

# Minutes of the BHPA Accuracy Panel Zoom Call

Held at 20.00 on 14th September 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	<b>Apologies</b>	
1.1	All present	
2	<b>Signing off last meeting minutes</b>	
2.1	The minutes of meeting dated 3 <sup>rd</sup> August 2023, with amendments in red, were proposed by MtB and seconded by AS. Two items highlighted in yellow to be removed by AW before publishing on the website.	AW
3	<b>Chairman</b>	
3.1	Regarding the investigation into 'Why don't paragliding pilots fly accuracy'? MkB presented a PowerPoint presentation with the following headings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The problem</li> <li>- The goal</li> <li>- Questions</li> <li>- Possible projects</li> </ul> Questions for an on-line questionnaire highlighted in the 'Possible projects' above are to be agreed.	MkB
3.2	Regarding the investigation into 'Why is the Accuracy Panel's reputation poor'? LL advised that the working group's proposal was to survey anonymously people who know what the Panel does, and see how this compares to how Panel members view matters. It was noted that online survey packages could be used. The working group to generate questions for the survey.	LL/DC/ AB/AW
3.3	MkB circulated a draft BHPA Safe Guarding Policy document prior to the meeting. LL advised that people involved with Scouts need DBS checks, also anyone working unsupervised with children need DBS checks.	
3.4	MkB advised that Marc Asquith had asked for an accuracy code of conduct, and he had been able to send the paragliding squad code of conduct.	
3.5	MkB believes that the Panel shows inclusivity and encouragement of improving pilots. Novices were welcomed at the Classic Nationals and Green Dragons had recently flow Scouts.	
4	<b>Finances</b>	
4.1	There were no comments on the Media & PR report.	
5	<b>Classic Accuracy</b>	

5.1	AS congratulated Jamie Robe's Grand Prix win, and MtB stated that we need to promote this success as it is 21 years since a UK pilot won the Grand Prix and 11 years since a UK team won the Grand Prix. MtB to contribute a few paragraphs to the Skywings article that AW is preparing on the Dutch Grand Prix.	MtB
5.2	DC has asked for the parachuting accuracy nationals to be held on the weekend of 14/15 <sup>th</sup> September, so that it won't clash with the Dutch Grand Prix, and this will be confirmed in October. AB enquired if he could advise EPAC that the 2024 UK Classic Nationals will be held on the August bank holiday as the Dutch want to know as early as possible to make plans.	
<b>6</b>	<b>Classic Accuracy Squad</b>	
6.1	It was noted that the top five pilots in the selection league who attended Holland are eligible for £50 funding. DC to advise the relevant pilots to make a claim.	DC
<b>7</b>	<b>Classic Accuracy Nationals</b>	
7.1	MkB stated that the classic nationals had been a huge success, and had made a small profit. It was noted that there is still 70euros Grand Prix subs to be added to the budget, and the judging expenses need to be finalised.	
<b>8</b>	<b>Paragliding Accuracy Squad</b>	
8.1	WL advised that the September training camp had been cancelled due to lack of people on the Saturday and a poor weather forecast on the Sunday.	
8.2	It was noted that the complaint against the coaches had been resolved, with MtB providing evidence.	
8.3	It was agreed to pay the team leader / assistants fee for Sue Britnell, and top this up if a place is given to her in subsequent allocations. AW to arrange.	AW
8.4	It was noted that the 2024 selection criteria 12 month selection period will have already started, but with the last training camp in June there will be no eligible training camp competitions yet. WL to prepare the 2024 selection criteria.	WL
<b>9</b>	<b>Judging</b>	
9.1	LL advised that she had spoken to Nikki Bodill about the judging in the Czech Republic following the FAI rule change for a reduction in the number of judges. Nikki Bodill advised that some judges were multi-tasking, and more judges may have helped with Kosovo protest.	
9.2	LL advised that the tablet display is not of sufficient quality for reviewing judging decisions, however, when downloaded on to a computer the quality is there. WL advised that the tablet is good for coaching.	
<b>10</b>	<b>Development</b>	
10.1	AS stated that the Green Dragon Club is so dynamic at present developing captains, coaches and judges, and he can help other clubs to do the same.	
10.2	AS stated that social media on the recent Scout event at Green Dragons had been great, and other Scout groups had been in touch wanting to fly. Minimot, PD Zero and UP are right behind pilots having	

	seen the social media. Social media associated with the Worlds now needs to be ramped up.	
	Meeting closed at 21.15	
	<b>Date of next meeting</b>	
	The next meeting will be 8.00 pm, Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> October 2023. DC and AB will not be available.	

## Media & PR Officer Report

August meeting actions:

8.6 £660 payments made to five team pilots.

Financial:

- £12,600 currently in the BHPA Accuracy Panel account as of 03/09/2023. Recent activity has been regarding the Classic Nationals.
- Tyron Paul has now paid £700 of his loan, and paid outstanding paragliding squad training fees.

Skywings:

Sept – UK Paragliding Team

October – Classic Nationals (submitted)

November – Dutch Grand Prix (proposed)

December – Worlds (proposed)

Classic Accuracy / PA squad report September 2023

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

September is planned for South Cerney on 23/24<sup>th</sup>  
Fifteen pilots now registered for PA squad.

Nationals.

8 rounds completed with high winds every day delaying the competition.

A number of pilots who identified in advance they were taking part did not, this was slightly balanced by pilots who had stated they would not compete but did.

Budget to be finalised but looks positive on income to panel account in excess of £400.

Regards

Dave

## **BHPA AP Monthly Report - September 23. Parascending**

1 Apologies for this late entry.

Nothing much to report as I'm still injured and waiting for consultants to assess my knee damage.

I'm attending the final Grand Prix of 2023 so I'll try and get some photos of the event.

I'm travelling on Thurs so will miss the Sep meeting.

Regards,

Arthur

## Rules Officer report Sept 23

### Actions from previous minutes or ongoing:

- Returnable classic team trophy is with Andy Cowley (original donor) who is looking at solutions (item 9.1)
- Target mat is at Sportlite. They will carry out all repairs (with cheapest option for logo repair) and add 2m circle. Will collect when notified it is ready.
  - Estimate of £650+ for a new sponsored target mat (base cost of £550 plus £60+ for a logo and £10 per letter) already circulated.
- Bob King will claim expenses for paragliding (and classic) nationals – claim had gone astray due to typo in email address he used for Parki (item 9.2).

### Judging/rules

- August squad events did not happen due to weather so no judges needed.
- Thanks to the Dutch we had a full and international judging crew for the classic nationals, including video operator, without need to use pilots or our reserve judges. Claim forms have been issued to all eligible UK judges and most have been returned to treasurer already. Should come in well under the original estimated maximum provided to event organisers.
- Bob, Bob, Judith, Nikki, Jayne and Josie have all completed the required judging activity to have their non-flying BHPA membership paid so claim forms have been issued. Exact amounts claimed will vary depending on when membership was applied for and whether it was a new membership or a renewal. Parki will advise when all claims are in – these are separate from competition expenses. I do not anticipate any other non-flying judges reaching the threshold for full or part payment this year. We will need to review the current agreement with judges by the end of this year in case changes are needed.
- First call has gone out for judges for the Birdwings comp with 1 positive and 1 negative response so far. I will follow up again before the comp. I may be able to do some judging but we also have scout courses booked for that weekend so I will need to split my time depending on how many scout club members are available. I think some club members may also intend to fly the competition if arrangements can be made for them to fly out of order.

### Equipment

- New tablet not as useful as I hoped – image quality fine for coaching through flights but not so good when trying to distinguish e.g. 2 footed landings. Thought issue was with quality of video but when downloaded to the computer that is OK so issue is with screen resolution.

### Proposals/discussion points

- Does anyone have any comments/proposals re the FAI rules that we need to consider and post on BaseCamp in preparation for the next FAI plenary? I would be interested in knowing from those who have flown overseas this year if they have seen an impact of reducing the required number of judges as this is something that I don't think is universally popular and that I have concerns about and was not willing to do for the paragliding Nationals.

Liz

### Development Officer Report

The only point I would raise is, everyone do smash social media with your stories and pictures.

We have some great events, great support, the BHPA Comp scene is on fire, Jr 's + HG, PG PPG, FAI Silvers winners and host of next years FAI World Champs for BHPA PPG here in UK.

Make sure you join the social media boom to keep our sport in everyone's eyes. This will assist future BHPA Funding tooooo