

# British Parachute Association

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## Competitions Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on

**Tuesday 12 June 2018 at 1300**

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

<b>Present:</b>	Brian Vacher	-	Chair
	Tash Higman	-	Vice-Chair, Judges Coordinator
	Emma Hart	-	Discipline Rep: Arts (via Skype)
	Ian Marshall	-	Discipline Rep: Classics
	Georgie Vacher	-	Discipline Rep: FS
	Mike Williams	-	Discipline Rep: WS
<b>In attendance:</b>	Tony Butler	-	Chief Operating Officer (COO) (to item 31.2)
	John Hitchen	-	Vice-President (to item 37.3)
	Joy Ledger	-	Competitions Coordinator
	Helen Lucas	-	Committee Secretary
<b>Apologies</b>	Mary-Lou Barratt		
	Michael Lovemore	-	Discipline Rep: Speed
	John Smyth MVO	-	Vice President & IPC Delegate
	Michael Wilson-Roberts	-	Discipline Rep: VFS

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### Item Minute

**27/18 Declarations of any conflicts of Interest**  
These would be declared at the relevant item.

**28/18 Discipline Rep – CF**  
Due to time constraints and workload the CF Rep – Gavin McLeod had taken the decision to step down from the role. The Committee wished him well in his future endeavours. Gavin had recommended CF jumper Mary-Lou Barratt and the consensus of the meeting supported this. However, in order for correct procedure to be followed the FS Rep proposed and was seconded by the Classics Rep, that Mary-Lou Barratt stand in as a non-voting temporary Discipline Rep, and the role be advertised through social media. Mary-Lou would also have to apply. **Carried unanimously, Action: Secretary**  
Applications for the CF Discipline Rep role would be discussed and agreed at the August meeting. **Next meeting - August**

**29/18 Competitions & Awards Coordinator**  
The Committee warmly welcomed Joy Ledger to the team.

**30/18 Minutes**  
The Vice-Chair duly signed the copy as a true record of the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17 April 2018, which had been circulated electronically to the Committee and Council and would be ratified at Council later that evening. The Minutes were published on the BPA website: <http://www.bpa.org.uk/member/agendas-and-minutes/>

**31/18 Matters arising** – In camera session. Tony Butler and John Hitchen invited to stay.

**31.1 Team NFTO – Grievance**

The letter from the Chair, sent to NFTO on 17 May in response to the team's grievance, had been circulated with the agenda for information. There had been no further correspondence.

**31.2 Expenses Policy**

Wording of the explanation had been agreed by the Financial Administrator and the Vice-Chair and had been circulated to the sponsored teams/individuals. The consensus of the meeting was the policy be circulated to the judges, and also to be added to Form 143A – BPA Officials Expenses claim form. **Action: Secretary**

**32/18 Domestic Competitions 2018** – date added to calendar

**32.1 BPA National Championship in CF**

A bid had been received, from Skydive Buzz.

The Vice-Chair proposed that the bid be accepted, as an anomaly for 1 year, in that the BPA would cover the costs of 3 judges, which included a trainee and an overseas judge, in order for there to be a BPA CF Nationals in 2018. Seconded by the Classics Rep.

Those present thanked Skydive Buzz for their bid.

**Carried unanimously**

**32.2 Domestic Competitions completed** – results uploaded to the BPA website

**32.2.1 BPA UKSL Meet 1, 5-6 May, Skydive Buzz**

Feedback and the Chief Judges report had been circulated to the Committee with the agenda for information. Those present thanked Liz Warner, as Chief Judge, for her report.

**32.2.2 BPA GP in Accuracy, 19-20 May, Skydive Headcorn**

Feedback and the Chief Judges report had been circulated to the Committee with the agenda for information. Those present thanked Bob King, as Chief Judge, for his report.

**32.2.3 BPA UKSL Meet 2, 9-10 June, Skydive Langar**

No report at this time.

**32.3 Domestic Competitions 2018** – yet to take place

**32.3.1 BPA National Championships in Wingsuit Performance & Acrobatics, 13-15 July, Target Skysports**

The WS Rep had expressed concern regarding the Omniskore judging system, which had failed at the UKSL Meet 1, being used at the WS Nationals. The Judges Coordinator reassured those present that although the Omniskore user guide had been repeatedly requested, as it was believed to be user error that caused the issue at the UKSL, there would be judges present at the Wingsuit Nationals who may have the necessary experience, and thanked both the Rep and Liz Warner for providing a range of different systems should they be required.

**32.3.2 BPA National Championships in VFS 24-27 Aug, Target Skysports**

The VFS rules were currently being amended and would be uploaded to the BPA website when available.

**32.3.3 Judges attending**

Randy Connell, from USPA, had been invited to judge at the FS Nationals, and was also able to cover CP, CF and WS. BPA would cover the costs of his flights, and the travel logistics were currently being worked upon.

**32.3.4 FS 8-way Trophy**

The FS Rep proposed that, in the absence of the new BPA logo being agreed, that the oldest plaque is placed on the back of the trophy, and that the new champion team place their plaque in its place on the front. A new trophy would be ordered once the new logo had been agreed. The Secretary was to approach Thomas Sports with regard to continued sponsorship of a new trophy and would seek quotes for engraving and of a 3<sup>rd</sup> swag that was not present on the new trophy style.

**Action: Secretary**

### **32.3.5 FS Nationals rule amendment – Draw**

The FS Rep and Judges Coordinator had recognised that the Draw was incomplete within the Nationals rules, and an addendum, circulated to the Committee had been produced to correctly show the Draw. Tash Higman proposed, and was seconded by Georgie Vacher, that the addendum to the rules be uploaded to the BPA website – Competition page and be added to the rules for 2019.

**Carried unanimously, Action: Secretary**

## **33/18 International Competitions 2018**

### **33.1 35<sup>th</sup> FAI World, and 9<sup>th</sup> FAI Junior World Freefall Style & Accuracy Landing Championships, 24-31 Aug, Erden, Bulgaria**

The Competitions Coordinator reported that athletes were very slow in responding and providing the required information for the registration process. The Classics Rep would assist.

### **33.2 2<sup>nd</sup> FAI World Wingsuit Flying Championship, 26-31 Aug, Prostějov, Czech Rep**

#### **33.2.1 Acrobatic discipline**

The WS Rep reported that following the preliminary registration of 12 June there may be only 3 nations entering the Acrobatic competition, which may mean that the Acrobatic event may not take place or champions declared (4.4.3.1 – Event Entry Criteria of the FAI Sporting Code General Section refers). The Committee would await further news following the official registration.

#### **33.2.2 Head of Delegation**

No applications for the role had been received. Those present asked Mike Williams, as Rep and attendee if he would stand in, which he would be happy to do, failing the re-advertisement via Facebook of the role, with a date for applications to be received by 1 July.

**Action: Secretary**

### **33.3 18<sup>th</sup> FAI World Championship in CF, 23<sup>rd</sup> FAI World Championship in FS, 12<sup>th</sup> FAI World Championship in Artistics and 2<sup>nd</sup> World Championships in Speed Skydiving, 4-12 Oct, Gold Coast, Queensland**

#### **33.3.1 Registration process**

The office reported that delegation members were able to officially register and make payment direct to the organisers in order to secure their preferred accommodation. However, had encountered difficulties as this news was announced over social media before the office had chance to formally inform the athletes of reimbursement methods etc. This matter had now been resolved and the athletes were registering and communicating effectively.

#### **33.3.2 Varial Freely**

The team had informed the Committee by email that they were now no longer able to attend, and that they had used their allocated sponsorship.

Those present discussed

- Notice given too late to re-allocate sponsorship
- Next eligible team's sponsorship allocation could not afford them to attend
- The notification had been received too late to allow the invitation to be passed on to others, resulting in there being no GB representation in Freely.

The Committee went on to discuss reclaiming the sponsorship, in accordance to their contract, and raised points:

- To stipulate amount per individual
- Money was to be paid back at the earliest opportunity
- Consideration of sponsorship for 2019
- Seeking legal advice as to the correct course of action.

[Note: 20/6/18. This item was discussed further at Council later that evening. Min 42.2.3.5 of the Council minutes refers]

#### **33.3.3 Team Manager**

This item was held as a closed session. Ian Marshall left the room.

The Secretary recognised that both CVs had been shared with both applicants through the Sharepoint distribution system for Council papers and would look into a method so this could not occur again.

2 applications had been received, from Ian Marshall and Craig Poxon. Both were worthy candidates. After due discussion Mark Bayada proposed, and was seconded by Mike Williams, that Craig Poxon attend as Team Manager.

**Carried unanimously**

The meeting continued in open session.

**33.4 3<sup>rd</sup> FAI World Cup of Indoor Skydiving, 25-28 Oct, Zallaq, Bahrain**

2 teams had been preliminarily registered for them to progress to the official registration and make payment and travel/accommodation arrangements.

**33.5 Head of Delegation decision timescale**

Craig Poxon believed it would be helpful in terms of obtaining best value travel tickets, if the appointment of delegation officials could be made earlier. Council min 33.2.3.2 refers.

The Committee responded that as the IPC Plenary meeting was historically held at the end of January, confirmation of the dates were brought to the February Competitions Committee meetings, with advertisement for Heads of Delegation being sent out shortly after for agreement in April. The Committee were content with the arrangement as it stands.

**34/18 Judging Matters**

**34.1 AE Judges Training**

The Judges Coordinator outline her proposal, circulated with the agenda, that it was difficult to qualify/requalify as an AE judges as there was only 1 competition a year, but the policy required 3 events and a 3-year training duration to qualify. The Judges Coordinator outlined the cost implications and proposed to that enable more individuals to gain a Nationals rating in AE a 2-day seminar be held in 2018, hosted by an experienced FAI trainer, at BPA HQ in place of attending 3 competitions. The requirement to attend at least 1 BPA competition in that discipline, with preference to a BPA National Championship, to attain the rating will remain in place. The Judges Coordinator added further that consideration be given to sending a judge overseas, and of asking other nations if they had trainee judges who may wish to attend at their own cost, should the Training Judge agree. Seconded by Mark Bayada.

**Carried unanimously**

**34.2 Judges attending international events**

The Judges Coordinator was proud to say that 3 judges had been selected to compete at international events:

Ruth Cooper - 23<sup>rd</sup> FAI World Championship in FS, Australia

Tash Higman - 23<sup>rd</sup> FAI World Championship in FS, Australia

Frank Mallabone - 2<sup>nd</sup> FAI World Wingsuit Flying Championship, Czech Rep.

**34.3 BPA AMD Display replacement**

Andy Houston, of Texair Accuracy Ltd, the current competition equipment provider, had informed the committee that a display required replacement as was now broken, and had provide a list of options - rental, buying replacement equipment or purchasing a Weckbecker system and supplied the associated costs. The Judges Coordinator proposed that replacement equipment is purchased, subject to a breakdown of what the equipment is. Seconded by Mike Williams.

**Carried unanimously, Action - Chair**

**35/18 Competitions Budget & Action Plan: 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018** – appendix i

Those present commented on the circulated budget and were pleased to note that all targets were within budget. It was noted that an update to the sponsorship breakdown was required, as a Wingsuiter had withdrawn and had not drawn down their allocated sponsorship. The Committee asked that the Financial Administrator be asked to provide a breakdown for the end of June.

**Action: Financial Administrator**

The Reps were reminded to ensure that those teams who were eligible for the Targeted Coaching Support were aware they could claim.

**36/18 Competitions Budget & Action Plan: 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019**

The targets were to remain however there was to be a change in the process for the budget allocation. This will be discussed at a later date.

### **37/18 BPA Skills Coaching Roadshows**

#### **37.1 Coaching ability**

It had been brought to the Committee's attention that some who were coaching at such roadshows felt uncomfortable in their ability to coach and believed that BPA should re-evaluate to ascertain their ability. Mark Bayada, speaking as a Chief Instructor (CI), believed it was in a CI's interest to know who was coaching, and be satisfied in their ability as the CI would be responsible for any endorsement should they not hold a coaching rating.

The Committee considered a range of options in which were contributing to a roadshow, that those who did not hold a rating may offer:

- Making up team numbers
- Cameraperson to a team that didn't have one
- Building blocks at creeper area
- Briefing in a seminar
- Organising the roadshow

The FS Rep proposed that these options be added to Form 230A – Competitor Contract and Terms and be discussed with the non-rating sponsored athletes before the roadshow.

Seconded by Mark Bayada.

**Carried unanimously**

#### **37.2 Further roadshows**

Further CP, Accuracy and CF roadshows were to be added to the spreadsheet and circulated to the Committee and be advertised through social media.

#### **37.3 Skills Coaching Roadshow feedback**

1. FS, Netheravon, 21-22 April. A compilation of feedback was received from Georgie Vacher, which reported that Netheravon had provided free coach slots, and had around 25 attendees. The Committee were pleased it went well and thanked Netheravon for hosting.
2. FS, Black Knights 19-20 May. Feedback received from Sam Lee and Georgie Vacher indicated a successful event with approx. 25-30 attendees. Issue highlighted by the feedback had been addressed in item 37.1. The Committee thanked Black Knights, who had provided the coaches with free slots, for their support, and appreciated their management of the event.
3. Speed, Skydive Buzz, 19-20 May. Feedback received from Matt Black and Max Hurd, who coached at the event was very encouraging and the Committee were pleased to see athletes new to the discipline joining in. Many thanks to Skydive Buzz.
4. WS, UK Para Sibson, 9-10 June. Unfortunately, the weather had not been too kind and only the Sunday was jumpable for the 5 attendees and 2 coaches. The Committee echoed the WS Reps thanks to the Sibson staff and jumpers.

### **38/18 Any other business**

#### **38.1 3<sup>rd</sup> FAI World Indoor Skydiving Championships**

The Secretary informed those present that an issue had arisen due to the inability to register a team member. They were not a BPA member and therefore unable to be issued with a BPA Sporting Licence or renewal sticker, and that this had happened historically. The FS Rep proposed that Competitions Committee not make any further selections for the FAI Indoor competitions from December 2018, as it is not always possible to select the best teams or individuals due to the inability to issue FAI Sporting Licences to non-BPA members.

Seconded by Mark Bayada. For: 4 Against: 0 Abstain: 1

### **39/18 Date of next meeting - on Tuesday 7 August at 1300 at BPA HQ.**

The meeting closed at 1630

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Distribution: Competitions Committee/Council, Vice Presidents, Acting Judges Coordinator & Deputy, Judges, Staff, Editor.

## Competitions Action Plan: 1 July 17 to 30 June 18

Target	From	To	By	How	Budget
1. World Class Performance	<b>2017</b> medal winning performance	<b>2018</b> Continued medal winning performance	Jun 2018 and on-going	Funded support to BPA selected teams based on performance in competition 2017	£55,862* <del>£69,600</del> £125,462
2. Coaching Road Show Events	<b>2017</b> Supported events	<b>2018</b> Continued support of events	Jun 2018	Run coaching road show events at BPA Drop Zones to support competitive interest and enhance member's skills	£4,670* <del>£10,000</del> £14,670
3. Judging Team	<b>2017</b> UK pool of 13 Judges	<b>2018</b> UK judging team retained/increased and improved ratings	Jun 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support all currency requirements under FAI rules</li> <li>• Provide financial help with pre-season refresher training</li> <li>• Supply judges to non-National UK events</li> <li>• Encourage/train new judges to gain International ratings</li> <li>• Supply of Judges Jackets &amp; T-shirts</li> <li>• Judging Equipment Specialists</li> </ul>	£30,000
4. Retain, improve and maintain competition equipment in line with IPC requirements	<b>2017</b> Current holding	<b>2018</b> Equipment stock in line with IPC changes	Jun 2018	Purchase / Hire of equipment / specialist equipment, as disciplines and rules evolve and dictate	£6,000
5. Delegation Uniform	<b>2017</b> Delegation uniform	<b>2018</b> Continued issue of uniform	Jun 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue of T-shirt generic BPA design</li> <li>• Issue of BPA logo embroidered badges</li> <li>• Supply Jackets &amp; polo shirts</li> <li>• Offer for tender design, manufacture and distribution</li> </ul>	£5,000**
6. Targeted coaching support for National non-senior champion teams / competitors	<b>2017</b> Coaching Support	<b>2018</b> Coaching Support	Jun 2018	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"> <li>• Having won Nationals in 2017</li> <li>• Have 60% of their team remain the same – including videographer (flexibility for Freestyle &amp; Freely)</li> <li>• Compete in 2018 Nationals at a higher level</li> </ul>	£8,000 <del>£3,000</del> £11,000
7. Heads of Delegation & Team Manager/s	<b>2017</b> 5 Officials	<b>2018</b> Continued funded support	Jun 2018	Funded support for BPA Officials attending FAI 1 <sup>st</sup> Class events to cover <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entry Fees</li> <li>• Reasonable Travel Expenses</li> </ul>	£8000***
*Targets 1 and 6: brought forward from the 2016/2017 Action Plan **Target 5: Uniform will continue to be funded from the British Team Fund ***Target 7: Reoccurring item					



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### BPA National Championships 2018

<b>Wingsuit Performance and Acrobatics</b>	<b>Target Skysports, Hibaldstow</b>	<b>13-15 July 2018</b>
<b>Formation Skydiving 4-way Vertical Formation Skydiving</b>	<b>Target Skysports, Hibaldstow</b>	<b>24-27 Aug 2018</b>
<b>Artistic, FS 8-way Speed Skydiving</b>		<b>01-03 Sept 2018</b>
<b>Canopy Formation</b>	<b>Skydive Buzz, Dunkeswell</b>	<b>03-05 Sept 2018</b>
<b>Canopy Piloting</b>	<b>Skydive Buzz, Dunkeswell</b>	<b>07-09 Sept 2018</b>

### BPA Grand Prix 2018 & BPA UKSL 2018

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Dates</i>
<b>UKSL FS 4-way -Meet 3</b>	<b>Skydive North West, Cark</b>	<b>7-8 July 2018</b>
<b>GP Accuracy -Meet 2</b>	<b>Skydive Buzz, Dunkeswell</b>	<b>9-10 June 2018</b>
<b>GP Canopy Formation</b>	<b>Skydive North West, Cark</b>	<b>23-24 June 2018</b>