



# British Parachute Association Limited

Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester, LE2 9TF

Tel: 0116 278 5271, Fax: 0116 247 7662,  
skydive@bpa.org.uk www.bpa.org.uk

## Annual Report 2014

### BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION LIMITED

(A Company Limited By Guarantee and not having  
a Share Capital under the Companies Act 2006)

Company Registration No. 00875429 (England and Wales)

Report adopted  
by BPA AGM on  
24 January 2015

### BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT 2014

MARTIN SOULSBY, CHAIR



*Presented to, and adopted by, the AGM 2015 at  
The East Midlands Conference Centre, University Park,  
Nottingham at 10.30 on Saturday 24 January 2015.*

I would like to welcome everyone to the 2015 AGM at EMCC here in Nottingham. This year, the Chair's review of 2014 will be in a slightly different format, with the full review being published on the BPA website before the AGM and print versions available on the day at the AGM. The speech I give will be, as I am sure you will be pleased to hear, a shorter version, covering the highlights of what has been a very busy and successful year.

It is a great pleasure to say we have not had a skydiving fatality at a BPA centre since January 2013, which I am sure you will all agree is fantastic news – especially as the last two years have seen record jump numbers. I would like to congratulate all Instructors, CIs, STC and all members for this period of safe skydiving and, please, let's keep our attention on safety so long may it continue.

I would like to remember the following members and former members who have passed away since our last AGM:

Ralph Greenaway	Bobby Holcomb	Chris Ivory
Gareth Jones	George (Geordie) Kirkbride	Tim Mace
John McCourt	Jake McLoughlin	Arthur O'Brien
Joanna Price	Eric Royal	Dare Wilson

May I ask you to stand and join me in a minute of silence for absent friends.

### REVIEW OF 2014

Once again, it has been a great year for the BPA and all our members. We have broken more records, competed at the top level with massive representation and the Association continues to grow. The theme is bigger and better.

### COUNCIL 2014

I would like to thank all of the members of the 2014 Council for all the work they have done in a very busy year where the main focus has been the review of the governance of Council and its Committees.

Good governance is about BPA as an organisation becoming even more professional at running and facilitating our amateur sport for the benefit of you, our members, our future members and our other stakeholders. It's about recognising that we must update our still fundamentally 1960s-type structures to cope with the challenges on a National Governing Body in the very different legal, political, social, technological and financial environment of the 21st Century. It's about not only looking inwards at our own sport and backwards at custom and practice, but about looking outwards at other sports and forwards to an exciting and ever more challenging future.

The benefits of signing-up to the Voluntary Code of Good Governance to you as BPA members will be the assurance, to externally-recognised national standards of best practice, of:

- a well-run organisation
- inspiring and skilled leadership
- an effective and efficient service to you our members (our customers)
- a well-run sport for sponsors and supporters.

Last April, we engaged an independent consultant, Amanda Bennett, to conduct a review of the current governance structure of the BPA and to recommend changes necessary to bring the governance of the BPA to a level of best practice as defined by the Voluntary Code of Good Governance for the Sport and Recreation Sector. Amanda delivered her report in August and, at the

October meeting, Council accepted her report and voted to form a working group – Stronger Future Working Group (SFWG) – to review her recommendations and develop the necessary processes to implement them. The SFWG will then make presentations to Council with recommendations. It will be for Council to decide whether to proceed with these changes and, where necessary, bring them to an AGM to be voted on as there may be a need for some changes to our Articles of Association.

These recommendations included:

- Revise the structure and name of the highest decision making body – a main Board of 10-12 Directors.
- Set terms of office of 3-4 years and limits on terms, e.g. 3x3 or 2x4.
- Undertake a skills audit which looks at the competencies, qualifications and knowledge each Council member brings.
- Create a list of the skills needed to run the company including all the business skills as well as parachuting knowledge e.g. legal, financial, equality, public relations, independent business skills, to augment and complement the passion for, and knowledge of, parachuting that is in our DNA.
- Recruit two independent Non-Executive Directors from outside our sport. These would be skills based appointments.
- Revise the person specification for all Council members, whether independently recruited or elected, which sets out the skills, experience and knowledge needed to function effectively as a BPA Director.
- Develop a long-term strategy for the Association which considers matters such as membership development, commercial development including possible commercial partnerships, stakeholder management and corporate development. The strategy will also include technical sport elements such as elite/high performance coaching, participation and safety.
- Formal Director training.
- Chair, Council member and Board evaluations – this is part of everyone's commitment to continuous improvement and professional development.
- Review the Staff roles and job descriptions.
- Policies and procedures – review essential policies such as conflict of interest every two years.

With inspirational leadership and professional management, BPA aims to be a world-class organisation. By developing robust governance processes and continuously enhancing the skills and knowledge of its leaders, BPA will ensure members, stakeholders and partners consistently receive the highest quality service.

The SFWG has been formed and is chaired by Amanda and comprises the Chair of Council, Martin Shuttleworth (Secretary-General) and three Council members – Paul Applegate, Brian Cumming and Ian Roserving.

Meetings have already been held on December 19 and January 15 and there is a presentation and open forum this afternoon at 4.00pm in the Orchard Hotel, Discovery Room. Amanda will be there, as will be the rest of SFWG, so any member who has any questions regarding the report or the ongoing review is welcome to attend. This is your Association, so it is very important you have your input and consider what the changes, if implemented, will mean. This afternoon is part of the wider ongoing consultation process with the membership.

### STRATEGY

While safety always comes first, the Council continued its strategy of:

- the pursuit of excellence
- the retention of members
- staff succession planning procedure, and
- a premises review.

Part of the pursuit of excellence has been the review of the overall governance of the BPA which I already mentioned. We are also starting a review of our reserves policy to help to identify an appropriate level of financial reserves and this could

help to inform annual budgeting. The Treasurer will be introducing a substantive agenda item at the February meeting.

### RETENTION OF MEMBERS

This is an ongoing challenge for all of us, members, instructors, DZOs and CIs and, once again, I am very happy to say everyone has risen to the challenge.

### MEMBERSHIP – FACTS AND FIGURES

On page 4 of this Report, you will find a sheet of facts and figures. Full Membership at the end of the membership year in March 31 2014 was 5,950, which is up by 4.3% year-on-year.

The current membership year runs until March 31 2015 and, in the nine months so far, we have 5,930 full members compared to 5,557 for the same period last year – which is another 6.7% increase so far. With just 70 full members needed to break 6,000 before March 31, I am sure we will do that. Also, as we are specifically targeting the retention of existing members, it is very gratifying to see an ongoing 6% increase year-to-year.

### STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

We had a large increase of 13.6% in the number of students trained in 2014 – a total of 62,404 compared with 54,957 in 2014.

### JUMP NUMBERS

I am also very pleased to announce that we had another record breaking year in 2014. Following on from 2013's 261,951 jumps, we had 287,951 jumps in 2014 – a 9.9% increase.

The number of jumps to malfunction has improved year-on-year by 12.5%

The year-on-year numbers of jumps per injury has also improved by nearly 5%.

### RETIRED MEMBER

Also, we have introduced a new category of membership – Retired member. This is for no longer active full members who continue to want to be a part of the Association, to still receive the magazine, to be able to vote and even to stand for Council but who do not now take any part in jumping or the operational side of parachuting. This will be available from April 1 at the rate of £63.22 and carries no insurance.

### PREMISES REVIEW

The premises review is still ongoing, with the 2013 and 2014 Councils having agreed that refurbishment rather than purchase of a new property is the most financially efficient choice. The 2015 Council will be looking at moving this forward.

### VOLUNTEERS

The BPA is, of course, run by and for its members. I thank all those who freely volunteer their time and expertise, including Council and Committee members, Committee chairs, roadshow coaches and, of course, our judges. While I do not name you individually, your contributions in so many ways make our sport what it is today.

I would particularly like to thank the following individuals, without whose hard work the BPA would not function anywhere near the level it does now.

Paul Applegate – Riggers  
Adrian Bond – Chair of Communications  
Debbie Carter – Treasurer  
Dr John Carter – Medical Adviser  
Kate Charters – Judges' Co-ordinator  
John Hitchen – Chair of STC and Alternate Delegate IPC  
Tony Knight – CAA and Europe  
Paul Moore and Ian Marshall – Chair of Competitions  
Craig Poxon – Vice Chair, Chair of Development and Alternate Delegate RAeC  
John Smyth MVO – Delegate to IPC and RAeC

Last but by no means least, I would like to thank all of the BPA staff who work tirelessly to deliver the great service we all receive.

### EUROPEAN AVIATION SAFETY AUTHORITY (EASA)

To talk about European legislation regarding flying and parachuting as a set of moving goalposts, as I have in the past, is an understatement. We are seeing some change in the restrictive interpretation on EASA regulation and we have agreed with the CAA that we no longer need to specify whether a DZ is a Club or Centre (Commercial). Everyone is now Parachute Training Organisations (PTOs), hence CCIIs become CIs. However, we will still keep working with the CAA to achieve the best compromise for our PTOs and parachute pilots.

### FAI AND IPC

At world level, we play a full part in the IPC, the International Parachuting Commission of FAI, the World Air Sports Federation.

IPC is the International Governing Body of our Sport.

John Smyth MVO is our UK Delegate and John Hitchen as Alternate Delegate.

IPC has broadened the definition of skydiving so as to bring indoor skydiving (tunnel flying) into their scope. When the implications of this decision filtered down to national sport parachuting bodies such as BPA, there were a number of issues around the management and responsibility for indoor skydiving which were not within the remit of BPA and, from our point of view, were effectively for a different sport that we do not regulate or control.

Council believes there is a need to distinguish between (i) use of wind tunnels which are a tremendous asset as a training tool for outdoor skydiving/sport parachuting, and (ii) the governance and regulation of indoor skydiving. BPA Affiliated PTOs expressed the same view at their annual meeting last November. Our paper to IPC's January 2015 plenary meeting highlights this issue and we await IPC's response with interest.

The IPC plenary is being held in Bulgaria next week and APA Netheravon have put in a bid to host the first FAI World Cup in Wingsuit Performance, to be held on May 25-29. So watch this space, as I fully expect APA Netheravon will be awarded the first Wingsuit World Cup.

### STAY SAFE

As ever, safety and training come first. In Tony Butler, our Chief Operating Officer, John Hitchen, our Chair of STC and Jeff Montgomery, our new Safety and Technical Officer, we benefit as an Association from the competence of these world-class experts in sport parachuting who are at the very heart of our primary function: the management of safety in our sport. They are the nexus of our network of highly qualified Chief Instructors who share and develop collective expertise in the safe conduct of our sport through our world-class Safety and Training Committee.

In his first full year on the staff, our STO Jeff Montgomery, as well as running 24 instructor courses at six venues, progressed:

- Plans for updating BPA instructor and coaching manuals, including making them available in digital form.
- Introduction of a new Code of Practice for BPA instructors and coaches, based on similar codes in other sports. The Code focuses on rights, relationships and responsibilities and can be downloaded from the BPA website as BPA Form 288.
- A review of instructor courses which began in 2014, looking first at courses for basic instructors. Examiners were invited to make suggestions on how courses could be improved and a meeting was held in spring 2014. An outcome was the introduction of BPA proficiency cards to ensure that course members arrived at the course properly prepared with a good foundation and therefore able to benefit from the course. This has been included as a requirement in Section 4 of the Operations Manual as part of the requirements of those attending a basic instructor course from January 1 2015.
- The courses review will continue, in 2015, to consider CSI, Tandem, AFFI, Advanced and Examiner.

As I have already stated, we have had another fatality free year and this is greatly due to STC. Again, I want to thank all Affiliated DZs, their staff, instructors and helpers for enabling us to enjoy our sport as safely as possible.

I congratulate all the new instructors, packers, riggers, pilots and coaches who qualified during the year. We have seen an overall increase in the numbers of instructors qualifying.

I thank the centres and rigging lofts that have hosted courses and the examiners for their expert support.

### ROYAL AERO CLUB

I am delighted to announce that our nominations for Royal Aero Club awards 2014 have been successful. Congratulations to the winners, who will be presented with their awards at the Royal Aero Club's Awards and Presentations Ceremony in the spring. They are:

**RAeC Bronze Medal** to Dave Pacey, who has made a major contribution to opening up the world of skydiving to disabled people including injured servicemen and women. He and they have raised significant funds for the BLESMA charity for limbless veterans, and have also raised awareness that skydiving is accessible to all, including amputees.

**RAeC Certificate of Merit** to Kate Charters, BPA Competitions Judges' Co-ordinator. At one time or other, Kate has held national or international ratings in all IPC parachuting disciplines. With her husband – and fellow BPA judge – Bob's support, she has trained all of the current UK judges along with a number of national judges overseas, some of whom have themselves gone on to become FAI-rated.

**RAeC Certificate of Merit** to Wing Commander Mike Westwood OBE RAF (Rtd). Mike is one of the most experienced parachute sortie pilots in the UK. For over 30 years, he has made an outstanding contribution to sports and military parachuting and, in particular, Adventurous Training activity at RAF Weston on the Green and the RAF Sports Parachute Association.

**RAeC Old and Bold Trophy** to Dilys Price OBE. At 82 years young, Dilys Price is founder and director of The Touch Trust, a Cardiff-based charity that offers creative movement education and touch therapy. Since making her first sport

parachute jump at the age of 54, Dilys has made over 1,128 jumps and, in so doing, has raised significant funds for the charity. "I'm ready to do a lot more jumps now, I've got renewed vigour", she said. And yes, Dilys is still skydiving!

#### **ROYAL AERO CLUB TRUST**

The Royal Aero Club Charitable Trust continues to offer bursaries to our younger members. Its Flying for Youth Bursary Scheme is open to young people aged between sixteen and twenty-one to help them make those first steps in our sport.

The Trust awarded 33 bursaries in total and 20 went to BPA members last year – 60% of the total. This has helped them to gain qualifications such as FS1, CH1 and FF1.

Applications for the Trust's 2015 Bursaries are open until March 31. Details are on the 'What next after A licence?' page of the training and progression section of the BPA website.

#### **DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

It has been a very exciting year for the Development Committee and staff, with more than 2,000 members making use of the online membership services which include online renewals. We have also just held our first mainly online election, hosted by Electoral Reform Services, with 762 members voting, 714 of whom online – a great success, which has also reduced the cost of the elections. There has been the formation of an IT Strategy working group to develop a comprehensive overview of IT systems and their ongoing developments, which includes the preparation by Graham Spicer of a document to put out to tender replacement of the current membership database. To continue the online theme, the Committee have put in place video conferencing facilities so Council and Committee members can join meetings virtually if they are unable to join meetings personally. When you visit a dropzone, you will also see the 'BPA Approved' signs, which are being displayed with pride.

Development are also responsible for oversight of our membership insurance, more of which later, and the Archive, which is ever-expanding and thank you to our archivists Graham Spicer and Andrew Hilton.

Development are also responsible for the BPA Star awards.

#### **BPA STAR AWARDS**

The BPA Star Awards are designed to recognise those that other awards do not – the unsung heroes of our sport.

Now in their third year, the Awards honour those who go the extra mile in helping up-and-coming jumpers and their fellow skydivers. I'm sure every one of us here today could name many fellow members who have helped us, taught us or simply made the dropzone a better place. It is what makes our sport what it is and has surely helped to make it as good as it is today.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

The Communications Committee have developed, in association with our media partner Archant Dialogue, a communications strategy: To inspire and grow the skydiving community.

We are exploiting new and innovative channels of communications. This has meant the launching of a dynamic and interactive BPA Starter Mag app for tablets, which is also being adapted for smartphones. Also, the launch of BPA Skydive the Expo – this is the afternoon and evening events which happen after the AGM and the aim is to attract more exhibitors, non-skydiving sponsors, more speakers and more prizes. I look forward to your feedback after today.

There is a project underway to review and change the BPA family of websites being led by Brian Vacher.

*Skydive the Mag* celebrated its 50th anniversary with a special bumper issue in June and many thanks to Liz Ashley as Editor for her sterling work.

There has been a regular public relations campaign, with us spreading the message about our great sport to the wider public in some of Archant's lifestyle magazines – *Cheshire Life* and *Photography Monthly*.

Thank you to Adrian Bond, Martin Shuttleworth and Helen Lucas, together with our media partners Archant Dialogue and our event management partners Eventpro UK, for their hard work on planning and organising our AGM, Expo and Gala Dinner and entertainment this evening.

A very full year, with a great combination of print and digital to get more information out to the membership and general public and to inspire.

Also, thank you to Archant Dialogue for supporting the seminar programme at the Expo.

#### **COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE**

I would like to thank the Competitions Committee for their hard work. They are responsible for our teams going to international competitions and our domestic competitions and the coaching roadshows. We will see how successful that has been shortly.

Also, thank you to all our judges and congratulations to those who qualified during the year and will be collecting their certificates later this morning – without whom we would not have competitions.

#### **THE SKYDIVING YEAR 2014**

It's been a busy year! Yet again, there was been an impressive BPA turnout at all events, with many outstanding performances and hard-won records. As ever, you have done your sport, your Association and your country proud.

#### **WORLD PARACHUTING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The World Parachuting Championships in Prostějov for FS, Artistics and Speed and in Banja Luka for Classics and CF all saw truly world-class performances, with BPA members representing our country and our Association at the highest level. The delegations flew the flag – and I mean that literally – across all disciplines. In Prostějov, we were the largest delegation and, if there had been a gold medal for the best supply of bunting, we would have won that too!

Stars of the show at the World Championships this year were Female 4-way FS team *Kaizen*. Rai Ahmed, Laura McLelland, Lynne Murray, Maria Russell and Andy Ford won the bronze medal, which was a well-deserved reward for years of hard work.

There were excellent performances in Freely, Freestyle, 8-way, 4-way Open, 4-way Rotations, 2-way Sequential CF and VFS too, and even the last-minute entries excelled. However, special mention must go to the Speed delegation, which also happened to be the largest of the Speed delegations. Jason Bird set a new British record of 441.2 kilometres per hour, and Mike Longford set a new Junior World Record and took the World Gold in Junior Speed after he averaged 412.92 kilometres per hour as well.

Later in the year, in November, there was the World CP Championships in Zephyrhills, where there was a strong delegation from UK with some great personal bests.

Finally, the spectacular jumping in CF and Accuracy wasn't the whole story at the CF and Classics World Championships in August at Banja Luka in Bosnia. Certificates of Merit are to be awarded to Mark Skarratts, Jamie Flynn and Martin Robiette for their outstanding presence of mind and calmness when they went to the assistance of a member of the public who was badly injured in a road traffic accident, both until and during the arrival of the emergency services.

#### **NATIONALS**

The 4-way, 8-way and Artistics Nationals were held later in the season than usual, due to the timing of the World Championships, and did suffer from bad weather.

I have, for a few years, been bragging that we had the largest 4-way FS Nationals in the world – with 72 teams in 2012 and with 73 in 2013. In 2014, there was another record turnout of 75 4-way FS teams. I will just note that the USPA had only 56 teams!

The Artistic Nationals also saw a new Freestyle Artistic trophy with a bespoke design, handcrafted by BPA member Paul Fletcher. Fletch generously donated his fee to the Nottingham Air Ambulance and has been commissioned to design a new Wingsuit Nationals trophy as well. There are even rumours about a new FAI Speed trophy too.

We also held very successful Nationals in CP at Dunkeswell and Accuracy, CF and Speed 8 at Sibson.

Speaking of the Wingsuit Nationals trophy, Tony Uragallo beat the previous World Record for the Distance category at 4.265km in a one-kilometre competition window at this year's Wingsuit Nationals. Jackie Harper won the inaugural Wingsuit Performance World Series, pipping her husband Spike who came second.

#### **POPS, DIPC AND ESL**

Also worthy of mentions, Skyvandals won gold and Aeronauts bronze at the World POPS meet in 4-way FS and, at the Dubai International Parachuting Championships, Team XX won bronze in 4-way Female FS. Congratulations too to our delegation to the European Skydiving League for bringing home the ESL Spirit Sword as Overall Winners.

#### **RECORDS**

This year also saw BPA members set British, European and World Records, both at home and overseas. Congratulations go to everyone involved in setting the records, and we're already looking forward to seeing what you'll do in 2015.

Twelve freefliers beat the current record of eight to complete a new 12-way head up record at Sibson on October 11-12. The new record holders are Adam Mattacola, Gary Crisp, Paul Cooper, Ally Milne, Adam Dare, Laura Kenyon, Ben Broad, Nick Davidson, Martin Roberson, Glen Wainwright, Karen Wilson-Roberts and Jamie Arnold, with Jake Diliberto flying camera.

On October 17, BPA members Maria Russell, Sarah Smith, Pam Jones, Kathryn Campbell, Ruth Green, Maddy Heath Kelly, Lesley Gale, Heather Little,

Helen Williams and Freddy Huntley were part of the new female 117-way World Sequential Record in Perris, California.

At the World CP Championships in Zephyrhills, Florida, on November 1-7, GB team member Maxine Tate set the new female Euro and British Speed Record and the Euro Female Distance record.

In Eloy, Arizona, on November 21, BPA members Mikey Carpenter and Paul Cooper set a 44-way head up World Record. Then, the very next day, they beat their own record by making it a 52-way for good measure. Finally, it's not just our own records where BPA members are achieving distinction! Congratulations also go to BPA member Ewan Cowie, who was the official cameraflyer for the French head down record on August 14.

As ever, thank you to all of the competitors who took part, to the dropzones who hosted BPA competitions and, as always, to our tireless and dedicated Judges.

#### BPA CREDIT CARD

It shows you're a skydiver and helps make a small but valued contribution of about £1,200 per year to supporting our sport. If you'd like to apply for one, there's a link on the BPA website.

#### INSURANCE

Our ongoing relationship with our insurance partners Romero Sport and Leisure, our brokers, and Liberty Mutual Insurance, our underwriters, grows stronger and I would like to thank them for their ongoing support of a number of safety initiatives plus their risk management sponsorship, and their support of this evening's events.

I'm delighted to announce a new award kindly sponsored by our insurance partners:

#### THE BPA ROMERO LIBERTY SKYDIVING SAFETY INNOVATION OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Award comprises of a trophy and a cash prize, and we hope to present the first at next year's AGM. The Award will go to the BPA member or members, or Affiliated PTO or Display Team, that, in the opinion of the BPA and the insurers, has developed the most innovative contribution to skydiving safety during the year. The Award will comprise a trophy to be given on an annual basis, together with a cash prize of £5,000.

The award will be open to any and all kinds of safety innovation, be it physical or psychological, managerial or mechanical, ergonomic or educational – and all stations between. The key word is innovation. Keep an eye on the BPA website for details of how to enter.

May I thank Romero Sport and Leisure and Liberty Mutual for their own innovation in inaugurating this award.

#### MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION 2015/16

Thanks to the tireless work over the years of our expert safety staff, so ably led by Tony Butler, and of our Chief Instructors, for the next membership year of 2015/16, the insurers have been able to offer us a reduction in the insurance premium of 6%. This is a reflection on the effective safety management systems used by BPA PTOs and, again, of that fatality free year.

Also, with the growth in BPA membership, Council voted to recommend to hold the BPA element at the 2014/15 level, so there will be a fall in subscriptions.

The Student Provisional and Temporary membership fees were agreed at the December 6 General Meeting as:

**£19.12 – a 68p decrease for Temporary membership**  
**£17.92 – a 68p decrease for Student Provisional membership**

Assuming you approve them later in this AGM, the reduction for full membership will be:

**A £2.73 decrease, from £108.65 to £105.92.**

It is worth noting that, since 2007 when full membership was £152.10, the cost of membership has fallen by 30%.

#### BEN WHITE

Thank you for your fantastic response to the appeal to raise funds to help member Ben White, who was disabled in a skydiving accident. The BPA critical injury insurance policy will also respond to Ben with a cash payout of £15,000.

#### REVIEW OF 2014

As always, I am filled with pride for the achievements of our members, staff and volunteers. It has been another great year of record membership numbers, record jump numbers and record surplus and with continuing growth in the retention of existing members. We continue to embrace technology with online membership renewals and election. Another fatality free year. We have started the review and consultation process in making fundamental changes to our governance to make us stronger for the future, to create an organisation we can be even more proud of. Finally, of course, the largest 4-way FS Nationals in the world again – something I never tire of saying.

As I promised, bigger and better.

Have a great 2015, I hope you achieve all you want to, have fun and are safe.

#### BPA FACTS AND FIGURES 2014

BPA rating – an individual member may hold more than one rating	Qualified in 2014 (2013)	Total ratings at end of 2014 (2013)
Category System Basic Instructors (CSBI)	32 (24)	Varies during the year
Tandem Basic Instructors (TBI)	17 (12)	
Accelerated Free Fall Instructors (AFFBI)	6 (6)	
Category System Instructors (CSI)	18 (19)	257 (261)
Tandem Instructors (TI)	29 (27)	317 (301)
Accelerated Free Fall Instructors (AFFI)	21 (12)	198 (190)
Advanced Instructors (AI)	2 (2)	87 (88)
Instructor Examiners (IE)	6 (4)	47 (47)
Basic Riggers	9 (10)	Varies
Parachute Riggers	5 (6)	42 (40)
Advanced Riggers	1 (0)	22 (21)
Examiner Riggers	0 (0)	4 (4)
Advanced Packers (New)	5 (9)	169 (174)
Advanced Packers (Upgrades)	3 (13)	
Formation Skydiving Coaches	84 (102)	565 (519)
Basic Freely Coaches (new for 2014)	20 (0)	20 (0)
Freely Coaches	27 (13)	106 (62)
Canopy Handling Coaches	60 (56)	407 (368)
Canopy Piloting Coaches	3 (8)	59 (59)
Wingsuit Coaches	11 (5)	47 (38)
National and/or international Judges	5 (14)	58 (62)

#### MEMBERSHIP AND JUMP NUMBERS

The membership year runs from April 1-March 31. The total membership for the full membership year ending March 31 2014 (2013) was Full 5,950 (5,704, +4%); Temporary 2,630 (2,601, +1%); and Student Provisional 52,397 (52,035, +1%).

	2014 9 months to 31 Dec	2013 9 months to 31 Dec	Year-on-year variance %
Full, from April 1	5,930	5,557	+6.7
Student Provisional	59,616	51,504	+15.8
Temporary	2,615	2,593	+0.8
Jump numbers	287,961	261,951	+9.9
Students trained	62,404	54,957	+13.6

#### VICE PRESIDENTS, COUNCIL AND STAFF

**Vice Presidents:** Christopher Allen, Jim Crocker, John Hitchen, John Lines, John Smyth MVO.

**Council 2014:** Martin Soulsby (Chair), Craig Poxon (Vice Chair and Development Chair), Debbie Carter (Treasurer – co-opted); John Hitchen (STC Chair – co-opted); Adrian Bond (Communications Chair), Ian Marshall (Competitions Chair), Paul Applegate (Riggers' Chair), Karen Bain, Brian Cumming, Jackie Harper, Ian Rosenvinge, Mark Skarratts, James Swallow, Brian Vacher, Thea Westley.

**Editor, Skydive the Mag:** Liz Ashley **Medical Adviser:** Dr John Carter

**Staff:** Tony Butler, Chief Operating Officer; Jeff Montgomery, Safety and Technical Officer; Martin Shuttleworth, Secretary-General; Jon Gretton, Company Secretary and Financial Administrator; Trudy Kemp, PA to COO/STO; Helen Lucas, Administration Secretary; Karey Goodwin and Sue Allen, Membership Services; Dave Lucas, Storekeeper.