

DRAFT Minutes For SMS (Safety Management System) Meeting  
Held 4pm 19<sup>th</sup> December 2015

In attendance were:-

Mike Rust Chief Instructor  
Chris Beattie Advance Instructor  
Tim Hanlon CSi Ti  
Si Chipp Chief Pilot  
Kim Newton Rigger (co opted)  
Martin Crossley Ti  
Mark Price Club Member  
Mike Russel Club Member  
Avi Gidar Club Member  
Bianca Arsene Observer  
Pete Herrick Club Member (weekend DZ controller)

Apologies for absence were received by Gary Small Advanced Instructor

Agenda Items:-

Declaration of Interest

There were none stated. Avi aksed if he needed to declare an interest as a member of Chatterchaps skydiving team and he was told by Mike that this was not necessary.

An overview of the SMS system was outlined by Mike Rust. He explained how the system worked and that the BPA gave guidance and had suggested that the club hold a formal meeting once a year for the members. Mike said that he was disappointed in the numbers attending but realised that as the weather had been so poor of late there was little incentive for some to make the effort. He also said that normally meetings were held when poor weather occurred and these would continue during the year in any case.

Mike Mentioned that there was to be a meeting held on the 29<sup>th</sup> January which would be attended by Chris Beattie and possibly Gary Small to get the latest information on the way in which the BPA would like the system to be run by PTOs.

Matters arising from previous meetings; There were no items from previous meetings.

Issues from the 2015 season (kindly collated by Gary Small)

These were summarised by Mike Rust and read out to the meeting as follows:-

Anything that is important is posted on the safety notice board and it is important that members read these regularly to keep up to date with the latest safety information. Instructors have their own notice board and are kept up to date via email.

During the BPA DZ Inspection a number of recommendations came up which included

Ops manual updates will now be kept on the instructor notice board in the back office.

There is a new DZ photo indicating separate landing areas.

There will be a separate annual SMS meeting the first one being this one.

Self audits should be carried out for both loader and Tandem systems checks.

Issues that have arisen this year:-

A loader system has been put in place. This seems to be working well. Si Chipp explained why jumpers should not get aboard the aircraft whilst unplugging.

He also explained whilst it was important not to approach the aircraft whilst it was moving.

The loader system picked up the following:-

A chest strap (although the jumper concerned spotted this at the same time and was spoken to by both Gary Small and Mike Rust regarding the matter)

A twisted harness (not dangerous but still unacceptable)

There followed some discussion by those present regarding the system and all felt that it was an excellent idea. The question was asked why the BPA had not recommended the system to be put into place at other DZs.

Mike replied that he had made a suggestion about matters at another DZ to the COO of the BPA and this had not been appreciated. He said that therefore he would keep his observations to his own organisation in future. He did however know of another DZ where the system had been put in place.

Incident/ Malfunctions

There had been 17 Tandem Incident/Malfunctions

Mike informed the meeting that he would expect around ten a year and that this was indeed a high number. However he had identified that there were 2 canopies that accounted for at least 7 of these and that the canopies concerned had been written off.

There had been 9 experienced jumpers that had had reserve deployments.

Of these one was a cypress AAD fire where a wingsuiter had not been able to deploy his throwaway and had lost altitude awareness. This matter generated some discussion and Chris Beattie used this as an example to the lower experienced jumpers as an incident to learn from.

There was also an incident which could have been serious where a jumper had a premature deployment on club gear which was not freely friendly.

There was some discussion regarding this matter and again Chris used this incident for the lower experienced to learn from.

There was an incident where a cameraman hit a 4 way team and Mike discussed this in detail.

A Helmet came off in freefall and Mike said this seemed a common theme from his visits to STC and was something jumpers should be aware of. This led to a discussion regarding Go Pros and both Si Chipp and Tim Hanlon gave the meeting their input. At SCC we treat a go pro the same as a camera helmet.

There have been 9 injuries this year.

These were discussed and Mike mentioned that they had received a member on member claim.

### Safety Suggestions

There were none received. However Mike talked about the Staff being constantly proactive. He used the example of Chris Beattie sending out a notice via the club facebook page regarding the good idea of taking a mobile phone especially in the winter when the upper winds tend to be stronger and the chances of an off landing are greater. He emphasised at the meeting the need to make contact with the DZ asap following an off landing in order to let the DZ know that you are safe or otherwise.

He also talked about the need for everyone to be vigilant and that nearly all incidents were not just down to one thing but rather a chain of events. By being observant and not being afraid to speak out you may be able to stop a chain of events from happening. There was some discussion on this matter.

### AOB

Kim Newton raised a question concerning certain jumpers completing downwind landings on purpose. Mike said that he had talked to the jumper concerned and he was only to do so if first to land and also letting DZ control know. Kim asked what to do if this was not adhered to and Mike asked either himself or his deputy to be informed if this was not the case.

### Open Forum.

Mike asked if there were any matters for an open forum. There were none. However Avi Gidar said that he would like to say that he thought that this was the best DZ as far as safety was concerned. Mike thanked Avi on behalf of his staff but said that in a BPA panel of inquiry he and the Management had been criticised. Although he said that SCC strongly disagreed with this. Chris Beattie also said that 2 directors had written to the BPA along with the deputy chair of the BPA council and also disagreed strongly with this.

Mike closed the meeting by wishing everyone a safe 2016 season and hoped for better weather next year.

The date of the next annual SMS meeting will be around this time in 2016 and will be advertised on the club notice board.

Safety suggestions;- Those present were asked if they had any safety suggestions. Suggestions should have been received by the CI by 19<sup>th</sup> November 2015 and none were received.

Any other business

Attendees were asked if they had any items or topics for an open forum

Date of the next meeting to be either the last day of operation 2016 or the Saturday prior to the Last Sunday if the Club was to be operating on that day.