

Minutes of a Meeting of the BGA Competitions and Awards Committee

Date: 16th November 2020

Venue: Online Zoom Meeting

Present: Alan Langands - AL, Brian Spreckley - BS, Chris Luton - CL, Graham Garnett - GG, Jim White - JW, Matt Davis - MD, Max Lazenby - ML, Paul Crabb - PC, Paul Fritche - PF, Russell Cheetham – RC

Previous Minutes

The meeting minutes from the 2nd of November were agreed as correct by the committee.

Actions Review

The following actions were reviewed:

Produce a Google Form to replace Directors Reports	ML	Jan 21
Write to directors to advise them of the proposal for engine relight trials in 2020 and how to implement a trial if desired.	RC	Amended (See Below)
Liaise with Chris Fox and CC members to develop an agreed set of rules for the 2-seater Ladder	AL	Complete
Create a draft calendar for the 2022 comp season	RC	Complete
Update the ratings list	PC	Complete
Check with Matt Page about being the scrutineer for the team selection voting	RC	Complete (See Below)
Contact BS to clarify the IGC rules for junior competition age limit	MD	Complete (See Below)
Distribute the current bid document	RC	Complete

Engine Relight Trial

RC reminded the Committee that he had previously circulated his proposed rules to the Committee, but the Covid restrictions during 2020 had made it pointless to communicate this to directors. There was some discussion at the meeting in which the rationale for the proposed change was questioned. RC agreed to re-circulate his proposed rule again to allow the Committee to reconsider the proposal in detail.

Team Voting

RC reported that he has found an alternative solution for the voting system. This is a web solution called VotingPlace.net, a Canadian system that supports secure on-line voting at an affordable price. The system costs \$90 per year which is significantly less than bespoke software and may be a better solution than continuing to use the BGA legacy system. The system has been trialled by RC and AL and appears to meet our requirements. Further trialling and a demonstration will be carried out in due course.

IGC Junior Age Limit

The IGC rules have not yet been released regarding the junior age limit for next year but it is believed that there will be a rule that "If your age qualifies you for entry this year (2020), you will qualify for entry next year (2021)". It was agreed that this will be implemented for the junior nationals in 2021 with a local rule approved by the comps committee.

Nationals Bid Document Review

RC distributed the proposed document to the Committee. It contained amendments which had been arrived at during email discussions since the last meeting, JW believed it could be clearer but said, given that the document is due to be sent out within the next week, that it is adequate for this year. BS explained the bid documentation used by the SGP, where a separate guide to bidding is published, and suggested we adopt a similar method in future. The draft bid document was agreed by the committee for use this year after it had been finally fact-checked by AL.

Fact-check document and confirm to RC	AL	This week
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Schedule further discussion on development of bid document for 2023 along lines discussed	AL	2021
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Proposed Start Energy Rule

BS distributed a proposal being considered for adoption in Annex A of the IGC rules. It proposes limiting glider energy at the start. The pros and cons of the proposal were discussed. There was wide agreement that the proposal opens up a potentially dangerous situation where pilots in close proximity in the vicinity of the start line will be more likely to be looking inside the cockpit at instrumentation rather than looking out.

The UK uses a rule that you must remain below the maximum start height for two minutes before start. BS proposed an amendment to have a control point before the start line. BS will write up this amendment and distribute it to the committee.

Write an amendment to the Height and Speed limit proposal and distribute to the committee	BS	Next Meeting
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WWGC22 Issues (Jeremy Pack - JP in attendance)

JP had written to the Committee to raise several questions about WWGC22, at which he is British Team Captain. JP joined the meeting to discuss his questions with the committee:

1. JP had concerns about team selection in the event that no Nationals took place again in 2021 and whether the 550 rating points requirement would be strictly enforced. The committee informed JP that the BGA Comp Rule 6.2.7 (which would apply for WWGC22) allows selection of pilots based on recommendation from team coaches and not solely based on the BGA ratings list or the 550 rating points requirement. Rule 6.2.6 is a guide but Rule 6.2.7 will be used if necessary.
2. JP requested clarification of the status of a pilot with a British passport, who had flown for a different nation at WWGC19 and who wished to be considered for the British team in 2022. The committee confirmed that the pilot in question is already included in the ratings list as was discussed at the meeting on 2nd of November.
3. JP asked the committee for advice on the budget allocated for the pilots. Should the available funding be allocated only to the top 4 pilots. Or distributed amongst the whole team, if more than four? The committee confirmed that the team managers are to decide the best way to distribute the pilot funding for the competition.
4. JP asked if a media manager would be appointed. GG reported that the funding of media managers at international competitions had had disappointing results due to there being a

limited audience for viewing content about gliding competitions and that the practice had been discontinued for recent competitions. GG went on to suggest that, given the high profile of the event, with it being a UK-hosted international, that this should perhaps be reconsidered. AL pointed out that the CC's involvement in media at Internationals was usually concerned with publicity for the team, but that on this occasion there was wider scope for publicity as the whole competition was a BGA event. It was agreed that the BGA should be consulted on what media plans are in place for the WWGC2022 and how Team and Competition media resources could be coordinated.

Liaise with Pete Stratten and the Exec/BGA about media for the Women's British team and WWGC22	AL	Next Meeting
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7 – JP asked if team sponsorship monies could be held by the BGA. Previous sponsorship money obtained by the Junior team had been held by the BGA. The committee suggested that JP contact the BGA about banking of sponsorship money.

8 – JP said the squad is planning on an Overseas training event at Issoudun in 2022 with BS and G. Dale (and maybe Ayala Truelove) as coaches. Would the CC confirm the squad will receive the allocated budget of £2000 to support this event. GG stated that there is funding available for training, but this may be limited due to the number of people that may access this funding and that it is not possible to say how much funding will be available at this current point in time.

Keep JP advised of training funding availability.	GG	Ongoing
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Two-Seater Ladder Proposed Rules

AL distributed the proposed rules for a 2 seater ladder for 2021, they are as follows:

The Two Seat Ladder is designed to encourage cross coaching flights in a spirit of friendly rivalry between clubs.

It differs from the other ladders in that

- At least one of the pilots must be a Novice according to Inter-Club League rules
- The winning Certificate is awarded to the club with the highest score rather than the individual pilot

Scoring is as for normal Cross Country Ladders. The points will accrue to the pilot submitting the flight in the normal way, but the 'Second Pilot' must be named. The 'Novice on board' requirement will not be formally checked other than for flights contributing to winning a Certificate.

A flight is entered for the Two Seater Ladder by selecting that option when submitting a flight. Such flights will also be eligible for other Ladders.

AL pointed out that more restrictive rules had been considered, aimed at reducing the possibility of misuse by some pilots for whom winning was more important than developing novices, but it had been felt that it was better overall to keep barriers to a minimum. The rules will be reviewed after next year.

AL thanked Chris Fox for his work on this project.

These rules were discussed, and it was agreed that although these rules may not be able to stop “pot hunting”, they will meet the overall goal of the 2 seater ladder in encouraging novice pilots to gain cross country experience. The rules were agreed by the committee.

Confirm to Chris Fox that the rules are approved	AL	This week
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2020 Awards

Nominations for the Phil Lever (most promising Junior) and John Hands (outstanding contribution to organising or running a competition) trophies are required.

No obvious candidates emerged in discussion on the John Hands trophy. AL undertook to compile a list of recent winners and circulate. Everyone undertook to consider possible nominees for this year.

Circulate a list of recent John Hands winners	AL	This week
Consider possible John Hands candidates	ALL	Next meeting1

Having consulted within the Junior group, MD named 2 possible candidates for the Phil Lever trophy, (names withheld from minutes). The committee voted in favour of one of the named candidates. MD agreed to provide a citation. There followed some discussion on the topic that the definition of the Phil Lever trophy is capable of two subtly different but distinct interpretations:

1. The pilot who shows the most promise at the junior level
2. The Junior pilot who shows the most promise at any level.

To avoid any confusion in the meaning of the award, it should be made clear in the citation that the award is for the second of these.

Produce a citation for the winner of the Phil Lever trophy	MD	Jan 21
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AOB

With no other business, the meeting was concluded.