

British Parachute Association

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Competitions Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on

Tuesday 25 April 2017 at 1300

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

Present:	Brian Vacher	-	Chair
	Tash Higman	-	Vice Chair
	Emma Hart	-	Discipline Rep: Arts
	Michael Lovemore	-	Discipline Rep: Speed
	Pete Mather (PM)	-	Discipline Rep: FS
	Gavin McLeod	-	Discipline Rep: CF
	Georgie Vacher (GV)	-	Discipline Rep: FS
	Mike Williams	-	Discipline Rep: WS
	Michael Wilson-Roberts	-	Discipline Rep: VFS
In attendance:	Tony Butler	-	Chief Operating Officer (to item 20.3.2)
	John Hitchen	-	Vice President & IPC Alternate Delegate
	Helen Lucas	-	Committee Secretary
	Meghan Sheedy	-	Competitions Coordinator
	John Smyth MVO	-	Vice President & IPC Delegate
Apologies	Kate Charters	-	Judges Coordinator
	Ian Marshall	-	Discipline Rep: Classics

Item Minute

16/17 **Opening Remarks**

The Committee Secretary asked those present of their approval for the meeting to be recorded, to assist with the writing of the minutes. She explained the procedure of deleting the file once it was uploaded to her password protected computer, that no other access was allowed and that once the minutes had been agreed the uploaded file was then deleted. The Committee members were content.

17/17 **Sporting Licence Application Form 110** (item 7 on the agenda, brought forward)

The Chief Operating Officer spoke to his updated Form 110, amended to request proof of UK citizenship via UK passport scan on application, or documents to prove residency if not a UK passport holder. Proof would be required on each renewal after application as circumstances may change, and renewal would no longer be available through the 2018 BPA Membership Renewal form. All personal documents once received and verified would be treated as confidential waste and destroyed. All those competing at 2017 international events would be subject to proving their eligibility to be issued with a BPA issues Sporting Licence. The teams would be made aware via their invitation and communicated to the wider BPA membership.

Action: Committee Secretary & Competitions Coordinator

18/17 **Competitions Committee Terms of Reference**

The Committee were content with the amended Form 278 – Competitions Terms of Reference.

- 19/17 Minutes and Matters arising** – not covered elsewhere on the agenda
 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 21 February 2017 had been circulated electronically to the Committee and Council, and were ratified by Committee at the meeting. The Chair duly signed as a true record. The Minutes were to be published on the BPA website: <http://www.bpa.org.uk/member/agendas-and-minutes/>
 There were no matters arising.
- 20/17 BPA Competitions 2017**
- 20.1 BPA National Championship in 4-way VFS 2017**
 The Committee ratified the agreement made by email on 31/3/17 to accept the bid from Skydive Buzz to host the BPA 4-way VFS Nationals on 16-17 September, with a reserve weekend of 23-24 September. **Carried**
- 20.2 Specialist Wingsuit Performance Judge – Funding agreement**
 Those present ratified the agreement made by email on 2 March, to Jackie Harpers request of up to £1500 funding towards the specialist performance judges and equipment (paralog/flylight loaners) at the BPA National Championship in Wingsuit Performance & Acrobatics. **Carried**
- 20.3 BPA National Championship rules**
- 20.3.1 Inclusion of Sporting Licence for Senior teams**
 The Committee recognised issues arising from senior teams not requiring Sporting Licences, as should they then be selected to compete internationally a team member/s who is not eligible to apply for a BPA issued Sporting Licence would render the team ineligible to be selected due to their ineligibility to continue to be BPA British National Champions and any awarded medals would be forfeited. Tash Higman proposed that this be replicated in the rules across each discipline, with the addition of a reference to the updated Form 110 – Sporting Licence Application/Renewal. Seconded by Gavin McLeod. **Carried unanimously**
- 20.3.2 Team composition and allowable changes**
 Tash Higman proposed and was seconded by Gavin McLeod to ratify the agreement made via email to accept the document as all were happy with the amendments specific to each discipline. There was now a detailed document to provide clarity to all when selecting teams for international events and when applying for BPA sponsorship. **Carried unanimously**
- 20.3.3 FS 4-way**
 On answering a query regarding an entry fee price increase over the 3-year hosting period and recognising the amendment to be made regarding Sporting Licence application/renewal the FS Discipline Rep (GV) proposed and was seconded by Tash Higman that these rules be accepted. **Carried unanimously**
- As most domestic competitions were at the end of their 3-year hosting period the Committee would consider the redrafting the bid forms for 2018 BPA events. The Vice-Chair would look into drafting a contract which would accompany the bid forms. **Agenda – next meeting**
- 20.3.4 VFS 4-way**
 The VFS Discipline Rep proposed that with the appropriate change to the Sporting Licence paragraph that these rules be accepted. Seconded by Mike Williams. **Carried unanimously**
- 20.3.5 Artistics**
 The Artistics Discipline Rep proposed the rules with the Sporting Licence amendment be accepted. Seconded by Georgie Vacher. **Carried unanimously**
- 20.3.6 Speed Skydiving**
 Clarity was sought and given, that a team can abort a jump if they believed there was a safety issue, if in the plane. This was also included in the FAI rules and needed to be clarified to the Meet Director. With this clarification and the Sporting Licence amendment the Speed Discipline Rep proposed that the rules be accepted. Seconded by Peter Mather. **Carried unanimously**

20.3.7 Speed8

The FS Discipline Rep (GV) proposed that with the Sporting Licence changes that the rules be accepted. Seconded by Tash Higman. **Carried unanimously**

20.3.8 Canopy Piloting

The CP Discipline Rep proposed that with the Sporting Licence amended the rules be accepted. Seconded by Mike Williams. **Carried unanimously**

20.3.9 Canopy Formation

The CF Discipline Rep proposed, and was seconded by Tash Higman, that the rules be accepted with the Sporting Licence change. **Carried unanimously**

20.3.10 Accuracy

The CF Discipline Rep proposed, and was seconded by Peter Mather that the rules be accepted with the Sporting Licence amendment. **Carried unanimously**

20.3.11 Wingsuit Performance & Acrobatics

Highlighting that the Committee were content with the rules at the February meeting (min 7.1 refers) and recognising the requirement of adding the Sporting Licence amendment the WS Discipline Rep proposed, and was seconded by Tash Higman, that the rules be accepted. **Carried unanimously**

20.4 BPA Grand Prix rules

20.4.1 Canopy Formation

The CF Discipline Rep proposed that the rules be accepted. Seconded by Peter Mather. **Carried unanimously**

20.4.2 Accuracy

A query was raised regarding a registration line in the rules, which stated that there was to be at least 5 teams registered 1 week before the event. If not it would be declared a non-event. The consensus was that the line would require removal, as even if only 2 teams registered a winner could still be declared.

Action: Competitions Coordinator

20.4.3 Canopy Piloting

The CP Discipline Rep proposed, and was seconded by Peter Mather, that these rules be accepted. **Carried unanimously**

20.5 BPA UKSL rules

Subject to a minor amendment the VFS Discipline Rep proposed that the rules be accepted. Seconded by Peter Mather. **Carried unanimously**

20.6 Judges attending Domestic competitions

The Secretary tabled a request from the Judges Coordinator, who was unable to attend, to request the Committee's consent for the Judges Coordinator to invite 2 international judges, 1 for FS, the other for Artistics, to judge at the BPA National Championships in FS and Artistics. The Chair requested that the Secretary ask the Coordinator to provide costings for consideration at the next meeting in June.

Action: Committee Secretary, Agenda – next meeting

21/17 International Competitions 2017

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

There were no major issues, but some queries:

Accompanying persons – may be registered if not British or resident in the UK.

Clumsy Ninjas – were okay to change their cameraperson

Speed – The eligibility of an invited individual would be sought.

Action: Discipline Rep – Speed

21.2 9th FAI European & 6th Junior European Championships in Style & Accuracy, 24-31 Aug 2017, Podgorica, Montenegro

2 had confirmed their wish to attend and a further 4 were considering.

21.3 2nd FAI World Indoor Skydiving Championship, 20-22 Oct 2017, Laval, Quebec, Canada

There were no issues.

21.4 2nd FAI World Cup of Wingsuit Flying, 2-8 Nov 2017, Overton, USA

Acrobatic team Tutti Frutti were yet to respond to the invitation.

Action: Competitions Coordinator

21.5 9th FAI World Cup of Canopy Piloting, 27 Nov-1 Dec, Dubai, UAE

The CP Discipline Rep would seek to ensure the eligibility to hold a BPA issued Sporting licence from a team member. There were 2 further additions of Martin Reynolds and Alan 'Wez' Westley.

Action: Discipline Rep – CP

21.6 European Championships 2017

As only 1 team could have their score put forward to win the European Championships. The Chair proposed that the highest placing BPA National 2016 teams in each discipline be put forward as the named team, as per the rules of the event. Seconded by Tash Higman.

Carried unanimously

21.7 Heads of Delegation

21.7.1 Head of Delegation selection process

Tash Higman spoke to her paper that clarified the selection process for delegation officials. This would be included in the revised Competitions Committee Handbook.

Action: Tash Higman and committee Secretary

21.7.2 Roles and re-imburement

Heads of Delegation and Team Managers currently had their entry fees paid with the delegation, and were entitled to whatever that entry fee included. They also could be re-imbursed for their:

- Travel to the airport, at the cheapest available option
- Mileage if own car used
- Parking charges if own car used – long term economy parking
- Travel to the event, at the cheapest available option
- Accommodation - if not included in the entry fee
- Vehicle hire - if transportation not included in the entry fee

Those present discussed whether there should be an allowance for meals that were not included in the entry fee, as currently they were not covered. Clarity of an amount would be sought from HMRC through the Financial Administrator.

Action: Vice-Chair

21.7.3 Heads of Delegation and Team Managers for International events 2017

This item was held in a closed session.

CP, Dubai - John Smyth. Proposed: Tash Higman, seconded: Mike Williams

Classics, Podgorica – Ian Marshall. Proposed: Tash Higman, seconded: Gavin McLeod

Indoor, Canada – John Smyth. Proposed: Tash Higman, seconded: Pete Mather

FS, Arts, Speed & CF, Saarlouis – Head of Delegation Craig Poxon, Team Manager Ian Marshall. Proposed: Gavin McLeod, seconded: Tash Higman

All Carried unanimously

Wingsuit, Overton – No request via a CV was received. The WS Discipline Rep suggested that as only a few were attending one of the delegation – Keith Skelley, may wish to act in the role if requested.

Action: Competitions Coordinator

21.8 Contract clarity for individual team members, those whose entry fees are to be paid by BPA and Breach of Contract

It was clarified that the contract referred to an individual, whether a single participant or as part of a team. Therefore, each individual was responsible for their allocation of any sponsorship awarded or 'share' of allocation if part of a team. The FS Discipline Rep (GV) proposed that a pro-rata amount of sponsorship per individual should be recalled or recovered should that individual not make themselves available for BPA Roadshows, technically breaching the Competitor Contract. Seconded by Tash Higman.

Carried unanimously

Changes may also include that each individual is expected to promote the sport by every available media outlet, that those whose entry fees would be paid for by the BPA would be subject to the same terms and conditions, and lastly that Alternates will not be subject to the sponsorship terms and conditions but would be encouraged to contribute as to do so would strengthen their position on application for sponsorship in the future. All changes would be agreed by email, for ratification at the next meeting.

Action: FS Discipline Rep (GV), Committee Secretary – next meeting

21.9 Judges attending international events

The Vice-Chair made the Committee aware that Frank Mallabone had been chosen for the Judges Panel of the 2017 Wingsuit World Cup at Overton, Nevada.

22/17 Competitions Budget & Action Plan 1 July to 30 June 2017

Tash Higman provided an oral financial analysis to her previously circulated budget plan and informed those present that the budget allocation for each discipline towards BPA Roadshows may be re-allocated to other disciplines if required.

22.1 Uniform Tender

Tash Higman informed those present that the Communications Committee were considering a commercially sensitive proposal which may result in duplication of effort were we to proceed with the uniform tender at this time. As the first international competition was in August, she suggested we stay with the original design and supplier – Workstuff UK for the 2017 season. The Committee agreed.

The FS Discipline Rep (PM) proposed that the Discipline Reps have polo-shirts embroidered to identify their position on the DZ, making themselves more visible. Seconded by Mike Williams.

Carried unanimously

22.2 Name change from 'Funding' to 'Sponsorship'

The FS Discipline Rep (PM) briefed the Committee that by changing from 'funding' to 'sponsorship' would emphasise to those competitors allocated funds that there was a need to give something back. The consensus was to agree. All documents including rules, forms etc. were to be changed.

Action: All

22.3 Budget allocation to BPA Roadshows

Michael Wilson-Roberts spoke to his paper circulated with the agenda and was advised that stricter implementation and usage of the Roadshow budget may allow for a higher allocation in the future.

23/17 Competitions Budget & Action Plan: 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

The Action Plan would stay the same as the previous plan, and budgets would be allocated.

Agenda – next meeting

24/17 BPA Skills Coaching Roadshows

24.1 Update to BPA Roadshow request form

The VFS Discipline Rep requested the Freestyle and Freefly be separated into 2 roadshows. The Artistic Discipline agreed. The Secretary informed those present that that the draft request forms would be circulated for the August meeting, to be circulated to PTOs once the BPA competitions were agreed at the October meeting.

Action: Committee Secretary

24.2 Funding options for BPA Coaching Roadshows

The VFS Discipline Rep questioned if it was correct that a PTO did not offer discount to coaches at BPA coaching roadshows. The consensus was that it was a PTO decision but it was up to a Rep to decide if they wanted to accept the request, and to offer feedback if they thought a request was not favourable. The Rep went on to propose that BPA fund camerapersons when on BPA VFS coaching roadshows. The Chair stated that it was a good idea in principle but other Reps may wish the same consideration and asked the Reps to comprise budgets in order to assess the financial impact.

Action: All Reps – next meeting

The Chair reminded the Reps that the BPA cannot be expected to fund coaches to private coaching events organised outside of the BPA.

25/17 Judging matters not already covered on the agenda

25.1 Judges Contact List

As there had been limited response to the update of the list, and in light of a renewing Judge being lapsed in some of their FAI ratings who still showed 'Current' on the Contact List the Secretary asked that the list reflect the judge's ratings listed on the FAI website. The

Committee agreed. Therefore, the Judges Contact List would be amended to Judges Currency List and would be amended to the FAI listings. **Action: Committee Secretary**

25.2 Judges Training Seminar

The Seminar had not taken place this year.

26/17 Any other business

26.1 Earlier Competitions Committee meetings

After brief discussion, the Committee agreed to keep to the starting time of 1300.

26.2 Apologies

Tash Higman wished to record her apologies as she would not be able to attend the August meeting.

27/17 Date of next meeting – 1300 on Tuesday 13 June at BPA HQ.

The meeting closed at 1655

Ratified by the Council on 24/5/17

Published on 24/5/17

Distribution: Competitions Committee/Council, Vice Presidents, Judges Co-ordinator & Deputy, Judges, Staff, Editor.

Competitions Action Plan: 1 July 16 to 30 June 17

Target	From	To	By	How	Budget
1. World Class Performance	2016 medal winning performance	2017 Continued medal winning performance	Jun 2017 and on-going	Funded support to BPA selected teams based on performance in competition 2016	£101,437*
2. Coaching Road Show Events	2016 Supported events	2017 Continued support of events	Jun 2017	Run coaching road show events at BPA Drop Zones to support competitive interest and enhance member's skills	£10,000
3. Judging Team	2016 UK pool of 22 Judges	2017 UK judging team retained/increased and improved ratings	Jun 2017	<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 • Judging Equipment Specialists 	£14,000
4. Retain, improve and maintain competition equipment in line with IPC requirements	2016 Current holding	2017 Equipment stock in line with IPC changes	Jun 2017	Purchase / Hire of equipment / specialist equipment, as disciplines and rules evolve and dictate	£6000
5. Delegation Uniform	2016 Delegation uniform	2017 Continued issue of uniform	Jun 2017	<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*
6. Selection year targeted coaching support for National non-senior champion teams / competitors	2016 Not available Championship year	2017 Coaching Support	Jun 2017	Coaching support for National Champion 2016 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 2016 • Have 60% of their team remain the same – including videographer (flexibility for Freestyle & Freely) • Compete in 2017 Nationals at a higher level 	£8000
7. Heads of Delegation & Team Manager/s	2016 6 Officials	2017 Continued funded support	Jun 2017	Funded support for BPA Officials attending FAI 1 st Class events to cover <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entry Fees • Reasonable Travel Expenses 	£6000***
<p>*Target 1: to be carried forward to the 2017/2018 Action Plan **Target 5: Uniform will continue to be funded from the British Team Fund ***Target 7: Reoccurring item</p>					



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Competitions Dates 2017

BPA National Championships 2017

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Wingsuit Performance & Acrobatics	APA Netheravon	26-29 May 2017
Classics Accuracy Only	Skydive Swansea	2-4 Aug 2017 (Weds-Fri)
Formation Skydiving 4-way	Target Skysports, Hibaldstow	19-21 Aug 2017
Artistic, FS 8-way Speed Skydiving (Back-up weekend of FS 4-way)		26-28 Aug 2017 Back-up weekend FS 8-way, Arts & Speed 2-4Sep 2017)
Canopy Piloting	Skydive Buzz	1-3 Sep 2017
Canopy Formation	BKPC	8-10 Sep 2017
Speed 8	UK Para, Sibson	16-17 Sept 2017
4-way VFS	Skydive Buzz	16-17 Sept 2017 Reserve weekend: 23-24 Sept 2017

BPA UKSL & BPA Grand Prix 2017

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Dates</i>
UKSL FS 4-way Meet 1	Skydive Buzz	6-7 May 2017
UKSL FS 4-way Meet 2	Skydive Langar	10-11 Jun 2017
UKSL FS 4-way Meet 3	Skydive North West	15-16 Jul 2017
Canopy Formation	Skydive Langar	9-10 Jul 2017
GP Canopy Piloting	Skydive Buzz,	5-6 Aug 2017
GP Accuracy Meet 1	Skydive Headcorn	13-14 May 2017
GP Accuracy Meet 2	Skydive Buzz	15-16 Jul 2017