

# BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES OF THE BRITISH GLIDING ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 26<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2023

PRESENT Andy Perkins – Chair  
Richard Brickwood  
Bill Brittain  
Rebecca Bryan  
Nick Garland  
Craig Lowrie  
David McGrath  
George Metcalfe – Vice Chair  
Lucy Wootton

APOLOGIES Matt Page  
Tony Smith - Treasurer and Company Secretary

IN ATTENDANCE Pete Stratten - Chief Executive Officer

### 38/23 PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES

The meeting notes of the 19th September 2023 were approved.

### 39/23 GO GLIDING - UPDATE

Richard Brickwood noted four events, eight bursaries and two Go Gliding solos had taken place, the successful launch of the Go Gliding website, and that engaging with potential participants remains as a significant challenge. He went on to note that successful bids for further financial support will be announced by the DfT/CAA during November. Those present thanked the Go Gliding team for their ongoing support of the initiative.

Status: Open Action: Richard Brickwood Due: November 2023

### 40/23 LICENSING SIMPLIFICATION - UPDATE

Pete Stratten spoke to a previously circulated briefing that described the context of the CAA's licensing simplification project, the proposed timeline leading to UK-SFCL implementation in September 2025 and the window of opportunity to update legislation during 2024, detailed the CAA led project to date, and described written inputs from the sailplane experts in the working group, including for example those relating to theoretical knowledge testing and 'basic' instructor privileges. It was recognized that there are risks in any externally driven project that impacts gliding and that the BGA will continue to closely engage with, influence, and provide support as part of the working group.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten Due: December 2023

### 41/23 COMPETITION COMMITTEE - UPDATE

Andy Perkins updated those present on the recent meeting between the BGA chair, vice-chair, a vice-president (Peter Harvey) and the acting chair of the Competition Committee. During that meeting, Andy Perkins had described the actions taken following concerns raised by the former chair of the Competition Committee that ultimately led to his resignation, all discussed potential opportunities and support to remove the triggers that have resulted in specific complaints to the Competitions Committee, the need to identify a replacement sub-committee chair was agreed, and Andy Perkins had offered to meet the Competitions Committee and to chair the next competition forum.

Those present discussed the detail and noted existing applicable BGA Inappropriate or Discriminatory Conduct and Whistleblowing policies, that the competition handbook rules apply at a competition, that club policies apply when an activity is taking place at a club site, and that further consideration will be given to developing a code of conduct. It was agreed that when identified, the incoming Competition Committee chair will be provided with guidance from the Executive Committee regarding development of

process and related transparency. Meanwhile, the Competition Committee chair opportunity will be highlighted to competition pilots with a closing date of 20<sup>th</sup> November after which date the situation will be reviewed by the Executive Committee.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023

42/23 BGA SIMULATORS

Pete Stratten spoke to a previously circulated briefing. He noted the challenges of maintaining the mobile BGA marketing simulator in a reliable condition, that a team led by Paul Howard is developing a replacement and that following successful completion, the existing simulator will be offered for sale as a static simulator ideal for club use. Pete Stratten described the ongoing trial utilization of a VR simulator purchased as a flat-packed kit ready to plug and play, with the aim of providing a report that will inform clubs that are looking at options using simulated gliding to enhance the club flying training and other flying opportunities. Those present thanked Paul Howard and the volunteer team he leads. Following a wide ranging discussion, it was noted that there is an opportunity to support clubs with appropriate guidance for differing simulator environments and training needs. Pete Stratten agreed to ask the Instructing and Examining Committee to take that topic forward.

Status: Closed Action: Pete Stratten

43/23 DONATION

It was agreed that the topic of donations made to the BGA will be considered in detail during the Executive Committee workshop during November 2023 and that a briefing note should be prepared in advance.

Status: Open Action: Pete Stratten Due: November 2023

44/23 'GET GRANTS'

Andy Perkins spoke to a previously circulated document describing the detail of a proposed arrangement to directly support clubs grant finding efforts via a third-party supplier with some BGA support. Those present agreed with the proposal which Andy Perkins agreed to take forward with the BGA Development Committee.

Status: Closed Action: Andy Perkins

45/23 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a. BGA instructor requirements.

Those present noted that there are occasional examples where there is a capable glider pilot available to become qualified as an instructor and there is a pressing need by the club, but the Silver badge requirement prevents progress. It was also noted that the UK-SFCL instructor requirements, which do not require a Silver badge, will apply by September 2025. It was agreed that where individually justified to support a club need, an exception to the assistant instructor Silver badge requirement detailed in Laws and Rules 'Instructor Requirements' may be made by the Chair of the Instructing and Examining Committee.

Status: Closed

b. Executive Committee workshop. Andy Perkins noted that he would welcome Executive Committee members input into the Executive Committee workshop draft agenda that he will circulate during October.

The next meeting will take place as a workshop at the BGA office starting at 10am on the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2023.