

# Minutes of Meeting

<b>Date(s):</b>	4 Feb 2017	<b>Start Time:</b>	1030	<b>End Time:</b>	1530	<b>Distribution date:</b>	26 Feb 2017
<b>Title of Meeting:</b>	Competition Committee (CC) Planning Day 2017						
<b>Location:</b>	Bicester				<b>Chair:</b>	Liz Sparrow	
<b>Present:</b>	Liz Sparrow (ES) Alan Langlands (AL) Russell Cheetham (RC) Paul Crabb (PC) Iain Baker (IB) Jon Gatfield (JG) Justin Craig (JC) Graham Garnett (GG) Rich Hood (RH)				<b>Distribution:</b>	Meeting Attendees + BGA Exec (once approved)	
<b>Apols:</b>	Andy Cockerell (AC) Andrew Mugleston (AM) Brian Spreckley (BS)						

Legend		
<b>Type</b>	EVE	Event
	OBS	Observation
	DEC	Decision
	AI	Action Item

No	Type	Due By Date	DESCRIPTION	Resp.
<b>Meeting and Comps Committee Admin</b>				
1	OBS	N/A	ES opened meeting and thanked Lasham for hosting. The minutes of previous meeting were approved.	
2			<b>Comps Committee Planning Day – Objectives</b>  This session was intended to let us stand back and review whether we are moving towards our longer term aims and achieving all our terms of reference. It was not intended to cover transactional agenda although this was slightly hijacked by the need to rejig this year's comp calendar.	
<b>Competition Calendar</b>				
3	DEC		<b>2017 Comp Calendar</b>  Due to the low numbers of entries as at 31 January, Tibenham have withdrawn from hosting the 2017 20m and Standard Nationals. Russell has spoken to other potential host clubs and as a result we agreed unanimously that these classes will be held at Aston Down from 22-29 July alongside the 15m and Open Classes. Aston Down have agreed to maintain the £250 entry fee charged by Tibenham and to reduce the 15m/Opens to the same fee. 20m and Standard class pilots should therefore send their deposit to Aston Down by 15th March and not to Tibenham. We recognise that some pilots may be unable to compete due to the date change, we will refund if so.  To ensure a valid competition if entry numbers do not increase, the 15m and Standard Classes will be run as a combined task group, set the same tasks and scored as one group. To minimise the impact of the different glider classes, scoring will be using two set handicaps with the Standard Class gliders getting a 3% handicap allowance.	

## Minutes of Meeting

	AI	ASAP	<p>The competition will result in separate Standard and 15m National Champions, and all international qualification processes are unchanged.</p> <p>The 3% handicap allowance has been set because the difference between standard and 15m classes is generally 3 or 4%; we have selected the lower limit as more representative of likely achieved handicaps in a joint competition - note it's a reference to stop one class scores impacting on the other class. If a pilot with a Standard Class glider wants to enter the 15m not the Standard class, that's fine and they will be scored accordingly - noting that if they win they will become the 15m champion and NOT the Standard Class champion.</p> <p>Russell to write to all pilots entered at Tibenham and get Keith to post a message on the Comp alert and Comp News explaining the move - the dates and where/when to send money; the handicap arrangements for the joint 15/std class but that it constitutes two separate comps for scoring.</p>	RC
4	AI	ASAP	<p><b>2017 Juniors</b></p> <p>CC remain concerned that no venue is yet agreed for 2017 Juniors. Andy reported that Matt Davis is negotiating with Nympsfield; there is an expectation of a fixed fee financial agreement broadly in line with our suggestion. Matt had flagged up a requirement for additional tugs and Iain is supporting him on this.</p> <p>We noted that the request to the JCG as per previous minutes is outstanding and there is a need to improve communications.</p> <p>Chase urgently and support Matt to resolve remaining issues and report back along with other issues raised to JCG</p>	AC
5	DEC		<p><b>2018 Comp Calendar</b></p> <p>To minimise the chance of this happening again next year, we reviewed potential class co-locations to increase the likely entries at any one venue. Plan for four separate events with class groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Club</li> <li>• Juniors</li> <li>• 15m/Standard and Open classes</li> <li>• 18m and 20m</li> </ul> <p>Future year Juniors bids should be on the same timetable as the rest.</p>	
	AI	ASAP	<p>Write to all clubs who have bid and also all club chairman/CFIs as previously received the bid form explaining the changes and extending the deadline to 1 month from date of letter.</p>	RC
6	DEC		<p><b>Future years</b></p> <p>Maintain groups as above and 15m/standard as a single task group until numbers change.</p> <p>Consider venues where we might be able to send in a team – possibly military sites, where else?</p> <p>Revisit at start of autumn CC meetings.</p>	
<b>Transforming UK Comps</b>				
7			<p><b>Using the Ideal Comp Model</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As a 'features' guide to why you'd pick any particular comp – can we get directors to advertise on this basis?</li> <li>• As part of the director's report enabling us to benchmark.</li> <li>• Has already led to some consideration by at least one director of</li> </ul>	

## Minutes of Meeting

	AI	31 Mar	<p>other things that might improve his comp.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revised and automated directors' report would support this</li> </ul> <p>To draft a revised directors' report template/approach including Ideal Comp model</p> <p>To develop use of the Ideal Comp model with organisers of this summer's comps at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lasham EGC</li> <li>Aston Down [post meeting note most classes] Nationals</li> <li>Interservices Regionals</li> <li>HusBos 18m &amp; CC Nationals</li> <li>Shenington Regionals</li> <li>Dunstable Regionals</li> </ul> <p><b>Customer Feedback</b> - Longer term, how about pilot reviews 'CompAdvisor'; but for now we could survey all pilots with a standard survey for comparison. Liz noted that Google Forms lets you share surveys and is free.</p>	ES/AL
		Pre & during comps		ES IB ES IB AL JC
8	AI	?	<p><b>Competition Web Platform</b></p> <p>Iain presented a draft user requirements spec of general agreement. (attached). Brian has offered a copy of the SGP site for our use and subsequent development if that's a helpful route to this. Paul is happy to explain functionality if we go with this solution. Iain noted it would need refresh by a web-designer. Important to ensure that guidelines are published and followed by users to create a consistent message and content – not trivial to achieve! CC would drive overall steering for use of system and some aspects would need to be mandatory.</p> <p>Arrange a tech group session on options and then get back to CC with next steps</p>	IB
<b>British Team funding, coaching etc</b>				
9	OBS		<p><b>Funding position</b></p> <p>Jon reminded us of the key points in his previous presentation. We reviewed the 5-year budget and noted that there is a real risk that funding declines further so action is necessary. If we do nothing, then the reserve will dwindle to zero in spite of our giving team pilots a relatively low level of support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ideally we get more funding rather than cease supporting teams or classes</li> <li>This won't come from the membership which is declining and we feel is already charged enough</li> <li>There is enough reserve that we don't have to cut funding this year but we will have to consider doing so if we can't show progress during 2017</li> <li>We will invest part of the reserve while we have it to try to pay back in terms of winning external funding</li> <li>Potential to fund entry fee only for Europeans and to reduce support for some classes at Worlds.</li> <li>Can we tie in with the [needs work!] Championship structure review from the IGC of which Liz is a member</li> </ul>	
10			<b>Why do we Fund the British Team?</b>	

## Minutes of Meeting

	OBS		<p>There was a good discussion around the priority that should be accorded to funding international competitors. It was felt that the Brit Team should contribute significantly to inspiring others in the sport but that team members need to work on this, it's not good value for money at present. We need teams to contribute to generating a sponsorable product if we are to continue to fund them – see actions below</p> <p>We questioned whether or not our budget would be better spent directly encouraging grass-roots competition. We did not agree to redirect funds at this stage, but see actions below re supporting other competition modes.</p>	
11	<p>OBS</p> <p>AI</p> <p>OBS</p>	<p>26 Feb</p> <p>ASAP 17 Mar</p>	<p><b>Marketing the British Team</b></p> <p>Aim for this summer is to create sponsorable product - we are aiming for increased presence and professionalism from the British Team. Approach will be to trial at each comp successively and learn as we go through the season. Iain reported that the Juniors are working with Clement Allen who has produced good videos and making a comms plan; Liz reported that women are due to do the same.</p> <p>Liz has a meeting planned with Matt Sheahan who does this professionally and she will report back.</p> <p>All agreed that there should be a person at each of the 4 internationals specifically responsible for generating online presence and buzz and that this Media Manager role would be funded on a trial basis to the same value as the TC for this summer's comps. To draw down this funding, teams must present a plan and a proposed MM to Graham who will review with CC and make the decision. Choice of MM will be critical to the success of this.</p> <p>Graham to advertise this to 2017 teams - done</p> <p>Liz to write 'job spec' hopefully with help from Matt</p>	<p>ES</p> <p>GG ES</p>
12			<p><b>British Team Contract</b></p> <p>Building on the Team Contract, Team Members as part of being in the team should put something into the sport. Target is to increase participation in glider racing. We need to ensure there's a framework to make this feasible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can we get team members along to ICL dates</li> <li>• Club visits – racing weekends - Mini-Comp Tour</li> <li>• All team members to recruit one person to Nationals flying</li> <li>• 2018 Weekend Regionals – eg over 4 weeks and possibly multiple venues?</li> <li>• Targeting small clubs</li> <li>• What else?</li> </ul> <p>This should be part of being in the team and NOT directly related to funding – cultural change needed although noted some already do this. How would we enforce it?</p>	
13			<p><b>Coaching</b></p> <p>At present we don't have a sport-wide coaching plan – some seniors don't feel there's a benefit but there is a concern regarding training those in the pipeline. Do we just accept that it's just those who can afford expensive gliders who will compete in internationals? If so, to what extent is it appropriate that we fund them?</p> <p>Suggestion to have a development group which would be offered training plus perhaps a wider open group which might be offered paid</p>	

## Minutes of Meeting

			<p>coaching which could cover some squad costs. Could the cost of a training 2-seater be defrayed by paid coaching? Junior &amp; development group approach was felt to have paid dividends in the past.</p> <p>Aim to discuss with potential coaches during the summer.</p> <p><b>Raising funds through sales</b></p> <p>What could we sell?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coaching as above</li> <li>• Clothing – Brit Team Supporter clothing</li> <li>• What else?</li> </ul>	
<b>14</b>	Al	31 Mar	<p><b>Spring Brief</b></p> <p>We identified two things to ask pilots at the comp forums this summer, Alan to add to spring brief:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How might we increase income?</li> <li>• How might we increase participation in comps</li> </ul>	AL
<b>15</b>			<b>Meeting Closed at 16:15</b>	
<b>16</b>			<p><b>Attachments</b></p> <p><b>1. Web platform user requirements draft</b></p>	