UNITED STATES PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

July 12-14, 2019
Arlington, VA
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1. **Call to Order (Mr. Akers)**

The President called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. on July 12, 2019. The directors present were National Directors Sherry Butcher, Albert Berchtold, Larry Hill, Mike McGowan, Jan Meyer, Mike Mullins, Shanon Searls and Kirk Verner. Regional Directors present were Chuck Akers, Ray Lallo, Luke Atkins, Randy Allison, Shauna Finley, Paul Gholson, Joshua Hall, Alixandra Hubbard, Brett Martin, Gary Peek, Jack Pyland, Jim Rees, Michael Wadkins and Chris Wagner.

2. **Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting (Mr. Akers)**

   **Motion 1:** FB: Passed (Mr. Akers)

   Move to amend the winter 2019 board of directors meeting minutes with additional corrections as noted in files.

3. **Adoption of the Agenda**

   **Motion 2:** FB: Passed (Mr. Akers)

   Move to adopt the agenda.

4. **President’s Report (Mr. Akers)**

   My first occasion to officially represent USPA was in celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Lincoln Sport Parachute Club in Lincoln, Nebraska. Meeting the past and present club members, many of whom like Stu Metcalf, Cliff Dobson and Chazi Blacksher, have become skydiving luminaries, and all of whom have volunteered and kept the club in continuous operation, was a highlight.

   The Executive Committee quickly got to work on a series of issues that arose during the past few months, with several resulting in interim actions that will be reported out to the full board.

   One of the issues involved the growing number and size of various round-canopy groups whose members were planning to jump in Europe in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the D-Day invasion and other battles involving airborne troops. The Executive Committee took two actions in support of these groups as they prepared for those events. Now, with the commemoration jumps completed, the board must consider USPA’s relationship to these groups going forward.

   The most dire issue arose with the June 21 crash of a King Air jump plane in Hawaii, killing all 11 on board. The Executive Director was in immediate consultation with me, advising of staff’s preparation for media inquiries and of staff contacts with federal investigators to offer USPA’s assistance in the accident investigation, as well as staff contacts with FAA officials to ensure open lines of communication as the agency deals with any post-accident initiatives. Staff prepared a fact sheet highlighting that skydiving’s fatal jump plane accident rate has substantially improved over the past 10 years. DZOs were also advised on how to prepare for the inevitable increase in FAA surveillance and inspections of drop zones.

   Finally, I was pleased to join the new board members, along with a few others, in a tour of the USPA Headquarters building and an opportunity to meet the USPA staff.
5. **Interim Actions of the Executive Committee (Mr. Akers)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Motion 3:</th>
<th>FB: Passed  (Mr. Akers)</th>
<th>Move to schedule the USPA summer 2020 board meeting from July 10–12, 2020.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Motion 4:</td>
<td>FB: Passed  (Mr. Akers)</td>
<td>Move to appoint Adam Fischer as the administrator for the ‘whistle blower’ policy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motion 5:</td>
<td>FB: Passed  (Mr. Akers)</td>
<td>Move to prohibit any USPA courses or events at any non-Group Member drop zone whose Group Member status has been revoked.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motion 6:</td>
<td>FB: Passed Yes-21/No-1/Abstain-1  (Mr. Akers)</td>
<td>Move to waive SIM Section 2-1. D. 1. to allow Ben Anderson (8 years old) to make a tandem skydive with Richard Smith, USPA #265726. His terminal illness may prevent Ben from skydiving at the age of 18. The jump must be completed by March 1, 2019, and the tandem jump must be made with only an Eclipse system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote by name: No—Jan Meyer  Abstain—Larry Hill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motion 7:</td>
<td>FB: Passed Yes-21/No-1/Abstain-1  (Mr. Akers)</td>
<td>Move to waive SIM Section 2-1. D. 1. to allow Allison Mills (15 years old) to make a tandem skydive with tandem instructor William Fisherkeller, USPA #242767, at Falcon Skydiving, Kansas City, MO. Her terminal illness may prevent her from skydiving at the age of 18. The jump must be completed by July 30, 2019.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote by name: No—Jan Meyer  Abstain—Larry Hill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motion 8:</td>
<td>FB: Passed  (Mr. Akers)</td>
<td>Move to waive SIM Section 2-1. L. 3. to allow tandem instructor Christopher Peterson, USPA #213639, to make two tandem skydives with the event coordinator Jimmy Conrad into the USA Soccer Cup Event hosted by Target at the National Sport Center, 1750 105th Ave N.E., Blaine, MN 55449. The two tandem jumps will be conducted on July 15, 2019, for a practice jump, and the actual jump will be on July 16, 2019. The approval of this waiver is dependent upon the approval of the 7711-2 and the written approval of the landowner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motion 9:</td>
<td>FB: Passed  (Mr. Akers)</td>
<td>Move that, effective immediately, USPA members who are members of a civilian parachute group listed with the FAA's National Aviation Events Program may jump with that group using the following equipment and altitude:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Minimum altitude 1500’ AGL
• Static-line deployed
• Round main
• Chest-mounted reserve
• RSL not required
• AAD not required
• Altimeter not required

USPA members who are members of such groups may act as an instructor or jumpmaster, if so qualified by their group, using the above altitude and equipment, for those members of the group who have made a jump with that group, using the above altitude and equipment, prior to May 25, 2019, and may act as an instructor or jumpmaster for any member of the group who is a graduate of a military jump school as verified by DD214 or other military records.

These allowances do not extend to jumps at Group Member DZs, but only to the groups’ own locations, and at airshows and demonstrations allowed by the FAA or another country’s aviation authorities.

6. Treasurer’s Report (Mr. Berchtold)

USPA Reserve Fund
The USPA Reserve Fund was valued at $4,008,779 on June 30, 2019. It was valued at $3,578,728 on December 31, 2018. Additions of $24,000 were made during the first six months of 2019. The total increase to the reserve fund was $430,051, or 12% for YTD 2019. The increase from investment activities was $406,051, or 11.3%.

U.S. Parachute Team Trust Fund
The U.S. Parachute Team Trust Fund was valued at $1,399,339 on December 31, 2018. Contributions of $4,013 were added during the first six months of 2019. No distributions were made. The total increase of the fund was $168,271, or 12%. There was an increase from investment activities in the amount of $164,258, or 11.7%. The fourth quarter 2018 poor market performance led to the lackluster end of year as reported for the calendar year 2018. The market has recovered and grown in the first six months of 2019. Our fund performance is in line with our investment policy statements.

USPA Headquarters Loan
The USPA Headquarters loan has been paid in accordance with its terms through June 30, 2019. The current balance as of June 30, 2019, is 403,436.

7. Executive Director’s Report (Mr. Scott)

At mid-year, with the exception of rating issuances, all other member activity and financial indicators are up. Membership, at 41,032, continues setting records. We’ve issued 3,882 licenses, the most ever issued by mid-year. We’ve issued 994 ratings, down just 57 from last year. Financially, USPA is doing very well. We closed April with $532,000 revenues over expenses. Our operating cash stands at $633,000. Our reserve funds are all up, with investments at $4,008 million, up 8 percent; the Team Trust Fund at $1.576 million and the Airport and Airspace Defense Fund at $330,000.
Fatalities stand at seven so far, with four of those attributed to incorrect emergency procedures. With that and other incident reports indicating that jumpers are not breaking away quickly enough from spinning line twist malfunctions, staff will roll out a new “Don’t Delay; Cut Away” safety campaign.

Current topics absorbing staff time include: focusing on jump plane accident prevention, complying with U.S. Treasury Office of Foreign Asset Control laws, completing the process for electronic rating renewals and working with military-style round parachute groups to resolve differences. Voluntary incident reports are way up over previous years, thanks to USPA Director of Safety & Training Ron Bell’s efforts.

The recent King Air crash in Hawaii that killed 11 of our skydiving family has caught the attention of the National Transportation Safety Board, whose board member was quoted as putting the FAA “on notice.” USPA staff has compiled statistics showing the jump plane fatal accident rate has dramatically improved over the past 10 years, but we still need to prepare for potential new NTSTB recommendations and FAA regulatory proposals.

8. **Old Business**

No old business.

9. **New Business**

No new business.

10. **Committee Reports**

    A. **Competition**

        Chair: Kirk Verner
        Members: Albert Berchtold
                  Josh Hall
                  Larry Hill
                  Alixandra Hubbard
                  Jim Rees
                  Chris Wagner
        Advisors: Steve Hubbard

The following topics were discussed and were either tabled or no action was taken:

- Discussed credentials verification
- Discussed removing 2.8.1.6 (Petrijcuk) (from W2019)
- Discussed changing FS night sequential rules
- Discussed status of airport readiness for 2020 USPA Nationals
- Discussed adding medals for female speed skydiving
- Discussed FAI sporting licenses for indoor and outdoor
- Discussed U.S. Parachute Team uniform
- Discussed restricting canopy material in non-open class CP
- Discussed mandating BSR compliance for any and all record attempts
**Motion 10:** FB: Passed  (Mr. Verner)
Move to add language to the SCM to permit the setting of lesser large sequential formation records on higher record skydives.

**Motion 11:** FB: Withdrawn  (Mr. Verner)
Move to add the following to Chapter 3:
1.5 - General
1.5.1 - No record attempt may be made nor any claim filed where USPA Basic Safety Requirements are or have been violated.

**Motion 12:** FB: Passed  (Mr. Verner)
Move to adopt modifications to the MFS advanced draw.

**Motion 13:** FB: Passed  (Mr. Verner)
Move to combine freefall events into USPA Skydiving Nationals, combine canopy events into USPA Parachuting Nationals.

**Motion 14:** FB: Passed  (Mr. Verner)
Move to adopt national judge currency program, as presented by Connell, Kramer and staff.

**Motion 15:** FB: Passed  (Mr. Verner)
Move to rescind record #200555 for violation of 2.8.10 of SCM Chapter 9.

**Motion 16:** FB: Passed  (Mr. Verner)
Move to make the following dates mandatory for USPA Collegiate Championships:
December 28: registration and practice
December 29-January 2: competition dates

**Motion 17:** FB: Passed  (Mr. Verner)
Move to replace Chapter 9, Section 6.2.2 with:
“Each team member other than the videographer must clearly present individual separation at some point after exiting the plane and before docking on the formation.”
B. Executive Committee

President: Chuck Akers
Vice-President: Sherry Butcher
Secretary: Ray Lallo
Treasurer: Albert Berchtold
Member-at-Large: Luke Aikins
Chairman of the Board: Randy Allison

The full board heard the appeal of Lloyd "Skip" Moreau, member #49493. No action was taken. Discussed having a Professional Registered Parliamentarian available during BOD meetings. He/she will be available by phone and email during BOD meetings. This would give the BOD unbiased parliamentarian procedures in the event the board needs deeper knowledge of meeting rules. He/she would also assist with agendas, minutes and other governance items.

**Motion 18:** FB: Passed (Mr. Akers)

Move to amend the winter 2019 board of directors meeting minutes with additional corrections as noted in files.

**Motion 19:** FB: Passed (Mr. Akers)

Move to allow the Phantom Airborne Brigade (PAB) to conduct jump operations at USPA GM DZs, or at any DZ, and to allow USPA members who are members of the PAB to jump, train and dispatch members of the PAB using the following altitude and equipment:

- Minimum altitude 1500’ AGL
- Static-line deployed
- Round main
- Chest-mounted reserve
- RSL not required
- AAD not required
- Altimeter not required

Provided the following conditions are met:
1. PAB will only allow those persons to jump who are members of the PAB and graduates of a military jump school, verified by PAB, using DD214 or equivalent military records.
2. PAB will, upon request, provide the hosting DZ a list of all jumpers making such jumps at the host DZ.
3. PAB will keep a record of all jumps made, by individual name, date and location, of all jumps that are subject to this USPA waiver and will make such information, along with each individual’s military jump school verification, available to USPA upon request.
4. PAB will coordinate with the host DZ to ensure that PAB round canopies and any square canopies are never in the air over the DZ at the same time.
5. PAB must comply with all FAA regulations, including all FAA regulations regarding parachute equipment.
6. PAB recognizes that regardless of this waiver, any host DZ may withhold permission for DZ use for any reason.
7. Upon request, PAB will provide a copy of this waiver to any host DZ.
This waiver will remain in effect until rescinded by USPA and may be rescinded by USPA for any reason at any time.

**For the background on this motion, see Appendix 1, Phantom Airborne Brigade supporting documentation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Motion 20: FB: Passed (Mr. Akers)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Move to accept the following USPA Executive Director succession plan:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Current ED announces upcoming retirement date of 12/31/2020 in a ‘Gearing Up’ soon after the conclusion of the summer 2019 BOD meeting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Announcement to membership through various outlets that resumes will be accepted 10/1/2019 to 3/31/2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. USPA Board to vet candidates by 5/31/2020 and choose candidates for face-to-face interviews.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Complete interviews at summer 2020 BOD meeting.</td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>C. Finance and Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair: Albert Berchtold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members: Sherry Butcher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shauna Finley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Pyland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shanon Searls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advisors: Ed Scott</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The committee discussed or reviewed the following items:

- 2019 Mid-Year Investment Report (JMS). The committee reviewed the mid-year investment reports from Janney Montgomery Scott.
- 2018 Audit Report. The 2018 draft report was completed by our auditors earlier this week and received by the committee at this meeting. The committee will review this report and schedule a call with our auditors within the coming weeks following this meeting to discuss their findings.
- Cash-flow museum donation. The committee discussed with headquarters annual invoicing and payments scheduled for May of each year. This is subject to amendment should it become necessary to amend this plan.
- Financial ratios (JP). The committee reviewed various financial ratios including operating and excess margin, capitalization ratio, asset analysis, operating reserves ratio and cash flow. All questions were answered to the liking of the committee.
- Investment management fees (JP). The committee discussed our investment management fee structure and all inquiries were answered.
- Long-term TTF planning. The committee discussed potential options for long-term planning for growth of the U.S. Team Trust Fund. This item will be researched further in the interim and discussed with the Competition Committee at the winter 2020 meeting.
D. Governance

Chair: Ray Lallo
Members: Paul Gholson
       Alixandra Hubbard
       Mike Mullins
Advisors: Ed Scott

The following topics were discussed and were either tabled or no action was taken:

• Discussed changing incorporation state for USPA.
• Discussed removing "and the executive director" from Governance Manual Section 1-5.4.C and 1-5.4.F.1.
• Discussed amending the Governance Manual Section 1-6.5.A to insert paragraph 6 as follows:
  "6. Any member of the CG MUST recuse themself from a disciplinary action when any of the following occur:
   a. they are an accuser
   b. they are accused
   c. they are a witness
   d. they have a fiduciary conflict of interest."
• Discussed reformatting of the Governance Manual. A working group was created. The group consist of Directors Lallo, Mullins and Meyer.

Motion 21: FB: Passed (Mr. Lallo)
Move to allow any director to have their vote recorded by name on any vote other than ballot votes and votes determined by unanimous consent.

Motion 22: FB: Passed (Mr. Lallo)
Move to amend Governance Manual Section 1-2.3.C.3.6.(7) by adding:
"No current or former member of the USPA Board of Directors or USPA staff member may be recommended for the Hall of Fame by the USPA museum delegate or cast a vote for or against the proposed nominee until two years after the proposed nominee retires from the USPA Board."

Motion 23: FB: Passed (Mr. Lallo)
Move to add Governance Manual 1-4.4.D:
"Vacancies 1. If a regional director vacancy occurs and cannot or will not be filled within 30 days of the vacancy, the president may appoint an official, that may be another current board national director or current USPA staff member, to assume the role of appointing and removing S&TAs in the region until the regional director position is filled by the FB or general membership process. The S&TA appointments must follow the procedures in 1-4.4.A."

Motion 24: FB: Passed (Mr. Lallo)
Move to add Governance Manual Section 1-4.4.A.1.c.(7):
"must pass the online S&TA exam within 30 days for reappointment."
New appointments must pass the online S&TA exam prior to instatement.
E. Group Membership

Chair: Mike Mullins
Members:
  Paul Gholson
  Brett Martin
  Gary Peek
  Jack Pyland
  Shanon Searls

Advisors: Randy Ottinger

The committee discussed the following items:

- Discussed the results of the GM survey and now has a good idea of what is most important to our Group Members. Director Shanon Searls has volunteered to phone each GM DZO for further feedback.
- Joint discussion with Safety &Training on round canopy static-line teams and their relation to USPA.
- Discussed Group Member benefits and ways for improvement.

F. Membership Services

Chair: Chris Wagner
Members:
  Sherry Butcher
  Shauna Finley
  Josh Hall
  Mike McGowan
  Jan Meyer

Advisors: Stephanie Seidel
          Jen Sharp

Service Awards: The following USPA members received the USPA full board approval for the following awards:

USPA Lifetime Achievement
  Ray Ferrell

USPA Gold Medal
  Bryan Burke
  Tom Jenkins
  Kirk Knight

USPA Regional Achievement Award
  James Burriess
  John Dobleman
  Logan Ramsey Donovan
  John Mitchell
          Marc Nadeau

FAI Leonardo da Vinci Diploma nomination
  Larry Bagley
Motion 25: FB: Passed (Mr. Wagner)

Move to direct USPA staff to continue to work with Merit (formerly Sigma) under an updated agreement (still in draft form), with the following recommendations: Merit will continue to receive preferential access to our member data and promotion in USPA print and virtual resources. Merit will be allowed to have our members’ email addresses (in accordance with privacy laws) and email them on our behalf. Merit will be allowed access to the USPA API by providing only a ‘Modified After’ date in their request. Merit will not be charged for access to the USPA API or for any staff time in support of their further development. Members’ data was defaulted to ‘Share’ before our policy change January 1, 2019, and those preferences for existing members persisted.

Motion 26: FB: Passed (Mr. Wagner)

Move to create an advisory group from the BOD for the USPA staff members on the task force (AG composed of the current BOD advisors to the TF plus Jan Meyer).

G. Regional Directors

Chair: Jack Pyland
Members: All Present Regional Directors (RD)
Advisors: Ed Scott

The committee discussed or reviewed the following items:

- Update and training for the online system. Jen Sharp presented a short tutorial on the new online rating and renewal process and how to use the system. She explained that as soon as the qualification is achieved to go ahead and enter the verification in the system. The data can be easily tracked and organized by the system. The member can check his/her renewal process in one place with help from the online file explaining what is needed to qualify for the rating.

- Reviewed topics to be added to the RD Handbook. Reviewed concepts and topics that may be useful in the RD Handbook. There were comments about the vetting and appointing of S&TAs. Several RDs shared examples of how they appointed and worked with S&TAs within their region.

- Discussed what acceptable expenditures are. Director Albert Berchtold (treasurer) reviewed what are acceptable expenditures when using the discretionary $1,000 fund. He explained that the fund was established for the RD to perform USPA Regional Director’s duties.

- Forms review. The RDs were handed the Travel Expense Report Form with a Reimbursement Rules explanation sheet. USPA Jump Wings and Freefall Badge form was distributed with an explanation on the new process of filing for the certification first then purchasing badges from the USPA website after the verification form has been processed.
H. Safety and Training

Chair: Michael Wadkins
Members: Luke Aikins
        Sherry Butcher
        Shauna Finley
        Ray Lallo
        Mike Mullins
        Jack Pyland
Advisors: Ron Bell
         Shannon Searls
         Paul Gholson
         Gary Peek

The committee concurred that static-line and IAD jumps may be counted toward the A license and directed staff to inform the membership of this fact in USPA publications.
The committee forwarded the following motions:

Motion 27: FB: Passed (Mr. Wadkins)
Move to replace SIM Section 2-1 F with the following:
“F. Alcohol and drugs
1. No person may make a parachute jump, or attempt to make a jump, if that person is or appears to be under the influence of either;
a. alcohol.
b. any drug that affects that person’s faculties in any way contrary to safety.
2. No person may make a parachute jump, or attempt to make a jump, within 8 hours after the consumption of any alcoholic beverage.”

Motion 28: FB: Passed (Mr. Wadkins)
Move to add Category B ground evaluation to the IRM tandem training method in Sections T-1.1.H, T-6.C. and have it reflected on the tandem proficiency card.

Motion 29: FB: Passed (Mr. Wadkins)
Move to add to the IRM Coach Rating Course C-1.A.2. that coaches teach the ISP Category F through H canopy dive flows and have it reflected on the four-page A-license card.

Motion 30: FB: Passed (Mr. Wadkins)
Move to add the following SIM Section 5, “5-8 Incident Reports” as file section_5-8.pdf.

Motion 31: FB: Passed (Mr. Wadkins)
Move to change the SIM and IRM to accommodate changing the tandem emergency decision altitude to 3,000 feet and the tandem minimum container opening altitude to 5,000 feet.

Vote by name: No—Brett Martin
**Motion 32:** FB: Passed (Mr. Wadkins)

Move to make the following changes to the IRM C-1.E.1:

“Evaluation jumps 1 and 2: Use the dive flow for Category G, Dive Plan 1, 2 or 3 in the Integrated Student Program.’ Remove IRM C-1.E.2. Make all the required adjustments and subsequent formatting to reflect the changes.”

**Motion 33:** FB: Passed (Mr. Wadkins)

Move to replace SIM 2-1.C.2 with the following:

“Any skydiver acting as tandem parachutist in command must possess a current FAA Third-Class Medical or equivalent medical certificate acceptable to USPA, or, if acting as tandem parachutist in command outside the United States or its territories or possessions, either a current FAA Third-Class Medical or equivalent medical certificate acceptable to USPA, or a current medical certificate recognized by the Civil Aviation Authority of the country where they will be exercising their tandem rating privileges.”

Move to add the following as SIM 2-1.C.3:

“Any foreign national in the United States or its territories or possessions, for the purpose of qualifying as a tandem parachutist in command, or to fulfill rating renewal or currency requirements, must be under the direct supervision of a Tandem Instructor Examiner and must possess a current FAA Third-Class Medical Certificate, or a current medical certificate recognized by the Civil Aviation Authority of the country where they will be exercising their tandem rating privileges.”

**Motion 34:** FB: Passed (Mr. Wadkins)

Move to make the following change to IRM Section T-1.I.2.b.(2): change to read,

“Have a current FAA Class 3 (or higher) Medical Certificate or an equivalent acceptable to USPA on file with USPA Headquarters.”

**Motion 35:** FB: Passed (Mr. Wadkins)

Move to replace SIM 2-1.A.1 with the following:

“1. The Basic Safety Requirements apply to all jumps except those made under military orders, or those training personnel under military orders, and those made because of in-flight emergencies. USPA members must comply with the Basic Safety Requirements, and this will protect the best interests of both the participants and the general public.”

**Motion 36:** FB: Passed (Mr. Wadkins)

Move to add the amended and updated Section 7 “Exhibition Jumping and Rating” to the SIM and make necessary changes to the PRO rating application to reflect the high-performance
endorsement as file section 7-2 Final Rewrite at BOD meeting (3).pdf. This section will become effective January 1, 2020.

**Motion 37:** FB: Passed  (Mr. Wadkins)

Move to add verbiage to the IRM (tandem instructor rating course) T-1. E.1.c.,: “Conducted at least 50 solo AFF, SL/IAD or solo student transition first-jump courses.”

**Motion 38:** FB: Passed  (Mr. Wadkins)

Move to make the following addition to SIM Section 3-2.A.2.b.(2):

“Applicants who have not passed the USPA online license testing program may retest using the same method immediately. The test will be available for three attempts until midnight Eastern time each day.”

Make all the required adjustments and subsequent formatting to reflect the changes.

Vote by name: No—Brett Martin

**Motion 39:** FB: Passed  (Mr. Wadkins)

Move to add an additional paragraph to SIM Section 2-1.D.3:

“A waiver for tandem jumps may be issued to terminally ill persons under the age of 18 contingent on manufacturers’, who have age restrictions, approval. The organizer of such jumps shall submit a waiver request form to the director of safety and training and the chairman of safety and training for approval prior to such jumps.”

**Motion 40:** FB: Passed  (Mr. Wadkins)

Move to change SIM 2-1.B.1 to read:

“For skydives made within the U.S. and its territories and possessions, no skydive may be made in violation of Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations.”

11. **Adjournment**

**Motion 41:** FB: Passed  (Mr. Akers)

The President adjourned the meeting at 4 p.m. on July 14, 2019.

Ray Lallo  
USPA Secretary  
Mountain Region Director
Appendix 1: Phantom Airborne Brigade Supporting Documentation

Background:
There are three military airborne reenactor, or tribute, groups making jumps at USPA Group Member drop zones and other locations. Members of these groups do include USPA members, and some of these USPA members provide training and dispatching of jumpers.

The three groups are:
Phantom Airborne Brigade (PAB), http://www.paratrooperdz.com
Round Canopy Parachute Team (RCPT), http://www.rcptus.org
Veterans Parachute Battalion (VPB), http://veteransparachutebattalion.org

The groups have the following in common:
Jump altitude 1500’
Static line
Round main
Round chest-mounted reserve
No RSL
No AAD
No altimeter

By jumping from 1,500 feet with such equipment, any USPA members making such jumps, or training or dispatching persons making such jumps, are not in compliance with the USPA BSRs. Further, any USPA Group Member drop zone would not be in compliance with the Group Member Pledge if they allowed such jumps at their GM DZ.

The Phantom Airborne Brigade is distinctly different from the other two in that they only allow graduates of a military jump school to jump with their organization. They state on their website:

“To jump with the PAB, or become a full member, you must be a government trained military qualified paratrooper, active duty or veteran, with qualifications stated as such on DD214 /1307 as appropriate.”

The other two groups, the RCPT and VPB, train and jump first-jump students and hold out to the general public that they can make military-style static-line jumps with them, “no experience necessary.”

USPA should not be involved in any manner with any group or individual that is training or dispatching first-jump students using such procedures or equipment. Further, no GM DZ should be involved and no USPA member should be involved, regardless where the jumps are made, and any such involvement would be a violation of the BSRs and, if at a GM DZ, the GM Pledge.

However, since the PAB only allows those to jump who are verified military jump school graduates, there should be some accommodation to allow this group to jump at a GM DZ, or anywhere, without being in violation of the GM Pledge or in violation of the BSRs for any individual USPA member that is part of this group.