



1994 Annual General Meeting of the BHPA

Minutes of the meeting held on Sunday 16 October 1994 at the Telford Exhibition Centre, Telford, commencing at 11am.

These minutes are not to be taken as a true record without referring to the minutes of the following meeting for any corrections.

Present:

BHPA President,
Chairman and
Members of the
Executive Council

In attendance:

Tom Beardsley
Jennie Burdett
Mark Dale
Bob Harrison

70 Voting members
of the Association

The Chairman welcomed all those present and thanked them for taking the time to attend the AGM. He said there were certain legal requirements to be dealt with first then the second part of the meeting would be reports from officers and questions from the floor. Members were then informed of the voting arrangements.

ITEM 1: MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the 1993 AGM held on Sunday 24 October 1993 at the Telford Exhibition Centre were unanimously approved as a true record of that meeting.

ITEM 2: CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman then read out his report, copy attached.

ITEM 3: TREASURER'S REPORT

Dick Long gave his Treasurer's Report, copy attached.

Phil Chettleburgh, Norfolk, asked if Airsports Insurance was now owned by BHPA. Dick replied that Airsports was a wholly owned subsidiary of BHPA and next year would be shown in the accounts. Reggie Spooner's generosity in handing over Airsports to BHPA was acknowledged by the meeting.

ITEM 4: RESOLUTIONS

4.1 That the Accounts and Report of the Executive Council for the year ended 31 March 1994 be approved.

The Accounts were presented to the meeting and the Treasurer answered questions from the floor. The resolution was approved unanimously.

4.2 That five members be elected by ballot and appointed to the Executive Council from the following six candidates: T Hardie, C Jones, W Neumark, A Pinkerton, S Senior, C Sermanni.

Of the six candidates standing for election to the Exec. the following were elected: T Hardie, C Jones, W Neumark, A Pinkerton, C Sermanni. The Chairman thanked all those who had stood for election.

4.3 That Ernst & Young be reappointed as auditors and the Executive Council be authorised to fix their remuneration.

The resolution was approved unanimously.

The Chairman then closed the formal part of the meeting required by the Companies Act.

ITEM 5: REPORTS

5.1 Flying & Safety Committee

Angus Pinkerton, Chairman FSC, presented his written report, copy attached.

5.2 Insurance

Marc Asquith summarised the main points in his written report, copy attached.

5.3 Skywings

Mark Woodhams written report is attached.

5.4 Admin

Andrew Wakelin's written report is attached.

5.5 Clubs/Sites

John Clarke's written report is attached.

5.6 Competitions

Jim Bowyer's written report is attached.

ITEM 6: MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Nigel Page, DSC, asked how the standards for parasailing canopies would differ from the standards for high performance canopies. Angus Pinkerton replied that these canopies would be low performance round canopies. Nigel Page was concerned that he could buy a canopy for hill flying and then find it was not certified for towing. Angus said that this would not be the case, if it was certified it would be suitable for towing too.

Angus was then questioned on the changes to the PRS in connection with stalls and spins. Nigel Page asked if the new scheme would teach pilots to recover from deep stall. Bill Morris replied that canopies were supposed to be certified against deep stall but it may be that pilots should be taught to recognise deep stall. Angus said it was almost impossible to get a canopy into deep stall unless it was done deliberately.

Edmund Potter, Norfolk, asked if the increase in insurance premiums was due to the increase in paragliding accidents and if this was the case shouldn't the paragliding pilots pay a higher premium. Marc Asquith said that this was not true and the claims varied from year to year. Unfortunately there had been a couple of very bad accidents this year. Marc was then asked about cover for aerotowing and replied that he was hopeful that it would be included in the master policy.

Steve Higham asked what the implications of flying uncertified gliders were. He was informed that the conditions of insurance require members to comply with the rules and regulations of the Association. Where the use of an uncertified glider was a contributing factor to an accident then the pilot may not be covered by BHPA insurance.

Trevor Birkbeck, Dales, asked what investigations were being carried out on the reserve used in the recent double fatality. Angus replied that investigations were being carried out but despite enquiries FSC had not managed to identify where it came from. There does not seem to be a problem with other reserve parachutes of this design and size. Angus was then asked if BHPA would be certifying reserves but he said that this was not likely and that preliminary work was already being carried out for paragliding reserves in Europe. He pointed out that the way pilots deployed their canopy was just as important

as checking where it is certified.

It was suggested that deployment should be included in the CP syllabus. However, Mark Dale said that BHPA had organised a reserve seminar which had had a disappointing turnout. It appeared that nobody had been interested enough to attend.

Nigel Page asked Mark Woodhams what the objective was in trying to get Skywings on the news stands. Mark replied that the objective was financial; the magazine has to be printed anyway and if by running on we could sell copies outside the Association this would produce extra income for the Association and at the same time raise the sport's profile amongst members of the public.

The Chairman thanked everyone and asked the BHPA President, Ann Welch, to make the presentations.

Ann addressed the meeting and said that she was always happy to attend BHPA meetings as they were never boring, whether they were normal Exec meetings or AGMs. Ann went on to say that BHPA is currently one of the most effective of all the air sports associations and is highly respected both nationally and internationally, as well as being acclaimed by the Sports Council, CAA and other bodies.

The President's Trophy was awarded to Andy Cowley for his many years of service to BHPA and previously BAPC. As Andy was unable to attend Tom Beardsley received the trophy on his behalf.

The Paragliding Distance Challenge Trophy was awarded to John Silvester.

The Sky Systems UK Distance Trophy was awarded to Richard Carter.

The Bettina Gray Best Club Magazine Prize was awarded to The Cumbria Soaring Club and collected by Steve Vardon, Editor of its magazine Spoilt for Choice.

The Wings Over a Cloud for the best article in Skywings was awarded to Chris Dawes for In Search of Mr Gryphus.

Jim Bowyer then made a surprise presentation of the FAI Airsports Medal to Tom Hardie. Gifts were also presented to Tom and Linda from the Association as an expression of gratitude for all their hard work over the past two years.