

Minutes of the BHPA Accuracy Panel Zoom Call

Held at 20.00 on 4th December 2025

Present:	Andy Webster	AW	Secretary
	Arthur Bentley	AB	Classic Representative
	William Lawrence	WL	Vice Chairman
	Liz Lawrence	LL	Rules Officer
	Mark Bignell	MB	Chairman
	Colin Jones	CJ	Sites
	Dave Crowhurst	DC	Classic Squad Manager

Item	Minute	Action
1	Apologies	
1.1	CM sent her apologies.	
2	Signing off last meeting minutes	
2.1	The minutes of meeting dated 6 th November with redactions were proposed by LL and seconded by CJ.	
3	Chairman	
3.2	It was noted that LL had sent the General Meeting Zoom invite to AW, who had successfully registered. AW to forward the invite to other panel members, and send the confirmation email LL. It was agreed that the Zoom invite should be posted on the website, facebook and Whatsapp. CM to arrange.	AW CM
4	Treasurer	
4.1	It was agreed that the jackets should be written off, and could become prizes for large gentlemen if the names are removed off.	
5	Secretary	
5.2	The proposed records wording was accepted. AW to put on the website and in the Operating Procedures.	AW
6	Media & PR	
6.1	It was noted that there had been no interest in accuracy from the brochures. WL thought that there would have been a small percentage of interest, however, schools may be more interested in selling pilots B wings. MB felt that we need to investigate what the blocker is, and requested that CJ get in touch with the South Wales club about this matter. WL advised that he and CM are moving to Gloucestershire in the next few months and would be able to make some enquiries then.	CJ
6.2	Following CM's request for view points on the competition between GD and the Panel on sending comms out to clubs, it was felt that CM should just contact clubs and worry about duplication later. It was noted that all BAC competitions have Woldingham down as the location in the Local Regulations.	CM
7	Classic Accuracy	
7.1	AB advised that he was waiting for the liaison officer Ian Cooper to return from leave for an announcement on the future arrangements for South Cerney airfield. It was also noted that Cloudbase have stopped operating at South Cerney and their winch is up for sale.	

7.2	It was noted that AB's membership card stated that he was a Senior Tow Coach, but not an Operator. AB advised that the BHPA had explained that this was probably overlooked during amalgamation in the 90s. His card has now been amended to show an Operator qualification.	
8	Classic Squad	
8.1	<p>DC advised the following on Rutland Air Sports club:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - They could not use North Luffenham for a month due to military use. - They have advised that uncertified wings can't be flown at the club, however, there is no mention of this in the Rutland Air Sports rules. DC is chasing the safety officer up about this. - There is no senior parasailing or hang gliding coach at the club. DC needs a first aid certificate to regain his tow coach rating. <p>In addition AB advised that the Rutland Air Sports sites and military liaison officer Lee Pearce had corresponded with him about possibly seeking permission to operate at North Luffenham. PMN AB has clarified the situation with Lee Pearce.</p>	
8.2	There are no sites available for the December training camp.	
8.3	AB advised that he is not available on the weekend of the 10/11 th January 2026.	
9	Paragliding Accuracy Squad	
9.1	WL & DC advised that they are working on the response to the Letter of no Confidence. There was a general feeling that responding to the letter of no confidence was not a good use of panel time, especially as on some points it was criticising the panel for matters that they are not responsible for.	WL, DC
9.2	It was noted that incident reports for minor incidents can spot trends that could potentially lead to major incidents. AW to update the Team Manager's role in the Operating Procedures to ensure team pilots include incident reports.	AW
9.3	<p>Regarding Myrianthe Ewington's proposal to change the selection criteria formula to the WPRS, the following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The selection criteria can't be changed part way through a selection period. - It will be the end of the squad, and will therefore potentially take funding away from developing pilots. A method of preserving funding for grass roots pilots would be required. - The squad could be kept for training, but move to the WPRS for selection. - Some pilots could get training at the BAPA. - The current formula requires that pilots need to attend overseas Cat 2 competitions to do well. - A pilot could accumulate a lot of points, and not fly for a long period of time, but still be eligible for selection. <p>It was agreed that the panel should respond stating that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The selection criteria can't be changed part way through a selection period. - Points raised have been noted, but the proposal needs further work and be thought through. - There is information that is incorrect. - The benefits need to be advised. - The proposal format is not acceptable and needs rewording. 	

	AW to draft a response.	AW
9.5	Regarding the UK Team pilots minimum eligibility requirements, MB suggested that we should not be sending pilots who can't hit the pad, and pilots should only be selected if 50% of their scores are on the pad. However, it was noted that in rough conditions this may not be fair, and a measure in relation to the top pilots in a competition may be fairer. MB also advised that the current Cat 1 rule allows 4 pilots of one sex in a 5 person team, which will prevent nations fielding a low skilled pilot to make up the numbers.	
9.6	It was noted that no one had enquired about the Squad Manager vacancy. CJ advised that he is willing to learn, and will be interested in the future, but currently is not available. MB to put out the vacancy again.	MB
9.7	In lieu of the South Cerney situation, it was noted that North Luffenham, and Welsh sites could be considered for training camps.	
10	Sites	
10.1	CJ advised that he currently has no vehicle, so he has not been able to visit sites.	
11	Rules / Judging	
11.1	LL advised that she had not received any BAC judging information off Sabina Mihailescu. MB requested that LL chase Sabina by email and copy him into the email. PMN – this generated a response although there are still some queries to be resolved before everything can be updated. It was noted that as the training, certifying and listing of Cat 2 judges is a NAC responsibility it should only be necessary to use overseas trainers where there is no national options available.	LL
11.2	It was agreed that LL should request that Dexter Bond and Kyle Tripp be removed from the judging list at BAC1. Looking to the future it was agreed that the rules should be explained to competition organisers. MB also advised that this is why he wanted to get Andy Cowley involved.	
11.3	MB felt that the proposal to measure wind speed for a period after a pilot had landed was possible with existing FAI Cat 1 software.	
11.4	AW advised that he was given grief by some pilots at the paragliding nationals registration when he requested to see FAI licences, when the FAI licence status can be downloaded on EMS. It was noted that licences had to be shown at Vlore 2025, but not at BAC events. MB stated that the EMS information was not always correct for all pilots and this needed to be raised with Igor.	
12	Coaching	
12.1	MB advised that the accuracy coaching syllabus he is working on will have to be approved by the FSC, and is at least one year away.	
12.2	It was noted that BHPA coaches are insured to give advice, but it won't look good if a pilot has an accident following some accuracy coaching advice. DC re-iterated that an accuracy coach needs to be competent in accuracy.	
12.3	MB advised that a club could currently request that no accuracy coaching takes place on their sites, however, this would be harder to implement if there was a specific accuracy coach qualification.	

13	Classic Nationals	
13.1	It was agreed that the Classic Nationals should be on the traditional August Bank Holiday weekend, and a venue is to be sought.	
14	Paragliding Nationals	
14.1	Numerous sites were discussed for the paragliding nationals. WL to enquire about 4x4 vehicle hire he has seen in the North Wales area. MB to contact Chris Haynes about North Wales sites.	WL MB
14.2	A 3 or 4 day competition was suggested by WL, and it was provisionally agreed to run the competition over the May Day Bank Holiday weekend of 23-24 May.	
14.3	MB / AW to organise the event with inputs from WL, CJ and LL on rules.	
	Meeting closed at 22.45	
	Date of next meeting	
	The next meeting will be 8.00 pm, Wednesday 7 th January 2026.	

Treasurer report from Sue Britnell for meeting on 4th December 2025

Bank:

Bank Balances: £11,039, the same as last month as there have been no transactions

Squad Training Fees:

June: Kyle still owes £20, chased 24/6 and again 12/11

July: Cherry (to be offset against Brochure costs) & Kyle owe £20 each

Squad Jackets: (no change)

Matt B, Andy Shaw had ordered jackets, and still owe. Waleed & James haven't had theirs therefore 2 available to sell.

???Shall I remove this comment and if there is anything owing we just write it off????

PG Nationals:

Camping £15 paid by Cherry to Arthur per minutes of Nov 25 meeting. Arthur to bank.

Debtors

Summary of amounts owed, from above:

Cherry £35 squad fees to be offset by Brochure costs when claimed

Arthur £15 camping from Cherry

Kyle £40 (chased on Whatsapp 3/8/25 and 12/11/25)

Jackets???

Secretary Report December 2025

November meeting actions:

3.1 'Accessibility of Paragliding Accuracy' wording temporarily put on the 'Paragliding Accuracy – Find out more' page.

Proposed Future Skywings:

December – Worlds / BAC4

January – 2025 final leagues, Accuracy awards, Records

February – WPRS

March – Season preview

UK Records rules proposal:

It occurred to me a while back that there are no written rules for the UK records on the website for the lowest score over a number of rounds. I would propose that the following wording be added to the website and Operating Procedures.

'In paragliding accuracy, records consider consecutive rounds within a single Cat 1 or 2 competition. In classic accuracy, records consider consecutive rounds in a single competition that is eligible for UK league status. The consecutive sequence can start at any point in a competition, and no dropped scores are allowed. A scoring sequence spanning two or more competitions is not allowed'.

Media & PR Report

The media report is very short this month, as I have been unfortunately preoccupied with other things that I have not made much progress.

Social media- there have been no new posts since last month as it's been pretty quiet with regards to things.

I have tried to reach out to the cross country panel in order to sit in on a meeting to review their practices and what could benefit us. However there has been no response.

I have not sent out any comms to clubs and schools nationally. I am hesitant due to GDs actions. I feel if I do this it's going to drive competition between gd and the panel more and will become a "who can offer more" rather than focusing on growth. I would like the panels view points on this.

Further to this I will send out more brochures to the BHPA for CP packs. It's clear that we have reached a number of new pilots nationally, but I am wholly surprised that we have had no return from the brochures. I do have to wonder what boundary is in the way from them at least contacting accuracy to enquire more.

Website, the registration form is now a Microsoft form on the website that people can complete. This should reduce missed emails, forms being sent via WhatsApp etc.

Unfortunately I am working today so will not be in attendance.

Many thanks
Cherry

Classic Accuracy / PA squad report November 2025

There was no November squad event due to lack of pilots. However following an invite from Rutland Airsports arrangements were made to have a small team attend as a stand-alone PA group. We have attended Rutland as a squad in the past, but concerns raised about the required torque on the winches, and the familiarity of wing tipping by local pilots, meant an agreement was made to be self contained and keep the winch torque to around 100-110 kgf.

Unfortunately, despite the club representative checking during the week, on arrival on the Saturday morning, unfortunately they were advised by the military that the site was not available for a period of time.

We took this opportunity to have a chat to clarify some matters (uncertified wings/ clarity on BHPA membership ratings) and I was asked to contact their safety officer, this was done but until now no response has been forthcoming.

Accuracy safety:
Nothing to report

Near misses:
None

Regards
Dave

BHPA ACCURACY PANEL REPORT

PARASCENDING DECEMBER 25

1. All airfield activities at South Cerney have been suspended until further notice. It is expected that when the Defence Infrastructure Organisation complete their study into Fees and Charges for airfield use at South Cerney we will receive the amended notification of what the daily rate will be for using the airfield. It is anticipated that that the new rates will be much higher than the previous rates.
2. A small group travelled to Rutland on the weekend of 8 November with the intention of two days of accuracy practice there, but due to a logistical problem, we were unable to make a start.

A Bentley

Rules Officer report Dec 25

Actions and matters arising from November minutes

- 11.1 Sabina emailed on 13.11 asking what information I needed. I asked her to let me know: who has been fully signed off as qualified to judge in cat 2 competitions; If any people have attended the seminar(s) and started the training but are not yet qualified (and, if she had any info about what they have done and still need to do); who judged at each of the 4 competitions. I also asked if she could update the seminar pages to show that information and told her I was happy to liaise with Elena to update information about who judged, if necessary. I have had no reply.
- 11.3 Waiting for Mark (or Sabina) to clarify whether Dexter and Kyle were competitors or judges so CIVL comps and UK judges register can be updated.
- 14.1 Messaged Ed who has not yet been able to make progress with this so we need a backup plan for a UK based comp.

From October minutes

- 10.4 – LL to pursue minimum judge age with FAI as there is no official age limit published but it is not possible to have a CIVL id below the age of 14. Now clarified there is no lower age limit and a CIVL id can be created with written parental permission.

Judging

- No events requiring judging have taken place since last meeting although I did attend Classic squad with the intention of judging.

Rules

- Posted on Basecamp suggesting amending the rules to include measuring wind for a short period after landing as in classic accuracy and skydiving accuracy. Limited response. Have enquired whether this can become a formal proposal to the plenary.
- New process from CIVL for preparing proposals for the plenary (see below FYI). This should improve the current situation where last minute proposals and amendments are made with no opportunity to then brief the delegate.

Equipment

- No action needed.

Liz

New process for plenary bids

Delegates and Working Group Members.

As discussed, we will be allowing time this year to gather pilot feedback on bids and proposals. We also want to avoid the rush to create and edit proposals in the days before the Plenary. Accordingly, we are going to use the following process and deadlines.

- The deadline for initial proposals is Jan 1, 2026. These proposals must be complete enough so that feedback can be gathered, but they can be modified or withdrawn based on the feedback received. Proposals not received by Jan 1, 2026 will be considered late proposals and will need 2/3 approval of the Plenary to be accepted.
- Immediately following the deadline for initial proposals, CIVL will work with the proposal submitter to include the proposal into one or more surveys that will be sent out to relevant pilots.
- Once feedback has been received, the working group or delegate who submitted the proposal has nearly a month to revise the proposal. Note that the revision cannot be an entirely new proposal. The concept must be the same, but the specific details can be changed based on the feedback received.

- The deadline for the updated, 2nd draft proposal (if revisions have been made) is Feb 1, 2026.
- The updated proposals will then be sent to all delegates for their feedback. Proposal submitters will then have 2 weeks to incorporate feedback, if they wish, and produce the final proposal versions. The deadline for final proposals is Feb 15, 2026.

With this change, Committees can spend the majority of their time in the sessions prior to the Plenary on strategic issues and planning for what they will work on in the coming year.

All proposals must contain the following sections at a minimum:

1. The problem being solved by the proposal or the opportunity to be chased. This first section must clearly state why the proposal is being made in the first place. Any data that illustrates the problem or opportunity would go in this section.
2. The cost of inaction (in the opinion of the proposal author). In this section, what would be the result of not passing the proposal?
3. The details of the proposal. Describe the details of what the proposal is, any changes or additions to the sporting code, or the language of a new policy being put in place, etc. Specify the specific S7 paragraphs being changed, or if the proposal generates new text, indicate where in section 7 the new text should be inserted.
4. The applicability. Which disciplines does it apply to? Does it apply to Cat 2 as well, or only Cat 1?
5. The effective date. When will the change described go into effect?
6. A "potential objections and concerns" section. In this final section, list any concerns that the author or working group can anticipate or that were heard during the feedback period. Along with each, give a response for how each concern will be mitigated, or why the authors believe that the concern is either incorrect or valid but is outweighed by the proposal's benefits.