

# British Parachute Association

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## Safety & Training Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on

**Thursday 5 April 2018 at 1900**

at BPA HQ, Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester LE2 9TF

- Present:**
- |                  |   |                       |
|------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Jeff Montgomery  | - | Chair STC/STO         |
| Dennis Buchanan  | - | Skydive North West    |
| Gary Small       | - | Skydive Chatteris     |
| Richard Wheatley | - | Skydive Langar        |
| Pete Sizer       | - | Skydive Headcorn      |
| Iain Anderson    | - | Skydive St Andrews    |
| Mark Bayada      | - | APA                   |
| Matty Holford    | - | JSPW(N)               |
| Ian Rosenvinge   | - | Peterlee              |
| Ryan Mancey      | - | Go Skydive            |
| Steve Saunders   | - | Skydive Shobdon       |
| Chris McCann     | - | Sibson Skydivers      |
| Brucie Johnson   | - | Blue Skies            |
| Andy Clark       | - | Wild Geese            |
| Dave Emerson     | - | Skydive Isle of Wight |
| Stuart Meacock   | - | Hinton Skydiving      |
| Rob Spour        | - | Skydive Hibaldstow    |
| Sara Orton       | - | Skydive GB            |
- Apologies:** Andy Duncan, Dylan Bartle, Mally Richardson, Dave Wood, Paul Yeoman, Jason Farrant, Jay Webster.
- In Attendance:**
- |                |   |                                     |
|----------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Tony Butler    | - | Chief Operating Officer             |
| John Hitchen   | - | Vice Chair STC                      |
| Paul Applegate | - | Chair Riggers' Subcommittee/Council |
| Dr John Carter | - | BPA Medical Adviser                 |
| Trudy Kemp     | - | Assistant to COO/STC                |
- Observers:** Gary Stevens, Rick Boardman, Sandy Barnett, Kev Dynan, Enya Rosenvinge, Mike Carruthers, Kay Carruthers, Pete Marsden, Karen Saunders, Martin Harris, Noel Purcell.

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### ITEM   MINUTE

The Chair welcomed two new Chief Instructors: Steve Saunders – Skydive Shobdon and Gary Small – Skydive Chatteris.

#### 1.   DECLARATIONS OF ANY CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Chair stated that as we continue to make the journey of good governance, it had been pointed out that in the past, members voting on items they have proposed to STC is considered to be incorrect, as they have an interest and therefore in the future CIs would not be permitted to vote on items relating to their PTO or Instructors etc. Those so conflicted may take part in a debate, but not be included in the vote when it comes to vote on their particular item.

This applied to CIs present this evening with requests on item 10 (Permissions) and item 11 (A.O.B).

## **2. MINUTES OF THE STC MEETING OF 1 FEBRUARY 2018**

It was proposed by Mark Bayada and seconded by Bruce Johnson that the Minutes of the STC Meeting of 1 February 2018 be accepted as a true record.

**Carried Unanimously**

## **3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE STC MEETING OF 1 FEBRUARY 2018**

**Page 1, Item 6 – (Report of Panel of Inquiry – Carl Marsh Fatality)**. The Chair reported that Mark Bayada had agreed to chair the Working Group and that they would be holding their first meeting shortly.

## **4. RIGGERS' SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING OF 1 FEBRUARY 2018**

Paul Applegate (Chair, Riggers' Subcommittee) had been unable to attend the meeting. Therefore, the meeting had been chaired by the Chair of STC.

The Chair of STC stated that he had nothing to report from the previous meeting.

It was therefore proposed by Pete Sizer and seconded by Richard Wheatley that the Minutes of the Riggers' Subcommittee meeting of 1 February 2018 be accepted.

**Carried Unanimously**

The Chair of STC reported on the Riggers' Subcommittee meeting held this afternoon and highlighted the following points that had been discussed:

4.1 The Committee had accepted the new Packing Certificate and Guidelines.

4.2 The Committee had accepted the Nicky Johnson Aircare/Skies Call container system. Approx 30 of these containers had originally been made in the 90's. Re-application had been made due to the original records not being found.

4.3 The Committee had discussed Vector Tandem Reserves Re-Certification. To assist CIs, Riggers and Packers to determine that re-certification of the reserve had taken place, the Committee had agreed that any paperwork returned from the manufacturer should be retained with the equipment documentation. This also included invoices, e-mails etc. It should also be annotated on the data card and the modification/repair sheet. The re-certified canopy would also be returned from the manufacturers with a new panel with the tick boxes alongside the warning label on the canopy.

## **5. INCIDENT/INJURY REPORTS – RÉSUMÉ**

- i) There had been 4 Student Injury reports received since the last STC meeting. 3 males and 1 female. All were on landing.
- ii) Since the last meeting there had been 2 Injury reports received for 'A' Licence parachutists or above. Both female. Both on landing.
- iii) There had been 2 Student Malfunction/Deployment Problem reports received since the last meeting. 1 male and 1 female.
- iv) There had been 12 Malfunction/Deployment Problem reports received for 'A' Licence parachutists or above. 9 males and 3 females.
- v) Since the last STC there had been one Tandem Injury report received. A male. This involved a Student who felt a bit sick under canopy. The Instructor started to prepare a sick bag, but after talking to the Student and making gentle turns, decided it wasn't necessary. However, whilst he was talking to the student, trying to reassure him, he

lost concentration. He then realised he had not taken hold of the secondary toggles for landing. He then tried to get hold of the toggles but landed without any flare. Resulting in the Student sustaining two fractured vertebrae. The Instructor was grounded by his CI and was initially suspended by the COO. Following discussions with the Instructor concerned, his CI, the COO and STO, it was agreed that the Instructor would carry out 3 Tandem descents with his CI acting as the Student, during which, drills and procedures would be discussed under canopy. He would add an extra setting to his audible altimeter at 1,500ft as a secondary reminder to pick up toggles. His Tandem drills would be completed monthly and a number of other procedures with regard to student interaction under canopy were agreed. The jumps were made, and procedures were completed satisfactorily. His suspension was then lifted.

- vi) There had been 5 Tandem Malfunction/Deployment Problem reports received.
- vii) There had also been two Tandem Incidents on the recent Tandem Instructor Course. The first involved a candidate on his 8<sup>th</sup> evaluation jump who experienced a 'side-spin' shortly after exit. He spun for 6 rotations and then deployed his drogue and regained control. The second involved a candidate on his 4<sup>th</sup> evaluation jump, whose weight bag detached from its harness in freefall and fell away to the ground. The (40kg) bag has not been found to date.

The Chair reported on an incident that had been discussed at the Riggers' Subcommittee meeting this afternoon. He stated that on the 25 March 2018, a Tandem Instructor initiated the main canopy deployment by pulling the primary drogue release handle. The drogue failed to release, so the Instructor pulled the secondary drogue release handle which also failed to release. On realising the situation, the Tandem Instructor followed correct procedure and initiated the deployment of the reserve canopy.

The reserve canopy deployed and was fully inflated although the Instructor reported the drogue to be tangled in the lines of the reserve. The Instructor then proceeded to clear the drogue from the reserve lines, which was done successfully. The Instructor was not aware of what caused the problem, so he opted to pull the cutaway pad and clear the three rings on his main risers, so the bag would drop straight down, should the bag come out of the container.

During the landing the drogue was trailing behind and both Instructor and Student landed safely. On inspection of the equipment shortly after landing, the CI noticed the drogue was still attached to the drogue riser, however the double ended loop on the Next system was not there.

The cause of the deployment problem was the small ring on the drogue riser, which was twisted 180 degrees, causing a lock between the middle ring and the drogue ring and preventing the middle ring from releasing. It is believed that the problem was caused by a packing error.

The container and drogue riser had 807 jumps and was manufactured in May 2015. The drogue riser appeared to be in good condition and was the original from manufacture. The Container was a Next container, the reserve container was a vector reserve with a Cypres AAD and the main was an Aerodyne 370.

The CI has reminded and reiterated to all his Instructors and Packers the importance of checking the drogue riser and the position of the rings as part of their equipment check before moving to flight line. A photograph re-creating the problem on another set of equipment was shown to those present. As this incident was not a common occurrence, it was decided to attach a copy of this photograph with the Minutes for information (Appendix A).

- viii) There had been 19 'off landings' reports received since the last meeting. The Chair stated that this was not a particularly good start to the year.
- ix) Two reports had been received of items coming off jumpers in freefall or under canopy. A helmet and a pair of shoes.

- x) A report had been received regarding a Cessna 208 which, having completed a parachuting lift, landed and whilst completing the roll-out a load bang was heard. The aircraft was shut down and it was discovered that the drag-link mechanism had sheared in two. Signs of stress fracturing have been discovered.

## **6. APPROVAL OF CAMERA FLYING COACHING MANUAL**

The Chair reported that a draft Camera Flying Coaching Manual had been produced, which had initially been sent out to PTOs earlier this year for input. He stated that useful comments and suggestions had been received, most of which had been incorporated into the updated draft manual that had been circulated with the agenda.

The Chair stated that the majority of the work in producing the manual had been carried out by Tim Parrant, with useful input from Kevin Dynan.

The COO and STO expressed their thanks to Tim Parrant for his work undertaken on this project.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Ryan Mancey and seconded by Ian Rosenvinge that the Camera Flying Training Manual be accepted.

**Carried Unanimously**

## **7. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO BPA OPERATIONS MANUAL**

A number of proposed amendments to the BPA Operations Manual had been circulated with the Agenda. These proposals were mainly to clarify or update various paragraphs in the Manual:

### **SECTION 2 (DESIGNATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF PARACHUTISTS). Paragraph 6 (The Grading System). Change first paragraph to read:**

#### **6. THE GRADING SYSTEM**

Once a parachutist has obtained 'A' Licence or above (or, prior to obtaining 'A' Licence for CH1 or JM1), that parachutist's continuation training may continue via a choice of various disciplines:

### **SECTION 2 (DESIGNATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF PARACHUTISTS). Paragraph 6 (The Grading System). N.B(1) below sub-para 6.1.2. Change to read:**

*N.B(1) Formal training lessons/briefs for JM1 may be carried out prior to the parachutist obtaining an 'A' Licence, at the discretion of the CI. However, before a JM1 is awarded, the instructor concerned must ensure that the parachutist has obtained 'A' Licence and lessons/briefs have been completed and signed for in the applicant's log book.*

### **SECTION 2 (DESIGNATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF PARACHUTISTS). Paragraph 6 (The Grading System). Sub--para 6.2.1. Change to read:**

6.2.1. To obtain Grade 1 in Canopy Handling (CH1), the Student Parachutist must be introduced to CH by a CI/Advanced Instructor nominated Category System Basic Instructor (CSBI), a Category System Instructor (CSI), an Accelerated Free Fall Basic Instructor (AFFBI) or an Accelerated Free Fall Instructor (AFFI) of proven CH instructional ability, received a full safety brief and been instructed, both theoretically and practically on canopy handling relevant to CH1, and has successfully achieved the following:

### **SECTION 4 (INSTRUCTORS), Paragraph 13 (Non BPA Instructors), sub-para 13.1.1. (b). Change to read:**

- b. Hold a current 'Solo Parachute Instructor Medical Certificate/Doctor's Certificate (BPA Form 116A).'

**SECTION 6 (EQUIPMENT), Paragraph 8.3 (Reserve Parachutes), New N.B.(3) below sub-para 8.3.1. to read:**

*N.B.(3) Requirements and Guidelines for Renewing Advanced Packer Ratings may be found on BPA Form 302.*

Following consideration, it was proposed by Iain Anderson and seconded by Andy Clark that the above BPA Operations Manual amendments be accepted.

**Carried Unanimously**

A question arose with regard to Medicals for the various 'Ground' ratings.

Both Mark Bayada (Chair Medical WG) and Dr John Carter (BPA Medical Adviser) reported that it was proving more complicated than originally thought and would involve a lot more work and consultation before any draft documents would be available for consideration.

**8. INSTRUCTOR COURSES**

i) Instructor Course 1-2018

The Association wished to thank the Army Parachute Association, Netheravon, for hosting the Course from the 5 – 9 February. The Course was for CSBI, AFFBI, TBI, CSI, AI and IE candidates. The Course report had been circulated with the agenda and was for information only.

ii) AFF/Tandem/Pre-Advanced Instructor Assessment Course

The Association wished to thank British Parachute Schools, Langar, for hosting the Course that took place between the 19 – 22 March. The Course report had also been circulated with the agenda and was for information only.

The Chair reported that it was the intention, in the future, to send course and candidate reports to CIs by e-mail and no longer send hard copies, unless specifically requested.

**9. PERMISSIONS**

i) A request from Andy Duncan had been circulated with the Agenda requesting that RAF Akrotiri be cleared as an alternative/temporary PLA/DZ for the 28 April 2018. The Chair stated that Akrotiri had been cleared by STC several times in the past, the last being in April 2017. The criteria would be the same as was previously accepted:

- i. The main sports fields are approximately 254m wide and 289m in length, with overshoot on 3 sides.
- ii. The 'run in' direction will be between 125 degrees and 230 degrees. Therefore, if the 'run in' is between 126 degrees to 229 degrees there will be no drop. The sea is approximately 1 km south of the centre of the proposed PLA. The prevailing winds at Royal Air Force Akrotiri are generally of an easterly direction, with the runway being 110/290.
- iii. Royal Air Force Akrotiri Air Traffic Control will control the airspace, DZ control will be undertaken by Mr Phillip Bell (AI).
- iv. A maximum of 2 lifts will be undertaken consisting of tandems and BPA/FAI C Licence holders only (camera operators).
- v. A full medical service will be on standby as the Royal Air Force Akrotiri Regional Medical Centre is 150m from the centre of the proposed PLA.
- vi. It is requested that STC grant permission not to use flotation devices due to the distance of the sea from the intended PLA.

Following consideration, it was proposed by Iain Anderson and seconded by Chris McCann that the above request be accepted.

**Carried Unanimously**

- ii) A request from Andy Clark had been circulated with the Agenda asking that the restrictions imposed at Wild Geese regarding the minimum criteria for Category System Students to be permitted to jump at the Movenis PLA be changed from 'Category 4 Students' to; 'Students who have completed a minimum of 7 solo descents and have proved themselves to be of competent CH at the Student PLA to parachute onto Movenis PLA. Also, that 'Students must have received a CH1 brief from a CH coach.'

The COO stated that he had a few reservations with regard to this request. He informed STC that himself and the STO were due to carry out an Audit at Movenis later in July, and he would rather wait until after then for this particular request to be considered by STC, as it would enable them to discuss their various concerns with the CI of Wild Geese at that time.

Following further discussion, Andy Clark withdrew his request.

- iii) Two requests from Brucie Johnson had been circulated with the Agenda, which would be dealt with separately. The first was a request for Jenny Bouquet to convert her Tandem Instructor rating to that of a TI(G) rating. However, Jenny had not held her TI rating for a minimum of 3 years, as required in the Operations Manual. Jenny obtained her TI rating in June 2016. Brucie had provided full details of the request.

Following consideration, it was proposed by Gary Small and seconded by Steve Saunders that the above request be accepted.

**Carried Unanimously**

- iv) The second request from Brucie was for Andy Tyrrell to renew his CSI rating having not completed a minimum of 60 jumps within the preceding 2 year period. Brucie had stated that because of a shoulder injury Andy had only completed 38 jumps in that period.

It was proposed by Ian Rosenvinge and seconded by Chris McCann that the above request be accepted.

**Carried Unanimously**

- v) A request from Mark Bayada had been circulated with the Agenda requesting reinstatement of Richard Hill's CSI rating. Mark had stated that Richard first qualified as a CSI in 2004 and until last year had remained current throughout and renewed each year. As a member of the Armed Forces, he was deployed overseas for most of 2017 and on return moved to another very busy job and therefore, did not manage to do any jumping and did not renew his membership. Richard was now ready to start jumping again and wished to have his rating reinstated.

Mark Bayada had stated that despite his lay off, Richard had completed over sixty descents in the last two years and that he would ensure that Richard was brought back up to speed and was fully current in all aspects of teaching prior to him carrying out any instructional work with students.

Following consideration, it was proposed by Steve Saunders and seconded by Chris McCann that the above request be accepted.

**Carried Unanimously**

- vi) A request from Rob Spour had been circulated with the Agenda, regarding two Instructors: Noel Purcell and Jonno Horne. Rob had requested permission for both Instructors to jump/commence training for the use hand/wrist mounted cameras for Tandem, not having completed a minimum of 250 Tandem descents within the previous 12 months, for Handy-cam training.

Rob Spour had stated that both Instructors have completed thousands of Tandem descents and have previous Tandem Handy-cam experience. Both have run Tandem programs for many years at very busy DZs. The experience of both Instructors had been provided:

Noel Purcell:

BPA Instructor Examiner, Swallow Group Safety Adviser, Ex-Hibaldstow Chief Instructor (5 Years)

As Swallow Group Safety Adviser, Noel has written and oversees the handy-cam procedures for the companies two foreign DZs, Skydive Algarve and Skydive Spain

7000 jumps, 3500 Tandems, 500 handy-cam, Last handy-cam (in Spain) 2010, 200 jumps last 12months

Jonno Horne:

BPA Advanced Instructor, Ex Skydive Spain Chief Instructor (9 Years)

Total jumps 10,000, Tandem jumps 4000, Handy-cam jumps 100

Last Handy-cam 2014, Jumps in last 12 months 150

This request generated some discussion, during which CIs present felt they did not

- iv) Tabled to those present was a letter from Dave Emerson requesting permission for Skydive Isle of Wight to put up to 6 Tandems out of the aircraft per pass over their PLA. Dave had stated that at this time they are restricted to 3 Tandems per pass. However, the restriction imposed when the DZ/PLA was approved in 2014 was a maximum of 2 Tandems per pass, which was upped to 3 on a pass in November 2016. Dave had stated the reasons for this request in his letter.

The COO voiced his concern at the increased risk by increasing the numbers per pass, as the original reason for restricting the number of Tandems per pass was based on the numbers of aircraft parked in the primary landing area.

Dave Emerson stated that with the co-operation of all airfield users and the airfield owners, they now had permission to use the whole of the airfield as their drop zone. They are also happy for the tower to stop all taxiing and aircraft manoeuvring while parachutists are in the air. Dave Emerson stated that the aircraft are taxied to the end of the runway and are nowhere near landing area.

Matty Holford and Ryan Mancey also clarified this, based on their experience of jumping at Skydive Isle of Wight.

Following further consideration, it was proposed by Matty Holford and seconded by Ryan Mancey that the above request be accepted, this was with Dave Emerson's reassurance that Tandems are not going to land anywhere near any parked aircraft.

**Carried Unanimously**

- v) Two letters from Tom Blakey, Team Leader of the Red Devils had been tabled to those present requesting permission to carry out displays into arenas which fall outside the usual BPA requirements. Tom had stated that the proposed displays are due to be held at Aintree Racecourse on the 12 April 2018 and at Haydock Racecourse on the 26 May 2018. The display landing arenas have a total area of 10,000 square metres (Aintree) and 8,000 square metres (Haydock). However, the widths of the arenas are 30 metres (Aintree) and 40 metres (Haydock). Tom had requested permission with the following caveats:

- i. 15 knots crosswind limit in the arena for all jumpers.
- ii. No landing of any CF in the arena.
- iii. Each parachutist must have completed a minimum of 700 jumps to take part in the display.
- iv. Each parachutist must have completed a minimum of 30 parachute displays.

All participants would be current full-time team members and will have completed a 50+ jumps pre-display season training camp.

Tom had also requested that instead of coming back to STC each year that they be permitted to carry out these displays without having to put clearance in for the next five years, subject to no changes to race courses and landing areas.

A similar request had been granted to the Red Devils in 2015 for 5 years for Epsom Racecourse.

During consideration of this request, a CI expressed some concern if there was a change of Team Leader within the next 5-year period. It was felt by those present that as long as there was no change to the criteria of the request and that the Team operated to the above stated caveats for the proposed displays, they did not foresee a problem.

Following further consideration, it was proposed by Sara Orton and seconded by Chris McCann that the above request be accepted.

For: 16                      Against: 1                      Abstentions: 0

**Carried**

- vi) Tabled to those present was an e-mail from Steve Saunders requesting the reinstatement of Florin Craciun's Tandem Instructor rating, together with his coaching ratings: FS, CH, CP, FF, WS and TR. Steve had stated that Florin has previously held a BPA Tandem Instructor Rating. Unfortunately, due to work commitments he was



working abroad last year and did not renew his BPA membership and Instructor rating. Steve Saunders had also provided details of Florin's experience to date.

During consideration of this request, some concern was raised by those present to these type of requests, as it was felt that those wishing to retain BPA ratings should actually consider renewing their BPA membership each year!

Although the Committee recognized that Florin was a very capable Instructor, they felt that his Coach ratings should only be re-instated once he had been assessed by his CI.

Following further discussion, it was proposed by Pete Sizer and seconded by Richard Wheatley that Florin Craciun's BPA Tandem Instructor be reinstated, but that his various BPA coaching ratings are only be re-instated once Steve Saunders was satisfied to endorse these ratings following assessment.

For: 13

Against: 1

Abstentions: 2

**Carried**

- vii) Tabled to those present was a request from Ryan Mancey for Tom Calland to be permitted to attend an ROCC course and be trained to become a DZ Controller at GoSkydive. Ryan had stated that Tom was not a skydiver but has been working for GoSkydive for the last six years and is the Operations Manager. As such he had a great understanding in the running of the PTO. He was also a pilot and had held his pilot licence for the last two years and so was already familiar with radio procedures and protocol. Ryan had also stated that on completion of an ROCC course, he would be happy to train Tom in all aspects of DZ Control, and once he felt he was capable, allow him to carry out the duties of a DZ Controller at GoSkydive.

The current Operations Manual requirement for a DZ controller is a minimum of a BPA 'B' Licence parachutist.

Ryan Mancey provided the meeting with further details of his request. However, following consideration, the Committee believed that there were circumstances where situations required an experienced parachutist.

Following further consideration this request failed to find a proposer.

- viii) Tabled to those present was a request from Andy Clark for Judith Lees to convert her CSI rating to a Category System (Ground) rating. Judith no longer qualified for CSI renewal, as she had not completed the required number of jumps, though she wished to carry on instructing.

It was proposed by Ian Rosenvinge and seconded by Gary Small that the above request be accepted.

**Carried Unanimously**

- ix) Tabled to those present was a request from Vance Allen, Team Leader of The Poppy Parachute Team, formerly Jump4Heros, to be permitted to make a number of display jumps this year into the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA). The intended PLA is at best 100 metres x 40 metres, that narrows at one end to 25 metres. If permitted the proposed restrictions would be:

- i. Minimum 500 jumps per jumper.
- ii. Minimum of 20 display jumps.
- iii. All display jumpers will use their respective Jump4Heros display canopies.
- iv. Wind restriction of 15 knots maximum, further reduces to 10 knots if a cross wind.
- v. All jumpers will be at the PLA before the displays. Jump aircraft is a Bell 206, launch from site.

The Chair reported that this display site had been permitted by STC on a number of occasions previously.

Following consideration, it was proposed by Andy Clark and seconded by Dave Emerson that the above request be accepted.

For: 12          Against: 1          Abstentions: 4 (all of whom had a declared an interest)

**Carried**

- x) Tabled to those present was a letter from Tom Blakey, Team Leader of the Red Devils requesting permission to be permitted to act as the equivalent of the Advanced Instructor for all night and water displays conducted by the Red Devils during his time as Team Leader. Tom had stated that the previous Team leader was granted this permission by STC for the years 2016 - 2017. Tom had provided full details of his qualifications and experience, having completed 250 display jumps, including 200 night jumps and 10 water displays.

Following consideration, it was proposed by Iain Anderson and seconded by Ryan Mancey that the above request be accepted.

**Carried Unanimously**

- xi) The Chair reminded Chief Instructors, that as from the 1 April 2018, all Instructors, other than Ground Instructors are required to hold an Instructor Medical Certificate. It appears that some Instructors were not aware of the requirement!
- xii) The Chair reported that at the AGM each year the BPA Chair includes a video of BPA skydiving for the previous year as part of his speech. This usually included skydiving competition and achievements. However, there was a lack of Student jumping. Therefore, if any CIs can send us, by the end of the year, some good short video clips of Tandem, AFF and/or Static-line jumping, this would be helpful.

**11. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

Thursdays, 31 May, 26 July, 13 September and 15 November at 1900 at BPA HQ

**Distribution:** Chairman BPA, Council, CIs, All Riggers, Advanced Packers, CAA, Editor – Skydive, File

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## **AMENDMENTS TO BPA OPERATIONS MANUAL**

At the STC meeting of the 5 April 2018 the following amendment was made to the BPA Operations Manual:

### **SECTION 2 (DESIGNATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF PARACHUTISTS). Paragraph 6 (The Grading System). Change first paragraph to read:**

#### **6. THE GRADING SYSTEM**

Once a parachutist has obtained 'A' Licence or above (or, prior to obtaining 'A' Licence for CH1 or JM1), that parachutist's continuation training may continue via a choice of various disciplines:

### **SECTION 2 (DESIGNATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF PARACHUTISTS). Paragraph 6 (The Grading System). N.B. below sub-para 6. . . Change to read:**

*N.B(1) Formal training lessons/briefs for JM1 may be carried out prior to the parachutist obtaining an 'A' Licence, at the discretion of the CI. However, before a JM1 is awarded, the instructor concerned must ensure that the parachutist has obtained 'A' Licence and lessons/briefs have been completed and signed for in the applicant's log book.*

### **SECTION 2 (DESIGNATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF PARACHUTISTS). Paragraph 6 (The Grading System). Sub--para 6. . . Change to read:**

6.2.2. To obtain Grade 1 in Canopy Handling (CH1), the Student Parachutist must be introduced to CH by a CI/Advanced Instructor nominated Category System Basic Instructor (CSBI), a Category System Instructor (CSI), an Accelerated Free Fall Basic Instructor (AFFBI) or an Accelerated Free Fall Instructor (AFFI) of proven CH instructional ability, received a full safety brief and been instructed, both theoretically and practically on canopy handling relevant to CH1, and has successfully achieved the following:

### **SECTION 4 (INSTRUCTORS), Paragraph 13 (Non BPA Instructors), sub-para 13.1.1. (b). Change to read:**

b. Hold a current 'Solo Parachute Instructor Medical Certificate/Doctor's Certificate (BPA Form 116A).

### **SECTION 6 (EQUIPMENT), Paragraph 8.3 (Reserve Parachutes), New N.B. below sub-para 8.3.1. to read:**

*N.B.(3) Requirements and Guidelines for Renewing Advanced Packer Ratings may be found on BPA Form 302.*

Approved by Council 17 April 2018  
and published on 18 April 2018

## APPENDIX A

Twisted small ring causing lock between middle riser ring and drogue ring.  
(Error recreated on a different set of equipment)

