

Technical Excellence Advisers (TEAs) – outline of role

1 What are TEAs?

- 1.1 Technical Excellence Advisers (TEAs) are a new category of volunteer under Council's new Committee structure from 2020 to help deliver British Skydiving's Strategic Plan.
- 1.2 TEA is an enhanced and extended role that replaces the former role of Discipline Representatives on the old Competitions Committee. Under the new Committee structure from 2020, the work of the old Competitions Committee is now shared between the new Élite Performance Committee which will oversee competitions, and the new Member Development Committee (MDC). MDC will look after member journeys through our sport, including training and development pathways. This will include the well-established and successful skills coaching roadshow programme as well as new initiatives including the development of coaching, and, in association with the Safety & Training Committee, an enhanced structure of qualifications and ratings for our sport.
- 1.3 TEAs are a group of recognised subject experts in their own specialist field of skydiving, acting in an ambassadorial and advisory capacity as leaders in their areas. TEAs are at the nexus of their specialism and typically represent a community of skydivers sharing a passion for a specialist discipline or field within our sport.
- 1.4 TEAs role is as advisers both to the EPC and MDC, also to task and finish groups and working parties that these committees may establish from time to time. The advice sought will be across the range of issues relating to their specialism – including competitions and events, qualifications/ratings, training and development. TEAs will advise EPC on current competitors and emerging talent, together with developments from the International Skydiving Commission (ISC) in their area of specialist expertise. For this, TEAs be asked to attend certain EPC and MDC meetings in their capacity as specialist advisers. The committees may develop their own, more detailed, role descriptions for TEAs relating to that committee's own terms of reference. TEAs may also be consulted by the COO or STO on, or be otherwise involved in, the preparation of training materials or manuals relative to their area of specialist expertise.
- 1.5 TEAs will cover, between them, recognised competition disciplines together with other specialist technical areas of the sport such as tracking. However, TEAs do not include British Skydiving's professional advisers in areas such as medical, aviation, safeguarding, governance, finance, insurance, equality and inclusivity, etc.
- 1.6 TEAs will not be members of, but advisers to, the committees and other groups they advise. This arrangement improves governance by helping to avoid any potential conflict of interest.
- 1.7 TEAs will be responsible, through the committees, to the COO and will be subject to the British Skydiving Code of Conduct for Volunteers. TEAs will normally be provided with a British Skydiving email account, which must be for official British Skydiving business only.

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2 Appointment of TEAs

- 2.1 TEAs will normally be appointed on an annual basis, February to February. Casual vacancies and emerging 'new' specialisms needing a TEA to be appointed during the year will normally be filled for the remainder of that year.
- 2.2 Initial appointment as a TEA for the year shall be at the annual meeting of the Chairs of Council and the main committees with the COO, on the recommendation of the COO and STO (or delegated by the chairs thereto) based on members emerging as subject matter experts and/or a call to the membership for specialist expertise in relevant fields. One, and sometimes where it can be justified, more than one, expert for each recognised discipline or area of specialism within the sport, will be appointed as a TEA. To keep up with developing areas of the sport, there is fluidity as well as formality in the engagement of TEAs, and the COO and STO will play an important part in assuring the TEAs as a team cover between them the appropriate specialist technical areas of British Skydiving.
- 2.4 The list of TEAs for each year will be published after the meeting of committee chairs with the COO has decided it in February.