

**BMFA  
FREE FLIGHT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING 30th June 2011**

Action

<b>Present</b>	Mike Woodhouse	MW	Phil Ball	PB
	Chris Strachan	CS	Trevor Grey	TG
	John Carter	JC	Ian Kaynes	IK
	John Huntley	JH		

<b>Apologies</b>	Peter Williams	PW
	Mike Francies	MF

**Minutes of 12.05.11** Accepted as a true and accurate record.

**Matters arising** None

**Contest Calendar** Current Version  
Version V3 remains current.

**F1E Events**

IK reported that naming alternative dates on the Saturday and Sunday of a weekend and then finalising shortly before based on weather information having proved successful. He asked that the events on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weekends in October should adopt this approach. TG to action on web site and to pass to PW for inclusion in News.

TG PW

**Officer's Reports**

**Treasurer**

JC reported all accounts are healthy. FFTC costs are well within budget. T & E budget for this year has a balance of £1200 still available. He suggested that this should be used upon an early team meeting and subsidy for the team to attend a World Cup event.  
It was agreed that all members should consider a revision to entry fees for next year with a special focus upon improving entries at centralised meetings. To be discussed at next meeting.

ALL

**Council Delegate**

Nothing to report

**PRO**

Nothing to report

**Safety Officer/Results Coordinator**

The Nationals results have been published.  
It was noted that the results for team power (5th Area meeting, Keil trophy) as published are incorrect in that C Strachan had not entered as a team and so the result will now be a tie between Grantham and Birmingham. PB to announce along with the 6<sup>th</sup> Area results.

PB

**Rules Officer**

Nothing to report except under Rule Changes.

**Nationals**

**2011**

MW reported that all figures are coming together but are not yet complete. He expects a result somewhere near break even due to the effect of the very poor weather.

**HLG Timing**

There were doubts raised on the accuracy of timing for one of the hand launch

glider competitors but no formal process was made. It was agreed that without proper evidence and a formal process there is little that the CD (or the FFTC) can do in such circumstances other than having quiet words and or banging heads together. Such action was taken in this instance.

### 2012

TG has prepared a draft of a revised fee structure for 2012. he will discuss this with MW and the result of their deliberations will be on the agenda of the next meeting.

TG MW

## **International Teams**

### F1A,B,C

It was agreed that the appointment process, operation and subsequent reporting on team management for 2011 was unfortunate and lessons must be learned for the future.

### Space

No team in 2011 hence nothing to report

### F1E

IK reported that progress of his one man team is proceeding

IK

### UK representation at CIAM

It was suggested that the membership of the CIAM Free Flight sub-committee would be more representative and effective if all members were nominated by their National Aero clubs and were required to represent their national views rather than the current system of appointment of a committee from the "great and the good". The chairman would clearly be an independent and separate appointment. Such a change would have to be submitted as a National proposal (and would presumably apply to more than just Free Flight). IK undertook to draw up a proposal document and to discuss it with MW before presentation to the Competition Secretary.

IK MW

### World Cup locations

IK stated that the situation has been changed for 2012 so that for any one competitor only two events flown in any one country can count.

### F1A,B,C Team selection 2012

TG had prepared a draft of the necessary rule book amendments and gave copies to all members for their review and discussion.

ALL

### Team Funding

MW has passed his paper (which amongst other items addresses the issues of bank rolling of team costs and control of cash flow) to the Hon Treasurer. The HT has undertaken to amalgamate it with his own thoughts and then come back to MW for further discussion.

MW

## **World Cup Events**

### Stonehenge Cup 2011/2011

Meeting successfully completed. MW to contact the team about running it again in 2012. TG reported that he has a potential sponsor for both the Equinox and Stonehenge if they go ahead.

### Equinox Cup 2011 Space

Nothing to report

MF

### Equinox Cup 2011 F1

JC reported that

- Publicity has been put out and 5 or 6 entries have been received from UK competitors
- Freebees, cups, stickers are sorted
- PB is dealing with prizes and trophies
- No CDs yet appointed

PB

## **Rules**

### SAM 35 and 1066 rules

JH reported that the rules are still being worked upon and will be presented to the SAM 35 and 1066 AGMs in October. JH

**Logistics of Radio Assist on Free Flight sites.**

JH reported that David Phipps has produced a report which will be going on the BMFA website. CS to ask him for a copy CS

**Clarification of the rules w.r.t.use of RCDT**

At the first trials a competitor used RCDT after a launch problem to achieve a sub 20 second flight which the CD accepted as a non-scoring attempt. There was concern expressed at the time and subsequently that this was incorrect and the flight should not have been classified as a non-scoring attempt. After detailed analysis of the BMFA rule book and discussion at the meeting the Committee agreed that the CD's decision was correct and therefore the repeated attempt was valid. It was agreed that a statement should be issued to clarify the situation for the rest of the 2011 season. CS and TG to work up wording for release along the lines of:- *The use of Radio DT to achieve a flight of under 20 seconds does not contravene the BMFA Rule 3.1.6 "Attempts For Official Flights".* CS TG

**Rule changes for 2012**

One further rule change proposal has been received (included as Appendix1)and will be included in News inviting comment. IK

A number of other "house keeping" rule changes are becoming apparent and IK will send a list to TG for consolidation onto a statement of proposed revisions for 2012.

In addition this will include

- Team selection rule changes are covered in "International Teams" above,.
- Clarification of RCDT rules

**Junior Championship**

I view of the very small number of juniors competing in the overall Calendar and the Nationals it was agreed not to proceed with the previous decision to move the Heather Trophy from the Nationals to a season long junior championship.

**Events**

**Free Flight Showcase 2010**

PB reported that he had not heard from Andrew Housden about the possibility of Competition Free Flight and Space Modelling taking part. JH undertook to chase up contact. PB will contact Paul Fynn who in understood to be willing it give some help, also contact PW about providing programme notes to Manny Williamson. JH

**A Forum type event**

PB suggested that a discussion day along the style of the previous Husbands Bosworth events addressing the future of Free Flight could be useful. TG suggested that it could take the form of a practical show and tell type event explaining some of the minor or even major mysteries of Free Flight with a combination of demonstration and practical training. It was agreed that this would be a good idea to develop. ALL

**Free Flight Info.**

**Website**

TG asked for members to contribute articles for the website

**FFTC Deliverables BMFA Growth**

CS to update as necessary CS

TG passed copies of a paper "BMFA Growth – Proposals for Spend" to the Committee. It was accepted by vote.

Proposed CS

Seconded JC

In favour ALL

CS to send to the BMFA Chairman CS

**A.O.B.**

**Expenses.**

The need for a policy on CDs expenses was raised and discussed. The difficulty is in maintaining a balance between control of costs and the variations in expectations between individuals. It was agreed that a common policy for both the Nationals and Centralised events should be adopted.

For the CD per day £25 plus 3 entry vouchers

For assistant CD £15 plus 2 entry vouchers

Proposed PB

Seconded TG

In favour ALL

MW to pick up the individual Nationals expense claim for Neil Cliff

MW

**Electric sub Committee**

CS to send minutes of previous meetings to PB

CS

**Next meetings**

**Dates**

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 11.00 am at Chacksfield House.

All  
booked  
20/05/11

Further date for meetings in 2011 to be : Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> November

FFTC 01/07/11

**Critical dates for FFTC**

**BMFA News Copy dates**    October Issue (108) – 12th August  
December Issue (109) – 4th November  
February 2012 Issue (110) – 16th December

**Full Council**                    Sept 10<sup>th</sup> Agenda deadline August 15<sup>th</sup>  
**Technical Council**        October 15<sup>th</sup> Agenda and CIAM deadline Sept 19<sup>th</sup>  
**FFTC meetings**            Sept 21<sup>st</sup>  
Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Appendix 1 Rule Change proposal**

I have never understood why Vintage Rubber is grouped with Vintage Power.

Vintage Glider stands by itself, so gliders fly against gliders. Similarly I think power should fly against power, and rubber against rubber.

I think there are enough numbers competing for separate classes, and can see no good reason why they should be combined.

I ask that this be considered when looking at rule changes.

Dennis Davitt