

Minutes of the BHPA Accuracy Panel Zoom Call

Held at 20.00 on 4th April 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
	Liz Lawrence	LL	Rules Officer

Item	Minute	Action
1	Apologies	
1.1	Apologies were received off CM. WL advised that it is difficult for CM to advise a best day to attend a meeting as her work shifts are not based on a weekly pattern and she will also be changing roles shortly.	
2	Signing off last meeting minutes	
2.1	The minutes of meeting dated 7 th March 2024, were proposed by DC and seconded by AW.	
3	Chairman	
3.2	MB advised the he had spoken to Sue Britnell about a coaches organising role he foresaw. It was agreed that the Panel would reimburse Sue's coach course fee if it is £45.	
4	Secretary	
4.1	Regarding the squad fees proposal prepared by AW, DC advised that the 'daily towing fees' should be changed to 'daily site and towing fees'. DC was happy with the proposal, however, WL had concerns and wanted to make changes after the 2024 paragliding accuracy selection period. DC and WL to discuss fees with squad pilots before making a decision.	DC, WL
4.2	AW advised that Simon Sykes Snr's BHPA Award of Merit citation is on the website. LL to forward Stuart Short's citation to AW to put on the website.	LL
5	Media & PR	
5.1	Discussions took place on what people would like to see on a website squad membership portal, and the following suggestions were made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See where squad pilots are attending competitions. - Squad registration form. - Payment of squad fees 	
5.2	WL advised that CM wanted to run through website changes that Ben Woodcock had prepared with the Panel before publishing them. It was agreed that CM should arrange a Zoom call with the Panel and Ben to review the changes.	CM
6	Classic Accuracy	
6.1	AB advised that he has a meeting with the barracks Quartermaster to discuss the nationals.	
	Further to AB's proposal to use the Scout Landrover and winch, LL advised that she was not sure about the current serviceability of the winch, and a written request needs to be put to Simon Sykes Snr for the use of the Landrover and the winch.	AB
6.2	It was agreed that AW will prepare forms for the nationals for review by the Panel.	AW

7	Classic Accuracy Squad	
7.1	DC advised that he planned to delete any posts on the Parascending Accuracy Squad Whatsapp group that weren't related to squad activities. LL stated that the BHPA Accuracy facebook group was the place for non squad posts. WL felt that guidelines for Whatsapp group use should be put in the group description.	
7.2	DC advised that he wanted himself, AW and Richard Bissett to form a group of three that will carryout a trial operation at Rutland.	
8	Paragliding Accuracy Squad	
8.1	It was agreed that AW should pay £195 to Jaroslav Jindra for the 2023 Worlds videos, noting that Andy Shaw still owed money. MB advised that the vidoes should be put on the BHPA Accuracy youtube channel.	AW
8.2	WL advised that he would have a rethink about the overseas training camp as the competitions he had chosen for a vote were fully booked up. PMN – The FAI calendar takes you to the 2023 Czech competition that was fully booked up. The 2024 event has lots of remaining places.	WL
9	Paragliding Nationals	
9.1	AW advised that the nationals is working through the approval process before it gets published on the FAI calendar.	
9.2	AW advised that camping details for the Royal Hill pub are on the website.	
10	Rules / Judging	
10.1	MB understood that Andy Cowley wanted to discuss ideas associated with the CIVL Paragliding Accuracy Subcommittee operation with LL and Nikki Bodill. MB stated that the paragliding accuracy proposals accepted at the 2024 Plenary affected the judging requirements, and LL also felt they created conflicts. MB felt that Brett Janaway should have voted against any proposal that he had not been briefed on rather than abstaining.	
10.2	LL advised that judges do not need to be first aid trained, but need to be aware of the emergency procedures. AW advised that he has agreed the paragliding nationals emergency procedures with Chris Haynes, and they been published on the website. DC stated that squad events should have emergency procedures.	
10.3	LL advised that she will be having a meeting with AB and DC to finalise the classic rule changes. This will also include the EPAC rule changes raised at the EPAC meeting.	
	Meeting closed at 21.35	
	Date of next meeting	
	The next meeting will be 8.00 pm, Thursday 2 nd May 2024.	

Secretary Report April 2024

March meeting actions:

- 4.3 Operating Procedures updated and added to the website.
- 5.2 Added CM to the Panel Whatsapp Group.
- 7.3 Squad fees proposal at the end of this report.
- 9.1 Paragliding Nationals Local Regulations updated and on the website. FAI Sanction applied for.
- 9.3 I have asked Chris Haynes to review the website, before using for publicity purposes.

Financial:

- £10,499 currently in the BHPA Accuracy Panel account as of 01/04/2024.
- Recent activity has been payment of the FAI sanction fee (£140).
- Tyron Paul owes £40 and Colin Jones owes £20 for training camp fees.
- Green Dragons have returned the £500 paid to them for the European Cup sanction fee.
- Sue Britnell, William Lawrence and Matt Bignell have all paid £65 into the BHPA account for the Jaroslav Jindra worlds videos. Andy Shaw has not paid his £65. It is suggested that £195 be paid to Jaroslav Jindra.

Skywings:

April – January & February Squad training camps

May – Berat Open Air

June - TBC, possibly Vrsac Open that Matt Bignell and Colin Jones are attending

Paragliding Nationals:

- FAI Sanction applied for and paid – currently going through FAI AMS approval process before publishing on the FAI events calendar.
- The webpage is set up along with the Local Regulations, entry forms and Waiver / Affidavit.
- Emergency Procedure and Meet Directors risk assessment have been written and are being reviewed by Chris Haynes.
- Chris Haynes has arranged camping at the Royal Hill pub, and details are on the website. The Royal Hill pub are aware that the event could be postponed at short notice. Unfortunately electrical hook-ups need to be paid in advance and are not refundable.

Proposal 1 – Squad Fees:

Parascending only tow squad meet:

Squad pilots will pay the daily towing fees minus £10* plus a £2 tuffet fee and the £5 judging fee where applicable.

Paragliding only tow squad meet:

Squad pilots will pay the daily towing fees minus £10* plus the £5 judging fee where applicable.

Combined Parascending and Paragliding tow squad meet with one tow vehicle:

All Squad pilots will pay the daily towing fees minus £10* plus the £5 judging fee where applicable. Parascending squad pilots will also pay a daily £2 tuffet fee.

(Pilots can only fly in one code.)

Combined Parascending and Paragliding tow squad meet with two tow vehicles:

Each squad will be allocated a tow vehicle. All Squad pilots will pay the daily towing fees applicable to the tow vehicle allocated to them minus £10* plus the £5 judging fee where applicable. Parascending squad pilots will also pay a daily £2 tuffet fee.

(Pilots can fly in both codes.)

Paragliding only hill squad meet:

Squad pilots will pay the £5 judging fee where applicable.

Paragliding only hill squad meet with retrieve:

Squad pilots will pay the daily retrieve fee minus £10* plus the £5 judging fee where applicable.

*Over the course of a year the £10s will approximately add up to the £500 funding for each code.

BHPA Monthly Report - Apr 24. PARASCENDING

1. EUROPEAN PARASCENDING ACCURACY GRAND PRIX COMPETITION. Dates and Venues.: 10-11 May (Fri - Sat) St Yan France 8-9 June. (Sat - Sun). Terheijden NL 24-26 Aug (Sat-Mon) South Cerney UK. (Meet Director Chris Haynes).

2. NATIONALS UPDATE. Accommodation - Tents / Motorhomes / Camper Vans, in the vicinity of the Rub (White Hanger. Qty 2 12ft x 12ft tents with camp beds will be requested for our foreign guests. Towing - Birdwings winch and Qty1 Tow Veh (if we use the scout LR it could possibly tow the scout winch to the site). The scout winch could then be the backup if either of the 2 tow units become unserviceable. Launch Marshals: Gary O and Chris H. Judging. Liz will be requested to put the judging team together. I will be asking for one dignitary from the MoD.

3. RECENT ACTIVITY. No activity, mainly due to either unsuitable weather or insufficient participants.

Regards, Arthur

Classic Accuracy / PA squad report April 2024

March squad weekend at Birdwings was cancelled due to the poor forecast and insufficient pilots.

9 Pilots registered as PA accuracy pilots.

On Saturday 16th March I flew at Rutland. Following on from the previous issues with their winches post the squad event there, he limited the tows to 100-110kg force and the winches operated without issue and without additional maintenance needs. I had a full discussion with Peter Howes who operates and maintains the winches and we agreed that he would approach the committee for a trial for additional PA pilots. It was proposed that we have 3 pilots so we are self sufficient in terms of wing-tipping for launching and not delay the launch time.

We know that there will be some pilot/canopy combinations that will not gain height with only 110kg force, however if this is done right we may be able to open Rutland for some PA pilots operating to their requirements. I propose to take this forward with selected pilots.

Safeguarding:

Policy covered at the February squad briefing. It was well received and there was positive feedback received.

Accuracy safety:

Nothing to report

Near misses:

Nothing to report

Regards

Dave

Media & PR Report

The website has had some good development. Calendar is now ready to go live as well as an RSVP system to use for people to confirm if they are attending squad trainings or not. If the panel agree to these we can make these live for all to see.

There has been some movement of tabs such as the BAC tab is being moved to events page. As it seemed odd that the BAC tab was all on its own.

There has been some discussion involving the reduction in how many linked pages are on the website to make it less overwhelming. All the information will remain on the website but they will be merged onto other pages instead of having a page dedicated to itself. For example, awards will be moved to their respective sports so the reward relate to the sport.

We are also looking to add hyperlinks to photos that link to pages. For example a picture of a classic paraglider will have a link to the classic page. This won't be for all photos just the main ones.

There has been some changes to the home layout as well so that it looks a little bit different and more user friendly. We are also considering popping some spaces on the website for potential paid advertisement. This is looking to be a possibility and it's potential that this could bring in some extra money for the panel. If we take a sporting company as an example they are able to pay for their logo/website to be advertised on our website and the funds come to the panel for use in what is needed, for example sponsorship or team funds for competitions. What are peoples views on this ?

There is good potential for a membership portal to be made. Could I please get peoples opinions on what they would like to see in a membership portal. This is so that I can way up the necessity for it now or later or if at all.

I am happy to log on and show people these changes if people need a more visual explanation. However, I will not be able for do this at this weeks meeting due to work. It does appear that my schedule is continuously falling on a late shift for me where I don't finish until 10pm. I'm unsure if it will make a huge difference and whether it be a viable option to move the panel meetings to different days? I appreciate this is a big ask but am aware that despite being on this panel I have not made one meeting this year and feel that this is a poor representation of my work ethic and development. I can only apologies for not being able to attend.

If you have any questions please do let me know.

Many thanks,
Cherry