

Minutes of the BHPA Accuracy Panel Zoom Call

Held at 20.00 on 3rd August 2023

Present: Mark Bignell MkB Chairman & Paragliding Representative
 Andy Webster AW Media & PR Officer
 Arthur Bentley AB Parascending Representative
 Liz Lawrence LL Rules Officer
 Myrianthe Ewington ME Vice Chair
 William Lawrence WL Paragliding Squad Manager
 Dave Crowhurst DC Classic Accuracy
 Matt Bignell MtB Safety Officer
 Andy Shaw AS Development Officer

Item	Minute	Action
1	Apologies	
1.1	Everyone present.	
2	Signing off last meeting minutes	
2.1	The minutes of meeting dated 6 th July 2023 were proposed by LL and seconded by DC. Two items to be removed by AW before publishing on the website.	AW
3	Chairman	
3.1	MkB ran through a Power Point presentation he had prepared that is based on a process he uses at work to solve problems. Ultimately the process asks two questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Why don't paragliding pilots fly accuracy? - Why is the Accuracy Panel's reputation poor? AW queried the Accuracy Panel's poor reputation. MkB stated that the Panel has a certain reputation within the BHPA Exec, and in some quarters it has a good reputation. DC stated that this needs to be investigated. It was agreed that the first question will be dealt with by ME, MtB, WL, AS, and the second by LL, DC, AB, AW. The first step is to produce a strategy to answer the questions.	Panel
3.2	MkB advised that he is changing the Dropbox structure into the folder system proposed by AW. LL suggested using a reverse date on the sub-folders so that they order most recent first.	MkB
4	Finances	
4.1	AW advised that Tyron Paul had made another £100 payment on his loan.	
5	Classic Accuracy	
5.1	AB advised that the Birdwings competition will be on the weekend 14/15 October. PMN it was recognised that the 14/15 October date was a change to the original date of 28/29 October which was already published on the calendar.	
5.2	LL advised that Portugal may hold a Grand Prix competition next year.	
6	Classic Accuracy Squad	
6.1	There were no queries on DC's report.	
7	Classic Accuracy Nationals	

7.1	It was noted that all forms are now on the website.	
7.2	AB is dealing with the army regarding table, chairs, showers. AB comment: The showers are not confirmed yet, and it was noted that there is an opportunity to use the local Golf Club facilities.	AB
7.3	It is believed that there will be two competitors from France and 3 or 4 from Holland. The Dutch have advised that they may be late arriving on Friday, and it was agreed that they could fit into the flying sequence when they arrive rather than committing to a specific time.	
7.4	It was noted new classic pilots are coming through the Green Dragons system, assisted by Green Dragons Captain Jamie Robe. AS advised that these pilots have been informed of the nationals, but an official invite may encourage them more to attend. DC stated that the organiser can contact pilots, but it is not for the organiser to chase names and that the organiser needs to be informed of the names. Also any panel member can contact pilots as it's a panel event. DC to contact Jamie Robe about pilot names, so that official invites can be sent to them.	DC
8	Paragliding Accuracy Squad	
8.1	WL advised that the July training camp had succumbed to the weather, and the August training camp is planned to be at South Cerney. WL advised that John Lawrence will coordinate training camp sites while he takes a step back to revise for exams.	
8.3	WL advised that he eventually got hold of Bill Bell to sign the NAC form, and it has been issued to the organisers.	
8.4	WL advised that he had received acceptance forms from all five team pilots. Sue Britnell will be reserve, and team leader assisted by WL if not competing.	
8.5	WL to hold a zoom call with the team to discuss logistics. It was noted that there may be a shortage of hotel accommodation, so accommodation should be booked as early as possible.	WL
8.6	AW to organise £660 payments to the five pilots.	AW
8.7	MtB advised that he was dealing with a sponsor that could offer approximately £400 per pilot. The sponsor has links with veterans and mental health, and has only requested inclusion on usual social media posts. It was noted that veterans can take up paragliding experience days, and one veteran had already taken this up with Green Dragons. MtB to finalise the agreement. It was noted that any money would come through the Panel accounts.	MtB
8.8	WL to draft out a 2024 selection criteria, based on the 2023 document, for review.	WL
9	Judging	
9.1	LL advised that plating on the classic accuracy team trophy had disappeared in places meaning that some engraving was illegible. Also it would cost £400 to completely re-engrave the trophy. The following options were discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Replate the trophy and re-engrave the centre. - Put it in a display box that has an external plate for engraving. - Buy a new trophy. It was agreed to discuss the matter further at the classic nationals when the trophy can be viewed.	Panel

9.2	AW advised that it was Bob King who had not claimed judging fees for the paragliding nationals. DC advised that he generally does not claim. It was agreed that a gift may be more appropriate.	
10	Development	
10.1	Following review of Andy Shaw's report, it was agreed that there is a lot of good development going on.	
11	AOB	
11.2	AS advised that his business had been badly affected by the recent weather, and he had organised an open day on the same weekend as the paragliding squad training. He will work with WL on this matter.	
	Meeting closed at 21.20	
	Date of next meeting	
	The next meeting will be 8.00 pm, Thursday 7 th September 2023.	

Media & PR Officer Report

July meeting actions:

7.4 Classic Nationals entry forms put on website.

Financial:

- £16,297 currently in the BHPA Accuracy Panel account as of 30/07/2023.
- Two payments totalling £212.43 have been made to Chris Haynes for equipment purchases in the last month. This includes a new tuffet fan.
- There will also soon be a £1,230.89 payment going through for the worlds first allocation.
- Tyron Paul is still behind with the £100 payments for the 2022 Euros. He has paid £600 of the £1000 loan, and the last payment was in April.
- All Squad fees paid with the exception of Tyron Paul who owes for the last two paragliding training camps.

Skywings:

August – French Grand Prix

Sept – UK Paragliding Team

October – Classic Nationals (proposed)

November – Dutch Grand Prix (proposed)

December – European and World Cup round up (proposed)

Proposal:

The Accuracy Panel Dropbox folder is lacking structure, and I would propose the following folder structure:

- Panel constitution
- Panel meetings
- Accounts
- Judging documents
- Sponsorship
- Paragliding Nationals
- Classic Nationals
- Paragliding Squad
- Parascending Squad
- Worlds / Europeans

Each section will then be further subdivided by year.

Classic Accuracy / PA squad report July 2023

July squad weekend at Birdwings was called off due to poor forecast over both planned days

August is planned for South Cerney on 12/13th
Fifteen pilots now registered for PA squad.

Regards
Dave

BHPA AP Monthly Report August 23

Parascending

1. Not a lot to report on current activities as the weather has constantly been unfavourable for most sites in UK.
2. Main involvement for the last few weeks has been liaison with MoD for help with the loan of equipment for our 'Classic Accuracy Nationals'

Regards,

Arthur

Panel

Last months squad training called off due to conditions, this months confirmed for South Cerney (19th -20th)

Team selection finalised –

Sue Britnell – Reserve & team leader

William Lawrence – Pilot & assistant to Team Leader

Andy Shaw - Pilot

Matthew Bignell - Pilot

Myri Ewington – Pilot

Spoken to John Lawrence, will be assisting myself as Squad manager, primary function will be co-ordinating site and other smaller items for short period.

Rules Officer report July 23

Actions from previous minutes:

- Returnable classic team trophy
 - engraving up to date (engraving on back is a possibility)
 - re-plating (with possible re-engraving as it is quite shallow)
 - a stand – could include space for more names if we don't engrave them on the backGiven up on our local trophy shop – does anyone else have someone reliable we could try?
- LL / WL to get a quote for repairs to the target mat – ongoing
- LL to chase Bob Hiatt re expenses claim – will explain procedure f2f at Classic Nationals then he can put in both claims together. For purposes of budget, the claim should be £50.07

Judging/rules

- No actions needed – squad events didn't happen, Classic Nationals arrangements in place.

Equipment

- Chris has confirmed that all requested equipment including fan and oil has been purchased – he will bring to Classic Nationals

Proposals/discussion points - none

Liz

Development Officers Report (August)

I am pleased to report there have been increase in PA pilots from GD joining the PA Squad.

More personal Sponsorship has been achieved by Matt and Myri due to the amount of social media presence. Well done

I am actively supporting individuals who are working on sponsors. Not sure what I can offer the squads and teams, as I not seen any proposals, I have provided a template document.

Manston in Kent is a new flying site, based on fun flying, not comps for now. Aim is to build the club.

I am helping Northern Skies to try and get a Northern training site.

I am pushing the BHPA Squads to run more fun flying at training camps, high flights and more BHPA Flight tasks revised. It is felt the squad training weekends should be more fun, not just about a rule book.

Lastly, I will support where I can, I may struggle at times throughout this coming rolling year as my daughter has stage 3 Cancer and currently just started Chemo.