

UNITED STATES PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING,
July 16-18, 2004
Alexandria, Virginia

(DRAFT)
September 21, 2004

UNITED STATES PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, Alexandria, Virginia
July 16-18, 2004

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United States Parachute Association Minutes:
Board of Directors Meeting, Alexandria, Virginia
July 16-18, 2004

1. Call to Order

The President, Mr. Glenn Bangs, called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M. on July 16, 2004. The Directors present included: G. Bangs, S. Butcher, J. DeSantis, D. Ellisor, J. Farrington, J. Goswitz, L. Hill, M. Laughlin, J. Meyer, M. Mullins, M. Murdock, D. Page, G. Peek, M. Perry, J. Rodriguez, R. Schachner, L. Schlichtemeier, S. Smith, L. Stapleton, D. Stewart, T. Thacker, and B. J. Worth.

The President welcomed the gallery and the Directors. The members of the gallery introduced themselves.

2. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting

Motion 1: Passed, 21/0 (Mr. Bangs)

“Move to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting, dated April 6, 2004.”

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Motion 2: Passed, 21/0 (Mr. Bangs)

“Move to adopt the agenda.”

4. President's Report (Mr. Bangs)

Good morning everyone and welcome to our fourth and final meeting of the USPA Board of Directors for the 2003-2004 term.

As in past BOD terms, this meeting should be oriented towards committee “house keeping” issues to minimize any carry over into the next term of elected representatives. I would like all committee chairs and individual committee members to keep that concept in the forefront of discussions and debates during their meetings.

This has been an incredibly effective and talented group of individuals that have come together and conducted business for the benefit of the membership, and from my perspective, I want to thank you all for a job well done!

During our two years together conducting the Membership’s business, we have done so with energetic debate, passion, and countering points of view, which in my opinion, has never been conducted with more professionalism, courtesy, or competence, even when there was “much heated debate that produced nothing.” You all have been the Membership’s advocates, and I thank you and the awesome efforts of Headquarters Staff for your representation of the membership!

5. Interim Actions of the Executive Committee

The following interim actions were conducted by the Executive Committee during the period of February – July 2004, and are now presented for consideration to the Board of Directors:

XC Interim Action 03/14/04

Motion 3: Passed, 21/0 (Mr. Bangs)

“Move that the following teams be sanctioned to compete at the 2004 WPC in Brazil, at no cost to USPA.

Skysurf: Larry Heltzer/Paul Everard

Freestyle: Betsy Barnhouse/Greg Gasson

Freefly: Stephen Boyd/Trent Alkek/Jed Lloyd

Sean MacCormac/Steven Blincoe/Dusty Smith”

XC Interim Action 03/18/04

Motion 4: Passed, 21/0 (Mr. Bangs)

“Move to reimburse travel and lodging expenses for Mary Lou Laughlin USPA's FAI Representative, and Glenn Bangs, USPA President, for attendance of the Air Sport Organization Meeting, to be held April 27 & 28, 2004 in Alexandria, VA.”

XC Interim Action 04/14/04

Motion 5: Passed, 21/0 (Mr. Bangs)

“Move to waive SIM Section 2-1 D. 2. ‘For jumps using a tandem parachute system, skydivers are to be at least the age of legal majority. (FB)’ for the tandem skydive which took place on April 1 at Skydive San Marcos in Fentress, TX performed by USPA tandem instructor Doug Jacques #43125. The tandem student was 16 years old and suffers from terminal cancer. The jump was sponsored by the Make a Wish Foundation.”

XC Interim Action 04/16/04

Motion 6: Passed, 21/0 (Mr. Bangs)

“Move to sanction Elisa Feldt and Chris Moore to attend the World Cup of Champions and Kevin Krupski to attend the Junior World Championship in Kaluga, Russia in June 2004. This will be at no expense to USPA.”

XC Interim Action 04/29/04

Motion 7: Passed, 21/0 (Mr. Bangs)

“Move to Waive IRM Section 1 (Coach) B, 1, a ‘held a USPA Instructor Rating for a minimum of three years’ for Barry Williams member number 163510 to permit him to become a Coach Course Director.

Barry has been an AFA instructor for 14 months. He has 2000 jumps. He started jumping in July 2000 and obtained his coach rating in the fall of 2001. He has been a Skydive University Campus Director and attended the first Train the Trainers Pilot course in Deland, FL. The waiver had the strong support of Marylou Laughlin the Regional Director who indicated that he has assisted with several Coach Courses.”

XC Interim Action 05/18/04

Motion 8: Passed, 21/0 (Mr. Bangs)

“Move to sanction Cheryl Stearns to attend the Anton Malevsky Memorial World Cup 2004. This will be at no expense to USPA.”

XC Interim Action 06/11/04

Motion 9: Passed, 20/0/1 (Mr. Bangs)

“Move to name BJ Worth as Head of Delegation for the 2004 US Team.”

6. Treasurer's Report (Dr. Schlichtemeier)

The USPA Reserve Fund as of June 30, 2004 stands at \$891,134, a decrease of 4.0% from December 31, 2003 balance of \$927,404. This compares to the S & P 500 Index that gained 2.6% over the same time period. The cash flow (dividends & interest) continues strong. In my opinion, the overall decrease represents an adjustment due to interest rate anxiety in the overall market and are not considered to be a sign of weakness of the portfolio. The fund approximates a 'balanced' (income and stability of principal) mutual fund and typically moves up and down less than the overall market and the increase experienced in 2003 was far more percentage-wise than would have typically been seen in this type fund.

The U.S. Parachute Team Trust Fund as of June 30, 2004 stands at \$411,398, a decrease of 2.8% from December 31, 2003 balance of \$423,005. The same comments apply to this fund as are noted in the above paragraph.

Overall, the cash status of the Association remains good even in the face of a small decrease in overall membership.

7. Executive Director's Report (Mr. Needels)

State of the Association Address:

Challenges For 2004

- Lessen the onerous burden of insurance
- Rejuvenate membership growth
- Substantially reduce injuries to canopy pilots
- Complete the instructional rating restructuring
- Protect skydivers and skydiving operations in the evolving homeland security environment
- Complete the association software upgrades
- Complete the design phase of the new HQ facility
- Reevaluate the USPA/NAA/IPC/FAI relationship
- Keep skydiving fun and the friendships strong

Safety & Training - Through June 2004

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
Licenses Issued	2,144	2,035	1,235*
Coach Courses Held	62	69	68
Coach Ratings Issued	333	280	271*
Instructor Ratings Issued	632	320	212*
Pro Ratings Issued	70	62	50*

*Estimate

Dollars & Sense - Mid-Year 2004

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
Net Revenue	(88,300)	(120,275)	(53,626)*
Operating Reserves	258,725	201,919	278,829
Investment Reserves	1,077,332	862,633	891,134
AADF	100,058	75,226	85,084
USTTF	331,922	399,934	411,134
Net Worth	1,962,183	1,966,626	2,153,469*

* Estimate

Membership Services - Mid-Year 2004 Year-To-Date*

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
Regular Members	34,110	33,076	32,581
New Members	2,795	2,554	2,310
Renewal Rate	80%	79%	83%
Temporary Members	1,399	1,218	1,113
Tim To Regular	361	140	178

*Through June of each year

Sport Promotion - some near-term options

- Survey jumpers and non-jumpers to find out why they do or do not jump
- Dedicate the next DZO Conference to sport promotion
- Assist drop zones with press releases through education and assistance, while establishing a press release program at the National level for broader audiences
- Re-enter into a sport promotion contract to promote the U.S. Nationals, with the goal of sponsorship and network television coverage
- Capitalize on the jump of former President Bush on his 80th Birthday
- Capitalize on the SOS record attempts
- Prepare media kits which can be used for all of the above and any other attempts which arise

8. Special Agents Reports

A. IPC Delegate (Ms. Laughlin)

The IPC delegate reported on the Anti-doping issue and the therapeutic use exemption.

9. Meeting of the U.S. Parachute Team, Inc.

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the U. S. Parachute Team was called to order at 10:09 A.M. on July 16, 2004. There was no business and the meeting was adjourned.

10. Old Business

There was no old business.

11. New Business

A. Site Selection for the 2005 National Skydiving Championships
Presentations were made by Florida Skydiving Center, Perris Valley Skydiving, Skydive Arizona, and, Skydive Chicago for the 2005 National Skydiving Championships.

Motion 10: Passed by secret ballot (Mr. Bangs)
“Move to award the 2005 US National Skydiving Championships to Perris Valley Skydiving Center.”

B. Section 1-6 Appeal – Mr. Paul Gundlach
The Board reviewed an appeal from Mr. Paul Gundlach to reinstate his membership which was revoked in November 2002 by interim action of the Executive Committee and ratified by the full Board at the January 2003 Board of Director’s meeting. The Board decided to take no action on this appeal.

12. BOD Meeting Site Selection

Several sites were considered for the summer 2005 BOD meeting including Alexandria, and Fredericksburg, Virginia and St. Louis, MO.

Motion 11: Passed, 16/5 (Mr. Bangs)
“Move that the summer 2005 USPA Board of Director’s Meeting be held in Alexandria, Virginia, July 15-17.”

13. Committee Reports

A. Competition Committee

Chair: Marylou Laughlin
Members: Larry Hill
Madolyn Murdock
Danny Page
Scott Smith
Tony Thacker
BJ Worth
Larry Bagley (Director of Competition)
Advisors: Don Ellisor, Richard Schachner

Section 1 - General Section (Thacker)

From time to time, competitors have asked for replacement medals, either to replace those of theirs lost, or to honor a sponsor, home drop zone, etc. Therefore, the committee agreed to make them available under the following conditions:

1) If a competitor who has won a medal needs it replaced, he can justify his request in writing and Headquarters will research to verify the facts and confirm the winning name(s), or,

2) If a competitor wants to purchase a medal to honor a sponsor, home drop zone, etc., Headquarters will reproduce with the word "Commemorative" engraved on the front.

The fees will be determined by Headquarters.

Section 5 – Formation Skydiving (Page)

1. The committee discussed SCM Section 5-1.3 Team Composition, Paragraph: E, regarding the “defend your title” issue. The committee decided that this topic would be presented to the competitors for discussion at this year’s National Championships in Perris Valley, CA. After the community reaches a general consensus, any proposed rule change will be developed and accomplished during a future board meeting.

2. The committee discussed SCM Section 5-3.2 Formation Skydiving Pool, 16-Way Block Sequences, specifically block 4, and 11. Last year’s Nationals Judge’s after action report specifically stated that “it is impossible to judge whether the eight 2-way sub-groups requiring minimal movement show the correct inter before they start building the second point.” The committee decided that this topic and possible alternative block sequences would be presented to the competitors for discussion at this year’s National Championships in Perris Valley, CA. After the community reaches a general consensus, any proposed rule change will be developed and accomplished during a future board meeting.

3. The committee discussed SCM Section 5-3.2 Formation Skydiving Pool, 10-Way Formations, specifically removing Lil’s Nova, and the Perris Pinwheel and replacing them with some other 10-way formation. The committee decided that this topic would be presented to the competitors for discussion at this year’s National Championships in Perris Valley, CA. After the community reaches a general consensus, any proposed rule change will be developed and accomplished during a future board meeting.

Section 8 – Judging (Murdock)

A letter from FAI Judge Sherry Schrimsher was reviewed. Sherry conducted a National Judges Training Program for Formation Skydiving in March. She submitted the names of the candidates who completed the course. These ratings will be processed as the paperwork reaches HQ.

The committee discussed USPA members Karine LeBlond, Maria Vago, and Tanya O’Brien who completed a Canopy Piloting Judges Training courses conducted by Barry McAuley and want their national and FAI CP judge's ratings. There is a need for National and FAI judges in this new event and the committee recognized the need to waive the USPA initial requirements for this rating. The requirements include holding a USPA judges rating in this event for one year, which would make it impossible to have any US/FAI judges for the upcoming meets. The committee agreed that we should issue the following waiver that would allow us to submit the names of the judges who have gone thru the Canopy Pilot Judges Training Program for an FAI CP Judges rating.

Motion 12:

Passed, 21/0

(Ms. Murdock)

“Move to waive 8-1.5D3 for Karine LeBlond, Maria Vago, and Jennifer Drew, Tanya Garcia-O’Brien plus candidates who successfully complete the Canopy Pilot Judges Training Program at the 2nd World cup of Canopy Piloting in Lake Wales in 2004.”

Motion 13:

Passed, 21/0

(Ms. Murdock)

“Nominate Karine LeBlond, Jennifer Drew, Maria Laura Vago, and Tanya Garcia-O’Brien for FAI Canopy Piloting Judges Rating.”

BJ Worth inquired about the possibility of reordering the FAI Judge pins. The cost will be researched.

Section 10 - National Site Selection (Murdock)

Proposals were reviewed from four Group Member DZs to host the 2005 US National Championships. Representatives from the four bidders, Perris Valley Skydiving, Skydive Arizona, Skydive Chicago, and Florida Skydiving Center met with the committee members to review the presentation process.

Florida Skydiving Center’s bid to host the 2005 Collegiates was also reviewed and all questions regarding the bid were resolved.

Motion 14:

Passed, 21/0

(Ms. Murdock)

“Move to award the 2005 National Collegiate Parachuting Championships to Florida Skydiving Center.”

Since two of this year’s bidders did not include the 10-4 Bid Information Form it was decided that this form should be placed in the SCM in front of the Host Agreement. This change will require renumbering which will be a housekeeping item handled with the reprinting of the SCM. Section 10-3 will be the USPA National Skydiving Championships Bid Information and the USPA National Skydiving Championships Agreement will be renumbered 10-4.

The committee also discussed modifications to SCM Section 10-1 to clarify the bidding process.

Motion 15:

Passed, 21/0

(Ms. Murdock)

“Move to make the changes to SCM Section 10-1 as attached. The changes are to clarify the process for submittal of bids to host the U.S. Nationals.” (See attachment A)

The perpetual issue of payment for judges at a National Championship was discussed and proposals included:

- 1) increasing the current \$40 per diem rate designated in Section 10-2.11;
- 2) adding a daily judges fee for competition and practice days in addition to expenses; or;
- 3) possibly adding the payment amount for judges as part of the Nationals bidding process.

The committee will seek input from judges and hosts and will have a recommendation at the winter 2005 board meeting.

Section 11 –US Teams (Smith)

US Parachute Team Trust:

Doc Lee presented to the committee the financial results from the US Parachute Team Trust Fund for 2003, which was \$22,873. The committee decided to distribute the full amount to the US team as prescribed in the SCM Section 11-2-6.

Motion 16:

Passed, 21/0

(Mr. Smith)

“Move that the entire 2003 net income from the US Parachute Team Trust fund of \$22,873 be distributed to the 2004 US Skydiving Team per the Skydivers Competition Manual.”

It was decided by the committee that we should sanction a team for the Women’s 4-way event and that the selection criteria will be decided at the winter board meeting.

Skysurf Team Composition:

Larry Heltzer and Paul Everard won the right to represent the US at the World Parachuting Championships in Brazil. Since then Paul Everard, who is on active duty military has been deployed for service in Iraq. Steve Sanderson, who originally trained with Larry Heltzer and planned on competing with him until being injured before Nationals, is available to replace Paul Everard at the world meet.

Motion 17:

Passed, 21/0

(Mr. Smith)

“Move to sanction Larry Heltzer and Steve Sanderson to compete in Men’s Skysurf at the 2004 WPC.”

Withholding of US Parachute Team monies:

Due to conduct problems in the past with US Parachute Team members at world meets it was proposed to withhold US Team Trust Fund monies from US Teams until after the event. The committee decided not to take action on this proposal since it would essentially punish the entire US Team for the actions of a few.

US Team Contract:

Also to address potential team members conduct problems the committee decided to develop a contract to be signed by all US Parachute Team members describing expectations and conduct. This will be developed and be voted on at the Winter Board meeting.

US Parachute Team Trust Fund:

After passage of the motion to distribute US Team funds in the plenary it was discussed and clarified that the monies for US Team allocations that are not filled should be returned to the fund as corpus. This led to the following motion:

Motion 18:

Passed, 20/0/1

(Mr. Smith)

Move to amend Motion #16 to specify the following distributions:

	\$22,873	Total Available		
	\$424	Amount allocated to each competitor	(\$22,873/54)	
<i>Amount to give to the team</i>			Actual Team Members	Per capita allocated
<i>Canopy formation</i>	\$8,048		19	19
<i>Formation Skydiving</i>	\$5,930		14	14
<i>Freefall Style & Accuracy</i>	\$4,236		10	10
<i>Artistic Events</i>	\$2,965		7	11
<i>Para-Ski</i>	\$0		0	0
	\$21,179		50	54
<i>Amount to return to USTTF</i>	\$1,694			

Note that the shaded items are not part of the motion and included for informational purposes only.

Section 12- World Records (Worth)

The ad-hoc committee is continuing to work on the addition of State and National records to SCM Section 12 and will have a draft ready for the next BOD meeting.

Section 13 - FAI / IPC (Worth)

The Committee reviewed a proposal from the Florida Skydiving Center in Lake Wales, Florida, to submit a bid to the IPC for the USA to host a World Parachuting Championship of Freefall Style and Accuracy at the Florida Skydiving Center in 2006. DZO Betty Kabeller-Hill is prepared to submit the filing fee of \$1000 with the IPC, per the process for submitting bids to host IPC events designated in Section 13. The Committee unanimously agreed to submit the following proposal to the board:

Motion 19: Passed, 21/0 (Mr. Worth)

“Move that USPA submit a bid to the IPC for its 2005 Plenary Meeting to host a World Parachuting Championship of Freefall Style and Accuracy in 2006 at the Florida Skydiving Center in Lake Wales, Florida per Florida Skydiving Center’s bid proposal presented to the USPA board at its July 2004 meeting.”

The Committee reviewed a proposal from the Florida Skydiving Center in Lake Wales, Florida, to submit a bid to the IPC for the USA to host a World Parachuting Championship of Canopy Formation at the Florida Skydiving Center in 2006. DZO Betty Kabeller-Hill is prepared to submit the filing fee of the filing fee of \$1000 with the IPC, per the process for submitting bids to host IPC events designated in Section 13. The Committee unanimously agreed to submit the following proposal to the board:

Motion 20: Passed, 21/0 (Mr. Worth)

“Move that USPA submit a bid to the IPC for its 2005 Plenary Meeting to host a World Parachuting Championship of Canopy Formation in 2006 at the Florida Skydiving Center in Lake Wales, Florida per Florida Skydiving Center’s bid proposal presented to the USPA board at its July 2004 meeting.”

The committee discussed the proposal from Peter Gruber for a new category of Performance Records “Largest International Formation Records”. The committee decided not to move forward and present this to the IPC at this time.

Canopy Piloting (Smith)

The committee decided that a qualifier should be required for entering the intermediate class of Canopy Piloting. Scott Smith will be developing those for posting on the USPA web site as well as Nationals.com.

B. Constitution and By-Laws

Chair: Mike Mullins
Members: John Goswitz

Gary Peek
Jan Meyer
Scott Smith

The C&B Committee passed the following motion:

Motion 21: Passed, 16/5 (Ms. Meyer against) (Mr. Mullins)
“Move to remove the following sentence from the USPA By-Laws: ‘No person under the age of sixteen (16) shall be eligible for actual skydiving although membership is encouraged.’”

No other business was discussed.

C. Executive Committee

Chair Glenn Bangs
Members: Mike Perry
Madolyn Murdock
Lee Schlichtemeier
Mike Mullins
B.J. Worth
Advisors Don Koranda, NAA President
Chris Needels, Executive Director

1. Amazingly, there were no Disciplinary Actions to be addressed, but there was an appeal, presented by Southern Regional Director, Larry Stapleton, regarding R.Paul Kohnke, who has received a ban for life for membership renewal for his part in the fatality that occurred on New Year’s Eve of this past year. In the past, it has been the unwritten policy of the BOD to have appeals to the BOD appear in person, to look the member in the eye to determine his level of sincerity, and it was the direction of the Executive Committee to Mr. Kohnke to appear before the BOD in Jacksonville to hear his appeal for reinstatement.
2. The Executive Committee, as the Relocation Task Force, met to discuss the financing options for the new USPA Headquarters in Fredericksburg, Virginia and as we have seen from Doc Lee’s Finance & Budget Report, the proposal is viable and doable without depleting USPA’s cash reserves, with the worst case scenario, and we are proceeding into the next phase of Document Design, as approved at our last BOD meeting.
3. There has been much discussion about the business practices of Skyride; the best suggestion or course of action the Executive Committee decided was to have Headquarters consult with our consul regarding the “1-800-Skyride” business model & practices and our options as a Membership organization. As an organization, Skyride exists because some drop zones that are complaining of their actions and practices are the same drop zones that allow Skyride to exist; as an organization, USPA cannot and will not regulate DZs business practices.
4. As a result of the tandem demo conducted by Bill Booth and his at the time underage daughter Katie, Bill has written the following letter to the Full Board apologizing for his actions. (See Attachment B)

5. There are two motions to be presented from the Exec Committee:

Motion 22: Passed, 20/0/1 (Mr. Bangs)
“Move to allocate funds from the AADF to allow Glenn Bangs and Ed Scott to travel to Seattle, WA for the purpose of supporting Kawpowsin AirSports, Inc at County Hearings. Date of said hearings to be determined. Funds shall be sufficient to reimburse airfare, lodging, & per diem as prescribed by Headquarters.”

Motion 23: Passed, 21/0 (Mr. Bangs)
“Move the USPA Headquarters provide a staff member to assume the duties normally assigned a Regional Director for members of foreign countries and US Territories (those areas not included in Section 3-4: USPA Regional Map of the USPA Governance Manual).”

6. Last, but by no means least, a special thanks to two departing members of our Board of Directors that have declined to run again for personal and business related reasons, Don Ellisor and Larry Stapleton. I wish to commend them both for their terms of service to the Membership and I wish to applaud them both for a job well done!

D. Finance and Budget

Chair	Lee Schlichtemeier
Members:	Don Ellisor Larry Stapleton Richard Schachner
Ex officio	Glenn Bangs
Executive Director	Chris Needels

Items presented:

1. Year-to-date financial report. Presented by Chris Needels. Summarized in Executive Director’s report.
2. Year-to-date investment report. Presented by Lee Schlichtemeier. Summarized in Treasurer’s report.
3. Cash-to-accrual accounting status. Presented by Chris Needels. The changeover is proceeding smoothly considering the massive information technology changeover occurring simultaneously. Although it is difficult to compare last year’s cash accounting basis with this year’s partial (because of only one-half of the year included) accrual basis, it appears that the cash status of the Association is ahead of 2003 and that the overall financial status of the Association is also ahead of 2003 in spite of expenditures for the association software changeover and funding associated with the Headquarters Relocation Project.
4. Headquarters relocation update. Presented by Chris Needels in Executive Committee meeting. Discussed in this Committee meeting. Outline of current financial status of project and financial options for completion of the project reviewed in this Committee meeting and subsequently repeated by Lee Schlichtemeier during plenary session.
5. Information technology upgrade status & costs. Presented by Chris Needels. The association software upgrade and changeover is being accomplished well with intense dedication of the Headquarters staff. Only relatively minor problems have yet occurred

and they are being remedied in an efficient manner. Expenditures of approximately \$225,000 of a planned \$250,000 have been made and we are expected to complete the project within the original budgetary allocation.

6. Risk retention group insurance feasibility. Discussed in this Committee as well as in Membership Services Committee. Reported in Membership Services Committee. We are continuing to explore this option and do consider it possibly viable in the future although this Committee is not yet ready to recommend this insurance option to the Board at this meeting.
7. Year-end audit status. With the changeover from cash to accrual accounting proceeding on schedule, we are planning to have an audit of the Association's finances for year-end 2004. This will be budgeted in 2005.

Motion 24: Passed, 21/0 (Dr. Schlichtemeier)

“Accept the bid proposal from Gelman, Rosenberg & Freedman dated 7-8-04 to conduct a financial audit of the Association for 2004.”

8. Sport promotion. Presented by Chris Needels. Also presented in Membership Services Committee and presented in that committee's report.

The Chair respectfully thanks the committee members for their assistance and dedication during this term in dealing with multiple difficult financial issues including member insurance and the headquarters relocation project.

E. Group Member Committee

Chair: Jess Rodriguez
Members: Larry Hill
John DeSantis
John Goswitz
Jessie Farrington
Advisors: Ed Scott – Director of Group membership
Danny Page

On Friday July 16, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. the Group Membership Committee met. In attendance were voting members John DeSantis, John Goswitz, Jessie Farrington, Larry Hill and my self. Also attending the meeting was Danny Page (advisor) Ed Scott (Director of Group Membership) and several observers in the gallery.

Old Business

Ed Scott brought the committee up to date on a pending item from the last meeting.

As directed by the board, USPA wrote a letter to Cary Quattocchi regarding concern with certain business practices. There was no response and the practices continue unchanged. After much discussion, the committee urged the staff to research the methods and cost of enhancing USPA's visibility to the public on various internet search engines. Such efforts should also assist sport promotion efforts. The committee also urged that USPA advise Group Member DZs of its concern with these practices.

New Business

Demo Teams

A military skydiving team has requested to become a group member. Since the GM is reserved for “Skydiving Centers, clubs and schools” in accordance with By-laws Article 1, section 1, D, the committee agreed to simply allow military demo teams to join USPA Group Membership as a Category 1 club.

DZO Conference

Current plans for USPA to host the next DZO Conference on Thursday, January 13, 2005, in Jacksonville, Florida. USPA’s Board meeting will occur January 14-16. The PIA Symposium is scheduled for January 15-19 at the same hotel. Danny Page brought to the committee’s attention that the required FAA DPPE renewal seminar is being held the same day and that there may be people wishing to attend both. Ed Scott will contact the FAA to confirm the date and if any rescheduling is possible.

Parachutist and Non-Group Members

USPA offers Group Members a free DZ listing and free listing of events in the magazine’s “Main Events” section. Non-Group Members may purchase an ad and their events are listed in the “Main Events” if space is available (which is nearly always the case). DZs that have had their Group Membership terminated or denied for cause are prohibited from advertising either their DZ or their events in Parachutist. The committee felt no change was needed.

That concludes my report. I would like to thank my Committee and Ed Scott for the timeless and enduring support over the past two years. Their dedication and comment to USPA and this committee was a pleasure to work with.

G. Membership Services

Chair	Madolyn Murdock
Members:	Don Ellisor Jan Meyer Richard Schachner Lee Schlichtemeier Larry Stapleton Djan Stewart
Advisors:	Bill Ottley Larry Bagley Michelle Garvin

Third party liability Insurance

The committee continues to explore long term insurance options for the future that include self-insurance. During an interim web meeting on July 1 the Membership Services Committee heard a presentation from insurance broker John Geisen. Mr. Geisen reviewed several models for individual liability self-insurance and answered questions from the committee.

Demo Insurance

The Membership Services and Safety & Training Committees met jointly to discuss the qualifications for obtaining demonstration insurance. It was agreed that the demo qualifications would remain the same and that membership services would move forward with raising the requirements to obtain demo insurance. The committee has already had discussions on this and will work in the interim to help finalize any revisions to the current requirements.

Prospective program revisions

Jan Meyer had done an analysis of the data from last year's membership surveys. It is important for us to keep in mind that the survey showed what our members considered the most USPA benefits or services to be: Government Representation, Parachutists Magazine, Licenses, and the SIM. This information should be considered along with cost, member participation and staff manpower requirements before initializing any new programs.

Membership discounts

The committee discussed the feasibility and effectiveness of membership discounts such as: prorated lifetime memberships, discounts for multiple year renewals, and auto renewals. It was determined that these items should be tabled until the new TIMSS association software was fully operational and HQ staff has had time to determine the software capabilities and the impact on processing.

TIMMS Software

The new TIMMS software promises to be efficient when all the initial set-up difficulties are resolved. The staff continues to work thru and resolve issues and now more staff members are able to print membership cards so they will be received faster. The contractor will be unable to assist with conversion of all the data until the end of July so the on-line database will not be updated until then.

Mail list option on renewal form

The option to be on the USPA mailing list is currently set up as an "opt-out" box on the form to be checked by members not wishing to be on the mailing list. "Opt-in" is the default if the box is not checked. The mailing list is currently a source of income for USPA and helps to keep dues down. Changing the default to opt-out could potentially make the list smaller and less marketable but is being considered by the committee. The financial impact will be studied by HQ and reported to the committee for further review.

Use of USPA logo

The Executive Director had asked the committee for a sensing to see if the current policy regarding use of the USPA logo is still the right one in today's environment. It became apparent that no one even understood the current policy and that this matter needed more research. The committee will work with HQ to gather some examples of uses on printed material and websites to study and try to clarify and modify the format approved for use by group and individual members.

Use of email aliases

The publicly available email alias for Fullboard@uspa.org and the committees have been disabled due to the amount of spam received. While some members do not like the broadcast emails it is recognized that the alias email addresses are used by new members who don't know

who to contact even though committee names and email addresses are published and available. Further discussion on this issue will be needed.

Expedite fees for membership cards or fax confirmations

The expedite procedures for membership renewals have changed and now includes the processing and email confirmation for the \$20 fee. A fax confirmation is available if necessary. All on-line renewals now get an automatic response confirmation.

Editorial policy for “Letters to the Editor”

The editorial policy was discussed for publication of “Letters to the Editor”. Incidences were cited where a letter meant for a department was published or a letter to the editor was not printed. The policy is that Parachutists Magazine does not publish letters received anonymously or letters where the name is asked to be withheld.

Sport Promotion

Sport promotion has been a topic in several committees. The MS committee discussed how Regional Directors or Safety & Training Advisors could become better ambassadors for our sport by speaking at FSDO’s refresher training programs that are typically held once a month or other local organizations that constantly look for speakers for their meetings.

Everyone was reminded of the availability of information skydiving videos developed jointly by USPA and FAA.

Standard Measurement of freefall

A proposal from Dave DeWolf to standardize the measurement of freefall for our freefall awards generated much discussion. It was decided that it would be impractical and no changes to the program or standardizations would be made.

Performance Awards programs

Headquarters provided the committee with data on the number of Performance awards given annually. The numbers were weighed along with the staff time and cost to continue each program, the current inventory of awards, and level of importance to our members.

The low member participation pointed to the possible retirement of all of the Falcon and Eagle awards and possibly the Canopy awards. (78 total Bird awards in 2003, 67 canopy awards, less projected in 2004)

It was decided to seek feedback from our members by signaling this intent and to also determine if the new TIMMS program speeds the processing of the awards.

The committee also discussed the possibility of publicizing an upcoming milestone award such as Gold Freefall 5000 or A 50,000, etc.

Tenure Certificates Presentations

Support from all of the Regional Directors was sought thru the Regional Director’s Committee on the idea of personal presentation of tenure certificates over 25 years. The Membership Services Committee studied the number of these awards typically given annually and felt that it would be proper that membership certificates for 25, 30, 35 years, etc and up deserved a suitable personal presentation where possible.

The new software will hopefully allow HQ to flag these members for the Regional Directors so it can be determined if the certificate is sent to the RD or another location for formal presentation. A workable system is to be developed.

Until this system is developed, Certificates for 25 years and above (25, 30, 35 etc) will continue to go direct to the member but the letter will be modified to ask them to contact their RD to arrange a formal presentation if they wish to do so.

Proposal for Safety Award

USPA member David Kiedaisch sent the committee an excellent proposal for a possible new safety award for Instructors. The proposal was reviewed by this committee in the interim and again at this meeting but development of a new awards program administered by our overburdened staff and tight budget was not an option. A similar award honoring Ches Judy was also developed in 1997 but never implemented due to the same concerns. The '97 version didn't limit the award to instructors but to any member who through example, deed, training, or invention had promoted safety in our sport.

A suggestion by Jessie Farrington was to make the safety award a local event and promote the award as part of USPA Safety Day and have each Group Member select a recipient. HQ still has funds donated in the memory of former USPA Director of Safety & Training, Ches Judy that could be used to fund the initial printing of award certificates that could be available to all drop zones. Membership Services will work with HQ to move forward on this project.

USPA Awards Nominations

The committee is pleased to make the following motions for USPA awards recognizing members for their achievements and contributions to the sport of skydiving.

Motion 25: Passed, 17/0/3 (Ms. Murdock)
"Move to award a 2003 USPA Gold Medal for Meritorious Achievement to Tom Morrison."

Motion 26: Passed, 19/0 (Ms. Murdock)
"Move to award a 2003 USPA Gold Medal for Meritorious Achievement to Bill Wenger."

A change was discussed for the USPA Achievement Award to reflect continued commitment to and betterment of the sport of skydiving.

Motion 27: Passed, 21/0 (Ms. Murdock)
"Move to change the name of the USPA Achievement award to the USPA Lifetime Achievement award."

Motion 28: Passed, 20/0 (Ms. Murdock)
"Move to award our organization's highest honor, the USPA Lifetime Achievement Award for 2003 to Al Krueger."

I would like to thank the committee members, advisors and staff for their hard work this term.

H. Nominations and Elections

Chair: John Goswitz
Members: John DeSantis
Lee Schlichtemeier
Larry Stapleton
Sherry Butcher
DJan Stewart
Advisors: Madolyn Murdock, Larry Bagley, Chris Needels

The committee met for one hour and completed all the items on the agenda. A review of the changes made at the last meeting to 3-1 & 3-2 was conducted and all the changes requested have been made.

A candidate from the current election requested an edit of their personal statement prior to the election deadline so that they would be advised of any changes that the committee would be making to it prior to being published in Parachutist. The committee was unanimous in declining this request, as it is not in line with the procedures set forth in 3-1 & 3-2 of the Governance manual.

The committee discussed the responsibilities of reviewing & editing of the election materials. A timetable was setup to accomplish this task and meet the deadline for the publication of the November issue of Parachutist. Headquarters will furnish the received 3-2 forms to the committee within two days of the closure of the acceptance period. The committee will furnish the reviewed & corrected 3-2 forms back to headquarters within seven days of the closure of the acceptance period. Headquarters will then typeset the election section of the magazine and send a copy for final review and correction to the committee chair within three days of receiving the reviewed 3-2 forms. Headquarters will receive a final approval of the material within two days of receipt from the committee chair.

The committee next discussed the ballot to see if any changes to the layout were needed at this time. Both Headquarters and the committee were in agreement that the current layout was acceptable and no changes need to be made.

When asked if the candidate's election material would be accepted by means other than mailed hardcopies, headquarters responded that as long as all the required material was received by the deadline, any delivery method was acceptable.

The use of the USPA website in the election process was discussed. Headquarters will post on the website the same material as published in the November issue of Parachutist. It was suggested that the personal statements may be difficult to read on the site in italic typeface. The committee will review this matter and address it at the first meeting of the new term.

I wish to thank all the committee members, advisors and staff for their help during the last two years. Best of luck to all the candidates in the upcoming election.

I. Regional Directors

Chair Tony Thacker
Members: All Regional Directors
Advisors: All National Directors

All RD's were present and the meeting started at 9 AM.

DJan Stewart brought up the idea of changing the cover letter for all of the 25-year certificates and up. This change will inform the recipient of an opportunity to have the certificate presented by the Regional Director, DZO or significant other. Scott Smith mentioned that a spreadsheet could help to inform RD's before the certificates were sent.

Jessie Farrington presented an excellent idea from Dave Kiedaisch of USPA HQ sending all participating DZ's a Safety Day Safety Award Certificate. The idea is that the host would then present the certificate to an individual. Chris Needels stated that HQ could handle this and it has been added to the Safety & Training Committee.

Mike Perry brought up a conversation about receiving calls about some safety concerns of DZ's and after looking into it realized that it was all about competing DZ nastiness. Other RD's mentioned a few situations in other regions. There seemed to be no real solution for the RD's to help this situation.

Gary Peek brought up that the RD's should encourage more incident reporting, as the reports are now anonymous. Jim Crouch did mention that reports to HQ are up from 58 to 98.

Larry Stapleton brought up discussions about federally-funded airports imposing comprehensive insurance requirements on DZs. Such insurance is unavailable, but the FAA allows airports to impose such requirements anyway. USPA staff is looking into any possible remedies, but so far has no solution. A new FAA attorney is to be appointed, and USPA will explore whether he will hold a different view.

It was a complete meeting and it concluded at 9:58 AM and many things were brought out.

Thanks to all the Regional Directors for a job well done.

J. Safety and Training

Chair: Mike Perry
Members: Sherry Butcher
 Jessie Farrington
 Jan Meyer
 Mike Mullins
 DJan Stewart
Advisor: Mike Turoff

Director of Safety & Training - Jim Crouch

1. Progress toward a 180-day reserve repack cycle was discussed. It was reported that the U.S. Army Parachute team had withdrawn its test jump support of the effort due to the lack of tertiary rigs. The committee discussed other options including requesting an exemption to the 120-day repack cycle. A sub committee of Sherry Butcher and Mike Turroff was formed to develop and investigate options. This would be a joint effort with PIA so the first action of the sub committee was to contact PIA.
2. In an effort to assist AFF Course Directors further standardize the scoring of and AFF Evaluation Jumps the Chair will request each existing course director to submit to headquarters sample evaluation videos and the corresponding unnamed score sheets for all courses conducted from now till the symposium. The goal is to develop a training aid for break-in evaluators.
3. Revised SIM and IRM were provided to each BOD member. The committee had previously reviewed these documents. The following motion was presented:

Motion 29: Passed, 20/0 (Mr. Perry)

“Move to accept the 2005 versions of the SIM and IRM as presented.”

4. The Committee’s review of the 2005 IRM and SIM approved above resulted in the motion below to amend each respective document:

Motion 30: Passed, 21/0 (Mr. Perry)

“Move to adopt the following changes to the SIM and IRM:

SIM section 6-9, add section J, stating:

- ‘1. Wing suit jumps should not be flown by or in the proximity of any student jumps.*
- 2. Wing suit jumps should not be made in the proximity of experienced jumpers without prior coordination with those jumpers.’*

SIM section 3-1 E. For the licenses B, C, and D, specify the lettered license exam for that license in the last sentence of each section.

SIM section 3-2 A.1.a, Change the initial wording to read, ‘The examining USPA Instructor conducts a written or oral quiz...’

SIM section 4. For each canopy dive flow section, everywhere position and altitude is referred to, change the phrase to, ‘check altitude, position and traffic.’

SIM section 4. Category D Section B 1 b (3). Change ‘The decision’ to ‘Your plan’ to land....

SIM section 4. Category E Section E 1. b. Add the sentence, ‘See section 2-2 of the BSRs for the procedure.’ to the end of the paragraph.

SIM section 5-1 C 1. b. Delete the words ‘Stability in’ to read, ‘A stable, face-to-earth body position...’

SIM section 5-1 Parachute Malfunctions (General), Move the Partial Malfunction's paragraph 3 into the position of Parachute Malfunctions (General) paragraph 4, and re-number each section accordingly.

SIM section 6-4 D. Add the following sentence: "Cycle the AAD to ensure it is within the time-frame operational limits for the night jump."

SIM section 7-1. Place the following note at the front of all else:

NOTE: Requirements for obtaining demonstration jump insurance may differ from the requirements listed in this section.

SIM section 7-1 O. Change paragraph 2. To 'Contact USPA's HQ for information on demonstration jump insurance.'

SIM section 7-2 B 1. d. Change the sub-paragraph: 'All declared jumps must be made in front of at least three witnesses, one of whom is an S&TA, Instructor Examiner, or USPA Regional or National Director.' TO: "All declared jumps must be witnessed by either an S&TA, or an Instructor Examiner, or a USPA Regional or National Director.'

IRM Coach Rating Course: Section 4-1 G. Strike all of G.1, and renumber the remaining paragraphs.

IRM AFF Instructor Rating Course: Section 2-4, Category D Segment A 4. Move sub-paragraph a to the line 4, then move line 4's verbiage to subparagraph a and correct the word "he" to "the."

IRM IAD and Static-Line Rating Course: Section 1 D 2. Combine paragraphs a. and b. as follows and re-label the remaining paragraphs of that segment:

- a. Static-line, IAD, or solo freefall evaluators: must hold a USPA Instructor rating in the appropriate method and have conducted a minimum of 100 student jumps, 25 of which must be actual method specific deployments."*

IRM IAD and Static-Line Rating Course: Section 4-3 C.1. Delete item f and re-label item g as item f.

IRM IAD and Static-Line Rating Course: Section 4-4 B 1.a. Change this line to read: "static-line attachment point secure and in good condition." Then delete line b and re-label line c to line b.

IRM Tandem Instructor Rating Course: Section 1 F. 2. Remove the second 'of' in that first paragraph.

Coach Rating Course Proficiency Card: Change the line above item 1 to 'Before, during, or after the Coach Rating Course:'

Coach Rating Course Proficiency Card: In item 2, change this to read, 'Taught the general portions of two solo first-jump courses to real or simulated students under USPA Instructor direct supervision (present and attentive).'

Coach Rating Course Proficiency Card: Remove the line above item 3.

Tandem Instructor Rating Course Proficiency Card: Change item 13's signature line to read: 'Evaluator signature.' Also correct the numbering of items 16, 17, and 18 to 15, 16, and 17.

Change IRM Coach Section 4-1 as follows:

4-1,6,b: Delete entire section and renumber. This removes confusing material.

4-1,G,1(a)(b): Delete entire section and renumber. Information has too much detail and is therefore confusing.

4-2,C,f(2): Change to read, 'It is important to stay Hydrated.'

Change IRM as Follows:

IAD and Static Line Instructor Rating Course, Section 4-4, B, a to read, 'Static Line attachment point secure and in good condition.'

Section 4, B, b: Delete

Section 4-3, C, f: Delete

Section 1, D, 2, a to read: 'Static Line or IAD or Solo Freefall evaluation: Must hold a USPA instructor rating in the appropriate method and have conducted 100 actual student jumps in that method where at least 25 are Static Line or IAD.'

Section 1, D, 2, b: Delete

Change the Coach Rating Course Card prior to line 1 to read as follows: 'Before, during or after the coach rating course.'

5. Advanced Instructor Course

Sherry Butcher presented a report on the progress of the AIC. She then presented a proposal for to implement the program. This resulted in the following motion:

Motion 31: Passed, 21/0 (Mr. Perry)
"Move to adopt the Advanced Instructor Course as presented."

The following subsequent motion was also presented:

Motion 32: Passed, 21/0 (Mr. Perry)
*"Move to change the IRM in the following manor:
In each existing method specific rating course section of the IRM under D. 'Who may conduct this course?' Following the last entry in D.1 insert the word 'or' for each rating section. Replicate all verbiage in D.1 for each rating section and insert it after the word 'or' with the following changes:*

- 1. Replace the verbiage in item D.1.a in each section with, 'successfully complete the Advanced Instructor Course.'*

2. *In the AFF instructor rating course section only – Strike D.1.f, which says, ‘conducted the canopy control training of the AFF first jump course in the ISP with a first jump student. (Video may be substituted’*

Renumber section D accordingly for each discipline.”

6. PRO qualifications for high performance canopies

Jessie Farrington delivered a progress report on the development of pro rating qualifications for high performance canopies. Consensus has been built on several areas but the current stumbling block is the minimum size and shape of the field they can perform these jumps. More research is required and will continue. Another report will be delivered at the next meeting.

7. Review of draft Advanced Canopy Piloting syllabus

Reviewed a proposed course of instruction prepared by the Headquarters Staff.

The committee agreed that there is a need for this form of instruction. The Committee felt that sections 1 to 3 could be included in the 2005 SIM but section 3 would need some technical editing. As a result we will be providing an interim action to include these sections in the 2005 SIM once the edits have been made and the Committee has reviewed and approve the edits. The committee also believes the document in its entirety should be presented to existing instructional rating holders for comment.

8. A joint meeting of the S&T and Membership Services Committees met to discuss PRO Canopy experience with regard to insurance requirements. It was decided that the existing requirements in the SIM did not need to be changed to meet insurance requirements. We also agreed that more stringent requirement for those purchasing demo insurance would not be in conflict with the BSRs. The matter was referred to Membership services.

Jim Crouch advised the committee that many Tandem course directors that were grandfathered into the USPA Course Director designation did not understand their responsibilities as USPA Tandem Course directors. After long discussion it was decided that an effort to educate these individuals would be conducted using the S&T newsletter.

9. Individual waiver requests

Motion 33:

Passed, 21/0

(Mr. Perry)

“Move to waive IRM IAD and Static Line Section 1.D.1.a, ‘ has held a USPA Instructor rating in the appropriate method rating (IAD or static line) for at least 3 years’ for Frank Carreras Member # 67631.”

Motion 34:

Passed, 21/0

(Mr. Perry)

“Move to waive Tandem Section 1.D.1.a, ‘ has held a USPA Tandem Instructor rating for at least 3 years’ for Dan Oden.”

10. The committee discussed the need to share AFF Hand deploy experience. All agreed that there was sufficient information to share among instructors and DZOs. It was decided that USPA would try to schedule a discussion of this subject at PIA Symposium

11. The Committee heard a proposal from Rob Laidlaw to conduct an AFF certification course using AIC training techniques. The proposal was favorably received and resulted in the following motion:

Motion 35: Passed, 21/0 (Mr. Perry)

“Move to authorize Rob Laidlaw to conduct a developmental AFF certification course using AIC training Techniques. An existing AFF course director will assist with the course to ensure quality control. Mr. Laidlaw will report the results to this course to the S&T committee at the next BOD meeting following the course.”

12. The committee discussed the disparity in the BSRs with respect to the age limit for tandems and other student progressions. The committee decided that this risk mitigation issue was better administered by each DZO and instructor. This resulted in the following motion:

Motion 36: Passed, 15/5/1 (Ms. Meyer against) (Mr. Perry)

“Move to change BSR section D to read:

D. Age requirements

1. All Skydivers are to be either:

a. 18 years of age [FB]

b. 16 years of age with notarized parental consent [NW].”

The committee chair wishes to thank members of the committee for their hard work during the past term.

15. Adjournment

Motion 37: Passed unanimously (Mr. Smith)

“Move to adjourn.”

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 P.M. on Sunday, July 18, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

Madolyn Murdock, Secretary
August 15, 2004

Attachments: “A” - SCM Section 10 changes
“B” - Letter from Bill Booth

10-1:U.S. Nationals Site Selection Process

10-1.1: GENERAL

~~E. Bids should follow the format established in this section's Minimum Site Requirements Minimum Site Requirements, to include a Section 10-4, National Skydiving Championships Bid Information.~~

10-1.2: BID PROCESS

A. For bids to be considered in the bidding process by the BOD they must comply with the following.

1. Bids must follow the format established in Section 10-2, U.S National Skydiving Championships Minimum Site Requirements

2. All bid packages must include a completed Section 10-3, National Skydiving Championships Bid Information form

3. Twenty-five copies of the complete proposal must be received at USPA Headquarters by the deadline.

4. Each Group Member must agree in writing to sign the USPA National Championships Letter of Agreement within 30 days of being awarded the bid.

~~1. Faxed bids will be accepted to meet the deadline, but an original must be received at headquarters within five working days of the deadline.~~

~~2. The original will be used to make copies.~~

~~3. Any difference between the faxed bid and the original will void the bid.~~

B. USPA Headquarters will record the date bids are received.

C. USPA Headquarters will review bids to ensure that the requirements in 10-1.2A are met.

1. Those bids that are received after the deadline or do not meet the requirements in 10-1.2A will not be forwarded to the BOD and will not be considered to host the US National Skydiving Championships.

D. Copies of all bids that meet the above requirements will be mailed to BOD Members ~~Not later than two weeks before the BOD meeting in which bids are to be awarded bids meeting the minimum requirements will be sent to members of the USPA Board for review.~~

E. Board members are encouraged to call bidders to answer any questions they may have about the bids.

F. Any USPA member may request a copy of the bids from USPA Headquarters. Written requests should include the cost of printing and postage as determined by HQ.

10-1.3: SITE SELECTION

C. Group members making presentations to the USPA Board may first meet with the competition committee to review their bids, ~~address questions committee members may have, and review the presentations and selection process.~~

Attachment "B"



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USPA Board of Directors

Dear Members;

30 June 2004

First of all, I want to again thank you for writing the 18 year-old tandem age limit into the BSR's. In today's legal climate, I think it is a good general rule for all of us. I also think it was wise of you to make this age limit waivable in special circumstances. When the FAA was in charge, and the "adult" rule was federal law, they issued many waivers. One I remember well was for Norm Kent's son Ramsey, then 12, to make a tandem for his mother's ashes skydive. Since the end of the exemption, Relative Workshop, and I believe USPA, has also issued age waivers on several occasions.

I believe that my then 17- year-old daughter Katie's jump into the First Flight Celebration was a special occasion worthy of such a waiver (After all, I doubt they would have held up the festivities until she turned 18). Before the jump, I asked permission of the drop zone owner, Paul Fayard, and issued such an age waiver under Relative Workshop's tandem program. (I am not yet a USPA Tandem Instructor). I did not know until long after the jump was over, that the USPA board would have required an additional age waiver.

On the morning of the jump, I was informed that Katie could not jump because of a demo jump insurance requirement that no one had told me about previously. Katie was heartbroken, but the members of the board, there present, saved the day and issued a demo insurance waiver. Katie wishes to thank them again, as she regards this jump as one of the peak experiences of her life. There was no attempt on my part to hide Katie's age (As I said above, the DZ knew she was 17). The subject simply never came up with the USPA board members on that rather hectic morning.

I am sorry for the problem this situation has caused some members of the board, and hope that we can have better communications in the future.

Bill Booth

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Booth".

President

