



Parachutist

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DEAR MEMBER:

Results of PCA meeting with Washington FAA representatives: Mr. Joe Crane, PCA President, Colonel Grieves, and six reps of FAA, including Mr. A. L. Coulter, Chief-Safety Regulations Div., FAA.

Private Sport Parachute Packing License: Disapproved, due to legal technicalities (FAA cannot favor or align themselves with any one group.) BUT.... they (FAA) are revising Part 25 of their regulations which would consider that any main parachute being jumped intentionally would not have to be packed by a certified rigger, but the emergency chute would require the normal 60 day rigger inspection and repack. This proposal going out to the parachute industry, manufacturers, and riggers and lofts for their comments around January 15th. If no serious objections raised, the change to Part 25 will be enforced. This would be a relief to sport parachutists, whereby the club or local rigger could take care of the chest packs. More on this next month.

The matter of TSO C-23! The FAA has found that, on the TSO's, there has been a misinterpretation of the order. In TSO C23 it states, "Parachutes approved by the Administrator prior to the effective date of this order may continue to be used." This sentence is incorrectly worded and will be proposed for a change to read, "Parachute models approved by the Administrator prior to the effective date of this order may continue to be used". In other words, a 28' back pack which was manufactured under a type certificate would be usable, a 28' back type parachute which has been made under the TSO C23 and also a 28' back pack which is approved by the military is automatically approved by the FAA and may be used. No parachute made under military contract has ever had a TSO C23 stamped on the chute when made, nor have they ever had a type certificate number stamped on the canopy, and the Legal Department (FAA) has ruled that a military parachute, if approved by the military, can be used in commercial aviation.

Watch out on parachute alterations! Alterations must be made by a manufacturer (one who fabricates or modifies a parachute) and should be stamped by the manufacturer as passing the tests outlined in the TSO C23. This means that anyone scissoring a chute must have the capability of conducting the C23 tests before it's jumped! TSO specifies two grades of chutes: "high speed" and "low speed", with two different types of tests to be conducted.

Parachute age limits: (for the upteenth time) a real sticky one. FAA Legal Dept rules that it's impossible to put an age limit on a personally owned chute. It was suggested that parachutes be classified as "low speed" after a certain age, thereby a man with a lighter type aircraft with not much speed, would not have to buy a "high speed" parachute every few years. And it's possible that FAA will incorporate this aspect into their planned revisions. At least they're now studying the problem.

Licensing: Wildcat jumping without regard to safety was discussed and FAA informed us that they are well aware of these violations and know that PCA is

doing everything possible to keep the parachute sport safe. We explained that our FAI license is not a license of the PCA and that any person who has the qualifications, whether a PCA member or not, may obtain one. After explanation, FAA was in agreement that it might be possible to require that anyone desiring to make a premeditated jump must hold one of these licenses or be under the supervision of a person with a license! The legal portion of this matter now being investigated by FAA and possibilities are that this may be done. Time will tell.....

Safety Officers: Now in hands of Directors, a plan to subdivide the US into seven conferences -- Pacific, Mountain, South Central, North Central, Southeast, East and Northeast (Hawaii and Alaska to be in Pacific Conference) -- with a conference-elected PCA Conference Safety Officer (who would also sit on the PCA Board of Directors) for each Conference to control and assist Area and Club Safety Officers within the conference. He would appoint Area and Club SO's, recommend on licensing, and suspend licenses for safety violations. FAA not quite ready to back this plan yet since it isn't firm. Directors meeting in the early Spring to finalize this subdivision and plan. Things are lookin' up!

So much for the Washington FAA-PCA meeting. Sincere thanks to Mr. Crane and Colonel Grieves for arranging this worthwhile meeting with FAA on their own time and expense. (Incidentally, none of the Directors or Officers of PCA get paid, or even travel pay, for conducting PCA business.) So how about you Club officials now tracking down the local FAA Safety Officer in your area, take him out for a drink and tell him our problems. You know, if you inform the local FAA people, and we work on the top, they can't help but see that sport parachuting is here to stay and that we should be recognized!

WHAT'S NEW: Capt. Philip Miller, Germany, has come up with a plan to make a record try this Spring using a jet bomber. Try will be for both an individual altitude (80,000' plus) and team altitude (43,008') official record. (Kittinger's jumps were not properly officiated!)

Paul Herrick and Wayne Pritchett of the Fort Campbell Club (Ky.) completed a double baton pass from 8000', first pass at 15 seconds, the second at 35 seconds. Congratulations men -- now go for the three time winner!

Jacques Istel, fresh in from the International Parachuting Commission Conference, Paris, France, 9-11 December 59, reports that the 1960 meet regulations were firmed up (we're sending these to you separately), that the Commission accepted the official invitation to hold the 1962 Sixth World Championship in Massachusetts a terrific breakthrough into the European dominated field that Mr. Joe Crane was re-elected as President -- another vote of confidence -- and that all the US objectives were obtained. The importance being attached to national performance was reemphasized in the fact that several iron curtain countries' teams were already in training and the French team, already selected, would start training under the Army in January! (The meet is in Aug., '60 at Mousatchevo, Bulgaria, just outside Sofia).

PCA Insurance: Eleven (11) claims paid to date for a total of \$5,629.18. These paid claims include one death. We are sorry to announce that PCA member Lloyd Pigeon of the New Hampshire Parachute Club was killed while making a sport jump in Sanford, Maine.

College League? Ten major US colleges or universities now have parachute clubs in full blast with two more in the formation stage. In the proposed Conference set-up, a complete collegiate competition program is envisioned. You fraternity men got any ideas or requests along these lines?

Three letters in last month from South American jump groups. They know of us, like our helmets, and are quite active. Look for some good competition from our southern neighbors in the future.

Parachutes, Inc. opened another Center at Hemet, California in January and it looks like sport parachuting is digging in to stay. Pretty soon we'll need a Parachutes Anonymous!

Sky Diver Magazine is still plugging away at the hows of getting sport parachuting into the Olympics. There are quite a few ramifications to this and it doesn't look too good at the present time. Seems like there aren't enough countries with qualified teams.

Memberships: Up! Colorado, formerly one of the lowest member states, asking for more membership forms for 60. Accolades here to the Colorado School of Mines Club, Mile-Hi Sky Divers, and University of Colorado groups. Houston Parachute Club, Texas, coming in for their 1960 club affiliation, and the Parachuting Center, Inc., of Houston encouraging PCA membership. The 1959 membership count looked like this:

Alabama	- 3	Louisiana	- 2	Oklahoma	- 3
Alaska	- 32	Maine	- 1	Oregon	- 2
Arizona	- 17	Maryland	- 6	Pennsylvania	- 33
California	- 103	Massachusetts	- 71	Rhode Island	- 1
FPO California	- 11	Michigan	- 5	Tennessee	- 7
Connecticut	- 14	Mississippi	- 2	Texas	- 37
Delaware	- 5	Missouri	- 14	Utah	- 1
Washington DC	- 2	Nebraska	- 2	Virginia	- 10
Florida	- 14	Nevada	- 7	Vermont	- 1
Georgia	- 5	New Hampshire	- 9	Washington	- 4
Hawaii	- 10	New Jersey	- 16	APO Washington	- 4
Idaho	- 2	New Mexico	- 14	West Virginia	- 5
Illinois	- 12	New York	- 140	Wisconsin	- 6
Indiana	- 3	APO New York	- 27	Wyoming	- 1
Iowa	- 5	North Carolina	- 41	Canada	- 2
Kansas	- 7	Ohio	- 57	Puerto Rico	- 1
Kentucky	- 16				

Add to this 14 members who have not sent us their forwarding address, and the 1959 total is 807 members.

Now we ask you, how can support like this obtain our objectives?! How 'bout working on memberships in '60?! You get us the memberships and affiliations, and we'll get you what's good for sport parachuting!!

IRONS IN THE FIRE:

Rules on designating amateur and professional parachutists.

PCA Guide pamphlet for use by Safety Officers.

Revision of the PCA Constitution and By-Laws (underway).

Financial loans to new forming clubs (still fermenting!)

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART:

The PCA Organizational Chart, promised in the December PARACHUTIST, has been omitted pending the Directors approval of the new proposal on Conference organization. As soon as we hear from all the Directors, it will be included.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Following is a general breakdown of the financial status of the PCA for the year 1959:

Balance 31 December 1958 \$ 1,472.27

Income

Dues, Licenses and Sports Registration:	\$13,417.55	
Emblems:	67.50	
Miscellaneous Income:	<u>203.90</u>	
		13,688.95
		<u>\$15,161.22</u>

Expenses

Insurance Premium	\$ 5,050.00	
Salaries	3,338.80	
Parachutist	1,605.50	
Stationery & Printing	1,469.20	
Postage	788.63	
Pins	733.03	
Legal & Accounting	562.00	
NAA Affiliation Fee	300.00	
Office Expenses, Supplies and Equipment	385.25	
Travel & Promotion	175.00	
Dues Rebates	83.70	
Trophies	29.55	
Miscellaneous	<u>146.38</u>	
		<u>14,667.04</u>

\$494.18 - Balance
31 December 1959

US NATIONAL TEAM TRYOUTS:

Rules have been drafted based on previous international competition and the 1960 World Meet Rules. If they're approved, the entire February issue will be devoted to these regulations and how the tryouts will be conducted. This much we can tell you now...they'll be TOUGH!

Cordially,

PARACHUTE CLUB OF AMERICA

Parachutist

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