

UNITED STATES PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING
JULY 14-16, 2000
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

UNITED STATES PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, Alexandria, Virginia
July 14-16, 2000

Table of Contents:	Page
Call to Order	1
Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting & Adoption of the Agenda.....	1
Interim Actions of the Executive Committee & President's Report	1-3
Treasurer's Report	3
Executive Director's Report	3
Special Agents Reports	3
Old Business	3
Committee Reports:	
A. Competition	3-11
B. Constitution & By-Laws	11
C. Executive.....	11-14
D. Finance & Budget	14-15
E. Group Member	15-18
F. Membership Services.....	19-21
G. Nominations & Elections	21
H. Regional Directors	21
I. Safety & Training	22-29
New Business.....	29-30
Adjournment	30
Attachments: "A"- Executive Director's Report (not included-available from HQ)	
"B"- "Regional Directors S.O.P." (not included-available from HQ)	
"C"- Letter from Mr. Ferrell regarding malfunction procedures.....	
	31

ratings are considered to be provisional, pending the attendance and satisfactory completion of a BIC within one calendar year of the issuance of the Jumpmaster rating.”

PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

This is the final meeting for this term of USPA’s Board of Directors. During our first year, it seemed that we were not as productive as some Boards have been in previous years, but during the past six months, our productivity has increased dramatically – especially with our two largest committees: Safety & Training and Competition. I believe a great deal of the credit goes to two very hard working and motivating committee chairs, and to the respective Headquarters’ Department Directors.

With the programs and demands of today’s association, the Board’s traditional responsibilities create a workload that is far too demanding for volunteers to complete by themselves. Fortunately, the support we are receiving from Headquarters is tremendous, and we are able to make ends meet.

Membership is up. USPA is maintaining its gradual but steady growth rate. Hopefully, some of the national exposure we are getting this year will help provide a spike in the membership numbers, so we are not riding on the edge so much.

Fatalities are also up, a little bit compared to last year. This is both good and bad. Last year was a banner year for our sport, with a 50% drop in fatalities. If we can match last year’s fatality rate, it would be good. Hopefully, we can even end the year with another decline in this rate. It seems that problems flying high-performance canopies are still a significant factor with our fatalities. I believe we can do more to solve this problem.

USPA 2000: I recently reviewed USPA 2000, the 7-year old program which first I developed as Vice President. It seems that we have implemented 16 of the 21 targeted objectives, and S&T is actively working on the 17th – revamping the AFF Certification Program. The most important objective yet to be implemented is the Coaching Program, which focuses on working with skydivers during their first 200 jumps after coming off student status. One of the key elements of the proposed coaching program includes teaching novices many vital tasks within a controlled environment, including how to safely fly high-performance canopies. It appears there is still a great need for this program.

Bartels vs. USPA: We continue to be plagued by the lawsuit which was instigated by one of our previous Board members who wanted to get his way, no matter what. While this will be an expensive endeavor for the members of this association, and a time-consuming one for the Staff and Board, I hope we can turn this obstacle into an opportunity as well. Because our association is incorporated in the State of New York, we are forced to abide by an ineffective means of operating as a membership association.

It may be time to re-incorporate in a new state, whose laws provide for a more practical means of operation. And while we are in the process of re-incorporating, it may be time to re-evaluate the function of the Board, and its relationship with the membership, and the Headquarters staff.

Advisors: Gene Paul Thacker, B.J. Worth, Larry Bagley, USPA Director of Competition

The committee would like to thank our members attending and for their participation during the committee meetings.

“SKYDIVER’S COMPETITION MANUAL”

The committee would like to recognize USPA Headquarters staff, in particular the Director of Competition for his coordination with the Director of Publications in completing the rewrite of this manual and meeting the deadline of June 1. This was a major undertaking and committee would like to express their sincere appreciation for the effort and teamwork that resulted in completing this task. This is now available in hardcopy and the website.

“S.C.M.” CHANGES

The Committee discussed how to effect changes that become necessary following recommendations from after action reports that need to be implemented before the next competition.

The initial plan was to make these changes once a year and reprint the revised document mid year. The committee feels this is not practical and would prefer to rectify the issues immediately and therefore have a “current” set of rules.

The committee therefore recommends that revisions be made as and when necessary utilizing an errata document. This document would be an insert in the Skydiver Competition Manual and also place on the USPA website under a title of “SCM Revisions”. The errata document format will be developed with the assistance of the Director of Competitions.

The committee believes that utilizing the errata method to maintain the currency of the SCM will minimize difficulties that have been experienced in the past due to outdated rules. The Committee recommends that the reprint only take place when the number of changes make the SCM cumbersome and difficult to follow. That decision would be on the recommendation from the Director of Competition to the Committee. The SCM could feasibly remain in its current form for a long as two or three years.

US NATIONALS – PERRIS

The Committee received and update on the progress of the 2000 Nationals from Meet Director, John DeSantis. Chris Needels also gave committee an overview of the PR/Media plan for the Nationals. Chris also clarified a committee concern that the advertisements promoting Nationals is for our premier event and not the hosting drop zone.

APPOINTMENTS – UPCOMING EVENTS:

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

- 2000 US Nationals, Perris: Appoint Larry Bagley USPA Controller
- 2000 World Cup of FS & FR/SK/FF: Appoint Brenda Reid, Team Manager per SCM 11.3 Special Teams and Competitions.
- 2000 Collegiate Nationals: Appoint Roger Gardner Meet Direct, Bill Wenger USPA Controller
- 2001 US Nationals, Eloy: Appoint Brian Burke Meet Director, Larry Bagley USPA Controller

BOD APPOINTMENTS:

The committee reviewed the after action reports from the USPA Controller, Larry Bagley, Meet Director, Roger Gardner, Chief Judge, Brenda Reid and John Jefferies. Based on their recommendations changes were made to the "S.C.M."

MOTION 11: Passed, 20/0 (Ms. Laughlin)

"Move to make the following changes and additions to Section 2 of "The S.C.M." :

2-1.2B. Order of Jumping

- 1. The order of jumping in the first accuracy round will be determined by reverse order of placing based on final results of team accuracy during the last National Champions. Individuals and teams are not covered by this procedure will jump at the beginning of the rounds, respectively, with order determined by draw. To be considered the same team as the previous Nationals, a team must be at least three original members.*
- 2. The order for subsequent rounds will be reverse order of placing. Rounds nine and ten will be individual accuracy jumps made in reserve order of standing. In case of tie breaking jumps, the initial order will apply.*
- 3. The jump order may only changes to allow for repacking, to accommodate reumps and to avoid competition delays resulting from substantial changes in the order of jumping.*
- 4. Al electronic scoring system must be used to facilitate the process of reversing the jump order.*
- 5. Change para. 4. to 5.*
- 6. Change para. 5. to 6.*

2-1.2 G. Wind Speed and Direction

- 3. c. (2) the competitor must make an immediate decision within 15 seconds of being offered a rejump and before the next competitor lands and must inform the Event or Chief judge on his decision, otherwise that competitor must do a rejump.*
- 3. c. (3) Delete*
- 3. d. The event will be automatically interrupted and the target covered for a minimum of five minutes, if the grounds wind speed exceeds nine m/s. Any competitor that exit the aircraft during a period of halted jumping will be waved off and not allowed to land on the artificial pit. All competitors that are waved off will make a rejump.*

2-1.2 I. Judging and recording Accuracy Landing

- 2. The only persons allowed within the 20 m circle during jumping are members of the Panel of Judges, members of the jury and necessary members of the organizing staff. During the final approach of a competitor, only members of the Panel of Judges are allowed within 5 meters. Exceptions to this rule are the responsibility of the Chief judge.*

2-1.2 J. Technical Equipment

1. Windsock:

- b. A wind direction indicator (streamer) mounted on a pole, which is capable of responding to winds of less than two m/s, is placed by the event judge within 20 meters of the target.*

2. Target: The AMD must be centered within marked circles of 10 and 20-meter radius.

- a. The center of the target must be an Automatic Measuring Device.*
- b. Delete para and subpara*
- c. The Automatic Measuring Device is placed centrally on an artificial pit, which has the following specifications:*
 - (1) Diameter: approximately 5 meters*
 - (2) Thickness: a minimum of 30 cm.*

- (3) *Compressibility: 0.15 – 0.20 kp/sq cm*
- (4) *Color: any color*

2-1.2M Rejumps

- 1. In Accuracy Landing, a rejump may be awarded if a competitor:*
- c. If any judge observes a change in winds aloft which prevent one or more competitors from making a reasonable accuracy approach on the target, though having exited at the correct point, they must immediately inform the Event Judge and/or the Chief judge of their observations. If the event is interrupted a new winds drift indicator must be dropped before the event may continue.*
- g. delete*

2-1.3 B. Order of Jumping

- 1. The jump order for the first two rounds of style is by team and is determined by para 2-1.2 B. 1. for the first rounds of the accuracy event. The jump order for subsequent rounds is by individual in reverse order of placing.*
- 3. delete*
- 4. delete*
- 5. change para 5 to 3*
- 6. change para 6 to 4*

2-1.3 C. Exit Altitude:

The jump must be made from an altitude of 7,300 f, which the Meet Director may lower by as much as 500 ft to negotiate weather.

2-1.3 E. Number of Rounds: The minimum number of rounds to constitute a meet is two rounds and the maximum number is five.

2-1.3F. Weather

- 2. Winds Limits:*
 - a. Maximum surface wind velocity for the event is ten m/s.*

2-1.3 H. Definitions:

- 2. Freefall Style penalty definitions.*
 - d. arrow (→): beginning a series off heading in the direction of the first turn, completing the first backloop in the direction of the fourth maneuver (third horizontal turn).*
 - g. delete*
 - h. Turns*
 - (1) A competitor is considered to have entered a turn when he has initiated movement of the torso around the vertical axis.*
 - (2) A turn is complete when the competitor stops the turns regardless of heading.*
 - i. Backloops*
 - (1) A competitor is considered to have entered a backloop when he has completed the previous maneuver (turn) and initiated movement around the horizontal axis.*
 - (2) The first backloop is complete when the competitor stops the backloop regardless of heading.*
 - (3) The second backloop is complete the instant the competitor stops the backloop*

or passes through the horizontal level, regardless of heading.

(4) delete

2-1/3 Q. Practice Jumps

1. After the start of the competition, any competitor that is observed making a practice accuracy landing on the tuffet will be disqualified from the competition.

2-1.4D Combination:

2. If a tie occurs, the competitor with the highest rank in either event wins.

2-2: Freefall Style & Accuracy Landing Administration and Judging Notes:

2-2.1: A. Video Judging Procedures - Delete all.

2-2.1 Accuracy Landing Event

Backfoot Scoring using AMD

1-5 no change.

6. Delete

7. Delete

Renumber

8. Change to 6.

9. Change to 7

10. Change to 8

11 Delete

2-2.1C. Winds restrictions during competitions

1. Prior to the start of the accuracy landing event, the Chief Judge, Event Judge and Meet Director may agree that the event be postponed or suspended when certain conditions exist that make it impossible for the competitor to fairly demonstrate his skill. These conditions may be due, but not limited to, existing obstacles that adversely effect winds conditions for accuracy landing.

2-2.2G. the exit point is given at a point that will allow the angle between the ground and all optics to be between 60 and 80 degrees at the start of the first turn.

2-2.2I. Jumpers with excessive drift will be awarded a rejump. Drift is determined by the ground-to-air video if equipped with a drift system (10 degrees from the start of style series to the end).

b. Delete

2-2.2 Add: K. The target must be clearly visible from the air and of approximately 200 sq meters in size. The shape and colors agreed by the Event Judge.”

The Committee discussed the lack of coverage in “Parachutist” for these Nationals. The Committee is working on a proposed list of items that should be included in future articles covering our National events.

SECTION 3: Para-Ski (Ms Laughlin)

The Nationals in Mount St. Sauveur, Quebec, Canada

The weather was spectacular! The skiing was done at night and all 6 accuracy rounds were completed. There were only 9 US competitions as a result of the confusion and late decision on the location for this event.

There was a meeting after the Nationals regarding a Noram Cup that would be used to recognize both Canadian and US Nationals. From the US, Al Gramando, Kirk Knight and Marylou Laughlin attended. No decisions were reached.

The Committee discussed minimum accuracy requirements to make the US Team. No action at this time. There were no rule changes.

SECTION 5: Formation Skydiving (Mr. Page)

The committee discussed the one e-mail received from the field from a member who is unhappy with the current class structure of formation skydiving competition at the US National Skydiving Championships as it relates to the old recreational class and new intermediate class. It was decided that no action was required.

The classes remain unchanged.

The committee discussed the female class event at the up-coming World Cup of Formation Skydiving, specifically, the selection process for teams that wish to participate in the event.

SECTION 6: Freestyle/Skysurfing/Freeflying (Mr. Gramando)

No Action at this time.

SECTION 7: Collegiates (Mr. Wenger)

USPA Controller, Mr. Wenger visited Lake Wales to inspect the site and facilities for the 2000 Collegiate Nationals. The dates to be confirm to HQ for publication.

SECTION 8: Judging (Mr. Gramando)

Committee discussed compensation for Chief Judges at US Nationals Championships. No recommendations resulted at this time.

Reviewed Marylou Laughlin's application for FAI Judge in Accuracy

MOTION 12: Passed, 20/0 (Mr. Gramando)

"Move to nominate Marylou Laughlin as an FAI Judge in Accuracy"

Reviewed nominations for US FAI Judges for World Championships 2001 to be submitted to the IPC Judges Sub-Committee.

MOTION 13: Passed, 20/0 (Mr. Gramando)

"Move to nominate the following U.S. Judges for the 2001 Championships:

FORMATION SKYDIVING:

Judy Celaya, Deby Daniel, Chris Kelly

CANOPY FORMATION:

Lori Bartlett-Harness, Al Altendorfer

STYLE & ACCURACY:

Al Gramando

FREESTYLE/SKYSURFING/FREEFLYING

Jamie Pillasch, Tamara Koyn, Kama Mountz, Amy Bailey-Haas

PARASKI

Marylou Laughlin"

SECTION 9: Sport Accuracy (Mr. Hayhurst)

The first official Nationals of Sport Accuracy will be conducted at the 2001 U.S. Nationals at Eloy, Arizona.

SECTION 10: Nationals (Mr. Wenger)

No bids were received for 2001 Collegiates and Paraski. Further solicitations will be put out to Group members.

Site selection for the 2001 combined Nationals was awarded to Skydive Arizona.

The changes were made to reflect the addition of Sport Accuracy and recommendations from the After Action Reports from the Style and Accuracy Nationals.

MOTION 14: Passed, 20/0 (Mr. Wenger)

“Move to approve the following additions and changes to “The S.C.M.”:

10-2.1.A Add “5. Sport Accuracy (SA): 3,500 feet”

10-2.4 B Add at end of sentence: “, number to be determined by the chief judge.”

10-2.4.J after style add “and accuracy.” And delete “desired, if available”

10-2.9. Add “O. Sport Accuracy.”

10-2.10.A.3 Add after Landing “and Sport accuracy”

10-2.13.F Change to read “A copy of the judging tapes and a electronic copy of the results to be given to the USPA Controller before departure from the competition.”

10-2.13.I add at end “, number to be determined by the Meet Director”

10-2.13. add “K. Ground to ground radios, number to be determined by the Meet Director”

10-3.8 Delete ‘board’”

SECTION 11: US Team Delegations (Mr. Hayhurst)

The Committee received a proposal from S&A competitors regarding the selection of the U.S. S&A Team. After discussion, the proposal was slightly modified and then unanimously approved by the committee. The proposal will be put on the USPA Web Site to allow for comment and input from the S&A community.

The Chair of Finance & Budget briefed the Committee on a more aggressive investment strategy for the TTF.

The Committee discussed the size of the Para-Ski delegation in light of new information about the IPC including women's competition at the World Championships of Para-Ski, and agreed that effective July, 2001, the per capita distribution for the Para-Ski U.S. Team will be increased to twelve (12):

MOTION 15: Passed, 20/0 (Mr. Hayhurst)

“Move to change “S.C.M.” 11-2.6 PER CAPITA DISTRIBUTIONS, Paragraph A.5. to read: “S.C.M.” 11-2.6 A.5. Para-Ski - Change 8 to 12, effective July 2001.”

The World Cup 2000 at Eloy will be the first occasion to apply the new SCM Section 11-3, Special Teams and Competitions. At the World Cup, the United States has the opportunity to field up to four teams in each FS discipline, up to four women's teams in each FS category (IPC demo event), and up to three teams in FR, FF and SK. The Committee has selected Brenda Reid as the Team Manager. The Committee recommends the Board grant official sanction to the top U.S. teams who desire to compete at the World Cup, based on the order of standings from the upcoming 2000 U.S. Nationals.

MOTION 16: Passed, 20/0 (Mr. Hayhurst)

“Move that the USPA Board grant official sanction (unfunded) to U.S. Teams for the upcoming 2000 World Cup, selected by the Team Manager Brenda Reid, as follows:

1. Based on the order of standing in Open Class at the 2000 U.S. Nationals: Up to 4 teams in each category of FS, Up to 3 teams in FR/FF/SK 2. Based on scores from the Advanced or Open Class at the 2000 U.S. Nationals: Up to 4 women's teams in each category of FS”

SECTION 12: World Records (Mr. Gramando)

No new records were reported to the Committee.

SECTION 13: IPC EVENTS (Mr. Hayhurst)

At the February 2000 BOD Meeting, the Committee was tasked to establish procedures for soliciting potential GM bidders to host IPC events in the U.S., a structured USPA policy for considering and processing any bids, and to insure USPA interests are met before and after the IPC event. In addition, this section would outline how the Committee provides input and guidance to our delegates at IPC meetings, and how it recommends additional Board-sanctioned individuals (funded or not) to represent U.S. interests at IPC meetings. The Committee reviewed the first draft of the proposed "S.C.M."-13 section, titled, "IPC Delegates & Hosting IPC Competitions,". The 2000 World Cup, held at Skydive Arizona this fall, will provide additional experience and material for the Committee to revise the draft. The Chair will distribute the final draft to the Board. Copies of the first "S.C.M."-13 draft are available; see Committee Chair.

The Chair, Brenda Reid, thanked the committee for their support and hard work in this very busy committee. Working as a team and being responsive enabled a great amount of work to be completed during this term and the interim periods between meetings. The Committee would like to thank the Director of Competition, Larry Bagley, for keeping the committee on track and on the issues.

B. Constitution and By-Laws

Members: Al Gramando, Chair
John Goswitz
Lee Schlichtemeier

Advisors: BJ Worth, John DeSantis

The Constitution and By-laws Committee met and was updated on the Bartels vs. USPA matter. Being no further business before the committee the meeting was adjourned.

C. Executive Committee

Members: B.J. Worth, Chair
John DeSantis
Lee Schlichtemeier
Madolyn Murdock
Gene Paul Thacker
Don Yahrling

Bartles vs USPA: Chris Needels presented an update on status of this litigation. USPA's attorneys continue to believe we have a very strong case. A decision is expected to be made in the coming weeks.

Dyck vs. Laidlaw: Committee Chair reported on recent litigation in Canada, which appears to be a successful yet fraudulent insurance claim. The defendant and plaintiff had a canopy collision, following an 8-way dive. There was no evidence of any negligence on the part of the defendant;

There was clear evidence that the plaintiff had two off-heading openings earlier that day; Nine years after the accident, one co-defendant was dropped from the suit when he suddenly remembered seeing something - although there is clear evidence he was facing the other direction. The judge ruled in favor of the plaintiff's fanciful and totally illogical story. While this case has no legal bearing in the US, this ruling could encourage US skydivers to seek "easy" insurance money with similar litigation in the future.

Group Membership: Mr. William Pardo, DZO from Skydive South Padre appealed to the Executive Committee, requesting that it override the decision of Gulf Regional Director Madolyn Murdock, to rescind his DZ's Group Membership. After reviewing the facts surrounding this case, the committee denied the appeal, and agreed that the Regional Director's current course of action was appropriate.

A.A.D.s Aboard Commercial Aircraft: Ed Scott reported on USPA's collaboration with PIA to secure a ruling from the Department of Transportation confirming that A.A.D.s are not considered hazardous materials.

Cypres Installations: Chris Needels and Ed Scott reported that USPA's counsel is providing minimal legal representation for a USPA member and FAA Senior Rigger, who is being violated by the FAA for assembling an AAD on a parachute system. Although the container was "Cypres ready," one FAA inspector is saying that only Master Riggers can install A.A.D.s. While this is primarily an FAA, PIA, and manufacturers issue, the Committee believes USPA should follow up on this matter, so members can be better informed about the regulations concerning the handling of A.A.D.s.

AAD Fund: Northwest Regional Director Jessie Farrington spoke on behalf of the Olympic Skydivers Association in her region, asking that USPA work on a national level to prevent federally funded airports from requiring liability insurance from DZ Operators. National Director Ray Ferrell pointed out that many states prohibit individuals or their heirs from suing government entities, which allow participation of hazardous activities on property controlled by them. This would negate the need to obtain insurance protection. In this case, the airport authority offered to add a rider on to the airport's general liability policy, if the DZO agreed to pay for the \$3000 cost of the rider.

Sponsorship solicitation for US Nationals 2000: Chris Needels presented USPA's basic plan to solicit major sponsorship for the 2000 and 2001 US National Championships. All Committee members supported the concept.

Air Sports Expo: Representatives from all NAA air sports associations met in Virginia, in April 2000. Many topics of common interest were addressed among the different air sports representatives. The primary topics were Membership Trends, Developments for the Future of Air Sports, Media Exposure, and the Air Sports Expo. It was a particularly productive meeting, which generated broad camaraderie among the participants. USPA seems to be in a better position than most of its fellow air sports associations, in the areas of membership growth.

Two representatives from the Discovery Wings Channel made a very interesting presentation to the group, during which they revealed Discovery's strong interest in featuring air sports in their future TV programming. Since that meeting, Discovery has covered the US National Speed

Gliding Championships, and is currently negotiating with the FAI to cover the World Cup in Eloy.

Several of the other air sports groups have been collaborating on an Air Sports Expo, and are encouraging USPA to become involved as well. This Expo, which has been on-going for three years, is similar to the PIA Symposium, but includes seven different air sports at this time: Aerobatics, Aeromodeling, Ballooning, Gliding, Hang Gliding, Paragliding, and Ultralights.

Although USPA is only expected make a small presence at the 2001 Air Sports Expo, it is recommended that the association consider pursuing a greater involvement in the future, especially if there is an opportunity for significant interaction with the public. It is intended that there be one or two media days per Expo, with tandem flights and exhibition flights in an air show environment. The 2002 Expo will be in Southern California, and the 2003 Expo will be in Dayton, Ohio – in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of powered flight.

Governance Manual: At the request of a Board member, the Committee addressed the issue of “Committee membership, and rights of committee members and advisors.” The primary issue at hand was whether or not “advisors” have the right to receive all (non-confidential) committee correspondence, have the right to know about and attend all committee meetings, and if Board members who are advisors to committees can expect to receive financial support, similar to that of full committee members.

One Committee member believes that advisors are actual committee members, without a vote – similar to an alternate on a competition team being considered an actual team member, even if they are not in the lineup. Other Committee members believe that only committee members with voting privileges are to be considered actual committee members, and that advisors have no guaranteed right to receive correspondence or support which is provided to full committee members.

USPA documentation on this topic is not clear or consistent, and the term “advisor” is not defined as an official position. Some Committee members suggested that the title of “Advisor” be discontinued from use with USPA committees; that the President and Executive Director be listed as an ex-officio members of Committees (rather than advisors), where appropriate; and that relevant documentation in the Governance Manual be clarified.

Disciplinary Actions: (In closed session)

Western Regional Director John DeSantis briefed the Executive Committee on a pending disciplinary action.

North Central Regional Director John Goswitz briefed the Executive Committee on a possible disciplinary action.

Southeast Regional Director Barry Chase briefed the Executive Committee on an active disciplinary action in his region. Based on the recommendation of the Regional Director, the following motion was proposed:

Motion 17: **Passed, 19/0/1 Abs. (Mr. Worth)**

“Move that USPA members Ken Stone, Preston Ford, and Jerry Shell have their membership suspended for one year, and have all of their USPA ratings be suspended for two years.”

D. Finance and Budget

Members: Lee Schlichtemeier, Chair
Jim Cazer
Kay Hoiby-Griep

Ex-officio: B.J. Worth, Chris Needels

Old Business:

- **Review of USPA financial results January – June 2000.**

6-month results were presented by Mr. Needels and reviewed by all present. Revenues are slightly under budget but not unusually so considering the typical seasonal pattern of revenue inflows. Expenses are on budget for all large items making the overall 2000 Budget figures reasonable although probably slightly optimistic. No significant concerns were voiced and the 2000 Budget remains realistic.

- **Review of USPA Reserve Fund status.**

Results remain consistent with overall stock market performance. Fund manager remains Morgan Stanley/Dean Witter. Discussion regarding replacement of fund manager or use primarily of MSDW as broker with outside advisor being obtained/retained. No decision necessary as Needels and Schlichtemeier are tasked with this matter by the Governance Manual and have been gradually taking over the advisor status using MSDW primarily for research input. Further interviews and discussion will be held as current results are monitored. Accounts are now “On-line” so Executive Director and Treasurer are able to follow account directly.

- **Review of U.S. Team Fund status.**

Team Fund results have badly lagged; overall stock market and income to fund has lagged income investments benchmarks. After much thought and discussion between the Executive Director and the Treasurer, Schlichtemeier has volunteered his services as fund advisor at no cost to the Association for a three-year interval. He plans a much more income-oriented portfolio as funds provided to Teams has been significantly less than expected. The initial changes in this plan have been instituted and early results are favorable. The Team Fund is also held by Morgan Stanley/Dean Witter and it is also “On-line” for monitoring purposes by the Executive Director and Treasurer.

A joint meeting was held with the Competition Committee to receive their input on these changes and also gain their approval (which was given) for Schlichtemeier to conduct a review of the past results and provide a 5-year outlook for the Fund so better Team budgeting and planning can occur. This will include some suggestions for future Team Managers in order to have better financial oversight of the monies provided to each Team

and the financial reporting expected of the Team Manager. This will allow each Team Manager to better plan a team budget. Results between the managers can be compared and generalized budgeting guidance for future Team Managers will be provided. Schlichtemeier will provide this written report to Competition at the next Board meeting. General consensus is that the Fund has provided such a meager income to the Team that it has been overlooked as a potential major source of funding. The changes now being made and a greater awareness of its capabilities and results should allow the Competition Committee to better structure a plan to raise further funds for the Team Fund and consequently provide better financial support for U.S. Teams.

- **Audit of Association.**

Decision confirmed to defer scheduling overall Association audit. Kay Hoiby-Griep will visit Headquarters in July to meet with Needels and Association accountants to review internal financial controls. She will provide a written report to the Committee and make recommendations regarding need for further detailed audits.

- **Headquarters move status.**

No further information available or decisions to be made at this time.

New Business:

- **Financial impact of Bartels vs. USPA, et al lawsuit.**

Discussion between USPA and Association insurance carrier ongoing regarding insurance deductible amount for which USPA is directly liable. Current status of case is pending a summary dismissal filing by USPA attorneys. The lawsuit is costing a significant amount in terms of Headquarters time and effort which is being displaced from other members' needs.

- **2001 USPA Budget preliminary planning.**

Primarily considerations regarding cost of planning for 'mega-meeting' in San Diego in January 2001 which involves not only USPA Board of Directors but also Parachute Industry Association and International Parachuting Commission meetings and USPA's Drop Zone Operators Conference all occurring in one two-week interval. No firm estimates to update those from February 2000 BOD meeting.

No further new business was brought forward. No motions necessary. Committee meeting adjourned.

E. Group Member Committee

Members: Ray Ferrell, Chair
Larry Hill
Danny Page
Jess Rodriguez

Gene Paul Thacker [absent due to schedule conflict with Ex. Committee]

Advisors: Jessie Farrington, Kay Hoiby-Griep, Gary Peek, Ed Scott (Staff Director)

Group Member Administrative Procedures: This document has been completed to assist Regional Directors in understanding how staff administers the Group Member Program, specifically how to treat issues such as: DZ sale or transfer, DZ relocation, DZ name change, multiple G.M.s at the same airport, etc. This document will be distributed to all Regional Directors. It will also be available to others upon request.

CFR 14 (FAR) Part 105 NPRM: The FAA still expects to issue a final rule by December 2000. No new information has been released.

Voluntary Courtesy Inspection Program: With the board's concurrence (at the last meeting) to revise inspector qualifications to now include an instructional rating, the qualified pool has shrunk. This causes a revision to the program that now requires a smaller pool of inspectors. All board members have been asked to review a list of applicants and recommend any exceptional candidates. Inspections are now available to former Group Members that require an inspection to regain membership status. Inspections will be available to all Group Members in the near future.

On Line Membership Access: This service will be available and "live" by August 1, 2000. All Group Members and BOD members will have access. As demonstrated during this report, it promises to be fast, simple and efficient.

2001 DZO Conference: PIA's 2001 Symposium is January 29 – February 2. USPA will collaborate with PIA on hosting a DZO Conference as part of the Symposium. A draft agenda has been developed. Staff is working with PIA to offer a package deal, which will include attendance to the PIA booths with the DZO conference registration and a discount for full Symposium registration.

Jump Pilot Training Video: This FAA funded video has been completed and awaits the accompanying FAA safety pamphlet, which will be done in the next couple of weeks. They will be mailed to all Group Member DZs along with a cover letter reminding them of the availability of the FAA "Drop Zone Operations Video"

Group Membership Manual: The committee reviewed and approved draft manual.

Motion 18:

Passed, 21/0

(Mr. Ferrell)

"Move to approve the Group Members Manual to include: a description of the Group member program, Airport, Access & Defense (A.A.D.) Fund, Volunteer Courtesy Inspection Program and the "Skydiving Aircraft Operations Manual."

AFF and AFFCC: Buzz Fink had asked to address the committee with a proposal to improve administration of the AFFCC. He subsequently informed us that he would be unable to attend and that he basically agreed with Barry Chase's memo on the topic. We referred the information to the Safety & Training Committee.

S&TA Appointment Criteria: Discussed the practice of appointing DZOs as S&TAs and the conflict-of-interest when the DZO is also the primary S&TA for the DZ. The committee

recommended to S&T Committee to review sign off authority of S.&T.A.s vs. Instructors. Possibly give Instructors the same sign off authority. This could help eliminate the need of a DZO being appointed as S&TA. The committee also reminded the Regional Directors Committee that our S&TA manual discourages the appointment of DZOs and suggested they might make more use of “At Large” S.&T.A.s especially with multiple small DZs located in close proximity.

Vertical Wind Tunnel Training Recognition: Frank Arenas asked this committee to address this training method. He wants USPA to adopt language that recognizes the value of VWTT. The committee suggests that the S&T Committee acquire copies of available syllabus’ from The Golden Knights, Skydive U and Mr. Arenas. Then review for possible inclusion in the new ISP.

“Skydiving Aircraft Operations Manual”: This manual is due for reprint. Staff will review Skydiving Flight Operations 2000 document for substance to include in the up date of USPA’s “S.A.O.M.”

DZ Insurance requirements: The executive committee received a request for AAD funds to be used to combat an increasing requirement by airport operators for DZ’s to provide insurance to cover skydiving. The request was referred to this committee. This insurance requirement, which is still virtually unavailable, is being used to prevent the establishment of new DZs on public airports and in some cases to close existing DZs. Staff will investigate possible ways of dealing with this issue, to include federal legislation and a review of some State Tort laws as an alternative. Staff will report back to both this committee and the Executive committee, possibly as an interim action, with recommendations associated cost.

AAD Fund: The committee again encourages more promotion for donations to this fund. Another suggestion for a direct mail campaign to both Group and Individual members was offered.

Hot Fueling: The practice was again discussed. The committee recommends that USPA pursue a change to the national fire code, using the PIA SOP standard as a model.

Motion 19: **Passed, 21/0** **(Ms. Farrington)**

“USPA staff to investigate approval by the Uniform Fire Code for hot fueling of Turbine Aircraft. The Industry standard written by PIA and used in the field for the past 5 years should be the basis for re-opening this issue.”

Cloud Clearance: Committee discussed cloud clearance issues and the effect on skydiving. Also discussed the fact that jumping through clouds is legal in New Zealand and there is a possible pending change to allow it in Australia. Some DZs in the USA are experiencing increased scrutiny from their F.S.D.O.s. Kapowsin Air Sports in Washington State is dealing with this problem now and is seeking an exemption from the FAA. By helping Kapowsin Air Sports in their application for exemption, USPA could establish a precedent or model for future use by others.

Motion 20: **Passed, 13/3/5 Abstentions** **(Mr. Ferrell)**

“Move that USPA assist Kapowsin Air Sports in filing a exemption to CFR14 Part 105.29, cloud clearances, to include a letter of support from the USPA.”

- **REPORT FROM HEADQUARTERS**

The committee was given a summary from Headquarters showing membership statistics for the year, and comparing it to the two previous years in a year to date format. This report shows that while membership numbers are fairly flat and temporary membership is down the conversation from temporary to full membership is up for the year. The other items such as Awards/Student Medical Insurance/Group Membership/Demo Insurance/Licenses & Ratings are down slightly for the year.

- **MEMBER COMPLAINT ON COST AND ACCESS TO MEMBERSHIP MAILING LIST**

Acting on a complaint from a Group Member DZ on the conditions concerning the use of and the access to the membership mailing list an information-gathering search was conducted by myself. I contacted nine similar organizations with a range of membership from a low of around 250 up to thousands with the following results. Five of the organizations do not sell their membership mailing information to anyone. Two put no restrictions on the use of the list that they sell to anyone. One sells to members only and it is not available to manufactures, and can be used for election campaigning. One has a contract similar to the one that Headquarters requires a buyer to sign before providing a set of labels. The result is no origination gives away membership mailing information for free or a reduced rate as this member has suggested be done with our information. The committee recommends that the current prices and requirements be kept in place for anyone wishing to purchase a mailing list.

- **PARACHUTE/AIRLINE TRAVEL PROBLEMS WITH AAD'S**

The committee and Headquarters has not received any complaints since the last meeting concerning problems with carrying an AAD equipped rig on an aircraft. Ed Scott reported to the Board that SSK is working with the DOT to get a final answer to this problem.

- **WEB SITE**

We discussed the problem of keeping the web site information current and up to date. At this time Headquarters does not have a set procedure for handling this problem. In the future each department will probably have access to their area on the site to keep it updated. The committee instructs Headquarters to add the list of A.F.F. D/Es to the Safety & Training section of the site. We would also like to see the addition of web links for other skydiving sites such as PIA & NAA added to the site in the form of direct link icons.

- **INSURANCE PROGRAMS**

Headquarters has stated that our cost for the third party and demo insurance policy will most likely be raised next year at renewal time due to a claim made against the insurer for a demo jump that resulted in an accident back in 1997.

- **AFF CERTIFICATION COURSES**

A group of members brought to the committee a request for a change to be made to the headquarters document titled "AFF Certification Course Host Drop Zone Contract"

Motion 21: Passed 13/3/4 Abstentions (Mr. Goswitz)

"Move that U.S.P.A. policy be that Group Members have priority on scheduling and granting of U.S.P.A. instructional rating courses."

- **AWARDS**

Motion 22:

Passed 20/0

(Mr. Goswitz)

“In the U.S.P.A. ‘Governance Manual’, Section 7-1.1 C2, second line, strike the words ‘12 inch’ and replace with the words ‘eight inch’. In the second line add the word ‘solid’ after the word ‘replica’.”

NAA-FAI AWARDS

At this time the committee has no nominations for any of these awards.

USPA MEMBERSHIP AWARDS (GOLD WINGS ETC.)

A special thank you goes out to Linda & Derek at headquarters for the fast and efficient processing and shipping of awards to the Directors. The turn around time has been as short as one week at times with no special requests. This is well below the sought after time of two weeks that the committee wishes. We are not aware of any complaints about the new cost being charged for awards that was put in place at the beginning of the year. The fact that we are now charging for the pins has not caused any noticeable drop in the requests for these awards. We ask that headquarters increase the size of the boxes on the form for the credit card information.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP PATCHES

We now have this beautiful patch in stock and are selling them for ten dollars through the store. Since the first of the year, all new life members receive one with their membership card.

USPA ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The committee has no candidates to bring before the board at this meeting. We discussed the size and cost of the award given to the recipient. Motion to follow.

USPA GOLD MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT

The committee directs headquarters to add the list of recipients of this award to the Governance manual just as the recipients for the Achievement award are listed in section 7-2. The Gold medal for 2000 will be awarded to Sandra Williams.

Motion 23:

Passed (secret ballot)

(Mr. Goswitz)

“Move to award the U.S.P.A. Gold Medal for Meritorious Achievement for 2000 to the following person: Sandra Williams.”

- **RECOMENDATIONS FOR HEADQUARTERS**

The committee recommends that all the forms used by the membership be made fax capable. A number of them are now colored and pose a problem when a member attempts to fax a copy to headquarters for processing.

In an attempt to save time and money the committee recommends that the SIM & Competition manuals be published every two years and an errata sheet be published on the web site for any changes made between printings.

At all board meetings the necessary equipment be made available to assist the Directors in the course of the meeting. This is to include extension cords, power strips and the ability to print out documents at the meeting site.

G. Nominations and Elections

Members: John DeSantis, Chair,
Madolyn Murdock
Lee Schlichtemeier
Bill Wenger

Doctor Schlichtemeier is a new member of the committee, and was briefed on the committee's ongoing tasks. We had a discussion on the upcoming (2000) elections and how to follow all of the procedures outlined in "the Governance Manual", Section 3-1: Nominations and Elections. We mentioned to HQ about more advertisement about the elections in the magazine. They will comply.

All candidates for National or Regional Director must have their completed Director Biography Form returned to HQ no later than the close of business on the Monday following Labor Day (11 September 2000)

H. Regional Directors

Members: Bill Wenger, Chair
All Regional Directors

Advisors: All National Directors

- Ed Scott gave the Directors an update on the Drop Zone courtesy inspection program.
- The Committee discussed the possibility of reincorporating the Association in another location and the ramifications that could be brought about by this action.
- The Regional Director's membership lists were discussed with H.Q. and Mr. Needels stated that the Directors may have the list on CD or a hard copy.
- The Chair and the Committee thanked Mr. Needels for working on an adjustment of the "Governance Manual", Section 1-4, 'Regional Directors', which will detail more of the administration, duties and responsibilities of the Regional Director.

Motion 24: **Passed 21/0** **(Mr. Wenger)**

"Move to accept Section 1-4 "Regional Directors S.O.P." into 'The Governance Manual'."

See Attachment "B"- Section 1-4 "Regional Directors S.O.P."

I. Safety and Training

Members: Madolyn Murdock, Chair
Don Yahrling – Chair of Training Subcommittee
Barry Chase – Training Subcommittee
Jesse Farrington – Chair of Safety Subcommittee
John Goswitz – Safety Subcommittee

Advisors: Al Gramando, Ray Ferrell, Glenn Bangs (Director of Safety & Training), Jim Hayhurst, Danny Page, Jim Graham, Buzz Fink, Cindy Gibson

Safety

1. Waiver Authority of 2-1.04 – Age Requirement

After lengthy discussions at the summer meeting regarding the issue of the minimum age requirement, a item was added to the agenda for this meeting to discuss the possibility of making 2-1.04, the age requirement, waivable. After deliberation, the committee decided that discussion should be tabled until after changes to part 105 have been made.

2. Freeflying Safety Guidelines

The committee heard a presentation of the concepts of the Freefly Training Program from Olav Zipser, developer of *The First School of Modern Skyflying*. The program includes basic student exercises for beginners through competition level. He worked with the Safety Subcommittee to incorporate some of his safety guidelines into our current 9-6 on Freeflying recommendations.

Motion 25: Passed 21/0 (Ms. Murdock)

“Insert in 9-6.02 “holds a USPA “A” license

Change 9-6.02E to read “Understand the additional risks due to increased speed and reduced time in freefall.

Add 9-6.02G – “Proficiency in movement up, down, forward, backward and rotation in a sit before attempting standing or head down maneuvers.

Change 9-6.03 Equipment: “One must keep in mind that unless their gear is properly secured the chances of a premature deployment of either canopy are increased. A premature deployment at the high speeds involved in this type of skydiving could result in overstressing the equipment beyond limitations set by the manufacturers or sever injury to the body therefore equipment for Freeflying should include:”

Add to 9-6.03A1 - ... “(two are recommended)”

Add to 9-6.04 Training – “demonstrated ability to control movement up, down, forward, backward and during rotation.

Add 9-6.04F – Break off altitudes should be 4500’ with openings planned at 3000’. It is as important to slow down after break off as it is to get separation from other jumpers”

The committee also discussed the possibility of recognizing the abilities of participants in this new progressive discipline with the upcoming revisions to the license program.

3. Website Incident Reports

In addition to updates to the S&TA handbook the incident report was streamlined to one page. The next possible step would be to make web site reporting possible.

Training

4. Revisions to Student Training programs

The proposed Integrated Student Program (ISP) has been in development and has been a mammoth project for the Training Subcommittee and Headquarters. The S&T committee feels strongly that this advancement in how we train our current and future members is critical. It includes categories of skill and knowledge sets that must be met prior to

advancing to the next category, as well as more canopy control, an A license check dive and other instruction not in our current program. A Coaches rating has been added and privileges of the Jumpmaster's rating will now include teaching the method specific portions of the FJC.

Numerous BSR changes would be required and have been distributed to the BOD for review. These changes would appear in the new SIM scheduled for this fall. The Publications Department estimates that the final revisions to the ISP would be available within a week. And rating holders would be able to put the program to practice immediately. We propose that the ISP be implemented no later than January 1, 2001. The current BSR's would be in effect alternatively for rating holders that are not using the ISP until January 1, 2001.

The Instructional Certification Courses are now under review and the Coaches course will be finalized prior to the next BOD Meeting.

Motion 26: **Passed 21/0** **(Ms. Murdock)**

“Move to approve the ‘Integrated Student Training Program’, which includes a standardized first jump course and continuous supervised training with a USPA Instructional rating holder up to and including a USPA A license. The ‘I.S.P.’ will replace current ‘Skydiver’s Information Manual’, Sections 4 through 8 and will become effective no later than January 1, 2001.”

Motion 27: **Passed 21/0** **(Ms. Murdock)**

“Move that all student training be conducted according to the advancement criteria of the USPA ‘Integrated Student Program’. The U.S.P.A. ‘1998 Skydiver’s Information Manual’, Edition 4 remains alternatively in effect until January 1, 2001. Relevant BSR changes and amendments to the SIM are attached as follows:

Change to BSRs, re: student skydivers:

2-1.05 Student Skydivers

[E] A. All student instruction is to be managed by a USPA Instructor until the student is issued a USPA A license.

[E]B. All student jumps must be directly supervised by an appropriately-rated USPA Jumpmaster aboard the aircraft or in freefall, according to the requirements of that student’s training discipline outlined in the USPA Integrated Student Program, until the student has met all the advancement criteria through Category F.

1. All students must complete all the Advancement Criteria of each category in Categories A-D of the USPA Integrated Student Program before advancing to the next category.

2. A student must meet all advancement criteria of the USPA Integrated Student Program before obtaining a USPA A license.

[E]C. All jumps must be made under the direct supervision of the USPA instructional rating holder specified in the USPA Integrated Student Program until the student obtains a USPA A license.

[E]D. All students making training jumps to meet the advancement criteria in Categories G and H of the USPA Integrated Student Program must be accompanied in freefall by a USPA Coach.

[NW]E. Foreign non-resident ... [no change]

[NW]F. No skydiver will simultaneously perform... [no change]

[NW]G. All student jumps must be completed between... [no change]

Delete in its entirety Section 2-1.05E:

E. Student skydivers are to:

- 1. Initially make five (5) static line or five (5) IAD...*
- 2. Successfully complete all objectives of AFF...*
- 3. Initially make a minimum of three (3) tandem...*

Change to BSRs, re: opening altitudes

[E] 2-1.07 Minimum Opening Altitudes

- B. Tandem jumps—4,000 feet AGL [no change]*
- C. All students and A license holders—3,000 feet AGL*
- D. B license holders—2,500 feet AGL*
- E. C and D license holders—2,000 feet AGL [no change]*

Change to BSRs, re: student equipment

2-1.11 Parachute Equipment:

A. [no change]

B. All student are to be equipment with the following equipment: [Delete: “until they have been cleared by a USPA rated Instructor to jumpmaster themselves.”

Note: Waiver authority is according to each item that follows]

Recommendations

re: decision altitude for reserve procedures (ref. 8-3.17.A.5)

Students and A license holders: Decision to cut away 2,500 feet AGL and cut away by 2,000 feet

B license holders and higher: Decision to cut away by 1,800 feet AGL and cut away by 1,600 feet

If below 1,000 feet without a landable main parachute, deploy the reserve without or prior to a cutaway.

re: emergency procedure training (ref 8-3.23)

Students and A license holders

Reserve deployment training should be practiced in a harness trainer, and include pulling an actual reserve ripcord under the supervision of a USPA Static-Line, IAD or AFF Instructor or Coach.

a. students in Categories A-E: according to the Integrated Student Program syllabus

b. students in Categories F-H and A license holders: at least every 30 days

c. all others should undergo a Category B emergency procedure review:

(1) as part of recurrency training after any period of inactivity exceeding 60 days

(2) at least once a year

re: break off recommendations (ref 8-4.05 D.

1. The minimum break off altitude should be—

a. for groups of five or fewer, at least 1,500 feet higher than the highest planned deployment altitude in the group (not counting one camera flyer)

b. for groups of six or more, at least 2,000 feet higher than the highest planned deployment altitude in the group (not counting a signaling deployment or camera flyers)

- c. higher than these recommendations for the following:*
- (1) groups with one or more jumpers of low experience or recent periods of inactivity*
 - (2) exhibition jumps or other jumps away from an established drop zone*
 - (3) jumps at night*
 - (4) jumps involving props, toys, or other special equipment, such as signs, banners, smoke, flags, hoops, tubes, items released in freefall, etc.*
 - (5) any other special considerations*
2. *[At the break off signal or upon reaching the break off altitude ... [no change]]*

The S&T Committee requests that a “**USPA Certificate of Appreciation**” be presented to Skydive Suffolk, Skydive Orange, and Austin Skydiving Center for the assistance and support in the development of the ISP.

5. **A.F.F.C.C.**

The committee addressed concerns from individual and group members pertaining to the reason AFFCCs were being canceled. We considered statistics from a presentation by Glenn Bangs that recapped the last ten years of the AFFCC program. The committee focused on what they evaluated to be the cause of the course cancellations, staff shortages, low registration, and low pass rate. Our goal was to increase the number of AFF jumpmasters and the success rate without lowering the standards of the AFF Certification Course.

The root of the poor registration and low success rate for candidates seems to be that Candidates are unprepared for the AFFCC evaluations. We see the need to improve standardized testing and training of candidates.

There is confusion about whether the AFFCC is a training or testing vehicle. We think the answer is both. The committee also believes that the AFFCC must evolve with the changes in our sport and knowledge base of our membership.

The committee proposes the “AFFCC 2000” which would maintain AFF Certification Standards as they currently exist, but restructure the AFFCC program to better train candidates. The proposed AFFCC would include practice and training. Candidates would still make 6 jumps, (three will be for practice/training in hard exits, roll-over, and stopping spins.) Point grading system will be discontinued and Evaluators will use an Objective Freefall evaluation standards list for the three evaluation dives and grade either as satisfactory or unsatisfactory.

We plan to test this proposed program in AFFCCs at Skydive Dallas in September and at the AFFCC Standardizations at Space Center in Titusville this November. We hope to have a recommendation for the new Board at the next meeting.

An outline and candidate handbook is also under development for an AFFCC Training Camp. This outline is based on previous training camps conducted with success by A.F.F. C.D.s and Designated Evaluators. A draft should be completed by August 15, 2000.

After completion of details regarding the AFFCC Training Camp the committee envisions that AFFCC Candidates who meet all other qualifications could participate in only the testing phase

of the AFFCC to qualify for a rating. It would provide an avenue for members who have foreign ratings or who have completed an AFFCC training camp to register to “test” for the rating.

The committee feels that this testing phase could be easily offered now to foreign rating holders to allow them to obtain ratings and slightly ease the shortage of AFF staff.

Motion 28: **Passed 21/0** **(Ms. Murdock)**

“Allow foreign rating holders who have a full USPA membership and a D license or FAI equivalent to qualify for the USPA AFF Jumpmaster rating by completing the evaluation portion of the AFFCC. Successful completion would include satisfactory ground preps for Levels 3 and 4, and three satisfactory jumps with an evaluator, and passing the written examination.”

6. BIC

We reviewed the training subcommittee’s revisions to the BIC CD syllabus, registration form, the entrance and final exams. At the last meeting we saw the need for a BIC standardization course for continued course development. Five or six BIC CDs would be invited at their expense to assist in developing course topics and objectives. Glenn Bangs will review the list of current BICCD as possible candidates.

Several locations were considered but we think that due to the concentration of BIC CDs in Florida it would be most cost effective to hold it on November 4-5th in Titusville, Florida. We have asked that approximately \$1,000 be budgeted for a meeting room and travel expenses for the Director of Safety & Training.

7. Instructor Examiner Rating

The committee reviewed the requirements for the Instructor Examiner rating. This is the premier instructional rating that USPA offers yet there is conflict regarding whether the requirement of an FAA riggers rating is absolutely necessary to training our upcoming Instructors to teach skydiving. We accepted feel that the experience in our sport can be obtained in other areas and we considered the knowledge of aircraft obtained as a commercial pilot or the experience in teaching skydivers over a long period time to could equip someone to test for the Instructor/Examiner rating. The S&T committee offers this motion for consideration.

Motion 29: **Defeated 2/17/1 abstention** **(Ms. Murdock)**

“Change SIM 3-3.08B2 to add: or a commercial pilot’s certificate, or proof of having been a USPA Instructor for 10 years.”

Reports

8. Austin Skydiving Center – Waiver to SIM Section 2-1.05

Cindy Gibson from Austin Skydiving Center reported on the training done under the current waiver to SIM Section 2-1.05 which allowed “Ground School Coaches” who had a C license, had completed a BIC and other training required by the DZ to teach generic portions of the first jump course.

The Ground Coaches assisted in teaching in approximately half of the 35 total F.J.C.s taught by Austin Skydiving Center. Three Ground Coaches participated in the program and all taught under close supervision. One is about to get his instructor rating.

There were no incidents. This waiver will expire January 1, 2001.

9. Report from Skydive Eilat on IAD students trained in wind tunnel under waiver

Roy Ritter was to report on IAD students training in Israel using the wind tunnel. The DZ is dealing with the aftermath of a fatality that is not related to this waiver. He contacted Headquarters that he would send a report as soon as possible and the S&T committee will review it in the interim. This waiver does not expire until February 28, 2001.

10. Skydive U – report on AFF students trained in Wind Tunnel under waiver

Skydive U was due to report on level 2 & 3 jumps conducted with a single jumpmaster after the student had received WTT. We did not receive a report from Skydive University. This waiver will expire at the end of July 2000.

11. Frank Arenas at FreeFlight Skydiving School – report on AFF students trained in Wind Tunnel under waiver.

Frank Arenas was due to report on Level 2 & 3 AFF jumps with a single Jumpmaster after students have received wind tunnel training. He had indicated that he would be making a proposal for an addition to the SIM regarding VWT training. The committee did not receive a report. The waiver expires with the adjournment of the 2000.

A suggestion was made that the committee might review all the training programs being used in conjunction with wind tunnels to determine if they could be included in the training program.

Waivers

12. Rob Laidlaw – Request for Waiver to SIM Part 3-2.05 B1 “DCD Application Requirements

Rob Laidlaw requests a waiver to the requirement to hold a USPA Instructor rating for 3 years prior to being considered for a BICCD. He is a current USPA AFF JM and Instructor and has held Canadian instructional ratings since 1975.

Motion 30: Passed 12/7/1 abstention (Ms. Murdock)

“To waive ‘SIM’ Part 3-2.05B1 ‘DCD Application Requirements’ for Rob Laidlaw.”

13. Waive 3-4.04 A.3 for USMA at West Point

The United States Military Academy requests consideration for renewal of their waiver of the Pro rating requirements for their Cadets. The waiver would allow Cadets with 250 jumps who meet all other Pro rating requirements to jump into the stadium at the United States Military Academy.

Motion 31: Passed 20/1 (Mr. DeSantis, by name) (Ms. Murdock)

“To waive ‘SIM’ paragraph 3-4.04A.3 “initial requirements for a restricted Pro rating for members of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. The waiver would expire July 31, 2001 and would allow members of the U.S.M.A. who meet all other Pro rating requirements to make training and demo jumps into Michie Stadium at West Point.”

14. USAFA Waiver for 3-3.04A3

Bill Wenger, on behalf of the USAFA, requests renewal of the waiver for restricted Pro ratings for their Academy cadets.

Motion 32: **Passed 20/1 (Mr. DeSantis, by name) (Ms. Murdock)**

“Grant a waiver to SIM Section 3-4.04A3 – ‘Pro Rating Initial Requirements’ to the Air Force Academy Cadets for demo or training jumps by team members into Falcon Stadium at the U.S. Air Force Academy. This waiver would reduce the required number of required jumps to 250. The waiver would expire July 31, 2001.”

15. Skydive Del Marva – waiver to 2-1.05 “appropriately rated Instructors”

This requested waiver to the BSR’s would allow S/L Instructors to teach certain generic sections of the AFF first jump course. This would be in line with the new ISP and we support a waiver until complete implementation of the ISP.

Motion 33: **Passed 21/0 (Ms. Murdock)**

“Waive 2-1.05A of the B.S.R.s that would allow S/L Instructors to teach generic portions of the A.F.F. first jump course for Skydive Del Marva in Laurel, DE. The waiver would expire January 1, 2001.”

16. Skydive Suffolk – Larry Pennington

Skydive Suffolk in Virginia requests a waiver to 2-1.05B that would allow one JM on AFF Levels 2 & 3. The decision to go with one JM would be on a case by case student basis. In addition to requiring the recommendations of both Level 1 Instructors, the student’s currency and instructor experience would be weighed.

Motion 34: **Passed 20/0 (Ms. Murdock)**

“To waive BSR 2-1.05B1 for Skydive Suffolk. A report to Headquarters and the S&T Chairman would be made annually.”

17. Parachutes are Fun - waiver to 2-1.05E3

Gordon Riner from Parachutes are Fun in Millsboro, Delaware requests a waiver to 2-1.05E3 that would allow IAF student to progress to a single-JM A.F.F. jump after two tandems.

Motion 35: **Defeated 3/5/12 Abstentions (Ms. Murdock)**

“Waive 2-1.05E3 to Parachutes are Fun in Millsboro, Delaware that would allow I.A.F. students who meet the T.L.O.s to progress to a single JM A.F.F. jump after two tandems.”

18. Ogden Skydiving Center – waiver to 2-1.05E.3

The committee reviewed a request for waiver to 2-1.05E3 from Brian Wallace on behalf of Ogden Skydiving. The committee had questions on altitude and the training program and tabled the request pending research by the Regional Director.

19. Freefall Adventures – waiver to 2-1.05E.3

A request was reviewed from Freefall Adventures for a waiver to 2-1.05D3 that would allow a minimum of two tandem jumps meeting all T.L.O.s followed by an AFF level 3. This is in line with the new ISP.

Motion 36: **Passed 20/0 (Ms. Murdock)**

“To grant waiver to 2-1.05E3 to Freefall Adventures to allow a minimum of two tandem jumps meeting all T.L.O.s followed by an A.F.F. Level 3. The waiver would be in effect until the implementation of the ‘I.S.P.’, or until January 1, 2001.”

20. Daniel Fairchild - Waiver for currency requirements 3-3.19F.1

In 1998 the committee granted a waiver for Daniel Fairchild, who is paralyzed and is unable to perform the jumpmasters requirement to renew his Instructor rating. He requests renewal of the waiver allowing him to maintain his USPA Instructor rating and continue to be involved in training.

Motion 37: **Passed 20/0** **(Ms. Murdock)**

“Move to grant a waiver to 3-3.19F.1 to Daniel Fairchild that would allow renewal of his Instructor’s rating without completing the jump mastering requirements. This is a one-year waiver”

21. Mike Bower - waive license requirements 3-1.06G

A DZO has restricted this USPA member to tandem jumps due to a medical condition and has requested a restricted A license. The member will be contacting his Doctor regarding his condition and the possibility of being released to freefall. The committee chose not to act on this waiver request at this time and would suggest that HQ refund the members license fee.

22. Language Restrictions on AFF Instructors

A language restriction is imposed on AFF rating holders in SIM 3-3.04B which states: If the foreign national has met all requirements for a rating and does not have adequate command of the English language, a restricted rating may be issued. The restricted rating would preclude the rating holder from exercising his privileges with students not speaking his native language.

Motion 38: **Passed 20/0** **(Ms. Murdock)**

“To remove 3-3.04B from the ‘S.I.M.’.”

In conclusion, The Safety & Training Committee would like to thank the Board of Directors for their support this term. I would also like to recognize a very hard working S&T training committee and the team at Headquarters. We have stressed the capacity of not only the S&T department but Publications as well to get some of these projects underway. I applaud everyone for their courage in progressing our training programs.

10. New Business

- The President put forth the following motion pertaining to appropriate decorum during Board Meetings:

Motion 39: **Passed 19/1** **(Mr. Worth)**

“Move that if, during a plenary meeting, a Board or Staff Member’s computer, telephone or pager emits an audible tone in the meeting room, that person will be fined two cases of beer and/or four bottles of wine, to be supplied at the Board Meeting where the infraction occurs.”

- The Board Members discussed the dates and location of the Summer 2001 meeting and this resulted in the following motion:

Motion 40: **Passed 20/0** **(Mr. Yahriling)**

“That the Summer 2001 U.S.P.A. Board of Directors Meeting be held in Alexandria, Virginia, from July 20th through July 22nd, 2001.”

- Mr. Ferrell requested that a discussion be conducted to get opinions regarding the value of the Group Member Program. He has invited the Members of the Board to give him their input.

ATTACHMENT "C":

July 10, 2000

To: USPA Board of Directors:

RE: Motion 37 adding: "*Cutaway then deploy the reserve*" as an acceptable method of training.

I feel strongly that as Instructors, we should teach survival skills that work in the real world, not just in a controlled student environment. To do so is setting people up for failure once they are off student status. It is like teaching someone scuba diving without teaching them how to calculate decompression tables, because it is too difficult for a student to grasp. We are teaching adults to skydive. I reject the idea that an adult student can not be taught to recognize the difference between a partial, total and a P/C in tow. Many of our Instructors today either just do not want to take the time to teach or are carrying on with the way they were taught. This "one ER procedure" for all malfunctions is just saving time by cutting corners. If a student can not learn the differences, that student should not be allowed to jump.

The proof is in the statistics. In the last 10 years (and this is all we looked at) not one sport jumper has died pulling the reserve ripcord during a total or P/C in tow mal. 34 have died pulling cutaway handles when they should have pulled the reserve handle.

The statement of purpose for the Group Member committee is ". to represent the interest of USPA Group members before the USPA BOD **AND** for the benefit of the individual members." As chair of this committee, I always weigh every issue we discuss with this thought "Is this also good for the individual membership?" The USPA is a membership organization. This change, endorsing cutting away from a total malfunction or a pilot chute in tow, does not serve the membership. And there has been no real cry from the membership for a change.

We sent out a survey to all Group members (apx. 325). We received 29 responses. They results were not overwhelming on either side of the argument. What the results did show was a lot of confusion about what to do. There is a lot on inconsistencies in what students are being taught. This debate often turns on emotions or what someone feels is the best way to respond to an emergency. It should be debated strictly on the facts. If you look at the facts, you must realize that this change in emergency procedures was wrong.

Here are the facts:

- Minimum opening altitude for a C or D licensed jumper is 2,000 feet.
- At terminal velocity, you have apx. 11.5 seconds before impact from 2000 feet. You will need at least 4 seconds for a reserve deployment and descent arrest.
- That leaves you with **LESS THAN 8 Seconds**, to do the right thing and save your life.

In the last 10 years:

- Not one sport jumper has died pulling the reserve ripcord during a total or P/C in tow malfunction.
- Not one sport jumper has died from a main reserve entanglement, after experiencing a total or P/C in tow.
- 35 have died pulling cutaway handles when they should have pulled the reserve handle.

We must teach students the skills needed to survive in the real world, not just in the student environment.

Thank you for taking the time to reconsider this issue.

Sincerely,

Ray Ferrell

National Director, S&TA, AFF I, Tandem IE, DZO, DPRE