

British Parachute Association

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Competitions Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on

Tuesday 16 May 2006 at 1800

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

Present:	John Smyth	-	Competitions Chairman
	Paul Applegate		
	Ian Marshall	-	Discipline Rep: CF
	John Page	-	Discipline Rep: Classics
	Andy Scott	-	Discipline Rep: FS
	Elizabeth Stoodley	-	Discipline Rep: AE
In attendance:	Martin Shuttleworth	-	Secretary-General
Apologies for absence:	Kate Charters	-	Judges' Co-ordinator
	John Hitchen	-	NCSO
	Grant Richards	-	Discipline Rep: CP

Item Minute

24/06 Minutes

Andy Scott proposed, and Paul Applegate seconded, a motion that the minutes of the meeting held on 28 March 2006 be approved as a correct record.

Approved

25/06 Matters arising

25.1 Competitions Equipment Co-ordinator (minute 16.1)

John Page reported that he had been able to borrow a vehicle from a friend to transport the tuffet and other equipment from Old Buckenham to Cockerham for the Classics Grand Prix on 6 and 7 May. The only cost for use of the vehicle, apart of course from fuel, had been that of a minor repair. In view of the size of the tuffet and the difficulties of transporting it, John Page proposed, and Ian Marshall seconded, a motion that John Page should sell the tuffet and use the proceeds to buy a petrol-driven electric fan unit to inflate a Texair tuffet that the BPA had kindly been offered by Andy Houston. An inflatable tuffet and electric fan would be much less cumbersome and therefore easier to transport.

Carried unanimously

In answer to a question from the Chairman, John Page said that the technology of inflatable tuffets had developed considerably over the last few years, and that competitors were happy to use the Texair tuffet. John Page said he would write to Andy Houston to accept his kind offer to donate a Texair tuffet to the BPA.

Action: John Page

John Page said he proposed to sell the existing BPA tuffet to Headcorn for £400. It had cost the BPA £700 three years ago, when it had not been new, and had been used for 7 or 8 competitions since then.

Once the tuffet had been sold, the trailer would no longer be needed. The BPA had paid £500 for it. It had been adapted to carry the tuffet, and John Page said that the best way to sell it would be to dismantle the adaptations to return it to being a car trailer.

John Page proposed, and Paul Applegate seconded, a motion that he should sell the trailer for the best price he could get.

Carried unanimously

John Page reported that current prices on ebay were around £100 to £200. The Committee suggested that John Page might first offer it to Drop Zones for purchase, and if none was interested, sell it publicly.

Action: John Page

Andy Scott asked how the money left over from the sale of the tuffet and trailer, once the petrol generator and electric fan unit had been purchased, would be used to benefit Classics competitors. The Chairman asked Committee Members to consider this for discussion at the next meeting in the light of the amount of money available.

Action: Next Meeting

John Page reported that he had loaned Pete Sizer the 3cm pad for him to train for the WPC. A letter from Pete Sizer of acknowledging the loan, and promising to take care of the pad, had been circulated. John Page said that Nick Johnston also had a pad in a box.

25.2 Canopy Piloting Nationals (minute 16.2)

The Committee considered the draft Canopy Piloting Nationals 2007 bid form, which had been prepared by Grant Richards and circulated in advance. The preamble needed to state that it was the Selection Nationals for the WPC 2008. The question about aircraft insurance would be deleted on all competitions bid forms as this was now compulsory. The appropriate IPC terms and specification would be used to refer to the body of water required for the CP Nationals, and it would be highlighted at the top of the bid specification. No suggested date for the CP Nationals 2007 would be given, DZs would be invited to suggest their own dates. The return date for bids was decided to be by no later than 4 September 2006 (after the WPC 2006). The same return date would apply to bids to host the Classics Nationals 2007.

The Committee agreed that the Classics Nationals 2007 bid form should be a separate document, with a covering letter advising Drop Zones that they were welcome to bid for both. The Committee asked that the bid forms should be issued as soon as possible.

Action: BPA Office

25.3 WPC 2006 delegation T-shirts (minute 16.3)

Elizabeth Stoodley had circulated three quotations for the supply of WPC T-shirts for the British delegation. The Committee agreed to opt for the better-quality embroidered T-shirts, with an order quantity of 100. Overs could be sold by the Heads of Delegations and Team Managers at the event to accompanying persons and supporters. If competitors wanted more than one T-shirt, Andy Scott suggested that Elizabeth Stoodley should provide them with the contact details of Ultimate, the supplier.

Elizabeth Stoodley suggested that a T-shirt might be provided not only to competitors, but also to accompanying persons. After careful consideration, the Committee decided that this should not be done as it could not be justified use of the British Team Fund for accompanying persons except those who were there in a capacity of providing a service to the competitors (coach, sports therapist, etc).

The Chairman thanked Elizabeth Stoodley for kindly making the arrangements for supply of the official British WPC 2006 T-shirt.

Action: Elizabeth Stoodley

25.4 FS Nationals Rules (minute 17.1)

Andy Scott reported that the FS Nationals rules had now been published both in hard copy and on the BPA website.

25.5 8-way Speed Nationals Rules (minute 17.2)

Andy Scott had prepared the draft rules, which had been circulated in advance, and Sue Meacock at Peterborough Parachute Centre, the host DZ, had made an input to the

administration rules. The aircraft this year would be a Skyvan, and he would liaise with Kate Charters to ensure she was happy with the rules from a judges' perspective. With this caveat, Andy Scott proposed, and John Page seconded, a motion that the rules for the 8-way Speed Nationals 2006 be approved.

Carried unanimously

25.6 Artistics Nationals Rules (minute 17.3)

Elizabeth Stoodley reported that the Artistic Nationals Rules 2006 had been published both in hard copy and on the BPA website. She said that Kate Charters had confirmed that there would be no extra entry fee payable for additional judges. Elizabeth Stoodley raised the question of whether all competitors had to hold a grade 1 rating in their discipline in order to comply with the Operations Manual and be allowed to compete. The Committee agreed that this should stay in (SS1, etc) for compatibility with other disciplines. CCIs had discretion in interpreting this requirement to ensure that all jumpers/competitors were competent to perform safely in their discipline.

Completed

25.7 CF Nationals Rules (minute 17.4)

Ian Marshall had circulated the draft CF Nationals Rules 2006, with apologies for lateness as he had been out of the UK. The Committee agreed final variations to these, and then approved the rules for publication.

Approved

25.8 Grand Prix Artistic and CF Rules (minute 18)

These had been circulated in advance, and were approved. The CF Grand Prix rules had already been used for the CF Grand Prix at BKPC Cockerham on 29-30 April 2006.

Approved

25.9 Senior competitors' funding (minute 23)

There was no word from Grant Richards yet on whether Paul Rossouw (funded CP competitor) would be available to give BPA skills coaching in the UK after the WPC CP.

Action: Next Meeting

25.10 Artistics Nationals Judges (minute 22.3)

Kate Charters, in her written report as Judges' Co-ordinator, had said that she had received Artistic Nationals' judge Steiner Lilas's flight details and the cost would be £80. She had no news yet on the other judge's flight.

Ongoing

25.11 FS scoring system (minute 22.4)

Kate Charters had also said in her written report that she had been having difficulty in securing the Omniskore system for the FS Nationals, and that there had been teething troubles with a new alternative system, being developed by a jumper at Peterborough, that had recently been tried out at a wind tunnel. She would not therefore be confident to rely on it at the FS Nationals.

The Chairman asked John Hitchen, as IPC Rep, kindly to contact Larry Hill to seek his assurance that Omniskore would be available for the FS Nationals.

Action: John Hitchen

Meanwhile, Andy Scott would check on the development of the alternative system from the jumper at Peterborough as a possible reserve.

Action: Andy Scott

26/06 Nationals and Grand Prix 2006

26.1 Grand Prix held to date

Ian Marshall reported on the CF Grand Prix at BKPC Cockerham on 29-30 April. It had been a good, tight competition for the seniors, and the results had been circulated and published on the BPA website.

John Page reported on the Classics Grand Prix held at BKPC Cockerham on 6-7 May. There had been 7 senior, 3 intermediate and 1 novice competitor. The competition had been called after two rounds because of bad weather. The results had been circulated and published on the BPA website.

Andy Scott reported that 16 teams had entered the 4-way FS Grand Prix held at NWPC Cark on 13-14 May 2006. Unfortunately, it had not been possible to do any jumping because of

bad weather. The meet had therefore been re-scheduled for 16-17 September 2006, the day of the NSL playoffs in the USA, at the same venue. A typographical error in the rules (and the FS Nationals rules) had been corrected by the issue of an addendum sheet ahead of the meet.

26.1.2 Artistic Grand Prix

Elizabeth Stoodley reported that she had secured some prizes from sponsors for B category competitors in the Artistic Grand Prix. Details would be published on the 'BPA Matters' page in *Skydive Magazine* for June 2006. She hoped that this would help to encourage more competitors. The Chairman commended Elizabeth Stoodley on this welcome initiative.

26.2 2006 Nationals

26.2.1 FS Nationals

Target Skysports, the host DZ, would be asked to invite a Meet Director.

Action: BPA Office

Andy Scott said that the rules stated, as per the IPC rules, that teams would not be allowed to use a wind tunnel once the competition draw had taken place.

26.2.2 Speed Skydiving Nationals Rules

The draft rules, based on last years, were tabled, with comments by Paul Hollow, CCI of the host Drop Zone, target Skysports of Hibaldstow. The comments by Paul Hollow were accepted, and helpful input from Kate Charters' written report was also noted. The Committee asked the office to circulate the final draft rules to Mark Callard and Ian Chapman with a copy to Paul Hollow ahead of publication.

Action: BPA Office

27/06 International competitions

27.1 World Parachuting Championships 2006

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

27.1.1 FS & AE – Gera, Germany

The FS delegation had been registered, early, to secure hotel accommodation at the Marriott Courtyard, which the organisers had promised for the whole British delegation. Team arrival dates were noted. The Chairman said he planned to arrive on 2 August. Andy Scott said he might be able to arrive before that, but he could not yet confirm. Elizabeth Stoodley asked for a letter from the BPA to be sent to an Artistics competitor who was serving in HM Forces to support his request for additional leave to train ahead of the WPC.

Action: BPA Office

The Committee was pleased to note from Kate Charters' judges' report that Ruth Cooper had now been invited as an FS judge, and asked Kate Charters to brief her on the arrangements including the arrival date, etc. Her entry fee would be covered by IPC but the BPA would pay her travel (IPC were due to start paying invited judges' travel from 2007).

Acton: Kate Charters

27.1.2 Classics & CF – Stupino, Russia

John Page reported that there was an issue over the deployment altitude of 2,600 feet of which he was apprising Classics competitors in our delegation. He had found that BA offered return flights for £230. He had also identified a very economic travel insurance policy, which included repatriation to the UK, although it had a high excess of £500. He asked the Office to circulate details to all competitors in all WPC delegations.

Action: BPA Office

Ian Marshall was pleased to report that the CF 8-way team had found a supporter to cover the cost of its tracksuits, for 10 competitors.

27.1.3 CP – Vienna, Austria

The Chairman said that Bulletin 1 had not been helpful on training jumps and finding local accommodation. The venue was central Vienna at the height of the tourist season and the hotels were expensive, around £110 a night. John Page suggested that as at least one of our competitors was serving in HM Forces, competitors might explore the possibility of accommodation at one of the barracks in Vienna.

With regard to the apparent lack of provision of an on-site facility for pre-competition training, for safety reasons above all, the Chairman reported that John Hitchen had been in touch with the Chairman of the IPC CP committee, who had referred the matter to Larry Bagley of the USPA in his capacity as safety co-ordinator for the meet. His response was awaited. The Chairman reported that competitors were subscribing to an international petition against IPC's new rule about standing at the end of the distance competition, which they considered to be prejudicial to safe landings. The Chairman said he continued to be concerned over the arrangements in Vienna and looked forward to a speedy resolution as there was now only a little over two months to go before the competition took place.

27.2 European Skydiving League 2006

Andy Scott reported that 7 FS teams had registered to date. He had put a reminder in the June 2006 issue of *Skydive Magazine*.

28/06 Skills Coaching Roadshows for non-senior teams

Andy Scott reported on a good FS skills coaching roadshow at Langar on 15-16 April, and the Committee decided to send a letter of thanks to the Drop Zone for hosting it.

Action: BPA Office

Elizabeth Stoodley reported that an Artistics coaching roadshow was due to take at BKPC Cockerham on 20-21 May.

Ian Marshall reported that a CF coaching roadshow was due to take place at Target Skysports, Hibaldstow, on 15-16 July. The coaches would include Steve Saunders and Pat Hammond. Others were being planned for BKPC Cockerham and BPS Langar.

29/06 Update of anti-doping code and rules

Correspondence from UK Sport had been circulated. This included a template of the updated code and rules for anti-doping that UK Sport wished the BPA, in common with other sports NGBs, to adopt. The updated documentation was to harmonise UK requirements with those of the World Anti Doping Agency (WADA). The Committee unanimously decided that the BPA must remain fully compliant with UK Sport anti-doping requirements and asked the office to put in place and publicise to competitors the updated anti-doping code and rules.

Action: BPA Office

30/06 Judging matters

The Chairman thanked Kate Charters for her written report, which had enabled many judging matters to be dealt with as they had arisen throughout the meeting. The Committee now reviewed the report to deal with any remaining items.

The Committee was pleased to note that Kate Charters was planning to attend the WPC in canopy Piloting in Vienna (minute 27.1.3) as a trainee international judge in this emerging discipline. It was also pleased to note that there was a new national trainee judge in FS, Nigel Peart.

31/06 Trophies

John Page said that as there were no female competitors in the Classics Grand Prix on 6-7 May (minute 26.1), the reigning women's champions from last year had asked to retain their trophies. John Page proposed this, but failed to find a seconder. The trophies would therefore remain with the BPA.

On a more general point, John Page said that it would be timely to carry out a review of all BPA competition trophies. Some, like the Daily Telegraph Cup, were no longer awarded, and he thought it a shame that such a fine cup was not being used. Ian Marshall supported such a review, as the CF 4-way sequential trophy had gone missing. He asked that the safe

custody statement should be issued to trophy winners at competitions for signature so that the whereabouts of trophies could be tracked.

Action: BPA Office / Meet Officials

The Chairman agreed that a review of the BPA's trophies was necessary, and said that the task should be to recommend a strategy to the Committee and draw up an up-to-date list of trophies and their locations. John Page said that he would probably be prepared to do this if there were no other volunteers, but would not have time until after the season. The Chairman thanked John Page and asked that the item should remain on the Committee's agenda until then.

Action: Future meeting

32/06 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 11 July 2006 at **1800** at the BPA Office, Glen Parva, Leicester.

The meeting closed at 2010.