



Minutes of the Association of Drop Zone Operators' Meeting

Tuesday, 13 March 2018, 15h00

Location:	Dickie Fritz Hall, Edenvale	
Chairperson:	Vernon Kloppers	
Minutes:	Vernon Kloppers	
Present:	Vernon Kloppers	Durban Skydive Centre
	Henk van Wyk	Skydive Mossel Bay, Skydive Oudtshoorn
	Eugene Potgieter	Johannesburg Skydiving Club
	Laurel Thatcher	Pretoria Military Parachute Club, Skydive Parys
	Gerrit van Zyl	EP Skydivers Grahamstown / J Bay
	Blake Mac Millan	Skydive Two Oceans
	Waldo Krahenbuhl	Bloemfontein Parachute Club
	Jason Richardson	Skydive Secunda
	Manuel Cordeiro	Icarus Skydiving, Skydive Kruger
	Mike Rumble	Mother City SkyDiving, Aerial FX
	Shaun Smith	Skydive Plett
	Herman Grobler	Skydive Rustenburg
	Billy Sharman	Skydive Pretoria
	Ian Douglas	Skydive Ballito
	Mark Bellingan	Skydive Cape Town, NSTO
	Liz Ridge	Skydive on the Vaal, Adventure Skydives Kruger, Limpopo Skydive Centre
	Steve Bartels	NED – by invitation

Proceedings

Vernon Kloppers (VK), chairing the meeting in the absence of Graham Field, opened the meeting and went through the meeting rules. Apologies noted.

Apologies:

Long Pete Mauchan	Skydive Cape Town (represented by Mark Bellingan)
Japie Keet	Pretoria Military Parachute Club (represented by Laurel Thatcher)
Graham Field	Skydive Parys (represented by Laurel Thatcher)
Graham Field	Aerial FX (represented by Mike Rumble)
Dylan Owen	Skydive Robertson
Corne Vorster	Limpopo Skydive Centre (represented by Liz Ridge)
Roy Hughes	Skydive on the Vaal (represented by Liz Ridge)
Hannes Pieterse	Bloemfontein Parachute Club (represented by Waldo Krahenbuhl)

Ratification of previous minutes

Minutes ratified.

Proposed:	Boss Doug (ID)
Seconded:	Mike Rumble (MR)

- In the current year, R29 594 was spent on ADZO travel costs and R3 390 on ADZO meeting costs (total R32 984). The meeting cost is higher than budget as ADZO splits the cost with PASA for the venue for the March meeting which is held on the same day as the AGM. The mid-term (roughly Aug/Sep meeting has no venue cost as the Aero Club boardroom is free). The Aero Club boardroom cannot be used for the AGM as it is not available after hours.

Conclusion: None

Action: None *Date:* N/A

NSTO report Mark Bellingan

Discussion

The initial plan to have one person travel to all centres to host rigging seminars and talk about the online system and other issues did not work out as it was difficult to coordinate dates. We have reverted to having a seminar per region run later this month by a Senior or Master Rigger. Riggers unable to make one of the set dates can arrange directly with one of the hosts at a later stage.

We have 2 S/L Instructor pre-course forms on file and have been waiting for a promised few more to enable a larger group course. MB reminded anyone that has candidates that are ready, to get them to send their pre-course forms asap. Mossel Bay has been waiting a long time for a course. For S/L, it makes sense to have larger groups on a course and this also helps with new evaluators coming through the system.

The wingsuiting group has submitted their proposed MOPs changes but they did not track changes in the original document so it has been returned to them and MB awaits a tracked version to assess.

MB awaits updates to the JM rating. HvW reported that he has not had concrete replies from the JM working group to his proposed revision of this rating. A discussion followed around the need to amend from the current rating which is aligned to S/L training to allow for drop zones that do not offer S/L training and to allow for members who need a JM rating or to have passed a JM course for further progression in other ratings. It was agreed that the existing JM rating is fit for purpose for S/L jumpmasters but that an additional component needs to be added which allows for the same basic knowledge (how to deal with a student, how to teach, how to brief a pilot, gear checks etc.) but excludes S/L. MB said that this meeting could not make a decision on the way forward, this discussion was merely to inform the ADZO of the work being done. Safety & Training would finalise any changes.

March is National Safety Month. MB reminded all to ensure their DZs did something of value to highlight safety. HvW reminded those with Sigma tandems at their DZs that it is a UPT requirement for Tandem Masters to be tested on their drills on a monthly basis. VK said they have a Strong rig mock-up harness which they use to simulate and test malfunction drills and this works well.

The MC has made funding available for a CI seminar in the coming year.

Conclusion: None

Action: None *Date:* N/A

Indemnities and Legalities to consider Mike Rumble

Discussion

MR told the meeting that he had recently attended an Adventure Tourism Summit which included a presentation by an attorney specialising in adventure tourism. Mother City SkyDiving has since made use of his services to review all their legal documentation and he picked up some issues e.g. POPI Act requirements. MR recommended that all drop zones have their legal documentation reviewed and recommended this attorney. MR to supply his details to the admin office to distribute to DZOs.

Conclusion: MR to supply attorney details to the admin office to distribute to DZOs.

Action: MR *Date:* ASAP

Drop Zone Changes / Feedback All

Discussion

Skydive Mossel Bay – HvW – reported that the December boogie went well with requests for it to be done again. Sakhele Tyakume obtained his D licence and TM rating. There have been a number of other D licences and ratings at the DZ. Having the King Air makes a difference for altitude and group sizes. They recently had night jumps.

Johannesburg Skydiving Club – Eugene Potgieter (EP) – reported that the pond is still empty but they should have a permanent water feed soon so they are busy with repairs to the pond lining. Hope to have an operational sloop pond soon. Bev is doing great work with new jumpmasters and instructors. JSC currently has 13 instructors at their disposal. Runway lights have been installed to facilitate night jumps. They had a 3 plane formation at the tonto Boogie which allowed for an official 24-way SA record. MC questioned how a record is officially ratified. EP stated that he was not certain of the procedures but worked with the SSA and the PASA judges.

(Editor's note: Information relating to official PASA records is available on the PASA website records page at <https://www.para.co.za/PASARecords.aspx>).

Pretoria Military Parachute Club – LT – reported that SANDF budget cuts resulted in aircraft availability on only 8 days in the past year. 154 descents done on those days.

Skydive Parys – LT – reported that the student operation is growing and that students are moving on to licences and ratings. Their marketing in the Johannesburg area has worked well. Equipment has been upgraded with additional new orders in. The second Apollo-T should be operational soon.

EP Skydivers – Gerrit van Zyl (GvZ) – reported that the **Jeffreys Bay** LOP was finally obtained so they now have a permanent DZ permit. Operations going well and the December boogie was well received although not as large as previous years. Student operations are down. Many students seem to do the course and one jump but then don't return to progress.

Grahamstown has been quiet due to aircraft issues which have now been resolved so operations able to commence again. In reply to a question about student training, GvZ confirmed that all student training takes place at J Bay although Grahamstown is available if demand dictates.

NSTO enquired after the status of a skydiver who suffered severe injuries a year ago. GvZ confirmed he is doing well and walking. The lesson for all to take away is the need for good insurance.

Skydive Two Oceans – Blake Mac Millan (BM) – reported that obtaining the LOP took 4 months and they were able to commence operations in December. It appears that while the airfield has permission from the municipality for various operations, for no clear reason, skydiving was excluded in the original airfield approval. BM is working with landowner and municipality to remove this exclusion. At the time of commencing operation there had been no objection to the proposed activity, so the municipality allowed interim operations. However, the municipality later revoked permissions because of objections received during the public participation period. Since then the municipality has decided in favour of skydiving for the airfield and can see the value add to the surrounding tourism industry. They have recommended operations cease until the paperwork is finalised.

VK pointed out that Durban Skydive Centre had a similar case and took it to the high court where they won the case. He is happy to share his experience and knowledge with BM after the meeting.

Bloemfontein Parachute Club – Waldo Krahenbuhl (WK) – reported that they plan to commence operations soon. The clubhouse has been upgraded. A 206 should be available from the next week and they initially plan Wednesday operations only and possibly one weekend a month.

Skydive Secunda – Jason Richardson (JR) – reported that operations are ongoing and their numbers are slowly improving.

Adventure Skydives Kruger – Liz Ridge (LR) – reported that operations very limited due to expense of getting staff and aircraft to the drop zone, so recent focus has been on the Vaal. They will make a decision later this year about ASK.

Limpopo Skydive Centre – LR – reported that the lodge is under new management who are less excited about skydiving than the previous owners.

Skydive on the Vaal – LR – reported that they are doing very well and have taken on a lot of new students. Facilities have been upgraded and the hangar is almost finished. They have a rubbish recycling facility. The runway has been upgraded. There is a good staff complement.

Skydive Kruger – MC – relocation discussed under Supplementary items. Getting staff and aircraft to the DZ is expensive and weather affected. Working on obtaining an LOP to get a permanent DZ permit. Working on temp permits in the interim. Should have a permanent 182 on site soon.

In response to questions about the LOP, MB reminded the meeting that the LOP assists the DZ to work with flight controllers to facilitate smooth operations.

Mother City SkyDiving – MR – reported that they just celebrated their 3rd year of operations. They are doing well. Supported the Langebaan Air Show recently. Working with HvW to run Afrika Burn under the Oudtshoorn licence in April so as not to impact DZ operations over that period.

Skydive Plett – Shaun Smith (SS) – reported that a few recent aviation incidents at the airfield (not related to skydiving) resulted in a comprehensive CAA inspection of all operations. They have moved to their own designated area on the airfield and have permission to build their own hangar.

Skydive Rustenburg – HG – reported that they are currently focusing energies on Nationals and will focus on student operations after that again.

Skydive Pretoria – Billy Sharman (WS) – reported that all is going well after 6 months at the helm. Their December boogie was well received. Student operations are ongoing and doing well. They were recently awarded the hosting rights for the Canopy Piloting World Cup in 2019.

Skydive Ballito – ID – reported that they now have access to an aircraft and hope to increase operations although they remain a small DZ.

Skydive Cape Town – MB – reported that operations are ongoing with no real issues to report.

Conclusion: None

Action: None *Date:* N/A

Elect the new ADZO committee All

Discussion

VK informed the meeting that the existing exec (GF, VK, HvW) are available for another term. Asked if anyone else wanted to make themselves available. MR and MC indicated their availability. A discussion on the need for continuity followed particularly in light of a number of salient issues relating to RAASA and CAA.

In response to a question about GF being out of the country, VK confirmed that he is due back in SA from May at this stage and, if that changes, a replacement, if required, can be discussed at the next meeting.

MC proposed that exec remain unchanged.

Seconded: HG

Conclusion: Graham Field (Chairman), Vernon Kloppers, Henk van Wyk elected as the ADZO executive committee

Action: None *Date:* N/A

Elect the 2 ADZO representatives to the MC All

Discussion

Graham Field and Henk van Wyk to remain as the ADZO representatives on the PASA Management Council.

Proposed: MC

Seconded: HG

Conclusion: Graham Field and Henk van Wyk elected as the two ADZO representatives on the PASA Management Council

Action: VK to inform AGM chair *Date:* Prior to commencement of AGM

Supplementary 1 – RAASA Inspections Laurel Thatcher

Discussion

Dealt with under matters brought forward.

Conclusion: None

Action: None

Date: N/A

Supplementary 2 – Skydive Kruger relocation Manuel Cordeiro

Discussion

MC informed that meeting that since the last meeting, Skydive Kruger had applied to the exec to relocate from Barberton to Hazyview due to air traffic and other constraints at Barberton. After running a few temp DZ weekend operations, Hazyview has proven to be a better location.

No objections were raised to relocation and MC advised to comply with relocation requirements and continue with application via the admin office.

Conclusion: MC to comply with relocation requirements.

Action: Submit documents to admin *Date:* ASAP

Closing

VK closed the meeting and thanked everyone for attendance.

Next meeting will be in approximately 6 months.