

British Parachute Association

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Competitions Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on

Tuesday 1 November 2005 at 1810

at the BPA Offices, 5 Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester

Present:	John Smyth	-	Competitions Chairman
	Paul Applegate	-	Asst Discipline Rep: AE
	Nigel Holland	-	Discipline Rep: AE
	Ian Marshall	-	Discipline Rep: CF
	Geordie Page	-	Discipline Rep: Classics
	Andy Scott	-	Discipline Rep: FS
In attendance:	John Hitchen	-	NCSO
	Martin Shuttleworth	-	Secretary-General
Apologies for absence:	Kate Charters	-	Judges' Co-ordinator
	Jim White	-	Discipline Rep: CP
Observers:	Ian Matthews	-	Competitor (from item 67)
	Stuart Meacock	-	Peterborough Parachute Centre
	James Swallow	-	Target Skysports, Hibaldstow
	Steve Swallow	-	Target Skysports, Hibaldstow

Item Minute

64/05 Welcome

The Chairman welcomed the representatives of Peterborough Parachute Centre and Target Skysports to the meeting.

65/05 Minutes

Nigel Holland proposed, and Andy Scott seconded, a motion that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2005 be approved as a correct record.

Approved

66/05 Matters arising

66.1 Certificate of Achievement: Paul Rossouw (minute 55.2)

Paul Rossouw would be asked whether he wished his Certificate of Achievement (for winning the Silver Medal in the Intermediate category at the 2nd World Cup in Canopy Piloting held earlier this year at Lake Wales, Florida, USA) to be sent to him by post, or whether he would be at the AGM on 21 January 2006 to receive it in person.

Action: BPA Office

66.2 FS Nationals rules (minute 56.1)

The Committee agreed that the FS Nationals rules for 2006 would be drafted, along with all the other Nationals and Grand Prix Rules for 2006, after the IPC meeting in January 2006. This was so that any variations made by IPC could be incorporated where appropriate.

Action: Next meeting

66.3 World Record ratification by FAI (minute 56.1)

The Office had sent the necessary paperwork to FAI for ratification of *Airkix's* women's world record formation at the 2005 FS Nationals. A reply from FAI was awaited.

66.4 UK FAI judges' list (minute 62.1)

The form from FAI/IPC requesting a list of UK-based FAI international judges available in 2006 had not yet been received (it usually came early in December). The form needed to be completed by Kate Charters and signed off by John Hitchen as IPC Delegate. The Chairman asked that he should see the list of judges before it was returned to FAI/IPC as he wanted to ensure that all eligible judges' names were included.

Action: Kate Charters / John Hitchen / BPA Office

66.5 Competitions Equipment Co-ordinator (minute 62.2)

This matter had been discussed at the full Council (Council minute 59.4 refers).

66.6 Letter to Bob Soutar (minute 62.3)

A copy of the Chairman's letter to Bob Soutar, suggesting that they arrange to meet each other, had been circulated.

66.7 FAI judges' travel expenses to World Cups (minute 62.5)

The Office had trawled the back minutes of the Competitions Committee, but had not been able to identify the record of any decision by the Competitions Committee to pay the travel expenses to a World Cup of UK-based FAI judges (except in one-off special case of a New Age judge whose currency would otherwise have expired). A further search would be undertaken, but no one on the Committee had any recall of such a decision being made.

Action: BPA Office

67/05 8-way Speed Nationals: Peterborough Parachute Centre, 24-25 September 2005

11 teams had taken part and the results had been circulated. The Committee gave a vote of thanks to PPC Sibson for a well-run meet.

68/05 Classics Grand Prix: UK Parachuting, 24-25 September 2005

Geordie Page reported that 4 competitors had taken part in this Grand Prix, which had been called in one day with all but one round completed. There had been only one judge.

69/05 FS Grand Prix overall results

Andy Scott reported that a 4-way FS team had changed its name during the season, because of a sponsor, but had not made this known officially. As a result, they had been shown on the overall score sheet as two different teams, *Freefall University* and *FFU5*. In fact, the team had won Bronze in the overall Grand Prix championship but the results sheet did not show this because their score had been split between their two names. Nigel Holland proposed, and Ian Marshall seconded, a motion that the scores of the team, under its two names, should be combined.

Carried unanimously

The Committee considered that to avoid a repeat of this issue, it would be a good idea from next year to allocate teams in all disciplines a team number.

70/05 Freefly Grand Prix overall results

Nigel Holland asked about declaration of overall champions in the Freefly Grand Prix. The Chairman asked him to liaise with Kate Charters, Judges' Co-ordinator, who had the judges' score sheets.

Action: Nigel Holland

Nigel Holland reported that Rob Silver wished to raise an issue with the Committee about judging at freefly events. The Chairman said he would be welcome to come to a Committee meeting and that it would be helpful if he set out the issue in writing beforehand so Committee Members could consider it in advance. The Competitions Open Forum on the afternoon of AGM day would be another opportunity at which issues such as this could be raised.

71/05 Nationals and Grand Prix dates and venues 2006

A Competitions bid form for 2006 Nationals, Grand Prix and Skills Coaching Roadshows had been issued to all UK Clubs & Centres (minute 59). Bids had been due back today, and a dossier of completed bid forms was tabled.

71.1 FS Nationals

One bid for the 4-way FS Nationals, from Target Skysports, had been received. The Chairman reported that Ted Wagner would no longer be supplying Omniskore. IPC would decide on other options, one of which was being proposed by Andrew Mansfield, a Sibson jumper. Whichever score recording system IPC selected was the one that we needed for the Nationals, and Steve Swallow agreed to do his best to provide it for the FS Nationals 2006 as long as its costs were not excessive compared with the budgeted costs, which he had based on Omniskore. Andy Scott then proposed, and Geordie Page seconded, a motion that the 2006 FS Nationals should be held at Target Skysports on Saturday 19 to Monday 21 August 2006 and Saturday 26 to Monday 28 August 2006 (reserve weekend).

Carried unanimously

For the FS 8-way Nationals, there had been two bids, from NWPC Cark and Target Skysports. Andy Scott said it would be impractical to split the 4-way and 8-way events because of the overlap of competitors and judges. The Chairman therefore put to a vote the allocation of the FS 8-way Nationals 2006 to be held on Saturday 26 to Monday 28 August 2006 and Saturday 2 to Monday 4 September 2006 (reserve weekend). The vote was:

NWPC Cark - 0 Target - 5. **Carried unanimously: Target to host FS 8-way Nationals**

There followed a discussion about scheduling the 4-way and 8-way FS meets at the Nationals. Andy Scott said he had spent considerable time in dealing with this issue in the draft new rules he had circulated before the last meeting. He expressed concern at some of the comments from around the table, which suggested that colleagues on the Committee appeared not to have read his paper. Steve Swallow emphasised that he had based his bid on all rounds being completed and said it would be uneconomic for the host DZ if events were called early, after 6 rounds. The Chairman assured him that this was not the intention.

71.2 Artistic Nationals

Two bids had been received for the Artistic Nationals, from NWPC Cark and Target Skysports. In consideration of the bids, the Committee noted that Target's jump fee was lower and it offered higher aircraft capacity with better backup arrangements. There was also a synergy, as noted on the bid form, in holding the Artistic Nationals and the FS 8-way concurrently, on Saturday 26 to Monday 28 August 2006 and Saturday 2 to Monday 4 September 2006 (reserve weekend). The vote was as follows:

NWPC Cark – 1 (Geordie Page); Target – 4. **Carried: Target to host AE Nationals 2006**

Nigel Holland highlighted that the dates for the Artistic Nationals clashed with the last days of the World Championships in Canopy Piloting in Austria from 23-27 August 2006, and he believed that a number of competitors in our National CP team would wish to take part in the Artistic Nationals. The Chairman said that, with three different venues for WPC meets in August 2006 it would be practically impossible to find dates for the Artistic Nationals that avoided any clash with other events.

71.3 CF Nationals

One bid had been received for the CF Nationals 2006, from UK Parachuting in Norfolk. The date they had suggested clashed with the FS and AE Nationals. The Chairman telephoned Jason Thompson of UK Parachuting, who agreed to put forward another date tomorrow. On this basis Geordie Page proposed, and Ian Marshall seconded, a motion that the CF Nationals should be held at UK Parachuting, Norfolk, on a date to be advised.

Carried unanimously

(Note: The date for the CF Nationals 2006 has now been confirmed with UK Parachuting as Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 July 2006.)

71.4 Classics Nationals

No bids had been received for the Classics Nationals 2006. The Committee therefore decided to re-issue the bid form.

Action: BPA Office

71.5 Canopy Piloting

No bids had been received for a Canopy Piloting Nationals 2006. The Committee therefore decided to continue to select the British team from the Pro-Swoop tour.

71.6 Speed Skydiving

One bid had been received, from Target Skysports, for the Speed Skydiving Nationals 2006, for the weekend of Saturday 26 to Monday 28 August 2006 and Saturday 2 to Monday 4 September 2006 (reserve weekend). This was accepted unanimously.

71.7 8-way Speed

Three bids had been received for the 8-way Speed Nationals 2006, from BPS Langar, PPC Sibson and Target Skysports. Steve Swallow said that Target now wished to withdraw its bid.

In consideration of the two remaining bids, the Committee was impressed by PPC Sibson's proposals for liaison with the media; on its backup aircraft; and the greater flexibility it offered by allowing entry up to the day of the event, compared with seven days before in Langar's bid. The vote was:

BPS Langar – 0; PPC Sibson – 5.

Carried: PPC Sibson to host 8-way Speed Nationals 2006

Stuart Meacock (PPC Sibson) said the dates were to be confirmed, either Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 September 2006 or Saturday 30 September and Sunday 1 October 2006, according to the dates of the Langar Boogie. (Note: The 8-way Speed Nationals have now been confirmed for Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 September 2006.)

71.8 4-way Grand Prix

Four dates for legs of the 4-way FS Grand Prix had been set out in the bid form: and four bids had been received. It was therefore a matter of allocating dates to host DZ. Ian Marshall therefore proposed, and Andy Scott seconded, a motion that the following schedule be agreed:

Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 May 2006 – NWPC Cark
Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 June 2006 – BPS Langar
Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 July 2006 – PPC Sibson
Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 July 2006 or Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 July 2006
(depending on ESL dates) – Target Skysports.

Carried unanimously

71.9 FS 8-way Grand Prix

Three bids had been received for two meets, from Black Knights, BPS Langar and Target Skysports.

The Chairman then put it to the vote (two votes each), which was:

Black Knights – 1; BPS Langar – 5; Target – 4.

Carried FS 8-way Grand Prix 2006 at BPS Langar and Target

The dates would be as published in the bid form, and allocated as follows:

Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 June 2006 – Target Skysports
Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 July 2006 – BPS Langar.

71.10 Classics Grand Prix

Geordie Page suggested that, because of the relatively small number of competitors and therefore the high cost per competitor, consideration should be given to not holding a separate Classics Grand Prix in 2006 but running it at the Nationals. The Chairman said that this would not be possible because it was policy that the BPA would not fund National

competitions, and this policy needed to remain firm or the whole economic structure of domestic competitions would be put at risk.

One bid for the Classics Grand Prix had been received, from Black Knights, for the weekend of Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 April 2006. Geordie Page proposed, and Ian Marshall seconded, a motion that this bid should be accepted.

Carried unanimously

71.11 CF Grand Prix

Two bids for CF Grand Prix had been received, from Black Knights and BPS Langar. Ian Marshall proposed, and Paul Applegate seconded, a motion to accept both with dates as follows.

Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 April 2006 – Black Knights
Saturday 30 September and Sunday 1 October 2006 – BPS Langar.

Carried unanimously

71.12 Freely Grand Prix

Two bids for Freely Grand Prix had been received, from Black Knights and Target Skysports. Nigel Holland proposed, and Ian Marshall seconded, a motion to accept both with dates as follows.

Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 June 2006 – Target Skysports
Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 July 2006 – Black Knights.

Carried unanimously

71.13 Skills Coaching Roadshows for Juniors and Intermediates

The Committee decided not to arrange the dates of roadshows at this meeting, but confirmed that the following Clubs & Centres, which had bid to host Roadshows, would be allocated Roadshows subject to the availability of coaches. The Roadshows might be slotted into competitions. The Chairman emphasised that pre-advertised, well-known coaches had proven to be essential for successful Roadshows.

Ian Marshall therefore proposed, and Nigel Holland seconded, a motion to allocate Skills Coaching Roadshows in 2006 as follows:

- FS Coaching Roadshows would be held at Black Knights, BPS Langar and Target Skysports
- CF Coaching Roadshows would be held at Black Knights, BPS Langar and Target Skysports
- Artistic Coaching Roadshows would be held at Black Knights, PPC Sibson and Target Skysports.

Carried unanimously

71.14 Competitions dates 2006

The schedule of competitions dates agreed in minute 69 is set out in the Appendix at the end of these minutes.

71.15 Scottish Nationals

The Committee noted that Skydive Strathallan had not bid to host any Grand Prix in 2006. Andy Scott said that he had de-conflicted the dates set out on the bid form to avoid any clash with the three-day Scottish Nationals over the late spring bank holiday at the end of May. The Chairman said that he hoped the Scottish Nationals would continue as a well-known and respected Club event, and he did not understand the view from Strathallan that appeared to be that the future of the Scottish Nationals, a multi-disciplinary meet, was somehow tied with the BPA Grand Prix. In the view of the Competitions Committee, both could flourish.

72.1 World Cup - Eloy, Arizona, USA, 21-29 October 2005

Andy Scott reported that the British FS delegation had put in a creditable performance. In particular, women's 4-way FS team *Airkix* had scored an average of 15.2, exceeding the 15.1 average score of fourth place at the last WPC, and had therefore qualified for funding. *Airkix* had sent a paper outlining their proposed training schedule for WPC 2006, which was tabled.

The Chairman congratulated team *Airkix* at having come a close fourth place in their event at the World Cup. He noted that the three teams ranked above them had been together longer and that *Airkix* was a young team in the ascendant. He recommended that the Committee should fund team *Airkix* for an amount of up to £30K (equivalent to a maximum of £6K per team member) because, along with CP World Cup silver medallist Paul Rossouw, they were Britain's best hope of a medal at WPC 2006. The Chairman underlined the direct relationship between British success at the WPC and the enthusiasm for uptake in the UK, encouraged by world-class coaching at the Skills Coaching Roadshows.

Paul Applegate therefore proposed, and Ian Marshall seconded, a motion that FS women's 4-way team *Airkix* should be funded by the BPA up to a maximum of £30K, subject to their submitting a full training budget for approval by the Committee, signing a funding agreement, and providing receipts for the expenditure of BPA funds. The vote was:

For – 4, Against – 0, Abstention – 1 (Andy Scott, who declared an interest) **Carried**

Funding would be released in tranches in accordance with updates to the approved training plan. There was no guarantee to fund to £30K – this was a maximum limit, not a guaranteed amount.

The Chairman confirmed that there would be no further calls on competitor funding for WPC 2006 as no other teams or individuals had met the funding criteria.

Nigel Holland tabled a copy of a report on the World Cup from Deb Clarke and Jim Weir of the women's Freestyle team *Tumbleweed*. They also asked if they could go to WPC 2006 as a male team with Jim Weir performing and Deb Clarke filming. The Chairman asked Nigel Holland to report on this after consulting the appropriate IPC and BPA rules.

Action: Nigel Holland

The Chairman thanked all teams who had represented the UK at the World Cup in Eloy, all of whom had been self-funded. He noted and agreed with the view expressed by some competitors that it would have been better to have had a Head of Delegation, and gave an assurance that a Head of Delegation would certainly be in post for the WPC 2006.

72.2 World Parachuting Championships 2006

- FS and Artistic - Gera, Germany: 6-11 August 2006
- CF and Classics - Stupino, Russia: 12-20 August 2006
- Canopy Piloting - Stubenberg, Austria: 23-27 August 2006.

In FS, the UK would be represented by the 4-way open Army Team; the 4-way women's team *Airkix*, and the 8-way team captained by Milko from Langar.

In Artistics, two teams per nation were allowed. The first-placed teams (*Freejive*, *Style Jiver* and *Insanely Board*) had already been invited. Nigel Holland would now identify the silver medallists from the AE Nationals 2005 so the Office could issue an invitation. He would also pursue the invitations to the gold medallists, who had not yet replied.

Action: Nigel Holland / BPA Office

In Classics, Geordie Page reported that the women's team would comprise Fran Shaskova and Esther Reynolds. The men's team had not yet been finalised as Carl Williams and Nick Johnston had not yet responded to their invitations, which had requested a reply before today's meeting. Geordie Page asked for an extension of one week for him to follow this up and the Committee agreed.

Action: Geordie Page

In CF, Ian Marshall reported that team *Outcasts* had agreed to compete in WPC 2006, so there would definitely be a CF 2-way team. The position was not yet clear on the CF 4-way sequential. In 4-way rotations, a provisional acceptance had been received by telephone from Colin Dickson of team *CFUK*, subject to cost. Ian Marshall reported that Mark Weaver had received an invitation to compete in CF in the Anton Malevsky meet in 2006, and needed the BPA's permission to go. The Chairman said that as the Malevsky meet was the WPC in CF in 2006, he did not believe that the organisers were at liberty to issue invitations as they had done when the meet was not a WPC. He asked John Hitchen to clarify the position at the IPC meeting in January 2006.

Action: John Hitchen

In Canopy Piloting, no reply about the composition of the National team had yet been received from Brian Vacher, to whom the Chairman had written. Ian Marshall said he would be seeing Brian Vacher next week, and would ask him to contact the Chairman.

Action: Ian Marshall

The Chairman said he proposed to leave consideration of the Heads of Delegation and Team Managers for WPC 2006 until after the IPC meeting in January 2006. Much depended on whether the IPC Delegate and Alternate Delegate John Hitchen and Bob Card were offered official IPC duties at the meets. If not, they may wish their names to be considered. The Chairman said that he would also like to put forward his own name for Head of Delegation for the FS & AE WPC 2006 in Germany. He invited any further nominees in time for the next meeting.

Action: Next meeting

73/05 Judging matters

The Chairman reported that IPC was looking to the BPA to provide a trophy for the World Championship in women's FS 4-way. John Hitchen said he would discuss this at the IPC meeting in January 2006.

Action: John Hitchen

74/05 AGM – Saturday 21 January 2006

The Chairman confirmed that there would be a Competitions Open Forum on the afternoon of AGM day. He said this often came up with good ideas and was always a helpful discussion. Geordie Page asked if this and also the Judges' meeting could be tape recorded, as it was an unminuted meeting and sometimes there had been different interpretations of what was said. The Committee asked the Office to arrange this.

Action: BPA Office

Andy Scott said that he did not need to hold a separate session on the European Skydiving League. Any discussion on this could be taken as part of the Competitions Open Forum.

75/05 Nationality criteria

The Committee reviewed the current Nationality criteria, which required an individual (i) to hold, or be eligible to hold, a UK passport; and /or (ii) to have resided in the UK for a period of at least three years. Andy Scott said that the requirement about the passport, on its own, would mirror the position of USPA in determining eligibility for US nationality.

Ian Marshall therefore proposed, and Andy Scott seconded, a motion to dispense with the residency requirement to leave eligibility for UK nationality as being determined solely by an individual's right to hold, or be eligible to hold, a UK passport. The vote was:

For – 3, Against – 2 (Geordie Page and Nigel Holland)

Carried

Geordie page said he had voted against the motion because he wanted more time to think about the various options and their implications.

A request was raised from an East European Classics jumper to be considered eligible, subject to performance, for the British team. It was not clear whether or not this was Roumy Radountcheva, whose situation the Committee had considered before (minute 32.13 of the meeting on 7 June 2005 refers). Geordie Page said he would find out and report back to the next meeting.

Action: Geordie Page

A request from Irish FS jumper Dave Burns to be considered eligible, subject to performance, for the British team was considered. The Committee said that, in the light of the just-revised eligibility criteria above (and subject of course to their ratification by the full BPA Council), he needed to confirm that he held, or was eligible to hold, a UK passport. He also needed to join the BPA, and to be aware that as a sporting licence holder of another country (the Republic of Ireland), he would need that country's permission for him to obtain a UK sporting licence.

76/05 Date of next meeting

This had been the last scheduled Competitions Committee meeting of 2005, and the Chairman thanked all Members for their hard work which had been greatly appreciated during another busy year. Dates for next year's meetings would be arranged once the 2006 Council had been elected and the composition of next year's Competitions Committee was known. Usually the first meeting would be arranged for February and then the date of the next meeting would be agreed at the end of the preceding meeting.

Andy Scott, on behalf of the Committee, thanked the Chairman for his management of meetings during the year.

The meeting closed at 2242.

Appendix

Issued 9 December 2005 after taking in corrections to the draft minutes on 6 December 2005
Distribution: Committee / Council, Vice Presidents, Staff and Editor



Competitions dates 2006*as at 4 November 2005***British Open Nationals 2006**

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Formation Skydiving	Target Skysports, Hibaldstow	4-way: Sat 19 - Mon 21 August 2006 4- and 8-way: Sat 26 - Mon 28 August 2006 8-way reserve: Sat 2 - Mon 4 Sept 2006
Artistic & Speed	Target Skysports, Hibaldstow	Sat 26 - Mon 28 August 2006 Reserve: Sat 2 - Mon 4 Sept 2006
Canopy Formation	UK Parachuting, Norfolk	Sat 1 – Sun 2 July 2006
Classics		<i>to be arranged</i>
8-way Speed	PPC Sibson	Sat 23 - Sun 24 Sept 2006

Grand Prix 2006

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Classics & CF	Black Knights PC	Sat 29 - Sun 30 April 2006
FS 4-way	NWPC Cark	Sat 13 - Sun 14 May 2006
FS 4-way	BPS Langar	Sat 10 - Sun 11 June 2006
FS 8-way & Freely	Target Skysports, Hibaldstow	Sat 17 - Sun 18 June 2006
FS 4-way	PPC Sibson	Sat 1 - Sun 2 July 2006
Freely	Black Knights	Sat 8 - Sun 9 July 2006
FS 8-way	BPS Langar	Sat 15 - Sun 16 July 2006
FS 4-way	Target Skysports, Hibaldstow	Sat 22 - Sun 23 July 2006 <u>or</u> Sat 29 - Sun 30 July 2006, depends on ESL dates
CF	BPS Langar	Sat 30 Sept - Sun 1 Oct 2006