

# British Parachute Association

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## The Council

Minutes of the meeting held on  
**Tuesday 23 June 2009 at 1830**  
at the BPA Office, Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester

<b>Present:</b>	John Smyth MVO	-	Chairman
	John Horne		
	Paul Ledden		
	Ian Marshall		
	Paul Moore		
	Craig Poxon		
	Steve Saunders		
	Andy Scott		
	Martin Soulsby		
	Weed Stoodley		
<b>In attendance:</b>	Kieran Brady	-	Chairman, Pilots' Committee
	Tony Butler	-	Technical Officer
	Debbie Carter	-	Treasurer
	Lesley Gale	-	Editor, Skydive the Mag
	Martin Shuttleworth	-	Secretary-General
<b>Apologies for absence:</b>	Paul Applegate		
	Ray Armstrong		
	Adrian Bond		
	John Hitchen	-	NCSO
	Grant Richards		
	Alex Wilson		

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## Item Minute

### 40/09 Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting, held on Wednesday 22 April 2009, had already been ratified electronically by the Council. The ratified minutes had then been published on the BPA website on 17 March. The Chairman would sign the master copy as correct for the official record.

### 41/09 Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising.

### 42/09 World Games: Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei: 16-26 July 2009

The agenda noted that [www.worldgames-iwga.org](http://www.worldgames-iwga.org) states: *The World Games provide an invaluable opportunity for athletes from a variety of sports not currently on the programme of the Games of the Olympiad to compete in their own elite multi-sport event and represent their countries as members of a delegation, with National Olympic Committee involvement and support in an increasing number of cases. The World Games, for this very reason, play an important role in the sports framework of the Olympic Movement.*

The Chairman invited Andy Scott (Competitions Chairman) to report. Andy Scott said that, at the February 2009 meeting of the Competitions Committee, Weed Stoodley had proposed

(Competitions minute 7,2) that the BPA fund £500 each for the return travel to Chinese Taipei of our four athletes invited to take part in the World Games (once there, their costs would be met by the organisers). This proposal had failed to find a seconder.

However, the Committee had not at the time recognised the significance of the World Games as an invitation-only test event for potential new Olympic sports. When IPC heard that the British skydivers were not able to go because of the cost of travel, it expressed concern to John Smyth in his capacity as IPC Delegate for the UK. As BPA Chairman, John Smyth immediately recognised there had been a breakdown in communication for which he apologised. He recalled that the last time that British skydivers had been invited to take part in the World Games, some years ago (with 4-way FS team XL), the BPA had recognised the honour of their being invited by meeting their travel costs from BPA central funds (not the Competitions budget). After discussion with the Chairman of Council, Andy Scott had circulated an e-mail on 5 May to Council on the Chairman's behalf recommending the BPA should allocate funding of 4 x £500, total £2,000, for the four British skydivers invited to the World games (Freestyle Team Volare – Mike Carpenter, Adam Mattacola and Alberto Fuertes; and CP jumper Deane Smith). Council had voted in favour by an e-vote. For the avoidance of doubt, Andy Scott proposed, and John Horne seconded, a motion to re confirm the allocation of this funding.

**Carried unanimously**

In late May, when the four athletes came to book their travel for July, they discovered that the cost of flights had increased since February because the tickets would not now be purchased so far in advance. There was a shortfall of £550.50. The Competitions Committee had agreed to make up this shortfall from the British Team Fund.

The Council congratulated our four athletes on the honour of being invited to take part in the World Games, and wished them every success.

#### **43/09 Ratification of minutes of Committees**

The minutes of each of the following meetings, except STC, had already been circulated, electronically ratified by the Council, and published on the BPA website.

##### **43.1 Development Committee meeting on Wednesday 21 April 2009**

Craig Poxon (Development Chairman) highlighted key points. He reported that:

- Because of the concurrent scheduling of meetings of the Competitions and Development Committees, Weed Stoodley, who served on both, had offered her voting seat on the Development Committee to Paul Ledden, who had not previously had a vote on that Committee, whilst she remained as a co-opted, non-voting member of the Development Committee. Paul Ledden had accepted this offer at this afternoon's meeting of the Committee.
- A helpful report on the Drop Zone Defence Fund (DZDF) had been received from Chris Jones, Chairman of DZDF. The Committee had agreed with Lesley Gale, Editor of Skydive the Mag, to try to include an item on DZDF in the February 2010 issue at the start of the renewals period, as members were offered the option of making a voluntary donation to DZDF at the time they were renewing their memberships. The purpose was to remind members about DZDF and outline how it worked.
- A note in the Skydive the Mag for June 2009 had sought a volunteer to be the BPA's representative in the Sport England South West Region. No one had yet volunteered. The Committee had therefore decided to send an invitation to the Affiliated Centres in that region to nominate a member.
- John Horne had reported on Sport England's national lottery-funded small grants scheme, open to not-for-profit clubs and societies. This had been called to the attention of BCPA, as it may be a funding opportunity to help university skydiving clubs.
- Ray Armstrong, in his role of BPA liaison with CCPR, was due to meet CCPR's Head of Communications at the BPA Office on Thursday 25 June.

- John Horne, Tony Butler and Martin Shuttleworth had all attended CCPR seminars on safeguarding vulnerable groups in sport. This was an important topic because of the phasing-in over the next five years of new statutory requirements. Until the government issued the guidance specific to the sport and leisure sector - expected to be published between July and September this year - Sports National Governing Bodies such as the BPA were not in a position to make detailed plans, nor to consult in any informed way with their members.
- Weed Stoodley, supported by the Office, was in the process of a detailed review of the updated draft of the BPA Memorandum & Articles of Association that had been prepared by Co-operatives UK Legal Services, who specialised in such work. She planned to circulate the draft to the Development Committee within the next few weeks, and later to the full Council.
- Development of the CH/CP video, funded by the Airkix Fund, was continuing. The storyboard had been agreed. Videoing was due to take place this summer. Martin Soulsby was liaising with Dave Geffin and Stuart Meacock who was producing the video.
- The Committee had settled on late October 2009 for the next BPA meeting for Drop Zone Owners and Operators. It would run from 1030-1600, on a date to be arranged, at the same successful and economical venue as last year, Walcote Village Memorial Hall near Lutterworth, Leicestershire (M1 Jct 20).

#### **43.2 Communications Committee meeting on Wednesday 21 April 2009**

Martin Soulsby (Communications Chairman) said the minutes were self-explanatory. He asked if there were any questions from around the table and there were none.

#### **43.4 Competitions Committee meeting on Wednesday 21 April 2009**

Andy Scott (Competitions Chairman) highlighted key points as follows.

- The BPA trophies database should be available this autumn. It would initially include current trophies - historical trophies would then be added.
- The rules for the Nationals 2009 had been published, based on IPC rules.
- The Committee had given Deane Smith a bye at this year's CP and Classics Nationals, at which he could not take part because of a clash of dates with the World Games in Chinese Taipei in which he would be taking part by invitation (minute 42).
- The Committee had selected Target Skysports, Hibaldstow, as the successful bidder to run the UK-hosted ESL Finals on 11-13 September 2009. There had been one other bid. Target had won on the strength of its record in hosting the FS Nationals and its available aircraft.
- The dates for Nationals 2010 had been agreed.
- The Committee had taken delivery of British Team clothing comprising a jacket, polo shirt and trousers, at a cost of £50 per head met by the British Team Fund.
- The Committee's recommendation on Skills Coaching Roadshow coaches and judges' daily allowance was still to be decided by the full Council (see minute 54).

#### **43.5 Safety and Training Committee meeting on Thursday 11 June 2009**

Tony Butler offered to answer questions on the STC minutes in the absence of John Hitchen, STC Chairman. He also advised of a typographical error in the draft minutes, which would be corrected before publication. John Horne requested, and the Council agreed, a further clarification of a matter reported in the STC minutes in which he had been involved as an Examiner. A further minor variation to the draft minutes was agreed for clarification.

Andy Scott thanked STC for the benefit of advice to the Competitions Committee on recent matters relating to eligibility to take part in certain competitions from a safety perspective.

Weed Stoodley noted that the Riggers' Subcommittee had asked STC to consider making tandem harness locking pins mandatory. However, STC had voted not to mandate the use of locking pins. This led to considerable discussion, after which Weed Stoodley proposed, and Paul Ledden seconded, a motion to ask STC to re-visit this decision. The vote was: For - 5, Against - 3, Abstentions - 1.

**Carried**

Weed Stoodley then called attention to an STC vote in which the motion had been carried. She noted that there had been seven abstentions. She believed that such a high number of abstentions weakened the decision. On safety-critical matters she wished to be reassured by resounding decisions. If the abstentions had been because of lack of information, she believed it might have been better to defer the vote. Andy Scott noted that no counter-proposal had been made. The Chairman said that it was the democratic right of any Committee member to abstain from a vote, and there were many valid reasons for doing so.

Ian Marshall expressed concern about the new sunset clause that was being introduced to the grandfathers' rights on old packing certificates. Tony Butler (Technical Officer) said that only about 20 members now held the old Certificates, and that the old system had caused confusion at centres. The current system of annually renewed, type-specific packing certificates therefore needed completely to replace the old system. Ian Marshall agreed to discuss his concerns with Tony Butler and Paul Applegate (Riggers' Chairman) outside the meeting.

The Council noted STC had confirmed that the reserve repack periods specified in the parachuting rules and regulations of other EU nations would be honoured at BPA Affiliated Centres.

Martin Soulsby then proposed, and John Horne seconded, a motion to ratify the minutes (as corrected) of the STC meeting held on Thursday 11 June 2009. The vote was: For – 8, Against – 1 (Ian Marshall, who was against the sunset clause on packers' grandfathers' rights).

**Ratified**

#### **44/09 Headline issues from Committee meetings today**

##### **41.1 Communications Committee**

Martin Soulsby, Communications Chairman, reported that the Committee had confirmed that the BPA skydiving calendar 2010, to be issued free-of-charge to full Members as an insert to the December 2009 issue of Skydive the Mag, would be funded from BPA running costs rather than the Communications Action Plan budget. This was because it had become established as regular annual expenditure. Kieran Brady (a past Chairman of the Communications Committee) said that the Committee's original intention had been for the calendar eventually to become self-funding. In discussion, Debbie Carter (Treasurer) agreed that the cost of the calendar could be met from the Committee's 'regular' budget as distinct from its Action Plan budget. This meant that the Committee would continue to monitor its cost, which Martin Soulsby confirmed would be the case.

Other key points from today's meeting had been:

- The Committee had decided to retire the role of Club Reps as being arguably something of an anachronism in these days of instant electronic communications. The Committee intended to experiment, perhaps through the new Mag website, with social networking using sites such as Facebook and Twitter. Paul Moore had cautioned that this might weaken the website UKSkydiver.co.uk which already offered online social networking for British skydivers.
- An impressive list of skydiving videographers, photographers and those who worked in the skydiving media had kindly agreed to be judges of the BPA Skydiving Film Festival at the Blackpool AGM on Saturday 16 January 2010. They were: Jeff Zaltman, Wendy

Smith, Willy Boeykens, Simon Ward, Lesley Gale, Martin Soulsby and Andy Newell. Some of the judges would contribute online.

- The Office had scouted a possible venue for the AGM 2011 based on Craig Poxon's analysis of minimum average travel distance for Members. The prospective venue was the Barceló Hotel Daventry. Although smaller than the previous venue of the Barceló Hinckley Island, Daventry had the advantage that, apart possibly from a few individual leisure bookings, the BPA could have the run of the Hotel for the day, including taking over the hotel's large atrium with the exhibition of skydiving kit and services, a prime location within the hotel that would be likely to delight exhibitors. Martin Soulsby planned to visit the Hotel on his way up to the August BPA meetings.
- Following Council's decision to accept Lesley Gale's bid to produce the BPA magazine for the three years from 2010-2 (minute 28), a contract now needed to be arranged. After consultation, he had decided to stand down the Mag tender working party as its work had now been done. He thanked, in absentia, both Adrian Bond and Grant Richards for their contribution to the tender process which had been a new process for the BPA. He would now finalise details of the contract on behalf of the BPA with Lesley Gale, assisted by John Horne, Vice Chairman of Council, and Martin Shuttleworth, Secretary-General, with a view to putting the contract out to Council in August. He said that it had already been 90% agreed. The Chairman of Council thanked Martin Soulsby and Lesley Gale for making good progress.

#### **44.2 Development Committee**

Craig Poxon (Development Chairman) said he had already incorporated key points from today's meeting in his earlier report (minute 43.1).

#### **44.3 Competitions Committee**

Andy Scott (Competitions Chairman) reported that:

- The Chairman and Vice Chairman of Council had kindly made plans for one or other of them to attend the medals ceremonies at most of this year's Nationals.
- The Chairman of Council planned to attend the ESL finals 2009 to give a pre-meet briefing and for the prize giving.
- The Committee had received helpful advice from STC and Mark Bayada on the eligibility of a particular competitor to enter the CP Nationals, and had made a decision after this consultation.
- Paul Moore was content to be the Head of Delegation (without additionally a Delegation Manager) for the British delegation to the World Cup in FS and Artistics in Prostějov, Czech Republic, to be held from 30 August - 6 September 2009. Our delegation was likely to comprise about 45 members.
- The Committee had reviewed its expenditure against budget for the financial year ending on 30 June. Expenditure was all within budget, and on some heads it was under budget.

#### **45/09 BPA Action Plan: 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010**

Ian Marshall proposed, and Martin Soulsby seconded, a motion to ratify the Communications, Competitions and Development Action Plans for 2009-10 as set out in the minutes of their respective meetings on 21 April 2009 (minute 43 refers).

***Carried unanimously***

A draft action plan for (i) Safety & Training, and (ii) Administration, had been circulated. Tony Butler reminded the Council that last year, the Council had been invited to consider (minute 48/08) whether to continue to prepare targets within an annual Action Plan format in these areas as both were core areas of BPA activity. The Action Plan format had originally been adopted to bid for funding from UK Sport. As UK Sport funding was no longer available to non-Olympic sports such as ours, retention of the Action Plan format for Safety & Training and Administration might no longer be appropriate. Debbie Carter (Treasurer) concurred, and

suggested that requests for approval of specific items of significant expenditure in these areas should be put before the Council on an individual basis. The Council agreed.

**46/09 Report on Royal Aero Club**

The Chairman reported in his capacity as BPA Delegate to RAeC. He said the next RAeC Council meeting would be held on Tuesday 14 July. Andy Scott was delighted to report that he and his wife, Claire 'Sparky' Scott, were looking forward to the honour of attending a Buckingham Palace Garden Party on Tuesday 7 July, the invitation having been received by the BPA through the good offices of the Royal Aero Club. The Chairman expressed the BPA's gratitude to the Royal Aero Club.

**47/09 European Parachuting Union**

Paul Moore, EPU President, reported only the UK, Germany and the Netherlands were to date paid-up members of EPU. There were 27 member states in the EU and the European Air Safety Agency (EASA) through Europe Air Sports (EAS) required to deal with one 'competent authority' to represent sport parachuting throughout Europe. With only 3/27 on board to date, EPU clearly had to lobby other member states to come on board. In particular, there was a need to get the other major EU parachuting nations to join – France, Spain and Italy. Efforts to do this to date suggested that these member states did not see the potential threat of new European legislation in the same way that we did. The Chairman said that, in his capacity as a Vice President of IPC, he was doing all he could to persuade other member states to support EPU, and Paul Moore was doing the same. The Chairman said he planned to emphasise the importance of pan-European support for EPU at the IPC plenary conference in January 2010.

Andy Scott said the World Cup in the Czech Republic later this year (minute 44.3) would provide an opportunity to lobby for active involvement in EPU. Kieran Brady suggested that the BPA should be proactive. It could identify a key contact in each EU nation and invite them to meet on the continent to kick-start wide participation in EPU. He believed such a meeting to be so fundamentally important it might even be appropriate for the BPA to offer to pay the travel expenses of those attending.

Paul Moore said we needed a multi-pronged approach and he would continue to liaise on this outside the meeting.

**48/09 European regulatory changes**

Kieran Brady (Chairman, Pilots' Committee) updated the Council on our response to important regulatory changes being progressed by the European Air Safety Agency (EASA) that posed a significant threat to our sport.

EASA had released new Notices of Proposed Amendments (NPAs) and the challenge was to find a way that these could be made to work for us by our proposing Acceptable Means of Compliance (AMCs). Tony Knight was busy drafting AMCs. Kieran Brady and others had continued to liaise with a contact at EASA, and were seeking to enable sport parachuting to be accommodated under EASA's new regulatory regime.

**49/09 Investments**

Minute 16 of the Council meeting held on 17 February 2009 refers. Debbie Carter (Treasurer) reported that some charities and other third sector bodies had seen the value of their reserves fall significantly because of the economic downturn. She said the BPA had always adopted a low-risk investment policy, which meant that we had not suffered any loss of BPA reserves in the downturn. However, interest rates were at an all-time low and investment income in the financial year ending on 30 June 2009 was likely to be about £56K down on last year. She said that independent investment advice was always taken before deciding on investments.

Martin Soulsby suggested that the range of investment options should be presented to the next meeting of Council for consideration. Ian Marshall congratulated the Treasurer on this prudent investment strategy and believed it should continue. The consensus favoured retaining the status quo.

Andy Scott said it would be helpful to the Council to see what had been invested and where. The Chairman asked Debbie Carter and Jon Gretton (Financial Administrator), kindly to provide a summary for the next meeting.

**Action: Treasurer/ BPA Office (Jon Gretton)**

**50/09 Correspondence**

**59.1 Letter from Dr Rainer 'Exi' Hoenle, President of DFV**

A letter dated 26 May from Dr Rainer 'Exi' Hoenle, President of DFV, the German Parachuting Federation, had been circulated with the agenda. The letter concerned mutual recognition of other EU nations' parachuting rules and regulations. Paul Moore reported that the correspondence had arisen as a result of an issue at his affiliated centre at Bad Lippspringe in Germany. He said that the matter had now been resolved to Dr Hoenle's satisfaction and that there was no need for any action, or further reply, by the Council. The Council thanked Paul Moore for resolving the issue.

**Resolved**

**59.2 Mag tender**

The Council noted correspondence from a number of members expressing satisfaction with Council's decision to appoint Lesley Gale as Editor following the editorial tender process (minute 28 of the meeting on 22 April refers).

**Noted**

**51/09 Staff**

The Chairman said this item would be held in camera. Staff and others not on the Council left the room.

The Employment Committee had met immediately before the Council meeting. Weed Stoodley (Staff Liaison Officer and Chair of the Employment Committee) reported on the recommendation of the Employment Committee on the annual review of staff pay. The Council unanimously agreed to support the Committee's recommendation, which was to increase staff pay by one per cent with effect from 1 July 2009 and a further one per cent with effect from 1 January 2010.

The meeting then resumed in open session and the Chairman reported the outcome. Tony Butler thanked the Council on behalf of the staff.

**52/09 Audit of expenses**

Weed Stoodley suggested that it would be good practice to conduct an audit of expenses. Tony Butler reported that, in the past, the Staff Liaison Officer had carried out an audit of Council and staff expenses. After discussion, the Council asked Weed Stoodley, as the current Staff Liaison Officer, kindly to carry out an audit of staff expenses. Tony Butler said that, as in the past, the staff would welcome this. Weed Stoodley agreed to carry out the audit.

**Action: Weed Stoodley**

Regarding Council expenses, John Horne (Vice Chairman of Council) believed that it would not be seen to be good practice to have one elected member auditing the expenses of other elected members. After discussion, Council asked Debbie Carter, Treasurer, who was a co-opted, non-voting member of Council, kindly to carry out an audit of Council expenses. Debbie Carter agreed.

**Action: Debbie Carter**

**53/09 Review of expenses policy**

John Horne (Vice Chairman of Council) suggested that expenses policy should routinely be reviewed to ensure best value. In particular he highlighted staff car travel and asked how the current mileage rate for own car use might compare for example with the cost of a lease car. Weed Stoodley agreed to review this and report back.

**Action: Weed Stoodley**

**54/09 Skills Coaching Roadshow & Competition judges' daily subsistence rate**

Andy Scott (Competitions Chairman) asked that, pursuant to minute 31.1 of the last meeting, Council should now return to consider his Committee's recommendation that the daily allowance for coaches on BPA Skills Coaching Roadshows and for BPA competition judges should be increased by £10 from £30 to £40 a day. Andy Scott believed that this increase was needed to cover their reasonable expenses, and there was capacity in the Competitions

budget to do it. Debbie Carter (Treasurer) confirmed that Examiners on Instructor courses were on a different rate of expenses, £50 a day, which was recovered from the fees of course attendees. Weed Stoodley reported that there were about 100 day-rate claims annually on competitions so that the annual increase in cost would be approximately £1K. Andy Scott then proposed, and Weed Stoodley seconded, a motion to increase the daily subsistence rate of Skills Coaching Roadshow coaches and competitions judges by £10, from £30 to £40 a day (24-hour period). The vote was; For - 7, Against - 2.

**Carried**

**55/09 Management accounts**

Martin Soulsby said that we were a membership body, and the Council and Committees quite properly devoted much time to formulating strategies for membership recruitment and retention. Yet we did not have before us at each meeting the membership figures to see whether our strategies were working. Nor did we have figures for income and expenditure. Debbie Carter (Treasurer) advised that monthly accounts were available to any Council Member who wanted them. In years gone by, these had been routinely circulated to the full Council but this was no longer done. Martin Soulsby believed that the key might be to set out 'headline' figures in an easily digestible format that could be understood by non-financial specialists. He had a suggestion about the sort of format that might be used and would liaise with the Treasurer outside the meeting.

**Action: Martin Soulsby / Debbie Carter**

**56/09 Applications for re-Affiliation**

**56.1 Skydive St Andrews**

This application, on Form 135, had been circulated in advance. It was for a change of one of the directors and change of location. The technical staff had no comments. Andy Scott therefore proposed, and Martin Soulsby seconded, a motion that Council should approve the application

**Carried unanimously**

Ian Marshall sought clarification of why the change of location had not been listed on the agenda for STC's meeting on 11 June (minute 43.5). Tony Butler said this was because the application had been received after the agenda had been issued but before the meeting. It was established procedure to deal with applications received during this period under 'any other business', otherwise the applicant would have had to wait for more than two months until the next STC meeting.

**56.2 No other applications**

Tony Butler (Technical Officer) confirmed that there were no other applications for Affiliation or Re-Affiliation for the Council to consider at this time. Skydive Brid at Bridlington continued not currently to be operating (minute 36 of the Council meeting on 22 April 2009).

**57/09 Mag tender process**

Adrian Bond (Chairman of the Mag Tender working party) had reported to the Chairman of Council an alleged breach of confidentiality about the identity of the shortlisted bidders towards the end of the Mag tender process. Martin Soulsby (Communications Chairman) said he was aware of Adrian Bond's concern that a leak may have come from a Member or Members of this Council, but he believed there were other possible sources outside the BPA Council and staff.

**58/09 Life membership**

The Chairman read aloud an e-mail received from Bob Charters concerning the award by the Council, some years ago, of Life Membership to Members of the Mounting Men Canopy Formation team. It had recently come to Bob Charter's attention that the team's alternate had not been awarded Life Membership. The Council confirmed that this had not been an oversight, as Life Membership was not customarily awarded to alternates unless they had performed in the winning or record performance, and that it had not been awarded in this instance. The Chairman said that the individual concerned had made a tremendous contribution to the sport and deserved recognition, but unfortunately did not qualify for Life Membership as alternate for the Mounting Men CF team.

**59/09 Sport England Significant Areas for Sports**

The Office reported, for the purpose of the minutes, that Sport England had recognised certain Affiliated Centres in England as Significant Areas for Sport (SASP):

[http://www.sportengland.org/facilities\\_planning/planning\\_tools\\_and\\_guidance/sasps.aspx](http://www.sportengland.org/facilities_planning/planning_tools_and_guidance/sasps.aspx)

The BPA had invited Affiliated Centres in England to consider apply for such status, which recognised the uniqueness of their location to provision of facilities for the sport either nationally or in their region. Five Affiliated Centres had applied, and four of these applications had been successful. The Significant Areas for Sport parachuting were:

**59.1 National SASP for Sport Parachuting**

Target Skysports, Hibaldstow

**59.2 Regional SASPs for Sport Parachuting**

Headcorn Parachute Centre (South East Region), North London Parachute Centre (East Region), Peterlee Parachute Centre (North East Region).

Sport England would keep its above recognitions under review. It would consider applications from any other Affiliated Centres that wished to apply. Applications had to be made through the BPA as the National Governing Body. The BPA Office was not aware of similar schemes presently offered by the other home country sports councils – Sport Scotland, Sports Council Wales and Sport Northern Ireland.

**60/09 51-way head-down European Freely record**

Following a report by Weed Stoodley (Artistics Discipline Rep), the Council congratulated and awarded a Certificate of Merit to each of the thirteen members of the British contingent on the 51-way European head-down Freely record over Empuriabrava, Spain, on 9 June 2009:

Mikey Carpenter, James Davies, Rich Frame, Jim Harris, Mark Joyner, Claudio Lettieri, Andy Lovemore, Andy Newell, Matt O’Riordan, Dan Parker, Martin Reynolds, Frazer Smith, and Tim Porter (camera flyer).

**61/09 Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 18 August 2009 at 1830 at the BPA Office, Glen Parva, Leicester. The Chairman gave his apologies for absence as he would be out of the UK. He thanked John Horne (Vice Chairman) for kindly agreeing to chair the meeting.

The meeting closed at 2225.