

With the retirement of the Army Parachute Association Secretary in Feb 2012, Chairman APA seeks to appoint a successor to take a busy drop zone and transform its operation. With great facilities and a busy, diverse parachuting programme, the successful applicant will need charisma and the aptitude to run a complex operation, whilst providing strong and inclusive leadership to a small and busy staff and an enthusiastic and extensive international community of military and civilian sport parachutists. The immediate challenge is to implement an ambitious change programme, meeting the expectations of military and civilian parachutists alike. The challenges include new staff recruitment, revised operating procedures, with changes to both infrastructure and parachuting operations. Some military experience is essential to manage the symbiotic relationship between APA and JSPC(N), the MOD JSAT contract and run the APA/MOD lease. Additional qualities include:

- An experienced skydiver with appropriate instructor qualifications: may include AI; BI; AFF; tandem.
- Demonstrate the ability to run a not-for-profit military sports club with charitable objects, consistent with the direction of the Chairman and Trustees.
- Manage change to improve and sustain the delivery of all sport parachuting disciplines in which participants want efficiency, quick turn-around, value for money and a great atmosphere, with a social programme to match.
- Responsive to the trends in a dynamic sport and the able to meet the interests and ambition of the participants.
- Sustain and improve a busy programme of charitable events.
- A proven ability to manage complex contractual negotiations with MOD and keep the necessary accounts.
- A skilful manager with demonstrable leadership qualities, versed in contemporary HR policy and able to run a happy and motivated staff to work long hours and give just that little bit more to support the club's ethos.
- Media savvy, internet literate and competent to market the DZ to a wide community of sport skydivers, whilst contributing to positive PR for the Armed Forces.
- Upholds the highest possible personal values consistent with both prevailing EO & Diversity policy and the military covenant.

Applicants should write a covering letter with their full CV to Chairman APA at apasecretary@netheravon.com explaining their proposed approach to enhancing both the operation and reputation of the APA as a military sport parachuting centre of excellence. Applicants should provide examples of achievements which demonstrate the qualities sought. Closing date for applications 14 March 2012; short list interviews within three weeks thereafter, start date for the preferred candidate negotiable. Salary negotiable commensurate with qualifications and experience.