Parachutist Request for Medical Advice** is for Student Tandem Parachutists who are unable to meet the requirements of Form 115A above. Validity as for Form 115A.
- 1.1.3. **Form 115C. Solo Student Parachutist Self-Declaration of Fitness to Parachute** is for Student Solo Parachutists making any Category System (static line and free fall), Accelerated Free Fall or AFF consolidation jumps. The duly completed form is also valid both for *any* Student jumps and for later Licenced parachutist jumps during the period of validity of the form.
- 1.1.4. **Form 115D. Solo Student Parachutist Request for Medical Advice** is for Student Solo Parachutists who may be unable to meet the requirements of Form 114C above. Validity as for Form 115C.
- 1.1.5. **Form 115E. Licensed Parachutist Self-Declaration of Fitness to Parachute** is valid for parachute jumps made by licensed parachutists. It is not valid for Tandem instructing or for Student parachute jumps.
- 1.1.6. **Form 115F. Licensed Parachutist Request for Medical Advice** is for Licensed Parachutists who may be unable to meet the requirements of Form 115E above. Validity as for Form 115E.
- 1.1.7. **Form 116. Tandem Parachute Instructor Medical Certificate/Doctor's Certificate** is for Tandem Instructors.

Section 11 (Medicals), Paragraph 2 (General). Sub-para 2.1, Change to read:

- 2.1. No person under the age of 16 years, or aged 55 years or over, will be permitted to carry out initial 'solo' parachute training. Exceptions to the higher age limit may be permitted if the person has previous recorded solo experience on ram-air parachutes. Also, higher age limits for Student Tandem Parachutists may be acceptable (see BPA Forms 115A - Student Tandem Parachutist Medical Information and Declaration & 115B - Student Tandem Parachutist Request for Medical Advice).

Following consideration, it was proposed by Mark Bayada and seconded by Sara Orton that the revised Self-Declarations and Medicals Forms (115A, 115B, 115C, 115D, 115E & 115F) and the proposed amended Section 11 (Medical) of the BPA Operations Manual be accepted.

Carried Unanimously

The Chair reiterated that the Medicals were valid immediately and that Medicals already in the system (already sent to Students) would still be valid until the validity on the Doctor's Certificate expires.

Kieran Brady proposed a vote of thanks to the Age Requirements Working Group for their work undertaken on this project.

6. **PROPOSED CHANGES TO RIGGING SECTION OF BPA OPERATIONS MANUAL
OPERATIONS MANUAL**

The Chair reported that at the Riggers' Subcommittee meeting on the 16 November 2016 it was decided that the qualifications to attend the various rigging courses should be included in the Operations Manual to bring them in line with the instructor's inclusions in the Manual.

The Chair stated that at the Riggers' Subcommittee meeting this afternoon (6 April), the proposed amendments had been accepted by the Subcommittee. The amendments would also require STC acceptance:

Paragraph 3 (Parachute Rigger). Sub-para 3.1, Change to read:

- 3.1. The requirements to attend the Parachute Rigger course are as follows:
- 3.1.1. Must be a full BPA member
 - 3.1.2. Must be a Basic Rigger
 - 3.1.3. Must have a BPA Advanced Packing Certificate Grade (S)
 - 3.1.4. Must hold a BPA Approved Packing Certificate that includes a Tandem system (i.e. a Tandem main packing certificate)
 - 3.1.5. Provide a written recommendation to attend the course from the supervising rigger
 - 3.1.6. Provide a log of rigging work carried out since the BR course, signed appropriately by the supervising riggers.

Previous sub-paras 3.1. & 3.2. now become 3.2. & 3.3.

Paragraph 4 (Advanced Rigger). Change Sun-paras 4.1. & 4.2. to read:

- 4.1. The requirements to attend an Advanced Rigger Course are as follows:
- 4.1.1. Must be a full BPA member
 - 4.1.2. Must have been a Parachute Rigger for at least 2 years
 - 4.1.3. Must have BPA Advanced Packing Certificate Grades S and T
 - 4.1.4. Provide a written recommendation to attend the course from an Advanced Rigger who has known the candidate for at least 6 months
 - 4.1.6. Log of rigging work carried out in the preceding 12 months
- 4.2. The candidate will attend an Advanced Rigger Course as per the Advanced Rigger Course Syllabus (BPA Form 201).

Paragraph 5 (Rigger Examiner). Change Sun-paras 5.1. & 5.2. to read:

- 5.1. The requirements to attend a Rigger Examiner Course are as follows:
- 5.1.1. Must be a full BPA member
 - 5.1.2. Must have been an Advanced Rigger for at least 2 years
 - 5.1.3. Must have attended a "Methods of Instruction" lecture on a BPA Instructors' Course or can demonstrate good instructional experience and background
 - 5.1.4. Provide a written recommendation to attend the upgrade to Examiner from a Rigger Examiner who has known the candidate for at least 6 months
 - 5.1.5. Provide a log of the rigging work carried out in the preceding 12 months

- 5.2. The candidate will attend the 3 phases of the Rigger Examiner Course as per the Rigger Examiner Course Syllabus (BPA Form 202).

Following discussion, it was proposed by Richard Wheatley and seconded by Paul Yeoman that the amendments to Section 14 (Rigging) of the BPA Operations Manual be accepted.

Carried Unanimously

7. **INSTRUCTOR/COACH/PILOT RENEWALS - DISCUSSION**

The Chair reported that Chief Instructors, Drop Zone Operators and Chief Pilots were e-mailed on the 6 March informing them that the BPA had commissioned an external contractor to build a new BPA Personal Information Management System (PIMS) - the name of the planned new membership database program and that as part of this, it is planned to introduce a new procedure for electronic sign-off of those BPA ratings and qualifications that need to be renewed for currency, usually on an annual basis.

The Chair sought the opinion of STC prior to any proposals being put forward to the next STC meeting in June on the following ratings:

BPA instructor ratings

Currently, both the CI and another IE need to sign off an Instructor rating as current at the time of renewal (2 signatures required. Could be the same person if the CI is an IE). The COO and STO believe that this might be rationalised, with no practical disadvantage to the integrity of the system, by requiring only one signature, from an AI (who may or may not be the CI).

Following discussion, the Chair asked for a show of hands from which the consensus was that BPA Instructor qualifications should be signed off by a Chief Instructor.

BPA coaching qualifications

Currently, there was no formal system for the annual renewal of coaching qualifications, apart from logbook entries, which are not audited for this purpose. Under the new system, the COO and STO propose that coaching qualifications should be subject to the same formal currency requirement as Instructor qualifications and that coaching qualifications should be signed off by an AI (who may or may not be the CI).

Following discussion, the consensus from those present was that BPA Coaching qualifications should be subject to the same formal currency requirements as Instructors, which should also be signed off by a Chief Instructor.

Admission to the BPA Register of Approved Parachute Pilots

Currently, Authorised Parachute Pilots are authorized for two years, on payment of an administration fee of £20. Although Authorised Parachute Pilots may or may not be members, the 2-year authorisation cycle does not synchronise with annual membership renewals, which covers renewable BPA ratings and qualifications. Therefore, it was proposed that Authorised Parachute Pilots should be authorised on an annual basis - to the same calendar as the membership year - for an administration fee of £10 (so no increase in fee.)

It was reiterated that Authorised Parachute Pilot status, by itself, will continue NOT to confer any of the rights or privileges of membership; and Pilot Authorisations will be renewed separately to BPA membership, with a separate card showing their Pilot and/or Pilot Examiner authorisation number.

Following consideration, CIs agreed that Authorised Parachute Pilots should be authorised on an annual basis and that they be signed up by a CI.

Advanced Packers (APs)

Currently, BPA APs can be signed off by either an Advanced Rigger or an Advanced Instructor.

Some discussion followed, and concern was expressed with regard to how an AI or even a CI can determine an AP's currency, particularly if they themselves did not hold an AP rating. It was felt by those present that it was up to the checker to satisfy themselves that an AP is current in all aspects of reserve packing relevant to their status when they are signing off their ratings.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of those present that Advanced Packer ratings should be signed off by either an AR or CI.

8. DEFENCE SAFETY AUTHORITY RECOMMENDATIONS TO BPA

The COO reported that following the fatal accident to Ali Woodford at Skydive Bad Lipsprunge in September 2015, the BPA convened a Board of Inquiry to investigate. The Board, in agreement with the Chief Instructor, initiated several restrictions at the PTO to enable them restart operations. The Board also made several recommendations to STC, which were accepted.

Following the Board a Panel of Inquiry was also formed, which also made several recommendations to STC, which were agreed.

The COO reported that shortly after the fatality, the Defence Safety Authority (DSA) instigated their own investigation. He stated that this investigation had been completed in early 2017, and their report was due to be published in mid-April. However, the report had been sent to the BPA as eleven of their 40 plus recommendations had been made to the BPA: These were listed below.

The COO stated that the DSA report would be sent to Chief Instructors and must be treated confidentially.

- a. The Chief Operating Officer of the BPA should consider the introduction of 1st Party Assurance on the re-packing element of the 6-monthly reserve parachute check.
- b. The Chief Operating Officer of the BPA should review and revise the BPA Basic Freefall course syllabus to include training on actions to be conducted in the event of a collision and/or entanglement with another parachutist.
- c. The Chief Operating Officer of the BPA should define the minimum height below which conducting the reserve drill becomes dangerous during student parachute descents.
- d. The Chief Operating Officer of the BPA should mandate the separation of the DZ Controller and STD duties when dispatching 2 student parachutists per pass.
- e. For 3rd Party assurance, the Chief Operating Officer of the BPA should ensure that parachute operations for student parachutists are audited during the formal BPA audit process and that documentation should be amended accordingly.
- f. The BPA should reiterate the requirement for qualified personnel only to deliver parachute training.
- g. The Chief Operating Officer of the BPA should include a lesson plan on Student Talk Down (STD) with specific instructions and terminology.
- h. The Chief Operating Officer of the BPA should clarify the wing loading policy applied to main canopies for the first 2 student descents in order to remove ambiguity.
- i. The Chief Operating Officer of the BPA should clarify the most suitable means of identifying student parachutists during STD and publish the findings in the BPA Ops Manual.
- j. The Chief Operating Officer of the BPA should confirm the requirement for dispatch order by weight in relation to wing loading and parachute sizes for student parachutists.

- k. The Chief Operating Officer of the BPA should define the turns permissible for student parachutists during the first 2 descents and publish its findings in the BPA Ops Manual.

The COO stated that intention was to instigate a small Working Group to consider these recommendations. The Working Group would then report back to STC, with any possible recommendations.

The COO asked for anyone who was interested in being a part of the WG to contact him direct.

9. **INSTRUCTOR COURSES**

- i) The Association wished to thank Peterlee Parachute Club for hosting BPA Instructor Course 1-2017. The Course took place between the 6 – 15 February. There were CSBI, TBI and AFFBI candidates. Also, CSI, AI and IE candidates. The course report had been circulated with the agenda and was for information only.
- ii) The Association wished to thank BPS, Langar for hosting an AFFI, TI and Pre-Advanced Instructor Assessment Course from the 13 – 15 March. This course report had also been circulated with the agenda and was for information only.

10. **PERMISSIONS**

- i) A request from Mike Rust had been circulated with the agenda requesting permission for Skydive Chatteris to carry out night Tandem jumps sometime in 2017

Mike's original proposal had requested that this be permitted with 'C' licence parachutists on the front, but he now asked to change this to 'B' licence parachutists on the front.

Mike had stated that the Tandem Instructors involved would all have more the 5,000 Tandem descents:

Mike Rust – 12,500 plus Tandem descents, 700 plus in the previous year
Chris Beattie – 5,000 plus Tandem descents, 700 plus in the previous year
Geordie Best - 12,000 plus Tandem descents, 400 plus in the previous year
Glen Staley – 5,000 plus Tandem descents, 700 plus in the previous year

Following consideration, it was proposed by Mike Rust and seconded by Mark Bayada that the above request be accepted.

For: 15 (incl 1 by proxy) Against: 0 Abstentions: 1

Carried

- ii) A second request from Mike Rust had also been circulated with the agenda for Martin Crossley to be awarded a Tandem Instructor (Ground) rating. Mike had stated that Martin had held a TI rating since 1998, but due to injury had not completed any Tandems recently and it was unlikely that he would carry out further Tandems in the immediate future.

It was proposed by Mike Rust and seconded by Jason Farrant that the above request be accepted.

Carried Unanimously

- iii) A request from Andy Duncan had been circulated with the agenda requesting that RAF Akrotiri be cleared as an alternative/temporary PLA/DZ for May 2017. Akrotiri had been cleared by STC several times in the past, the last being in 2014. The criteria would be the same as was previously accepted:

- a. The main sports fields are approximately 254m wide and 289m in length, with overshoot on 3 sides.

- b. The 'run in' direction will be between 230 degrees and 125 degrees. Therefore, if the 'run in' is between 229 degrees to 126 degrees there will be no drop. The sea is approximately 1 km south of the centre of the proposed PLA. The prevailing winds at Royal Air Force Akrotiri are generally of an easterly direction, with the runway being 110/290.
- c. Royal Air Force Akrotiri Air Traffic Control will control the airspace, DZ control will be undertaken by Mr Phillip Bell (AI.)
- d. A maximum of 2 lifts will be undertaken consisting of tandems and BPA/FAI 'C' Licence holders only (camera operators.)
- e. A full medical service will be on standby as the Royal Air Force Akrotiri Regional Medical Centre is 150m from the centre of the proposed PLA.
- f. It is requested that STC grant permission not to use flotation devices due to the distance of the sea from the intended PLA.

It was proposed by Andy Duncan and seconded by Iain Anderson that the above request be accepted.

Carried Unanimously

- iv) A request from Chris McCann had been circulated with the agenda requesting that Geoff McVey be permitted to attend a Tandem Instructor Course without being required to attend a TBI course first. Chris had stated that Geoff let his Tandem Instructor rating lapse and his last jump was in October 2014. Geoff would like to regain his TI again. He has previously made over 1,000 Tandem descents. Chris had also asked that the Examiners on the Course be permitted to decide how many Tandem evaluation jumps Geoff would need to make.

It was proposed by Chris McCann and seconded by Richard Wheatley that the above request be accepted.

Carried Unanimously

- v) Two requests from Mark Bayada had been circulated with the agenda. The first was for him to convert his Tandem Instructor rating to a TA (Ground) rating, as he no longer carried out Tandem jumps. The second request was for Justin Everitt to convert his Category System and Tandem Instructor ratings to CSI (Ground) and TI (Ground) ratings, as he no longer meets the jump requirements.

It was proposed by Mark Bayada and seconded by Jay Webster that the above request be accepted.

Carried Unanimously

11. **A.O.B**

- i) An e-mail from Chris McCann had been circulated with the agenda.

A candidate on the last Tandem Instructor Course, having completed all the descents, was not permitted to continue on the course because of poor landing techniques. Chris McCann had requested that the candidate be able to carry out Tandem descents to enable him to practise his Tandem landings at Sibson, using a bag, prior to re-attending a TI course in June. Chris had provided full details.

Following discussion, some CIs present felt that this could be an unwise precedent to set, and that the decision of the Examiners on the Course should be respected.

A number of those present stated that they felt that by carrying out a few bag jumps would not enhance the candidate's performance, but may well increase the risk to him. It was felt there were other ways of preparing him for the Course.

Some CIs believed that as the candidate had fulfilled all the other requirements on the Course, he should be permitted to practice landing Tandems and suggested that he carry out supervised Tandem bag jumps at an independent Club prior to him attending another Course.

Following further discussion, a counter proposal was tabled by Pete Sizer and seconded by Ryan Mancey that the candidate be permitted to complete a number of Tandem bag jumps under the supervision of independent Tandem Instructor Examiners and that the complete jump, including the landing be videoed.

The vote of which was as follows:

For: 4

Against: 11

Abstentions: 0

Not Carried

Chris McCann's original proposal was put to the table, but failed to find a seconder.

- ii) An e-mail from Ryan Mancey had been circulated with the agenda requesting that the original restrictions regarding de-confliction procedures agreed for Old Sarum be lifted, as the reason they were originally included was because of an aerobatics aircraft that no longer operates from the airfield. Ryan would like the restrictions replaced with the procedures taken from their letter of agreement with Boscombe Down:

Parachute Operations from Old Sarum. Go Skydive will operate parachuting out of Old Sarum within the Parachute Drop Zone (DZ). The DZ datum is 510556N 0014703W with a 1.5nm radius except for that part which is inside the BDN ATZ and a routine vertical limit of FL 150. When the MATZ is active with routine flying, the aircraft will not run on a track between 280 and 360 degrees. If necessary to drop parachutists within this arc, the para-dropping aircraft will adopt a run-in track of 050 or 230 degrees (Parallel to Boscombe main runway) offset no more than 0.7 nm from the datum. Para-dropping operations will not be conducted within or above the Boscombe Down ATZ. If Old Sarum Radio is unmanned for any period during Para-dropping operations the Boscombe Down ATC is to be notified. If this is the case the DZ Controller will be in contact with the Para-dropping aircraft on the Old Sarum Frequency and can be contacted on 07532 170 799.

It was proposed by Ryan Mancey and seconded by Jason Farrant that the above request be accepted.

Carried Unanimously

- iii) Circulated to those present was a request from Pete Sizer for members of Global Rescue (a company that provide aid in various situations and their Pathfinder team can be parachuted in to remote locations), who have BPA 'B' licences to be permitted to use Paratec TW9 340 parachute systems.

It is proposed that Rescue Global jumpers with 100 jumps be allowed to jump the TW9 following suspended harness drills, conducted by Pete or a suitably briefed instructor. Following on 'C' licensed jumpers, with 25 TW9 jumps, will be allowed to jump with a small 'bundle' attached to the load rings on the harness, on 'Hop and Pops' from 5,000ft after a further session of suspended harness drills. Later the jumpers will be introduced to the large SG7 bundle and will undergo wind tunnel training with the SG7 and further suspended harness drills before jumping with it.

Pete had proposed that Rescue Global are given permission to conduct training on the TW9 system at Headcorn.

Pete Sizer gave the meeting further details of his request.

Following discussion, it was felt by those present that 100 jumps was a very low number for a jumper to gain the type of skills required for this proposal. It was suggested that Pete Sizer consider liaising with those that have experience with this type of descent and that perhaps he conducts an appropriate risk assessment.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Pete Sizer and seconded by Mark Bayada that Rescue Global jumpers with 100 jumps be permitted to jump the Paratec TW9 340 parachute systems at Headcorn, but before they conduct any further jumps with equipment, Pete Sizer comes back to STC with a progress report and a further proposal.

For: 10

Against: 1

Abstentions: 4

Carried

- iv) A letter from Richard Wheatley had been circulated to those present asking STC to consider permitting Brendon O'Rafferty, whose Tandem rating expired on the 31 March 2016, be permitted to attend a Tandem Instructor course for assessment for re-gaining his TI rating and for the course examiners to decide how many jumps he needs to make. Brendon has 3,240 jumps and previously carried out 418 Tandem jumps.

It was proposed by Richard Wheatley and seconded by Mike Rust that the above request be accepted.

Carried Unanimously

- v) Circulated to those present was an e-mail from Matty Holford requesting that Gaz Jones be given a six-month extension to his CSBI rating. Matty had stated that Gaz attended the CSBI course 9-13 May 2016 and was due to attend the CSI in November 16. Unfortunately, he had been involved in a canopy collision in September and due to his injuries could not attend.

It was proposed by Matty Holford and seconded by Rob Spour that the above request be accepted.

Carried Unanimously

- vi) Circulated to those present was a request from Iain Anderson to convert Roy Bannerman's Tandem Instructor rating to that of a Tandem Instructor (Ground) rating. Roy no longer meets the jump requirements to maintain his Tandem Instructors rating.

It was proposed by Iain Anderson and seconded by Ian Rosenvinge that the above request be accepted.

Carried Unanimously

- vii) The Chair introduced Sara Orton (Chair Safeguarding working party) who reported on the first meeting of the Safeguarding working party, which had been held this afternoon.

Sara Orton stated that the meeting had discussed various elements that are going on within the BPA in relation to Safeguarding, and BPA's policy procedures and linking it in with the BPA's Code of Conduct, which was already in place. The working party would also be looking at changes in legislation, which the Association may need to take into consideration prior this being cascaded down to PTOs.

STC would be kept informed of any future developments.

Dates of Next Meetings: Thursdays at 1900: 1 June, 27 July, 21 September and
16 November at BPA HQ, 5 Wharf Way, Glen Parva,
Leicester LE2 9TF

12 April 2017

Distribution: Chairman BPA, Council, CIs, All Riggers, Advanced Packers, CAA, Editor – Skydive,
File

AMENDMENTS TO BPA OPERATIONS MANUAL

At the STC meeting of the 6 April 2017 the following amendments were made to the BPA Operations Manual:

SECTION 9 (FLYING), Delete sub-para 2.1.2 (a). previous sub-paras b & c now become a & b.

SECTION 11 (MEDICALS), Paragraph 1 (Medical Requirements to Parachute). Sub-para 1.1, Change to read:

1.1 All parachutists must be in possession of a completed Self-Declaration of Fitness to Parachute or Doctor's Medical Certificate appropriate to the type of activity. (see 1.1.1 – 1.1.7. below).

N.B. Electronic Fitness to Parachute forms issued by BPA Affiliated PTOs are acceptable for ab-initio Student Parachutists provided they contain at least the same medical information as the appropriate BPA form.

- 1.1.1. **Form 115A. Student Tandem Parachutist Medical Information and Declaration** is valid only for Student Tandem parachute jumps.
- 1.1.2. **Form 115B. Student Tandem Parachutist Request for Medical Advice** is for Student Tandem Parachutists who are unable to meet the requirements of Form 115A above. Validity as for Form 115A.
- 1.1.3. **Form 115C. Solo Student Parachutist Self-Declaration of Fitness to Parachute** is for Student Solo Parachutists making any Category System (static line and free fall), Accelerated Free Fall or AFF consolidation jumps. The duly completed form is also valid both for *any* Student jumps and for later Licensed parachutist jumps during the period of validity of the form.
- 1.1.4. **Form 115D. Solo Student Parachutist Request for Medical Advice** is for Student Solo Parachutists who may be unable to meet the requirements of Form 114C above. Validity as for Form 115C.
- 1.1.5. **Form 115E. Licensed Parachutist Self-Declaration of Fitness to Parachute** is valid for parachute jumps made by licensed parachutists. It is not valid for Tandem instructing or for Student parachute jumps.
- 1.1.6. **Form 115F. Licensed Parachutist Request for Medical Advice** is for Licensed Parachutists who may be unable to meet the requirements of Form 115E above. Validity as for Form 115E.
- 1.1.7. **Form 116. Tandem Parachute Instructor Medical Certificate/Doctor's Certificate** is for Tandem Instructors.

SECTION 11 (MEDICALS), Paragraph 2 (General). Sub-para 2.1, Change to read:

2.1. No person under the age of 16 years, or aged 55 years or over, will be permitted to carry out initial 'solo' parachute training. Exceptions to the higher age limit may be permitted if the person has previous recorded solo experience on ram-air parachutes. Also, higher age limits for Student Tandem Parachutists may be acceptable (see BPA Forms 115A - Student Tandem Parachutist Medical Information and Declaration & 115B - Student Tandem Parachutist Request for Medical Advice).

SECTION 14 (RIGGING), Paragraph 3 (Parachute Rigger). Sub-para 3.1, Change to read:

- 3.1.** The requirements to attend the Parachute Rigger course are as follows:
- 3.1.1. Must be a full BPA member
 - 3.1.2. Must be a Basic Rigger
 - 3.1.3. Must have a BPA Advanced Packing Certificate Grade (S)
 - 3.1.4. Must hold a BPA Approved Packing Certificate that includes a Tandem system (i.e. a Tandem main packing certificate)
 - 3.1.5. Provide a written recommendation to attend the course from the supervising rigger
 - 3.1.6. Provide a log of rigging work carried out since the BR course, signed appropriately by the supervising riggers.

Previous sub-paras 3.1. & 3.2. now become 3.2. & 3.3.

SECTION 14 (RIGGING), Paragraph 4 (Advanced Rigger). Change Sun-paras 4.1. & 4.2. to read:

- 4.1.** The requirements to attend an Advanced Rigger Course are as follows:
- 4.1.1. Must be a full BPA member
 - 4.1.2. Must have been a Parachute Rigger for at least 2 years
 - 4.1.3. Must have BPA Advanced Packing Certificate Grades S and T
 - 4.1.4. Provide a written recommendation to attend the course from an Advanced Rigger who has known the candidate for at least 6 months
 - 4.1.6. Log of rigging work carried out in the preceding 12 months
- 4.2.** The candidate will attend an Advanced Rigger Course as per the Advanced Rigger Course Syllabus (BPA Form 201).

SECTION 14 (RIGGING), Paragraph 5 (Rigger Examiner). Change Sun-paras 5.1. & 5.2. to read:

- 5.1.** The requirements to attend a Rigger Examiner Course are as follows:
- 5.1.1. Must be a full BPA member
 - 5.1.2. Must have been an Advanced Rigger for at least 2 years
 - 5.1.3. Must have attended a “Methods of Instruction” lecture on a BPA Instructors’ Course or can demonstrate good instructional experience and background
 - 5.1.4. Provide a written recommendation to attend the upgrade to Examiner from a Rigger Examiner who has known the candidate for at least 6 months
 - 5.1.5. Provide a log of the rigging work carried out in the preceding 12 months
- 5.2.** The candidate will attend the 3 phases of the Rigger Examiner Course as per the Rigger Examiner Course Syllabus (BPA Form 202).