

British Aerobatic Association 2018 Annual General Meeting - Minutes

Introduction

1. Apologies for absence

Brian McCartney (HCO/Director), Emily Collett (Director), Chris Sills (Director), Charles Baker (Secretary), Ian Scott, Dave Farley, Julian Murfitt, Alex Cartwright

2. The minutes of the previous AGM

The minutes of the 2017 AGM were accepted without amendment.

Review of 2017

3. Report of the Chairman (Steve Todd)

2017 was busy and productive. Our international officials were very active and we were represented at WAC by Gerald Cooper and Phil Burgess, with an excellent 5th place for Gerald and a very creditable debut for Phil, ably supported by team manager, Pete Rounce. Our Advanced representatives at EAAC in the Czech Republic were Mike and Emily Collett, supported by Chris Sills. There were no international glider competitors.

The domestic season was very successful, if a little weather limited. The judging lines were very well staffed and managed, and Sarah Hardy is joining Leif and Eric in helping with co-ordination of officials for 2018 onwards.

The new identity has proved popular and David Nichols as leader of the Marketing Working Group and David Thomson as designer of the logo were thanked for their outstanding contributions.

The season ended with a fabulous Hangar Bash at Sywell, organised by Phil Massetti with assistance and which raised nearly £3k towards international team support.

The theme of fund raising has been continued under the leadership of David Cowden, with the lottery (prize draw for a Spitfire flight) already raising significant funds and art sales from the image rights for two paintings donated by Simon Cattlin.

Charles Baker received the Royal Aero Club Bronze medal for services to the sport at their awards ceremony in May 2017.

4. Report of the Head of Contest Organisation (Brian McCartney)

Report read in Brian's absence

Precis - A safe and successful season with thanks going to all pilots and officials. Entry numbers were up, but weather meant that the total of flights completed was slightly lower. For 2018 we have a full programme and support is urged for all contests but especially the Get Into Aeros events. Finally, a huge vote of thanks to Jen Buckenham for all her hard work in 2017.

5. Finance report (Paul Brice)

The financial position of the Association is strong. There is £58k in cash at the bank and fund raising is bringing in substantial amounts to support our teams. A separate bank account will be established to help manage and account for these funds. Several generous donations have been received, including that from Philip Meeson which will be used to support Get into Aeros events. A clean-up of balances on members entry fee accounts was completed by Jen and this will now become an annual exercise.

Nick Buckenham noted that although there is a previous formal decision by the directors to maintain a minimum cash balance of around £35k, this is not backed up by any detailed breakdown or projection to substantiate that particular value.

The Treasurer noted that previous requests to submit requests for project funding to allow forward budgeting had not resulted in any such requests.

Outline plans for the future

6. Plans of the Marketing Working Group (David Nichols)

The results of the 2017 end of season marketing survey were presented. There is enthusiasm for training events to be held at weekends with a cost of £100/day generally supported. The hangar party was well received, but improvements are needed on the catering. The branding is liked, though there is still some work to do to tweak the merchandising and apparel. Social media is increasingly important for news and updates, but the website is the goto location for competition information. There will be a recode of the site in the spring and further amendments to the website will happen after that. The meeting thanked Alex Cartwright for his ongoing work on this.

7. Plans of the International Working Group (Phil Massetti)

The international teams received a small amount of financial support for the pilots and team managers in 2017. Looking ahead, the fund raising should allow for significantly more support in 2018. Based on current information there is unlikely to be a large Unlimited team at EAC, but there will be up to 8 pilots on the Advanced Power team and also potentially 6 pilots at the World Advanced Glider championships. The Advanced Power team have training camps and a trainer in place and the glider team are making further plans for training camps during the school holiday periods.

8. International team funding

David Cowden provided an update on fund raising. The draw for the Spitfire flight will take place on 14th March at Aerobility. To date over $\frac{3}{4}$ of the 1000 tickets are sold or out for sale. Beth Meades of Limeflower PR has been raising the profile with Flyer, Pilot and other outlets and enquiries are being received at a pace, including from overseas. Beth is to be congratulated for driving the publicity so successfully. There will be a second prize draw commencing once the first is sold out with the prize flight in a Folland Gnat. The Association thanks David for his tremendous work and leadership in driving this fund raising.

Simon Cattlin has donated the image rights to two original paintings – *Watchful Angel* and *Icon*, featuring aerobatic aircraft. One original has sold raising £1500 towards team funding and Simon has generously agreed to host the logistics of future sales.

9. Get into aeros

A brief email report from Emily was read to the meeting in her absence.

Precis - The power Get into Aeros event at Leicester in May had already attracted over 50 enquiries with two weeks to the cut off date. Nigel Lamb has kindly offered to support again and plans are well advanced. Bids for grant funding are in preparation. A glider GiA will also take place in September.

10. Youth development

Included above

11. Announcement of results of the directors' election

Three directors retired by rotation and were eligible for re-election (Steve Todd, Phil Massetti and Emily Collett). Nominations were received for Nick Buckenham to be elected as a director. After addressing the meeting on his desire to make a further contribution to the running of the Association as a director if the opportunity should arise in the future, Nick withdrew from the election. Accordingly, the three retiring directors were re-elected by the meeting.

In a subsequent vote by the directors Steve Todd was re-elected Chairman and Phil Massetti as Vice Chairman.

12. Any other formal business, by leave of the chairman

Tom Cassells addressed the meeting to congratulate David Cowden on his outstanding work in driving the development of our international teams and the current fund raising initiatives, as well as his personal financial support of the Association over the years.

13. Prize giving

The following prizes were awarded. Not all recipients were present.

Trophy		2017 Winner
Tiger Club International	Std Points Winner	Duncan Cumberlidge
Marcus Norman	Std Group 3 Points Winner	George Haye
Shaggy Cow	Most Points in Yak	Not Contested
Swinstead	Int Points Winner	David Heard
Cessna Aerobat		Not Contested
Pitts	Most points in Pitts	Jez Burgoin
Len Perry	Highest place UK pilot in International competition	Gerald Cooper
Chipmunk	Non-flying contribution to BAeA for his work on the Marketing Working Group	David Nichols
CJ of the Year	Highest attendance	Rodolphe Hervé
Manx Kelly	Adv Points Winner	Chris Brook
Extra	Most points in Extra	David Heard
CD of the Year	Best run contest	Julian Murfitt
Slingsby	Most points in Slingsby	Ruth Scott
Glider	Open points winner	Dietmar Poll

Golden Frog	Most points in French aircraft	Dave Farley
Diana Britten	Highest scoring female pilot	Emily Collett