Minutes of the BHPA Accuracy Panel Zoom Call

Held at 20.00 on 2nd July 2026

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

Item	Minute	Action
1	**Apologies**	
1.1	Apologies were received from CM via WL.	
1.2	Panel members to talk to Judith Freeman about her role on the panel at the classic nationals.	Panel
2	**Signing off last meeting minutes**	
2.1	The minutes of meeting dated 4th June 2026, were proposed by LL and seconded by DC.	
3	**Chairman**	
3.1	MB advised that he had handed out the paragliding accuracy QR code at the Buttermere Bash, but had been unable to get any details of interested pilots.	
4	**Treasurer**	
4.1	AB to put a claim in for non-flying membership after the classic nationals.	AB
4.2	CM to put in a claim for the brochures.	CM
5	**Secretary**	
5.1	Following AW's proposal, it was agreed that prior to the three-year terms rule starting, there would be elections for four panel roles at each AGM which would start with any vacant roles and then the longest serving panel members. Currently there are vacancies for the paragliding squad manager and the paragliding representative and possibly the safety officer. AW to update the wording.	AW
6	**Media & PR**	
6.1	MB to contact Ben Woodcock about getting the registration list off the website, or failing that contact CM or WL.	MB
7	**Classic Accuracy Nationals**	
7.1	AB did not believe that there would be any pilots from France.	
7.2	AB advised that the military are able to waive the airfield fees for the nationals weekend offering a considerable saving.	
7.3	AB is in contact with the military about pack lunches, showers and a large tent. LL advised that seven judges would require pack lunches.	AB
7.4	AB advised that he was struggling to find a military sponsor to get barracks accommodation for guest of honour Tom Hardie to attend the nationals. AB to look into other accommodation. Also a volunteer is sought to transport Tom Hardie to Birmingham after the nationals.	AB
7.5	LL advised that Don & Nikki are having van troubles, and may be without transport for the classic nationals.	

7.6	It was noted that Chris Haynes will be arriving on Thursday, and is sorting out the target equipment.	
7.7	As MB is not attending the event, AW to ask Chris Haynes if his scoring software can be used.	AW
7.8	LL to remove 'Signs indicating tow path and line dropping area' from the Classic Target Risk Assessment. AW to add some wording to the Meet Directors Risk Assessment about the tow line dropping on structures that have been recently erected on the airfield. AW to send the Meet Directors Risk Assessment to Chris Haynes.	LL AW AW
7.9	It was agreed that there will be a pilots' meeting at the classic nationals if there is time.	
8	**Classic Accuracy Squad**	
8.1	DC confirmed that the July squad training weekend was not taking place due to strong winds and low numbers.	
9	**Paragliding Accuracy Nationals**	
9.1	MB advised that he was worried about the low numbers that had registered for the nationals so far, despite him pushing the event at the BAPA.	
9.2	MB advised that he had previously requested that attendance at the paragliding nationals be a pre-requisite for being selected for the team, however, it was noted that pilots may not be able to attend the nationals or there may be a clash with high-ranking overseas Cat 2 event.	
9.3	Due to the 400' height restriction at South Cerney, it was suggested that pilots should release at 300' in case of encountering lift. It was noted that the competition could also be stood down if conditions got too buoyant, and pilots were struggling to descend.	
9.4	MB to review the competition check list.	
9.5	AW to prepare the Meet Director Risk Assessment.	AW
9.6	LL to prepare the Target Risk Assessment.	LL
10	**Paragliding Accuracy Team**	
10.1	MB advised that the team kit design is ready, and an order has been created that will be activated when team pilots have accepted their places and indicated sizes.	MB
10.2	The NAC form has been issued with 10 UK pilots listed in the WPRS top 500. The form will need re-issuing by MB to reflect the flying order when team members are known.	MB
10.3	MB has asked Andy Cowley why teams of seven are listed in the Euros Local Regulations when teams of five where agreed at the plenary.	
10.4	MB to find out about the allocation, as the first payment needs to be made by the 9th July.	MB
10.5	It was noted that the agreed budget for the Euros was £3,783 from which the entry fees and team kit will be deducted. MB to calculate the amount per individual pilot.	MB
11	**Paragliding Accuracy Squad**	
11.1	MB advised the following plans for the squad: - Pilots will be encouraged to attend the joint training weekends. - Barriers need to be broken down. - There are enough UK competitions for pilots to get in the WPRS top 500, however, pilots will need to attend overseas Cat 2 events to get sufficient WPRS points to get in the UK team.	

	- Squad pilots will be encouraged to attend a chosen overseas Cat 2 event with possible extra funding being available. - Have an online squad meeting.	
12	**Rules / Judging**	
12.1	It was agreed that the Best Paraglider award at this year's classic nationals will be UK pilot only. AB to request that the Best Paraglider award be discussed at the next EPAC meeting.	AB
12.2	LL requested that the rules for the Dutch Grand Prix be put on the UK website.	
	AOB	
	MB says accuracy pilots can fly at the Norfolk Club if MB becomes an operator.	
	Meeting closed at 21:31	
	Date of next meeting	
	The next meeting will be 8.00 pm, Thursday 6th August 2026.	

Treasurer report from Sue Britnell for meeting on 2nd July 2026

Bank:

Bank Balances: £16,388.57: BHPA funding of £7,000 was received on 30th June.

Squad Training Fees:

No training.

Debtors

None

Creditors

From emails and reports I understand Arthur is to be partially reimbursed for BHPA membership, and Cherry is still owed for Brochure costs and also some postage. Please send your claims for reimbursement.

Classic Nationals

£700 has been received, from 10 pilots, for the Classic Nationals.

Secretary Report July 2026

June meeting actions:

4.1 Updated the AGM wording for the Operating Procedures.

4.2 Wrote back to Myrianthe Ewington explaining why her AGM suggestions had not been accepted. No response received.

Future Skywings:

June – Berati Open Air, BAC2

July – Vlore, Kosovo, Macedonia WC

August – French Grand Prix, Classic Nationals

September – BAC3

AGM Proposal

Suggest election order be changed from the order of the panel roles in the panel structure to the longest serving members first.

BHPA ACCURACY PANEL MONTHLY REPORT – PARASCENDING

JULY

1. The 2026 Classic Accuracy Nationals / European Grand Prix competitions are scheduled for 11/12 Jul at South Cerney.
2. This was a close call as we were up against USAF at RAF Faiford. Not only because of the US/Iran war but also because the Royal International Air Tattoo (RIAT) organisation have planned a weekend activity on the site sometime after our competition weekend, and have already started preparing for it. I haven't seen the site yet but I am there for a meeting tomorrow. (1 Jul). I have heard that it involves structures being erected and possibly mock aircraft being placed around the airfield.
3. I was having difficulties persuading Air Traffic Control, Brize Norton (ATC BZN) to show some flexibility with the restrictions imposed but they were reluctant to change.
4. Out of the blue, the day after I had been battling with ATC BZN, I got a call from Tom Hardie (BHPA EXEC) asking if the USA /IRAN war was having any effect on our club activities. He then contacted ATC BZN and along with a rep from the Civilian Aviation Authority (CAA) and managed to overturn most of the imposed restrictions. We currently are restricted to a max tow height of 400ft agl. When I submit the request for air clearance on 6 Jul I will be asking for 800ft agl.
5. While all of this was happening I was looking for an alternative site. Abingdon was on my list but I found that it no longer has registration with the CAA so my next move was to contact Rutland Air Sports. My request was sent before USAF / RIAT relaxed with most of their imposed restrictions and at that time we did not have a site for our comp. The reply is shown below.

Hi Arthur,

Fortuitous that the Americans relented as the CO at St George's Barracks will not allow any other club/user to access the airfield for activities that are not primary to Rutland Airsports. The MoU we have is clear that our access is for strictly for club activities and the CO was not willing to entertain any request which was outside the terms of the MoU. Consequently any future request would not be entertained as we have to protect our club's future.

Regards
Mick

Tom Hardie has accepted an invitation to be involved in our Prize Giving Ceremony and will be arriving on Friday (10 July); I have reserved a room in the Officers' Mess for him. Tom is looking for a lift to Birmingham on Sunday after the Prizegiving. He has a hotel booked (for Sunday evening) prior to his flight back to Scotland on Monday morning. If anyone knows someone who might be able to help with this, please let me know. Also, please don't hold back when thanking Tom for his support for getting BZN ATC and USAF Fairford to show some flexibility.

I have a meeting with the Quartermaster tomorrow (Wed) where I will be asking for: 18ft x 14 ft tent, generator, Tables ,Chairs, Water Jerry cans, packed lunches and

Showers. I anticipate that there could be a problem with access to showers due to increased security, but the golf club have always been generous with making their showers available to us. Assuming that there are no problems getting this agreed I should be able to add other items if anyone has any suggestions.

European Accuracy Grand Prix NL

Information on the Dutch Grand Prix has recently been circulated by Ed. For anyone who might not have seen this information, here it is again.

Good afternoon Arthur,

The flying site is at the dairy farm, address: Munnikenhof 19–21, 4844 PK Terheijden. It is located on the left, opposite our campsite.

Registration will take place on *Saturday, 12th September, from **07:30* onwards at our campsite, *Munnickenheide*.

The *SKY REBEL BBQ* on *Saturday, 12th September, and the **Prize Giving Ceremony* on *Sunday, 13th September, will be held at our previous flying site: **Witteweg 1*.

No pets are allowed on the grounds of our new flying site.

Our catering will be set up at *Witteweg 1*.

Our proposal is that, either during registration in the morning or later that morning, participants indicate what they would like for *lunch and drinks*. These will then be delivered.

Camping reservations: info@munnickenheide.nl

Please see the attached photos for your information.

Kindly share this message with everyone involved.

Thank you in advance. Ed

Arthur

Rules Officer report July 26

Actions from June minutes

- 6.1 – request made to Ben via Will. Suggested direct communication with Mark to ensure issue is understood and resolved.
- 7.2 – documents on website for classic nationals checked and commented on
- 10.2 –owed fees document revised and circulated
- Risk assessments and emergency procedures checked.

Judging

- No classic events requiring judges have taken place since the last meeting. Situation regarding paragliding judges unknown as event took place at GD and I do not have communication with the judges there.
- Judges for classic nationals as last report (5/6), plus Judith has now confirmed availability as scorer

Rules

- Rules for Dutch leg of EPAC have been sent to Ed for final check

Equipment

- Have contacted Chris who has confirmed that actions previously agreed (additional windsock pole and Velcro for pads and cutout mat) have been completed/will be completed before the nationals and there are no equipment issues.

Panel procedures for squad fee debts

The BHPA accuracy panel will suspend from the relevant accuracy squad any pilot who has outstanding squad fees of 2 months since becoming payable. Pilots will be notified for the first time when the debt is 1 month overdue and for the second time when it is 2 months overdue. Suspension will commence at the point at which the pilot is notified for the second time.

Definition of suspension

For classic accuracy squad members:

- The pilot will not be able to participate in any squad training camps
- The pilot will not be able to gain any points from the point of suspension until all outstanding fees have been paid.
- Any points held at that time will be held void for positions in any supported events (i.e. competitions qualifications, etc…) until such time as outstanding fees are paid
- The ability to gain points will be re-instated from the point of paying the outstanding fees and will not be backdated

For paragliding accuracy squad members:

- The pilot will not be able to participate in any squad training camps
- The pilot will be ineligible for selection for the remainder of that selection year
- The pilot shall be ineligible for any panel support, e.g. funding in respect of any competitions attended during any period of suspension arising from unpaid fees.