

Minutes of the BHPA Accuracy Panel Zoom Call

Held at 20.00 on 1st February 2024

Present: Mark Bignell MB Chairman
 Andy Webster AW Secretary
 Arthur Bentley AB Parascending Representative
 William Lawrence WL Paragliding Squad Manager
 Dave Crowhurst DC Parascending Squad Manager

Item	Minute	Action
1	Apologies	
1.1	Apologies received from LL and CM.	
2	Signing off last meeting minutes	
2.1	The minutes of meeting dated 4 th January 2024, were proposed by WL and seconded by DC.	
3	Chairman	
3.1	MB advised that there had been two participants so far on the accuracy survey questionnaire.	
3.2	It was agreed that LL would be best placed to analyse the Accuracy Panel survey responses.	LL
3.3	MB advised that the BHPA Safeguarding policy is now on the BHPA website.	
3.4	MB advised that he had forwarded the Financial Annual Plan and a brief report to Bill Bell.	
4	Secretary	
4.1	MB advised that Green Dragons wanted to keep hold of the £500, paid to them in good faith for the PGAEC sanction fee, to help with development. MB to request that the £500 is paid back.	MB
4.2	AW's funding Proposal 1 was discussed, and it was agreed that budget should be expressed in percentage terms so that it can be applied to what ever the funding is received this year. AW to make a proposal based on percentages.	AW
4.3	Panel to review the revised Operating Procedures before the March meeting.	Panel
5	Media & PR	
5.1	MB to contact Stuart Short about the BHPA Accuracy facebook group login and BHPA Accuracy Panel Whatsapp group admin.	MB
5.2	The following items were raised regarding the website: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It would be good to see the paragliding accuracy selection league workings behind the league table. - An interactive calendar would be useful that offers more functionality than the google calendar. - Adverts could be considered on the website to generate some income. 	
5.3	It was noticed that the BHPA Accuracy google calendar had been wiped of all information.	
6	Classic Accuracy	
6.1	AB and DC will be attending the EPAC meeting in February to discuss the UK Classic accuracy rule amendments, EPAC rules	

	and competition dates. It was noted that the Dutch were proposing to have a competition a week after the classic nationals that clashes with a parachuting competition, and it is hoped that the competition can be put back a week.	
6.2	AB advised that the South Cerney had been booked for the Classic Nationals on the August Bank holiday. AB advised that he had asked Andy Cowley about being meet director, but had not had a response. AB advised that he will make a post on the BHPA Accuracy face book group every month promoting the Classic Nationals.	AB
7	Classic Accuracy Squad	
7.1	There were no comments on the Squad Manager report.	
8	Paragliding Accuracy Squad	
8.1	WL advised that he had made the Squad aware that last year's nationals will be included in the selection league, and he had published the selection league following the New Haven training camp. It was agreed that the squad pilots in last year's squad would be applicable to last years nationals selection points – WL to amend the league. WL advised that there is an error in the selection criteria wording regarding bonus points – AW to rectify on the website. It was also suggested that a meeting take place at this year's nationals regarding the selection criteria going forwards.	WL AW
8.2	WL advised that the overseas training camp can't go ahead at the Spanish competition weekend as there are not enough places left in the competition. The Albanian Open was also being considered as an overseas training camp, however, the competition is a mid week event which will make it difficult for UK pilot's attendance. DC queried how pilot debriefings can take place when coaches are flying, but WL advised that flying orders can be arranged to ensure coaches are available to watch pilot landings.	
8.3	WL advised that four UK pilots had received 2023 Worlds videos off Jaroslav Jindra, but there were problems with two UK pilots paying that could damage the UK's reputation. Andy Shaw has advised that he never agreed to pay, despite arranging the videos and Matt Bignell is ignoring communications on the matter. MB to have a word with Andy Shaw and Matt Bignell.	MB
8.4	Proposals from AW and WL for funding at an overseas training camp were reviewed, and it was agreed that it would be fairest to give all pilots the same amount based on an estimated take up of between 6 and 9 pilots.	
8.5	The following badge categories were suggested: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distance from target, first pad - First DC, DC, multiple DCs - Accuracy Awards - Nationals top 3, Nationals attendee - CAT 1 attendee WL to generate a list identifying which badges would be awarded and which should be purchased.	WL
8.6	WL proposed that the Panel create an accuracy jacket that can be sold cost to pilots to sew badges on.	

9	Paragliding Nationals	
9.1	It was noted that Chris Haynes had still to advised if Long Mynd was available for the nationals – AW to chase.	AW
9.2	AW agreed to liaise with Chris Haynes about the nationals, and advised that a Paragliding Representative Officer was a priority for the Panel.	AW
9.3	WL advised Green Dragons had offered their sites as a back up venue for the nationals. South Cerney and Rutland were also proposed as back up venues. AB to book South Cerney for the weekend of 13/14th July.	AB
10	Judging	
10.1	The classic rule amendments were reviewed, and the following comments made: 4.1 Judging shall follow the judging code (grammar). 4.8 Re-launches to be managed by the Launch Marshal. 4.8 Pilots to decide on a re-launch for over the limit winds within 2 minutes. 6.3 Judges to manually fichet on to the pad to be consistent with the paragliding accuracy rules. AW to update the rules.	AW
10.2	It was agreed that only qualified judges that are on the UK judges register could claim expenses. Ideally the squad managers should agree which judges will be attending in advance of a training camp to avoid a big expense bill.	
10.3	It was noted that an anemometer should be present at training camp competitions rather than being mandatory.	
11	AOB	
11.1	DC advised that Nigel Barker had given the Dropbox admin rights to MB, and Nigel can be removed from admin by MB.	MB
	Meeting closed at 21.30	
	Date of next meeting	
	The next meeting will be 8.00 pm, Thursday 7 th March 2024.	

Secretary Report February 2024

January meeting actions:

- 4.1 Financial Annual Plan updated and finalised.
- 4.3 Website hosting fee paid.
- 5.1 Commented on the sponsorship letter.
- 5.3 Given CM admin rights to the BHPA Accuracy facebook group.
- 5.4 Commented on badges proposal.
- 9.1 Discussion on the classic rules didn't happen.

Financial:

- £10,466 currently in the BHPA Accuracy Panel account as of 28/01/2024.
- Website hosting fee of £538.62 paid in last month.
- £500 paid to Green Dragons for the European Cup sanction fee needs to be returned.
- BHPA Financial Annual Plan finalised, and asked MB to issue along with the accounts to January to the BHPA Competitions Director.

Skywings:

February – Paragliding accuracy league, Accuracy Awards, WPRS

March – 2024 competitions preview

April – TBC, any ideas welcome

Proposal 1:

Agree to £4,500 funding now as follows:

£500 Grand Prix funding

£2,000 Cat 2 / overseas training camp funding (approximate amount)

£1,000 PA & PG Squad funding

£1,000 Badges, website hosting fee, judges non flying membership, EPAC Calais meeting (approximate amount)

Agree Cat 1 competition funding amount when the 2024 grant is known.

Proposal 2:

Based on the BHPA's guidance that funding covers, amongst other things, supporting the development of new competition pilots by organising training camps or helping rising talents attend international competitions, I would propose that the approximate amount of £2,000 for Cat2 / overseas training camp funding in Proposal 1 is divided up as follows:

- Each squad pilot can claim £100 for one overseas Cat 2 competition (not including the Cat 2 below).
- Any pilot attending the overseas training camp / Cat 2 competition can claim £100 in addition to the above.

Media & PR Officer February Report

Please see below my update for February panel meeting. Unfortunately, duty calls so I will not be able to make this meeting either.

However, this is what I have completed this month. The BHPA now has an official accuracy page which has a post and has a few followers. I intend on posting on there a lot more in regards to upcoming events, competitions and any pilots that should be celebrate for achievements in the squad. I realised that to be able to link this Instagram account to the Facebook account I will need the BHPA accuracy email and its login for this.

Furthermore, I have begun discussions with Webbo and Ben in relation to the website and creating a membership portal. We are going to be conducting a zoom call for an in-depth overview of this and come up with a plan.

A few questions I have, is one in relation the badges I'm creating for Will. Dave are you planning on also requiring these badges for whatever team kit you are choosing to have ? If so I'll be happy to discuss this further if not no problem as well!

Look forward to reading the panel notes later! Again any questions either message me direct or ask Will in panel meeting as he should be able to shed some light on the subject !
Have a good one.

Kind regards
Cherry

Classic Officer February Report

EPAC Meeting scheduled for 17 Feb. Two main items on the agenda will be: a, Agree dates of Grand Prix comps for 2024. Dave will have his calendar at the meeting and every effort will be made to ensure that none of the comp dates clash with other similar activities. b, Seek agreement on our AP amendments to the rules used at our Grand Prix comps. I know that Jacques has also been looking at ways to make a tied result at the end of the series less likely. 3. On the domestic scene: No activity at South Cerney yet this year, mainly due to a combination of weather and insufficient pilots.

Regards, Arthur

Classic Accuracy / PA squad report February 2024

January squad weekend at Birdwings was cancelled due to insufficient pilots, despite this being opened to PG and Hanggliders.

6 Pilots registered

Safeguarding:

Policy received, however this is a stand alone document, not signed, is not dated nor has a version, it is therefore not possible to confirm this is the latest policy from the BHPA. This shall be shared as is, but I would prefer that this be on-line so it can be checked as the latest version. This would allow it to be part of the registration form where pilots confirm they are aware of the contents.

Accuracy safety:

Nothing to report

Near misses:

Nothing to report

Regards

Dave

Paragliding Squad Manager February Report

Squad Training had 10 pilots attending, 4 round comp and a few more accuracy awards achieved.

Selection points updated with squad comp and last year's nationals as that will be included in the selection.

Combined league points		
Positio	Pilot	Score
1	Matt Bignell	37.72
2	A Shaw	21.40
3	B Woodcock	18.82
4	W Lawrence	15.57
5	T Paul	11.71
6	A Webster	11.52
7	C Jones	11.33
8	M Ewington	10.50
9	D Bodill	4.84
10	Mark Bignell	4.50
11	S Britnell	4.37
12	C McMahon	4.16
13	P Cush	0.98
14	W Chaudhary	0.86
15	J Lawrence	0.81

Next month's squad training is planned to be at SC with the classic squad weather allowing.

I have continued to look for other viable options for the overseas training but if the training camp is to be included in this year's selection and not overly expensive for the pilots, Spain in April still looks to me to be the best option.

I have received no further communication from A Shaw or Matt with regards to paying JJ for the video, they may have paid already without contacting me but if not, I am concerned that this could damage our reputation with our overseas competitors if this is not resolved. Sue has Paid and I am happy to send the money to the panel before a payment is made. The total per pilot is £65.

I am going to run a poll within the WhatsApp group to determine peoples feeling on a team jacket or simply getting their own and getting it embroidered

Proposal

A selection of ideas for overseas squad training at CAT 2 comp funding.

Below are a few ideas for how the funding could be allocated for the comp. The amounts and numbers of pilots are adjustable depending on the consensus of the panel, but having a couple of ideas may help everyone decide how they think it should be allocated.

If a pilot is unable to attend those underneath them in the ranking come up to fill the slot. The pilots position is based on WRPS.

1. Provide funding for top 12 pilots – Top 4 (3 male 1 female) £100, next 4 (3 male 1 female) £75, last 4 (3 male 1 female) £50. This is in addition to the £100 provided for CAT 2 comps.

Total cost if all 12 pilots attended would be £1200 for original funding plus £900 extra.

£2100

2. Provide Funding for top 9 pilots – Top 3 £150, next 3 £100, last 3 £50. Total cost if all 9 pilots attended would be £900 for original funding and £900 extra. **£1800**

3. Provide funding for top 10 pilots – top 10 pilots get £75 on top of the £100 they would already receive. The top 3 pilots in the comp then receive prize money. 1st £100 2nd £75 3rd £50.

The total cost if all pilots attended would be £1000 for original funding plus £975 extra.

£1975

William Lawrence proposal for overseas squad training funding

I will send out the rest of my PG update soon but wanted to give everyone time to read over this before Thursday and have suggestions for the meeting.

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Regards

William

Judges allowances

The panel have agreed that allowances will be paid at the following rates for ~~a maximum of two events per year~~ for each **qualified** judge, unless sharing vehicle/accommodation with a competing pilot.

For competitions

- £0.45 / mile **travel allowance** up to a maximum of £100 **for any event**.
- Accommodation for a maximum of two events per year - maximum £30 at Nationals and £20 at local events (club competitions) for camping fees or a contribution to other accommodation

To be approved in advance by the meet director.

For squad training

- £0.45 / mile travel allowance up to a maximum of £100 **for any event**.

Ideally to be approved in advance by the squad manager.

As judges are only required for one day of a Squad Training weekend, accommodation costs are not applicable.

If squad training is overseas the maximum single event travel allowance plus a £20 contribution to accommodation will be paid.

Annual mileage limits

Judges may claim up to £200 for travel in any one year, across multiple events but subject to the cap of £100 for any single event as above.

BHPA membership

All target judges are required to have BHPA membership. The recorder does not require BHPA membership. In the case of judges who have non-flying membership (current cost £60 pa with a discount on renewal by direct debit and a £30 initial joining fee for new members) the panel will reimburse, at the end of the year the full cost for judges who judge for a minimum of 5 days at:

- both the classic and paragliding nationals, or
- a combination of one national championships and club or squad competitions

A 50% reimbursement will be given to judges who judge for a minimum of 3 days at:

- one national championships (**3 day event**), or
- **one national championships (2 day event) and a club competition or squad competition or**
- a club competition and squad competition **or**
- **multiple squad competitions**

Requests for judges for National Championships will be sent by the Rules Officer (or Meet Director) and, before the event, the MD will confirm the judging team for which expenses will be paid and send an authorised expenses form. Priority may be given to judges who can judge the full duration of a championships. Expenses will be paid by the accuracy panel on receipt of the completed form by the treasurer.

Requests for judges at squad training will be posted in the squad WhatsApp group. **Ideally** the squad manager will confirm in advance who will be receiving expenses, based on how many judges are

available and are needed and the budget for the weekend and will send an authorised expenses form. Expenses will be paid by the accuracy panel (from the squad training budget) on receipt of the completed form by the treasurer.

Requests for judges for club competitions will be made by the Meet Director who will be responsible for confirmation of expenses and payment from the competition budget as these events are not panel funded.

Rationale for changes to the document

Changing the way travel expenses are paid to allow for claims for more than 2 events but still no more than £100 per event and £200 total across the year might encourage shorter distance travel by judges to support multiple squad competitions.

Last year it was possible to judge for 6 days across the 2 nationals and so qualify for reimbursement of BHPA membership. This year the nationals will be a 2 day and a 3 day competition so the qualifying number of days has been reduced to 5 so that a judge who attends both nationals will get their non-flying membership paid (as was always the intention).