
Special Safety & Training Committee

To finalise the proposals of the Canopy Working Group

Minutes of the virtual meeting held by Microsoft Teams on
Thursday 25 February 2021 at 1900

Present:	Jeff Montgomery	-	Chair STC/STO
	Iain Anderson	-	St Andrews (from Item 9)
	Dylan Bartle	-	RAFSPA
	Stacey Canning	-	APA
	Mike Carruthers	-	Skydive North West
	Kris Cavell	-	Skydive Hibaldstow
	Bryn Chaffe	-	Sky High/Peterlee
	Andy Clark	-	Wild Geese
	Dave Emerson	-	Skydive Isle of Wight
	Ryan Mancey	-	Go Skydive
	Stuart Meacock	-	Hinton Skydiving
	Sara Orton	-	Skydive GB
	Mal Richardson	-	Skydive Jersey
	Pete Sizer	-	Chair Riggers' Subcommittee/Headcorn
	Gary Small	-	Skydive Chatteris
	Jason Thompson	-	Beccles Skydivers
	Richard Wheatley	-	Skydive Langar
	Martin White	-	Cyprus
	Paul Yeoman	-	Black Knights
	Chris McCann	-	Sibson Skydivers
	Jim White	-	Paragon
	Billy Steele (from 19.28)-	-	Skydive Snowdonia
	Jay Webster (from 19.30)	-	JSPW - Netheravon

Apologies for	Paul Floyd	-	London Parachute School
Absence:	Alex Busby-Hicks	-	Skydive Tilstock
	<i>Note: Alex Busby-Hicks was present at the start of the meeting, but left at 19.38 hrs.</i>		

In attendance:	Mary-Lou Barratt	-	Council
	Mark Bayada	-	Council / Chair Canopy Working Group
	Tony Butler	-	Chief Operating Officer
	John Hitchen	-	Vice Chair STC & Vice President
	Ally Milne	-	Canopy WG
	Craig Poxon	-	Chair of Council
	Noel Purcell	-	Canopy WG
	Nick Robinson	-	Canopy WG
	Simon Soper	-	Council
	Rob Spour	-	Council

Observers: James France, Gary Stevens, Martin Reynolds, Marcus Muir-Smith,.

ITEM MINUTE

1. WELCOME

The Chair welcomed all attendees to the special virtual meeting of STC.

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The Chair asked those who wished to speak to make him aware by using the wave icon or chat feature on Teams. He made a roll call of Chief Instructors as the voting members present, and then outlined the voting procedure.

The Chair stated that the meeting would be recorded to assist with preparation of the minutes after which the recording would be deleted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF ANY CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Chair asked that any voting member with a personal, financial or material interest in business on the agenda should declare that interest at the appropriate item. Gary Small declared an interest, as he had an item for consideration at Item 4 (A.O.B).

3. CANOPY WORKING GROUP

Mark Bayada, Chair of the Canopy Working Group detailed the areas from the working group that require final ratification.

Mark stated that he had requested that a special STC meeting be convened to gain STCs final approval for Forms 330 and 332, that were approved in principle on 11 February. He previously explained that there would need to be changes to both documents a following the feedback received from a number of CIs.

The amended forms had been posted in this meeting's folder for CIs consideration.

Mark also stated that as there were both grammatical and technical changes, he believed that it was necessary for STC to be given the opportunity to review the documents and make further amendments if necessary before agreeing on their implementation.

Gary Small pointed out that the Canopy Size App did not match the pdf copy of chart. It was explained that the App and the Excel spreadsheet were correct and the pdf copy will be reproduced within the next few day and then distributed.

a. Acceptance of final draft of Form 330 (i-iii) – Canopy Size Charts

Changes included more information on the header. On all forms the canopies to be used by the heavier jumpers has been capped to take away the requirement for licenced jumpers to have to jump student size equipment for many hundreds of jumps, which could be seen to be unreasonable. This change caused a ripple effect through the system resulting in some jumpers being permitted to jump smaller canopies than on the original charts.

Proposed by Gary Small and seconded by Chris McCann that Form 330 (i-iii) that the updated form be accepted.

For: 20 (including 1 proxy)

Against: 1

Abstentions: 0

Carried

b. Acceptance of final draft of Form 332 (Variation to Canopy Guidelines – Form 330)

Mark stated that following the feedback there had been many grammatical changes and some changes to the detail. This was to allow for the situation, that when a CI may not be present, there is an option for a nominated staff member to sign on their behalf. Also, the form relates to normal skydiving activities and does not to specialist skydiving, such as Display jumping and Canopy Formations.

A number of questions were asked, after which it was proposed by Dylan Bartle and seconded by Pete Sizer that Form 330 be accepted.

For: 21 (including 1 proxy)

Against: 2

Abstentions: 0

c. **Final agreement on implementation date**

Mark stated that he was looking for an agreed Implementation date for the new canopy system and all the areas of the Working Group's proposals that had been accepted.

Several points were raised, including the suggestion of delaying the implementation date until later in the year. It was also asked whether all documentation would be ready by the 1 April. The COO stated that it was the intention to send all relevant forms to PTOs before the end of March.

Proposed by Stacey Canning and seconded by Pete Sizer that the implementation date for the introduction of the new Canopy System, Manuals, STC amendments and relevant documents would be 1 April 2021.

For: 17 Against: 4 Abstentions: 1

Carried

4 **A.O.B.**

a. **Canopy Training App**

The Chair stated that details of the proposed Canopy Training App had been included in the STC folder for the meeting.

b. **Suggested Operations Manual Amendment**

The Chair stated that it had been suggested by a number Chief Instructors that with the new Canopy Training System being introduced **SECTION 2 (DESIGNATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF SKYDIVERS), Paragraph 6 (The Grading System), Sub-para 6.11.3. of the Operations Manual**, should be removed. The Sub-para states:

'British Skydiving 'D' Licence skydivers wishing to take part in the above disciplines (except Skysurfing and Canopy Piloting competitions) may do so without first taking part in the various Grading System training requirements, though they are recommended to do so.

Proposed by Gary Small and seconded by Richard Wheatley that the above sub-para be deleted from the Operations Manual.

For: 22 (including 1 proxy) Against: 0 Abstentions: 1

Carried

c. **Permission request**

A Permission request had been received from Gary Small, which went out with the amended agenda.

Gary's request stated that he would like an exemption to the new CT 'B' licence exemption form 332 for Mark Hall an 'A' licence skydiver with 69 Jumps.

Gary's email stated that Mark started jumping August 1998, he then moved to America and carried out AFF level 1. Upon returning to the UK, he started his AFF in 2001. Due to various commitments, he was unable to complete the course. He started jumping again at Skydive Chatteris Club Ltd (SCCL) in May 2017 where he has completed 55 jumps, bringing his total to 69.

Gary's email also stated that Mark is close to gaining his 'B' licence with only CH2 examination to be signed off and his packing training completed, which should be completed once the club re-opens. Before lockdown Mark was jumping his own

Sabre 2 - 190 with no problems whatsoever. According to Form 330 sizing chart, Mark's canopy size is a 220 less 10% brings him down to a 198, he is 79kg at present.

Proposed by Chris McCann and seconded by Jason Thompson that the above Permission accepted.

For: 14

Against: 3

Abstentions: 6 (including 1 proxy)

Carried

The meeting closed at approximately 20,15 hrs.

Attached:

Amendments to the British Skydiving Operations Manual, 25 February 2021

Approved by STC on 6 April 2021
Published on 7 April 2021

AMENDMENT TO BRITISH SKYDIVING OPERATIONS MANUAL

At the STC meeting of 25 February 2021, the following amendment to the British Skydiving Operations Manual were accepted. This amendment is intended for inclusion in the Operations Manual from 1 April 2021, the date which it becomes a requirement..

SECTION 2 (DESIGNATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF SKYDIVERS), Paragraph 6 (The Grading System), Sub-para 6.11.3, to be deleted.