

Minutes of the BHPA Accuracy Panel Zoom Call

Held at 20.00 on 3rd April 2025

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| Present: | Mark Bignell | MB | Chairman |
| | Andy Webster | AW | Secretary |
| | Arthur Bentley | AB | Parascending Representative |
| | Liz Lawrence | LL | Rules Officer |
| | Dave Crowhurst | DC | Parascending Squad Manager |
| | William Lawrence | WL | Paragliding Squad Manager |
| | Sue Britnell | SB | Sponsorship |
| | Colin Jones | CJ | Paragliding Sites |
| | Cherry McMahon | CM | Media & PR |

| Item | Minute | Action |
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| 1 | Apologies | |
| 1.1 | No apologies were received. | |
| 2 | Signing off last meeting minutes | |
| 2.1 | The minutes of meeting dated 6 th March were proposed by LL and seconded by DC. | |
| 3 | Chairman | |
| 3.1 | MB advised that Bill Bell had not come back to him about the funding of competitions query. MB to chase. | MB |
| 3.2 | SB advised that she still wanted the opportunity to put her point of view across on the team kit at last year's Euros. | |
| 4 | Treasurer | |
| 4.1 | It was noted that Kyle Tripp and Grzegorz Maciula should pay Birdwings directly for flights at the March training camp if they haven't joined the squad. AW to advise them. This may require some adjustment to the fee paid to Birdwings. | AW |
| 4.2 | It was noted that DC had paid too much money for his March training camp flight fees so he is in credit. | |
| 4.3 | WL advised that he had recently paid £55 into the account for a jacket refund and £55 for outstanding squad fees. | |
| 4.4 | CM advised that she had outstanding squad fees, but this will be offset by money owed for the brochures. CM to submit a claim. | CM |
| 4.5 | It was agreed that a payment system via the website was not necessary, as it is easy to pay the BHPA-Accuracy account directly. | |
| 4.6 | It was noted that SB was the only person to have shown interest in the Treasurer role, and it was agreed that she should take up the role. | |
| 5 | Secretary | |
| 5.1 | No comments on the Secretary report. | |
| 6 | Media & PR | |
| 6.1 | CM talked through her report. | |
| 6.2 | It was noted that the accuracy brochure had been received by clubs. It was agreed to put the brochure in dropbox and the on the website. | |
| 6.3 | CM advised that 20 people had registered on the website, and MB suggested that we should keep track on this as a measure. | |

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| 6.4 | Panel to review the sponsorship document prepared by CM. | Panel |
| 6.5 | SB advised that she had approached Castor, Wizzair and Holiday Extras for sponsorship. | |
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| 7 | Classic Accuracy | |
| 7.1 | LL to investigate if the Scout Landrover is available for the Classic Nationals. LL advised that Jonathan Parkinson may be available to judge, and she will organise the judging after the Paragliding Nationals judging is sorted. | LL LL |
| 7.2 | AW to prepare a budget for the Classic Nationals to determine the entry fee. | AW |
| 7.3 | AB advised that the white hanger and its power supply had been removed, and he will try and source a generator through the military. | AB |
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| 8 | Classic Accuracy Squad | |
| 8.1 | It was noted that the squad seemed to be losing members, and squad pilots needed to be pushed. | |
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| 9 | 2025 Paragliding Nationals | |
| 9.1 | WL advised that four sites had been selected, and vehicles would be required for Blorenge and Nant-y-Moel. WL advised the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Blaenavon is a small hill. - Blorenge has other possible emergency landing fields in addition to the official emergency landing field. Also alternative target fields were being sought in addition to the two official landing fields that require flying over the power cables. - Fochriw is a small hill with a five minute walk up similar to the SW bowl at Green Dragons, and would be good for squad training. - Nant-y-Moel requires agreement to drive to launch and landing sites. - Sites for south and south east wind directions are the weakest area. | |
| 9.2 | WL advised that the Scout Landrover is available at £75 plus fuel, and is heavy on fuel. WL to look at other 4x4 vehicle / minibus options. | WL |
| 9.3 | The following officials were suggested to help complete the Local Regulations: Meet Director – Andy Cowley / Chris Haynes Safety Director - Denis Trussler Launch Marshal – Chris Haynes / Denis Trussler Event judge – Nikki Bodill First Aider - Morgan McMahan It was noted that Denis Trussler has sites knowledge, but may not be available if there is a BCC event on. | |
| 9.4 | The following details were agreed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The entry fee will be £90 with a late entry fee of £100. - Food will only be provided for officials, and not for the competitors. - Scores would be measured up to 10m as last year. | |

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| 9.5 | LL advised that the competition is on the CIVL website, but is not sanctioned yet. Registration opens on Monday 7th April. | |
| 9.6 | LL suggested Josie Ewington, Jess Coghlan and Judith Freeman for the judging team, and will investigate their availability. MB to talk to Judith Freeman. LL advised that two overseas judges had expressed an interest in judging following a social media request. One judges were wanting travel expenses paid which the competition could not afford. A second Indian judge was still showing interest after being advised that there were limited expenses, and LL will forward an invitation. | LL MB LL |
| 9.7 | If there was sufficient interest in a judging seminar, LL proposed to have an evening Zoom theory session before the event. | |
| 9.8 | It was raised that under the current rules new pilots with FAI licences, could still be eligible for the novice competition. However, it was noted that this could be over-ruled at the Meet Director's discretion. | |
| 9.9 | It was agreed that youth and veteran should be open categories. WL to organise the trophies, and AW to issue the trophy list with the official trophy wording. | WL AW |
| 9.10 | The following were suggested: - Members of the Royal British Legion do the driving. - Justine Bentley provide refreshments. - Spudman be contacted. - Have a BBQ at the compsite. - Lawrence's donate part of their ample wine collection as gifts. It was also noted that Ava and Max McMahon will be available to help, and AB could do photography. | |
| 9.11 | SB to contact Blaise Brogan about possible sponsorship from BGD and Rise Paragliding. CM suggested that getting local newspaper coverage would be good for sponsors. | SB |
| 10 | Paragliding Sites | |
| 10.1 | CJ talked through his report. | |
| 10.2 | CJ to put videos of the South East Wales site visits on Dropbox. It was agreed to pay CJ the mileage for the site visits minus the mileage from South Cerney to home. CJ to submit an expense form. | CJ |
| 11 | Paragliding Accuracy Squad | |
| 11.1 | WL to update the Code of Conduct with comments made by AB in his email dated 02/04/2025, and publish on the website. It was noted that registering for the squad and accepting a team place means compliance with the Code of Conduct. | WL |
| 11.2 | It was noted that WL had advised the squad of the agreed Cat 2 funding for 2025. | |
| 11.3 | WL advised that badges had been ordered, and he will be putting in an expenses claim. | WL |
| 11.4 | WL advised that he had not received any logo suggestions. WL to send a reminder stating that if no logos are received we will stick with the current logo. | WL |
| 11.5 | WL to push on line registration for the Worlds. It was agreed that a NAC form will be submitted now with the top ten UK pilots on it. | WL WL |

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| 11.6 | It was noted that eight UK pilots are registered for the Cat 2 competition / overseas training at Vlore. WL to keep pushing. | WL |
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| 12 | Rules / Judging | |
| 12.2 | MB advised that the following had been approved at the recent Plenary: - The knock out rule is still applicable, but it was not known if the knock out occurred at later rounds. - Seven person teams are still applicable. - There is a new masters category for over 55s. - Andy Cowley is to co-chair the Accuracy Sub-Committee with Kamil Konecny. | |
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| 13 | AOB | |
| 13.1 | None | |
| | | |
| | Meeting closed at 21.57 | |
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| | Date of next meeting | |
| | The next meeting will be 8.00 pm, Thursday 1 st May 2025. | |

April 2025 Treasurer Report

As it stands the panel currently has £9649.05 in the accounts.

The panel is currently owed money from various people. The breakdown is as follows.

Squad Jackets

£330 Mark Bignell, Sue Britnell, J Lawrence, Liz Lawrence & A Webster are the only people to have paid for a jacket. Josie's (£55) now refunded

As far as I can tell I still need payments off Jayne, Matt B, Myri, Will, Andy & Cherry for the jackets.

Squad Fees

Jan 25

Andy Shaw £20

March 25

Sue Brittnell £20

Colin Jones £20

Greg? £15

Arthur owes £23 for overpayment from the panel (Tom Ewingtons flights)

I will shortly put together the years accounts and pass them to the panel for comment.

Secretary Report March 2025

March meeting actions

3.1 UK PG league updated

11.7 Checked PG Squad registrations.

Skywings

April – BAC 1

May – BAC 2 or March comps & squad summary

June – BAC 2 or ?

Media Report

Media report is as follows

Instagram is doing good with a few more regular posts now. The profile is definitely beefing up more and on average we are reaching between 300-600 feeds per post.

Facebook, is going well too with own good engagement from viewers. The Portugal competition has been advertised which Tiago is very happy about!

Website, is going well with some newer features such as the registration form being hidden behind the login. However, plans are in the works to get this changed so that when you register for the website it will allow for registration to the squad then. We have had a few more register as well which has been ideal. Please do keep pushing for people to RSVP for events and squad stuff. Change isn't going to come easy but the system is already a lot less stressful for management.

Brochures:

I have sent an email to BHPA office who will be sending it nation wide to all schools and clubs regarding the introduction to the brochures as well as the offer to get involved with accuracy, ask questions or even provide feedback. I will chase when this has been sent and the enquiries will either come to me directly, on social media or through the website enquiries page to everyone.

Treasurer advertisement: has been posted to all socials, no interest has been given. To add to that point as well judges wanted advertisement was made and we had a lot of overseas interest and one UK interest.

Sponsorship: I have created a guidance letter explaining what isn't and is sponsorship as well as what is allowed to be sponsored and what isn't, along with rules regarding sponsee behaviours (I.e you can't force other to participate if not contracted to do so but this also can't be used to isolate or discriminate.) Sue I believe has also created some documents that's she's shared with you all already but I think these go hand in hand very well.

Nationals:

Nationals, now that the sites have been confirmed and we have a few back up options advertisement will start going a head a lot more.

I am in talks with the RBL just trying to organise a date and time to discuss their involvement but they are showing interest.

I did try reaching out to a local school regarding their journalism and media departments but unfortunately no response and I doubt there will be.

Sue is doing well reaching out for sponsors. Now is the time we can really start pushing this especially with the sites being confirmed. I will be aiming to get this pushed harder this month due to time constraints. Again any ideas or willing sponsors you know of, please let me know and we can work on securing it.

Transport, I believe that transport has been organised using the scout landover, however this does come with a fee of 500 pounds which is likely to be a large budget for the competition. I will allow will to discuss more on this.

The competition is now on the civil website but I have yet to get it sanctioned. I believe we are close with local regs being completed and I will liaise with Liz regarding this.

BHPA has allowed us to borrow some boards and flags for the nationals for advertisement purposes. I will organise getting them connected closer to the time.

I have not heard back from Cowley regarding being meet director or awards persons I will chase this and if not I will be reaching out to Chris to offer. Any other recommendations or suggestions would be wonderful.

Official roles will now need to be advertised. Key ones are judges and operation officials. Liz has there been any interest in judging training. Is it worth advertising Friday as a judges training day if you're happy to run one? Or maybe a training seminar prior to this. I don't understand the logistics of running one so I thought I'd ask. Currently some of my family are interested in helping, Max and Ava are happy to help with pilot numbers being called to launch gate, Morgan is happy to be on standby for medical advice and.

Please reach out to people who wish to help current roles required are

Meet director

Chief judge

Judges

Fiches

Launch marshals

Scorers and those that assist by posting the scores once comp completed

Drivers

General assistance officials

Photographer/ videographer (if we can spare anyone)

I believe that is all,

Kind regards

Cherry

Classic Accuracy / PA squad report March 2025

March squad weekend only went ahead due to lack of numbers as this was joint with PA. The weather was also very challenging on top limits. No competition was held
Thanks to British Skydiving for the use of their anemometer.

Accuracy safety:

Nothing to report

Near misses:

None

Ongoing

Plan to review squad fees in July

April cost panel £33 utilising the 4 free flights per day per pilot

Regards

Dave

BHPA MONTHLY REPORT

Parascending Apr 25

The first weekend of the year at South Cerney was a joint Squad weekend on 15/16 Mar. Conditions were not good with border line winds throughout the weekend.

The Accuracy comp scheduled for early May in Portugal has been postponed until later in the year.

Nothing further to report this month

Arthur

March Panel.

Scoped out blorenge for the nationals sent videos and messages for reference and more details about the site. Good for long flights low winds.

Scoped out blanavon with video and messages for reference about the site. Could be used as high wind day training.

Scoped out mynydd fochriw with video and brief summary. Could be good for small training sessions.

Met up with Ali Andrews had a good talk about other sites possible training venues.

197.5 miles complete journey for scoping sites from SS to Wales and home. Could I claim mileage?

All videos etc was sent to will.

Spoken to Denis Trussler, he is very well known for knowledge of SEW sites and usually does site briefs for the BCC xc events and he has agreed to advise for the championships for us. He is free on the dates but heavily involved with BCC in summer so he said yes unless the bcc arrises at that time which is fair as that's his main role. I will contact Ali Andrews as a back up but due to his school he maybe the same. Anyway ill ask as he may have someone to cover.

Mynd has given us the go ahead for training and said just let them know before hand. I also could be creating a accuracy side to the club.

Still not ordered the flag/blade still waiting for feedback. Still believe flag would not show information if its still day etc unlike a blade.

If blade is chosen then I would have to put money towards it . If this is the case as would be more that half can I add my logo?

Will be attending the BAC this weekend so I maybe not able to make the meeting as I'm picking up our Spanish friends moncho and pili. Also arranged hotels for them they are arriving 8:55pm. I could attend but would be driving but mostly listening.

Plans for April:

- 1.visit hundred house for possible next year championships (landing could be on a camp site. Could be high profile due to where it is)
- 2.checking out other sites SEW and mid Wales sites.
- 3.helping a friend who will eventually setting up a tow site in either Telford/Shrewsbury area. This could be beneficial to us having a tow site more northern. And a potential stream of new accuracy pilots as I'll try and have accuracy side with them too. Would be great for me to train there too!.
- 4.Possibly get the windblade or flag printed ready to use.
- 5.set up and train at longmynd. I've been given the go ahead to post on mynd telegram before I train to see if any club members would like to join .. if they do its possible new members for the squad.
- 6.looking at Possibly creating a landing mat to go around the pad for up here. (I'll design one and show my work for approval). I understand panel probably won't contribute but if not I can ask the long mynd as they said they may help with other kit they maybe willing to help as they talked about a pad etc) I heard this from a panel member who I talk with alot.
8. If anyone has any sites in mind let me know so i can visit them.

Any more questions feel free to ask.

Colin sites

Rules Officer report Apr 25

Action from previous minutes

- No specific actions but have helped Will to create the Nationals as an event on CIVL comps with basic information. Cat 2 status cannot be applied for until entry fee and local rules agreed.

Judging

- 1 judge attended paragliding squad training
- Response so far to email asking availability for Paragliding Nationals has been poor – only Hanna has confirmed attendance with Jayne intending to come if she is recovered from surgery. Parki is not available. I will be following up again with Nikki, Judith, Josie and Jess as our more experienced team members. Judges in training at BAC have not been contacted as they are not yet qualified and contact information has not been shared. 2 qualified overseas judges responded to FB message (which was more aimed at getting new judges). I thanked them and explained that we cannot pay expenses. The less experienced one who is from India still seems keen but will need a letter of invitation. One person so far has requested training in response to the message.
- Creation of seminar has been requested from Elena at CIVL – once it is live it may generate more interest.
- Judges for Classic Nationals not yet requested as I am prioritising Paragliding Nationals.

Rules

- Finalised classic rules now uploaded to the website (thanks Andy W).
- Next priority is local rules for Paragliding Nationals.

Action needed: A page on our website for the UK Open and National Championships where we can include national championships information such as entry forms for novices and signpost CIVL comps

Liz