

Skydive Chatteris Club Limited
Club AGM -Minutes

Minutes of AGM meeting held on
Nov 27th 2022 at 12:00

In attendance:

Chris Beattie – Chairman
Jon Payne – Vice Chairman
Dave Edmondson- Development
Gary Small
Martin Crossley

1) Apologies of absence:

There were none

2) Declaration of interest:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that any declarations of interest be raised at the appropriate agenda item. There were none.

3) Resignation and election of Directors:

As per The Clubs Articles of Association the Chairman asked the current Directors to formally stand down to permit the election of Club Directors for 2023

There had been four nominations to the club committee therefore the following people are elected to the Club Committee as Directors
Chris Beattie, Jon Payne, Dave Edmondson and Gary Small.

4) Election of officers:

The Chairman called for nominations to the following positions

Chairman - Gary Small
Proposed : Chris Beattie
Seconded :Jon Payne

For/against : Elected unanimously

Vice chair- Chris Beattie
Proposed : Gary Small
Seconded : Dave Edmondson

For/against : Elected unanimously

Secretary- Chris Beattie
Proposed : Gary Small
Seconded : Dave Edmondson

For/against : Elected unanimously

Development – Dave Edmondson
Proposed : Jon Payne
Seconded : Chris Beattie

For/against : Elected unanimously

Social – Jon Payne
Proposed : Chris Beattie
Seconded : Gary Small

For/against :Elected unanimously

Treasurer – Martin Crossley co-opted
(In a non voting role and accountable to the Club Committee)
Proposed: Chris Beattie
Seconded :Jon Payne

5) Matters arising from previous meeting:

The Chairman asked if there were any matters arising from the previous meeting. There were none

6) Club chairman report:

Chairman's report SCCL 2022

Firstly I would like to thank everyone for attending.

I would like to start off by saying thanks to Chris for his contribution and hard work as chairman of the club & continued support with the club

This year we have completed some 10906 descents, approximately 5190 being Tandem jumps and 5607 descents completed by experienced club jumpers and 109 student descents.

6 New students have qualified during the year. Marion qualified as a Tandem Instructor and Kev has passed his Instructor Examiner course & has been 2IC to myself all year & I wish to pass on my sincere thanks for his support, We wish Dave Edmonton & Leigh Marsden every success with their upcoming TBI course in February. Alex Popa will be joining our apprenticeship program next year. Sophie Barnwell achieved her FF & Tr coaches ratings. There have also been numerous FS1, TR1 and FF1 stickers issued.

The instructors have had heated discussions about this year's student of the year and after much debate have voted for Damian Mackowski. Damian demonstrated considerable commitment to his training, attending the centre on every opportunity possible.

In the hotly contested competition for student of the year, a special mention must also go to Hazel & Aiden Bailey, who the instructors nominated as worthy runners up.

Moving on now to the Chairman's awards recognizing the Most Improved Club Jumper.

Peter Gobie has achieved a lot this year. He attended the centre as often as he could, Peter has achieved his FS1, B-licence. We therefore, had no hesitation in awarding him the Most Improved Club Jumper award.

I would also like to pay tribute to all members of the staff. Without exception they have been incredibly dedicated, hardworking and committed especially during my enforced layoff due to injury and I feel we have really worked well as a team.

The following newest members of the team Leigh, Marta & Dave have made a substantial impact on the team with their contribution. Special mention must go to Matt on his return following his injury & rejoining the team.

Amy has also joined the packing team this year on a part time basis, something we hope she will continue next year, hopefully on a full time basis. Amy has shown that she's keen to learn all aspects of the 'business' and great success awaits her in her skydiving career.

Following a bloodless revolution, the people's socialist republic of the camera team wrestled control, Power to the people, Comrades Marian, Sean and Al have done a great job running the camera team.

In this present economic climate a special thanks goes to Martin for balancing the books, keep up the good work.

It is with great sadness that we received the news that Alex Kean passed away at the end of last year doing something he was really passionate about. The club passes on their deepest condolences to Sian & it's great to see her back in the air.

The club also passes on their Sincere condolences to Marius, Diana & families on the passing of Marius Grand mother

So all that remains is for me to thank you all for your help this year and to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a SAFE New Year.

7) Treasurers report

Skydive Chatteris Club Ltd

Treasurers report of 27th November 2022

Back ground

SCCL Operate skydiving flights for SCCL members.

Everyone making jumps with SCCL must be club members – this includes tandem and AFF students as well as experienced skydivers.

Every member of the club has a say in how the club is operated through a voting system to appoint committee members. This is done annually at the AGM.

The committee members control how the club is operated on behalf of the members for the coming year.

Any member that has made 20 or more jumps with the club for two or more consecutive years at the date of the AGM at which they are elected can stand for office.

Each member has a liability of £1 – reference the Articles of Association which can be found on the club web site at www.skydivechatteris.co.uk

All officers of the club are insured through a Directors Insurance Policy provided by Romero Insurance Brokers.

Legal Requirements to Operate

In order for flights to take place there must first be a Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) “Permission” in place. SCCL has this Permission which is effectively a licence to operate.

The CAA Permission requires all operations of the club to be conducted in accordance with CAP660

CAP660 requires all operations to be conducted in accordance with an approved Operations Manual.

The CAA recognise the British Skydiving Operations Manual (BS Operations Manual) as being the accepted standard.

The BS Operations Manual requires a suitably qualified Chief Instructor to be appointed and put in charge of the operation.

The SCCL committee appoint a Chief Instructor (in this case Gary Small) in this role.

The Chief Instructor does not have to be a member of the club committee, but it is recommended.

The Chief Instructor is responsible for ensuring the operation is conducted in accordance with the BS Operations for which he or she has total control over the aircraft manifest.

When deciding who gets on the aircraft the Chief Instructor follows the instructions given to them by the SCCL committee.

These instructions are based around the leasing agreement of the aircraft.

Aircraft lease

The SCCL committee have entered into a legal agreement with Skydive Aviation Ltd (the “lessor”) to “dry lease” Twin Otter N808PC.

Dry lease means the lessor provides the aircraft, maintenance, insurance and fuel for the aircraft, but not the pilots.

The club committee have appointed Gerwyn Watkins as Chief Pilot and Simon Chipp as Pilot.

The club pays the pilots for their services through the fees it receives from new tandem student members provided by North London Skydiving Centre Ltd, for which 5000 per year are needed.

The terms of the aircraft lease require priority to be given on aircraft flights to the new student members provided by North London Skydiving Centre Ltd, their instructors, cameramen, and other associated staff members.

In return North London Skydiving Centre Ltd provide the funds needed to cover not only the aircraft lease and the pilot fees, but also all the other fees and wages associated with the instructors and personnel needed for SCCL to operate, including those of the Chief Instructor.

The fees received from the regular club members contribute nothing to these costs.

The flight fees currently charged by Skydive Aviation Ltd as part of the aircraft lease agreement for regular club members who are qualified experienced skydivers is subsidised only because of this arrangement with North London Skydiving Centre Ltd.

The subsidised rate (not the rate the regular club member pays – see below) is currently £15.00 (£12.50 + VAT)). This is how the club generates its main income.

Records show that on perfect weather days 17 flights (with 306 available spaces) can comfortably be made.

This means that on perfect weather days, with 85 “New Member” Tandems also booked in (65% of whom normally also require camera), a maximum of 80 spaces are available for regular member – which may or may not be enough to cater for their overall needs but nevertheless is a financial necessity of the overall operation if the flight fee prices for regular members are to remain low.

Weekends and Wednesdays are the busiest times.

With 5000 new Tandem students’ members needed each year to make the whole operation viable over 1000 flights, an average of 5 tandems per flight is necessary.

There are however another 8 or 9 flights often available for regular members on Thursdays and Fridays of each week (162 slots) which to date have not been utilised.

It is therefore suggested that regular club members wishing to make multiple jumps per day organise themselves into groups, bringing multiple rigs, so that a two-lift flight cycle of 18 per flights can be operated. They should also be prepared to arrive early and stay all day.

This may be an area the club committee wish to explore.

Flight fees and drop heights for regular club members who are qualified experienced skydivers

The flight fees charged by the lessor for regular club members who are qualified experienced skydivers (see above) **is only offered** because of the arrangement the club has with North London Skydiving Centre Ltd.

Based on 1000 flights per year, and an average 2 lift cycle, it is estimated that under normal operating conditions, a flight in N808PC to 10,000 ft (excluding pilot fees) costs around £240 and a flight to 15,000 ft (excluding pilot fees) around £360.

An extra £150 is added to the cost of flight for a one lift cycle.

This means that on a normal flight carrying 5 tandems, 3 or 4 cameramen, and 4 or 5 regular club members the aircraft should not go above 10,000 ft unless there is a tandem or AFF student on board who has paid to go to 15,000ft.

As a gesture of goodwill however, the lessor applies a figure of **£20** to each “**paying**” place on the aircraft when working out the viability of allowing regular members on board a flight to go to 10,000ft or 15,000ft.

Examples of this are as follows.

Example 1

On board the aircraft are 5 x 10,000ft tandems, 3 cameramen, and 5 regular members. The aircraft is on the 1st lift of a 2-lift cycle. Total spaces 18. 18 x £20= £360. Cost of 15,000 ft flight = £360. The 5 regular members **CAN** go to 15,000 ft.

Example 2

On board the aircraft are 5 x 10,000ft tandems, and 8 regular members. The aircraft is on the 1st lift of a 2-lift cycle. Total spaces 18. $18 \times \text{£}20 = \text{£}360$. Cost of 15,000 ft flight = £360. The 8 regular members **CAN** go to 15,000 ft.

Example 3

On board the aircraft are 5 x 10,000 ft tandems, 3 cameramen, and 4 regular members. The aircraft is on the 2nd lift of a 2-lift cycle. Total spaces 17. $17 \times \text{£}20 = \text{£}340$. Cost of 15,000ft flight = £360. The 4 regular members **SHOULD REALLY THEREFORE BE LIMITED** to 10,000 ft.

Example 4

On board the aircraft are 4 x 10,000 ft tandems, 1 x 15,000 ft AFF level 1, 3 cameramen, and 2 regular members. The aircraft is on the 2nd lift of a 2-lift cycle. Total spaces 16. $16 \times \text{£}20 = \text{£}320$. Cost of 15,000ft flight = £360. The 2 regular members **CAN** go to 15,000 ft as the aircraft is going to 15,000ft anyway with the AFF level 1. The same applies where there is a tandem onboard paying to go to 15,000ft.

Example 5

On board the aircraft are 18 regular members. The aircraft is on the 2nd lift of a 2-lift cycle. Total spaces 18. $18 \times \text{£}20 = \text{£}360$. Cost of 15,000ft flight = £360. The 18 regular members **CAN** go to 15,000 ft.

Example 6

On board the aircraft are 12 regular members. The aircraft is on a one lift cycle. Total spaces 12. $12 \times \text{£}20 = \text{£}240$. Cost of 15,000ft

flight = £360 + £150 engine start = £510. The 12 regular members **SHOULD REALLY THEREFORE BE LIMITED** to 10,000 ft.

Example 7

On board the aircraft are 12 regular members. The aircraft is on the 2nd lift of a 2-lift cycle. Total spaces 12. 12 x £20= £240. Cost of 15,000ft flight = £360. The 12 regular members **SHOULD REALLY THEREFORE BE LIMITED** to 10,000 ft.

And so on...

The chief instructor (who has full control of the aircraft manifest on behalf of the club committee) should always be wary of the costs involved in making flights and use these examples as a general rule-of-thumb when making his decision.

It is also recommended that the manifestor is briefed in the same way to inform the Chief Instructor of any abnormalities that may occur so that an informed decision can be made.

If at any time the Chief Instructor is unsure what to do, the lessor should be consulted.

Treasurers recommendations for the coming year

Whilst it is up to the club committee to set the regular member flight fees for the coming year (based on the lease requirements of the aircraft and recommendations from the Club Treasurer) these fees also need to provide a surplus to cover other bills such as the club house lease.

As the number of jumps made by qualified skydivers this year has risen slightly since last year but is still significantly lower than pre-pandemic years, with operating costs again are on the rise, the treasurer currently recommends that the standard flight ticket fees for the coming year are raised to £27 per flight for any qualified skydiver completing 1 to 60 jumps between February and

December of each year, reducing to the minimum £17 thereafter for 61+ flights over the same period.

As a comparison the fess generated by qualified skydivers in 2022 totalled £24868 compared to £17837 in 2021 and £60899 in 2019 (the last full operating year before Covid).

The treasurer also strongly recommends that the committee look at ideas and ways to improve this situation.

Club House

The Club has an on-going a legal lease agreement with Chatteris Leisure Ltd for exclusive use of the Club House and other shared parts of the airfield it uses for its operation, which can be terminated by either party at any time.

The rent is £5000 per month (£60,000 per annum) excluding utility charges and building upkeep (meaning the Club members are responsible for keeping the building in good order and clearing up after themselves).

To date Chatteris Leisure Ltd has not enforced this agreement but has instead allowed the Club to accrue its back payments.

As of 27th November 2022 the unpaid lease payments stand at £334,000.00

Chatteris Leisure Ltd is happy to continue with this approach at present as long as its representative (Martin Crossley) remains in the position of Club Treasurer with any surplus funds available at the end of each financial year being used to reduce this figure.

Short Term Loans

From time to time Chatteris Leisure Ltd also provides short term loans to the Club in order to maintain cash flow.

As of 27th November 2022, the amount of short term loans still outstanding with Chatteris Leisure Ltd is £0.00.

8) Flight Ticket Prices

Much discussion took place regarding the treasurers proposal to raise the prices of the flight tickets. It was decided by the committee to raise the price of a jump ticket to £27

Proposed : Gary Small

Seconded: Jon Payne

Carried unanimously

9) Report from development committee

Jon and Dave both worked hard through out the year to offer development opportunities to the fun jumpers. We had the 3 way scrambles, FS progression weekend and canopy weekend with Laurence Fanza. Hopefully plenty more in 2023.

10) Committee Facebook Page

This is to be discussed further with the intention that the committee will use it more to pass on any relative information to the fun jumpers.

11) Jump Ticket Awards

It was agreed by the committee to award the following jump tickets.

Damian Mackowski- 3 jump tickets

Hazel & Aiden Bailey – 1 jump ticket each

Peter Gobie – 1 jump ticket

12) Report from social committee

It has been a pleasure as always to see many returning fun jumpers as it has been to welcome some new ones.

At the start of the year we have held a successful canopy coaching programme with Lawrence Fanza from flySafe. Many recently qualified A Licence skydivers took the opportunity to enrol and complete the two courses progressing their canopy handling skills. One of the weekends was finished off with a few beers and a BBQ.

This was followed by an FS progression weekend which was mostly aimed at recently qualified FS jumpers that had been practising in smaller groups and needed to complete a successful 4way in order to obtain an unrestricted FS endorsement from the CI. Various Coaches were available and three skydivers obtained their unrestricted FS endorsement with help from other fun jumpers who also benefitted from the jumps, finished off with a few beers and a BBQ too.

A nice bit of friendly rivalry fun was had on our 3way scrambles weekend between 4 teams, unfortunately bad weather meant we only had one day of jumping however fun was still had by all and Sean's Pizzas were a hit at the end of the day.

Unfortunately also due to weather we had to cancel the FF progression weekend and regrettably we did not manage to reschedule it however Lawrence Fanza is very keen to load organise a few events for us next year.

13) Any other business

There was no other business.

14) Date of next meeting

The chairman announced that the date for next meeting would be November 26th 2023 at 12:00.