

Minutes PKA Extraordinary General Meeting
Saturday Nov 10th 2007 17:30
Morfa Bay Activity Centre
South Wales

Apologies:
Richard Brazier
Kevin Hunt

Committee Members Present

Chairman – Chris Croft
Secretary – Mark Hoyland
National Trainer – Glen Whittingham
Treasurer - John Hitchen

1.0 Chairman's Intro

The full race series did not run last year due to weather conditions and other issues. Next year's dates need to be got in early to allow a full series to be run.

2.0 Secretary's Report

2.1 Euros – the event went very well despite the weather conditions and was a credit to all involved. Participation from both pilots and organisers was very good. CC and Denise were thanked for their roles and involvement in the event as well.

2.2 There are four dates proposed for next year. The date for next year's Last Gasp is still to be announced.

2.3 Westward Ho! Is now approved as a Fed Event location and the Icicles will be held there again in early 2008.

2.4 Dual insurance should continue if the Fed agrees, although they are currently looking to change this back to Fed only.

2.5 The Fed AGM is to be held in Leicester on Nov 24th. In order to have an equal voice there as many Class 8 pilots need to attend as possible.

3.0 Treasurer's Report

3.1 A full report on the cost of the Euros is not yet available as there are still bills coming in and payments being made. Currently however the club seems to be just about OK solvency wise. The figures reported currently are as follows:

Current balance as at 18/09/07 £7746

Current balance as at 01/10/07 £1049.75

Taken Out since £1250

Paid in since 01/10 £2113.52

Outstanding balance estimate £863.52

These figures will be confirmed and reported at the next opportunity.

- 3.2 Generous sponsorship donations were given by the following:
- CLSC - £695
 - CC /DJ business contact £700
 - Protech £300
 - Besco £150
 - Will James personal sponsorship of the trophies
- 3.3 Euros costing - £8308 prior received
- 3.4 £10945 spent to date
- 3.5 £863.52 yet to pay
- 3.6 Available capital needs to be built back up to £4-5k over the next few years. A better idea of what is required will be obtained as further details of outstanding payments come in.

4 Membership Report

4.1 BPKA(formerly BBC-PKSF) – no longer linked to PKA membership lists as this was a rolling membership and therefore difficult to manage. PKA membership is now running January – January. Application forms will be put on the website for members to complete. (NB see later minute under item 7.0)

4.2 Currently there are 60+ registered members, some of whom never race. Some are BPKA members.

5 Safety Officer's Report

5.1 KH is not able to attend the meeting. KH is resigning his position on the committee. He enjoyed the Euros and his part in it. The chair noted thanks for Kevin's input and participation over his years on the committee.

6 Training

- 6.1 New radically changed proposals made at the meeting. The main points are:
- Proposal that all Class 8 training and licensing should be handled by Class 8 direct rather than through the Fed
 - New licences for Open and Masters
 - New training for instructors and examiners
 - Open licences will be available for all for all events – the aim is to remove licence barriers and allow racing to become accessible to all no matter where in the country
 - Previously there was not an automatic upgrade in membership after 3 months as has been lead to belief by persons unknown. This licence upgrade had to be achieved by demonstrating improved competency. A return to this set up is proposed.
 - The licensors situation will change. In some geographical areas it has proved easier to get a licence than in others.
 - The intention is to make visible what is required so that all potential pilots understand what is expected of them.
 - The instructors licence will last for 2 years after which the instructor will have to re-sit an examination. All examiners will examine at the same standard.
 - Existing licences will remain at the same level as currently but new physical licences will be issued.

- A new handbook is proposed which should be in place by Jan 2008 and will be available in draft by the forthcoming Fed meeting (Action GW/MH)
- Every club across the UK requiring an instructor will be given one by the PKA.
- Every instructor must be first aid trained. The PKA will bear the cost of training. Anyone else over and above the nominated instructors can be first aid trained but will need to bear the cost.
- Question from Gary Box – why is this training required?
 Answer: In order to assist if there's a problem especially with any students being trained. A Red Cross course for motorcyclists has been identified and 4 committee members are currently booked onto it as this seems most appropriate. Currently fees for race meets are costing between £80 - £200 for first aiders. Having our own will reduce costs.
- Instructor's courses will be run by the PKA. Individuals wanting to be instructors must be good pilots and not everyone will be suitable.
- Currently the Fed have a list of all instructors but cannot state how new instructors are to be trained.
- Suggestion made by Dieter – could a vote be put forward at the Fed meeting for a Class 8 licensing rep?
- If this proposal is accepted it is intended to be implemented from January 2008.

7 Proposal for Fees for 2008

7.1 Several proposals were made and discussed for future subscription fees. This included the following:

- Double fees to £24 pa
- Put up race fees instead
- Keep the membership fee at £12 and impose an additional fee for anyone wishing to compete in the national race series
- Proposal – from G Steel increase the annual fee to £15 pa, seconded by AH
- Superseded – S. Bailey proposed a registration fee for the race series
- Egs given relating to how the Supercup was previously run.
- Different fees for different classes? – not supported.

NB whatever fees are raised need to be sufficient to increase the clubs funds post Euros and to ensure that there is money available to fund a team to enter the Euros in 2008.

7.2 Final Proposal

- Proposes GS –
 - PKA membership fee to be free.
 - A race series registration fee of around £25 to be paid by all by 15-02-08.
 - A standard race fee of £10 per race to be payable on arrival at each race weekend.
 - If a racer has not registered and paid the registration fee in advance then a race entry fee of around £15 per race will become due.
 - A discount for other non-national series events to be considered for those who have paid the race series registration fee.

NB Figures to be checked and ensured sufficient by the Treasurer (Action JH/AS)
After further discussion after the PKA AGM with members of the PKA committee it has been necessary to increase PKA membership fees to £15 and race fees per weekend up to £25. This has been necessary due to increased running costs.

8 KBA

8.1 English KBA reps are currently MH and JH. A unanimous vote motioned that these two remain the KBA reps.

8.2 The 5kg rule has been implemented as a temporary measure. It is likely that this will change to an overall buggy weight of around 60kg in the next year (including wheels) E.g. of weights given – Tornado buggy 34kg, XX Racer less, big foot wheels 8kg each. Different seats also weigh different amounts. Weighing scales will be used prior to racing although these will not be calibrated scales. This is happening because FISLY have instructed the KBA to get their house in order due to issues in Europe in relation to safety.

8.3 Quick release harnesses:

It has been noted that all other sports such as kite surfing have quick release harnesses. A proposal has been made to FISLY by CC and WC that a quick release leash should be attached to a pilot's wrist. This was unanimously rejected by the meeting as there are times when a pilot will need full reach during a race to control the kite which would risk triggering the release and loss of the kite. This proposal will be returned by FISLY to KBA for approval. The meeting agreed that something is required and a question was raised whether all harnesses should have some form of quick release.

9 Nominations for Committee Members

9.1 Three resignations:

- Nick Horler resigned as sponsorship secretary – Nick was thanked for his input over the last 6 years.
- Kevin Hunt resigned as Safety Rep (see minute 5.0)
- Rich Brazier has resigned as Membership Sec
- John Hitchen has resigned as Treasurer after 6 years

9.2 New nominations:

- Safety Officer – JH – proposed CC, seconded by GW
- Treasurer - Alison Summersfield – proposed GS, seconded by Toni Redgrove
- Membership - Pete Swann – proposed GS, seconded by John Trainor
- Sponsorship & Trophies – Toni Redgrove – proposed GS, seconded by John Trainor

9.3 Other committee members

- To remain as is:
- GW National Trainer
- MH Secretary
- CC Chair

10 **A.O.B.**

10.1 Dates are on line for next year's national series

10.2 Simon Bailey has done a great job with the website