

British Parachute Association

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Competitions Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on

Tuesday 19 February 2019 at 1300

at the offices of BPA, 5 Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester LE2 9TF

Present:	Brian Vacher	-	Chair, Discipline Rep: CP
	Mary-Lou Barratt	-	Discipline Rep: CF
	Tim Gaines	-	Discipline Rep: VFS
	Sam Lee		
	Michael Lovemore	-	Discipline Rep: Speed
	Ian Marshall	-	Discipline Rep: Classics
	Georgie Vacher	-	Discipline Rep: FS
	Liz Warner	-	Judges Coordinator
	Mike Williams	-	Discipline Rep: WS
In attendance:	Tony Butler	-	Chief Operating Officer (COO) (to item 7.7)
	John Hitchen	-	Vice President
	Joy Ledger	-	Competitions Coordinator
	Helen Lucas	-	Committee Secretary
	John Smyth MVO	-	Vice President & IPC Delegate
Observers	Dan Guest		
Apologies	Mark Bayada	-	Vice-Chair
	Rai Ahmed	-	Discipline Rep: Arts
	Harry Shanker	-	Discipline Rep: Arts (issues with the BPA skype had left Harry unable to Skype in)

Item Minute

01/19 Declarations of any conflicts of Interest
These would be declared under the relevant item.

02/19 Composition of Competitions Committee 2019
The Committee confirmed for the official record the following, which had been agreed at the informal meeting of Competitions Committee following the first meeting of Council on Saturday 26 January at the Discovery Room, De Vere Orchard Hotel, University of Nottingham. NG7 2RJ

Brian Vacher (elected by Council)	Competitions Chair & Discipline Rep – Canopy Piloting (CP)
Mark Bayada	Vice-Chair
Sam Lee	
Georgie Vacher	Discipline Rep: FS

And the following voting members, from those who had volunteered, as discussed and agreed at the informal meeting:

Ratul Ahmed & Harry Shanker	Discipline Reps: Artistics (1 vote)
Mary-Lou Barratt	Discipline Rep: Canopy Formation (CF)

Tim Gaines
Liz Warner
Mike Williams

Discipline Rep: Vertical Formation Skydiving (VFS)
Judges Coordinator
Discipline Rep: Wingsuiting (WS)

The following were agreed at this meeting:

Mikey Lovemore
Ian Marshall

Discipline Rep: Speed
Discipline Rep: Classics

Those present thanked Tash Higman and Emma Hart for their hard work in the previous seasons and welcomed the new persons.

03/19 Committee Terms of Reference

With one minor amendment to bullet point 4 under the committee composition the committee were content with the terms as they were presented. One query as to whether there should be the inclusion of the IPC Delegate, as in future this may be a person other than a Vice-President and that the Delegate attends IPC in a competitions capacity, would be researched and the findings presented to the committee. **Action: Committee Secretary**

04/19 Minutes

Minute 69.4 required amendment. After receiving clarification on this point the Chair duly signed the copy as a true record of the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 27 November 2018, which had been circulated electronically to the Committee and Council and would be ratified at Council later that evening. The Minutes were to be published on the BPA website: <http://www.bpa.org.uk/member/agendas-and-minutes/>

05/19 BPA National in CP 2019 – grievance raised by a member

Item taken from agenda order.

A CP competitor had raised a grievance as to the decision making that led to the BPA CP Nationals being held in Klatovy.

The meeting then moved into a closed session. The Vice-Presidents and COO were invited to stay.

Mikey Lovemore, an employee of and Mike Williams, Tim Gaines, Georgie Vacher and Brian Vacher- all whom jumped at the BPA affiliated DZ who had wished to hold the BPA CP Nationals all declared their interest and would abstain from any vote but were asked to remain for the discussion. As this meant that the meeting was technically non-quorate any decision would be recommended to Council at its meeting held later that evening.

After due discussion the committee agreed that whilst the Nationals should be held in the UK no bid had been received. The discussion and decision had been based on the information presented at the time by 2 interested parties. The committee therefore would recommend to Council that the decision be upheld. **Recommend to Council**

The CP Rep would discuss with the affiliated DZ in bringing their pond to a standard set by IPC. **Action: CP Rep**

06/19 Matters arising

Out of agenda order.

6.1 Reimbursement from sponsored team

The committee noted that the majority of the sponsorship allocation had been repaid.

However, it was calculated that £270 each was still outstanding. After discussion the FS Rep proposed that the outstanding sum of £540 be repaid by the end of the membership year – 31 March 2019. Seconded by Ian Marshall. This would be reported to Council with a recommendation that Tony Butler relay this decision to the team.

Carried unanimously, report to Council

07/19 Sponsorship 2019

7.1 Sponsorship Allocations

Taken from agenda order.

All contracts had been returned bar 2 teams. In consideration of the unusual circumstances the FS Rep proposed that any eligible teams, due to the possible contract changes, will be eligible for sponsorship. Seconded by Sam Lee.

For: 3 Against: 0 Abstain: 4 (Mary-Lou Barratt, Mikey Lovemore, Mike Williams & Tim Gaines)

As the decision was non-quorate the proposal would be recommended to Council at its meeting later that evening. **Recommend to Council**

7.2 Open & Female category funding

Taken from agenda order.

Item 9 on the Council agenda for its meeting today.

After general discussion those present were content that, following legal advice, the list of proposals be presented to Council.

As this potentially redefined how sponsorship was allocated those present believed that the initial sponsorship allocation without the perception of gender was correct and would be reported to Council.

7.3 FCEs & Sponsorship Scheme

Taken from agenda order.

Once the Open & Female categories were agreed a written full policy would be drafted for agreement before publication on the BPA website.

Action: FS Rep

7.4 Elite Athlete Contracts

Those present were content with the legal advice and the changes to be presented to Council later that evening.

Report to Council

7.5 BPA Meet issues – taken from agenda order

The Senior accuracy team had notified the Classics Rep of a clash between an event in Lodi, California which they wished to use towards training for the FCE, and the BPA GP in Accuracy to be held at Peterlee. Following due discussion those present could see no valid reason for the GP Accuracy dates to be changed.

Sponsored athletes leave the meeting at the Chairs request.

7.6 Continuation of minute 7.1 – Sponsorship Allocation

The FS Rep proposed that the sponsorship allocations, as circulated in December 2018, be presented to Council. Seconded by Classics Rep.

For: 3 Against: 0 Abstain: 1 (Sam Lee)

All returned for open session.

7.7 Accuracy sponsorship

Taken from agenda order.

After consideration to the circulated request the Classics Rep proposed sponsorship be used to reimburse costs of parascending lifts, which are a cheaper alternative to flying our athletes to altitude. Seconded by CF Rep.

Carried

8/19 BPA Competitions 2019

8.1 BPA National Championships in Artistics and Speed

Mikey Lovemore, an employee of 1 of the bidders and Tim Gaines both declare their interest. Mike Williams declares 1 bidder as his host DZ.

Sam Lee proposed, and was seconded by the CF Rep, that the Nationals in Artistics & Speed be awarded to Skydive Buzz, Dunkeswell 3-4 Aug 2019.

For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 2 (Mikey Lovemore & Tim Gaines)

Carried

9/19 FAI IPC Annual Plenary Meeting 2019, 26-27 January 2019 – Delegate report

The IPC delegate highlighted a few of the many points from his report:

- Date of IPC Plenary clashes with date of BPA AGM
- Rules were due to be published
- In order to encourage female participation, there were now dedicated slots for females at FCEs
- Mondial - Russia 2020

Those present thanked the Delegate for his detailed report.

10/19 BPA Competitions 2019 – continuation of min 8

10.1 BPA National in CP, 14-18 Aug, Klatovy, Czech Rep

A trainee and a returning judge were required to judge a Nationals in order to obtain their National Judge rating in CP. As the Meet was outside of the UK the Judges Coordinator proposed that their costs of food, accommodation and travel, capped at no more than £500

per person, with a maximum of 2 people, be refunded, on completion of the course.
Seconded by the CF Rep.

Carried unanimously

10.2 RAeC Queens Cup Air Race 2019

The committee were informed that Skydive Hibaldstow had been successful in their bid to host the RAeC Queens Cup, at the BPA National in FS 4-way to be held on 24-27 August.

10.3 BPA National in WS Performance & Acrobatics

After due discussion of the pre-circulated proposal by the WS Rep which requested the addition of a Tracking Suit category at the WS Nationals, the FS Rep proposed, and was seconded by Sam Lee, that the WS Rep draft and present the rules to the judges for their consideration, before the rules could be circulated to the committee for possible approval at its meeting in April.

Carried, Action: WS Rep

10.4 UKSL Meet 3, Skydive Buzz

To increase exposure of VFS to competitors and judges alike the VFS Rep proposed a 6-round trial of 4-way VFS as a side event to the UKSL. Seconded by the Judges Coordinator.

Carried unanimously

11/19 Judging Matters

11.1 Judges attending BPA Meets

The Judges Coordinator reported that all Meets were covered with the exceptions of WS Nationals and CF Nationals, where overseas judges were potentially required to cover the shortfall. She highlighted that the FS Nationals judging equipment needs were typically supported by the hosting DZ. It was recommended that the Judges Coordinator explore the possibility of one of the tech support team members judging FS at no cost to the BPA.

Action: Judges Coordinator

11.2 Judges Training Seminar

The Coordinator confirmed that the seminar would take place on 23-24 March at BPA HQ.

11.3 Trainee Judge membership

The Judges Coordinator proposed that the trainee judge attending the seminar would not be required to hold full BPA membership, as there was only 8 days left of the membership year. Seconded by the WS Rep.

Carried unanimously

11.4 Judging equipment

11.4.1 Texair contract

Andy Houston of Texair had informed the committee that the contract to maintain, transport and run the equipment at an event concluded in 2020, after which, whilst content to supply and maintain the equipment, he would no longer attend the event for the duration. After due discussion the Chair asked the Classics Rep to put together a specification of what was required for a tender document to be produced, for which Texair would be invited to tender.

Action: Classics Rep

The Committee thanked Andy for his commitment and dedication to BPA competitions.

11.4.2 Judges laptops

The Judges Coordinator proposed an additional laptop to the same specifications at the same approximate cost and was seconded by the WS Rep. The committee were content with the quote of £1,174 for a laptop with all the necessary specifications, as provided by the ITWG Chair.

Carried unanimously

11.5 Proposed judges to FCEs in WS and Speed

The Competitions and Judges Coordinators confirmed that the Proposed Judges form had been completed and returned well before the 1st March deadline.

12/19 International Competitions 2019

12.1 4th FAI World Cup, 3rd European Championship of Speed Skydiving, 13-15 Aug, Skydive Buzz, Dunkeswell, UK

Those present congratulated Mikey Lovemore on his successful bid and presentation at IPC, for Skydive Buzz to host the FCE.

The Speed Rep noted that changes at IPC level with regard to female categories, in which for

Speed discipline 2 of the 12 places available to delegations were allocated to female only, might have a possible effect on BPA Nationals rules.

A call for a Head of Delegation was required.

Action: Secretary

The Speed Rep would inform the Competitions Coordinator of the athletes to invite.

The meeting then moved in-camera. Committee members that had made applications left the Meeting as their event was due to be discussed.

12.2 14th FAI World Cup of Freefall Style & Accuracy Landing, 19-25 May, Cordoba, Argentina

It was proposed by the FS Rep, seconded by the WS Rep, that Ian Marshall attend as Head of Delegation.

Carried

12.3 10th FAI World Cup, 8th European Championships in CF, 17-20 Aug, Strjnic, Romania

No applications had been received so a further call would be made via social media.

Action: Secretary

12.4 3rd FAI World Cup in WS, 23-30 Aug, Ravenna, Italy

The FS Rep proposed, and was seconded by the Judges Coordinator, that John Smyth attend as Head of Delegation.

Carried

12.5 13th FAI World Cup of Artistics events, 22nd FAI World Cup of FS, 7-12 Oct, Eloy, Arizona, USA

Following discussion on experience the VFS Rep proposed, and was seconded by the WS Rep, that John Smyth attend as Head of Delegation.

Carried

12.6 10th FAI World Cup of CP, 20-24 Nov, Pretoria, RSA

The WS Rep proposed that John Smyth attend as Head of Delegation. Seconded by the FS Rep.

Carried

Further discussion regarding the safety aspect of CP led to a proposal by Sam Lee, seconded by the Speed Rep, that Tash Higman attend as Team Manager.

Carried

The Competitions Coordinator reported that subject to certain documents being returned 8 athletes would be attending, with 4 further spaces available. The CP Rep advised her to invite those who had placed below the initial 12 invitees.

The meeting resumed in open session.

13/19 Action Plan & Performance Metrics

13.1 Action Plan 2018/19

Sam Lee would liaise with Tash Higman and comment further at the next meeting. The Chair explained that all spends were within budget at this time.

13.2 Performance Metrics

The committee noted the requirement of a few minor amendments to feedback to Tash Higman, who had produced the documents.

14/19 Skills Coaching Roadshows

The Secretary asked that she be made aware of any forthcoming roadshows, with dates, locations and coaches, in order to maintain the spreadsheet.

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Competitions Action Plan: 1 July 18 to 30 June 19

Target	From	To	By	How	Budget
1. World Class Performance	2018 medal winning performance	2019 Continued medal winning performance	Jun 2019 and on-going	Funded support to BPA selected teams based on performance in competition 2017	£
2. Coaching Road Show Events	2018 Supported events	2019 Continued support of events	Jun 2019	Run coaching road show events at BPA Drop Zones to support competitive interest and enhance member's skills	£
3. Judging Team	2018 UK pool of 10 Judges	2019 UK judging team retained/increased and improved ratings	Jun 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support all currency requirements under FAI rules • Provide financial help with pre-season refresher training • Supply judges to non-National UK events • Encourage/train new judges to gain International ratings • Supply of Judges Jackets & T-shirts • Judging Equipment Specialists 	£
4. Retain, improve and maintain competition equipment in line with IPC requirements	2018 Current holding	2019 Equipment stock in line with IPC changes	Jun 2019	Purchase / Hire of equipment / specialist equipment, as disciplines and rules evolve and dictate	£
5. Delegation Uniform	2018 Delegation uniform	2019 Continued issue of uniform	Jun 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue of T-shirt generic BPA design • Issue of BPA logo embroidered badges • Supply Jackets & polo shirts • Offer for tender design, manufacture and distribution 	£**
6. Targeted coaching support for National non-senior champion teams / competitors	2018 Coaching Support	2019 Coaching Support	Jun 2019	Coaching support for National Champion 2017 teams of all disciplines moving to progress to higher event that meet the criteria of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having won Nationals in 2017 • Have 60% of their team remain the same – including videographer (flexibility for Freestyle & Freely) • Compete in 2018 Nationals at a higher level 	£
7. Heads of Delegation & Team Manager/s	2018 5 Officials	2019 Continued funded support	Jun 2019	Funded support for BPA Officials attending FAI 1 st Class events to cover <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entry Fees • Reasonable Travel Expenses 	£***
Target 5: Uniform will continue to be funded from the British Team Fund *Target 7: Reoccurring item					



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BPA National Championships 2019

Competition	Location	Date (2019)
BPA National Championship in WS Performance & Acrobatics	Skydive Buzz, Dunkeswell	1-4 Jul
BPA National Championship in Accuracy	Skydive Buzz, Dunkeswell	3-4 Aug
BPA National Championships in Artistics and Speed	Skydive Buzz, Dunkeswell	3-4 Aug
BPA National Championship in Canopy Piloting	Skydive Pink, Klatovy, Czech Rep	14-18 Aug
BPA National Championships in FS 4-way & VFS	Skydive Hibaldstow	24-27 Aug
BPA National Championships in FS 8-way	Skydive Hibaldstow	31 Aug-2 Sep
BPA National Championship in Canopy Formation	Skydive Buzz, Dunkeswell	8-10 Sep

BPA Grand Prix & UKSL 2019

Competition	Location	Date (2019)
BPA UKSL Meet 1	Peterlee Parachute Centre	4-5 May
BPA UKSL Meet 2	Sibson Skydivers	8-9 June
BPA UKSL Meet 3	Skydive Buzz, Dunkeswell	6-7 July
GP in CF Meet 1	Skydive North West, Cark	15-16 June
GP in CF Meet 2	Skydive Langar	13-14 July
GP in Accuracy Meet 1	Peterlee Parachute Centre	20-21 Apr
GP in Accuracy Meet 2	Skydive Headcorn	8-9 June