

BMFA
FREE FLIGHT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING 28th June 2012

Action

Present	Mike Woodhouse	MW	Phil Ball	PB
	Chris Strachan	CS	Trevor Grey	TG
	John Carter	JC	Ian Kaynes	IK
	Peter Williams	PW	Mike Francies	MF
	Jo Halman (guest)	JH		
Absent	John Huntley			

Minutes of 16/05/12 Accepted as a true and accurate record

Contest Calendar 2012 calendar
 No change other than Southern Gala moved to 22nd September on Salisbury Plain. TG
 V1.7c remains current.

Barkston Dates and Access

No problems at present

CD Expenses

The new system has now been publicised and used at the Northern and Southern Galas and at the Nationals. No problems have been found but few claims have been returned.

Team Selection 2

The planned date on Sculthorpe is not now available. MW has applied for Sculthorpe on 3/4th November and PB to request Barkston for the same date. A CD is required and PW to place a request in News. MW
PB
PW

2013 Calendar

TG circulated draft version V1.4a. . The following points were made

- Salisbury should be reserved for the Southern Gala as Rissington remains uncertain.)
- If Rissington becomes available it should be considered for the Midland Gala
- Space on 28 April will not be team selection
- Team selection 1 will be Barkston
- Swap 3rd and 4th Area meeting contents
- TG to circulate final version
- GPS coordinates for flying sites to go on website, not on calendar
- Think about BOGOF offers at northern and southern galas

Salisbury fund moneys

It was agreed that although JC is the budget holder for the Salisbury fund its performance and the disbursement of any surpluses is entirely under the control of Martin Dilly and the local team. The recent transfer of some surplus to the TTF was welcomed.

Nationals MW reported that the incomplete figures so far available indicate that the event will make a small profit. It was noted that

- Gate control still needs tightening.
- The Bowden should go on the entry form
- 50% of flight cards are never used. However preparation of the full quantity only takes some 12 ½ office hours and the efficiency on the field more than justifies this.
- Co-operation with SAM 35 worked well on the day. CS to invite them to the

- next meeting to discuss improvements in preparation and control for 2013 CS
- PB proposed a revised championship system for future Nationals. To be discussed before the 2013 event PB
- Andy Brough has offered to make new “Morley Box” for the Nationals. CS to write and accept. CS

Officer's Reports

Treasurer

JC reported all accounts healthy.

- The TTF is looking good and will have an easy time in 2013 (France) but will need to provide more support for Rumania in 2014
- The Stonehenge Cup fund is growing
- Equinox cup is breaking even so far

Council Delegate

TG presented his report on the Full Council meeting on 19th May. Report attached as Appendix A

PRO

Nothing to report other than the problems caused by the difficulty some people found in telling which events are to be held on each day of the Nationals. It was agreed that we should ensure that the information is on the main BMFA website.

Safety Officer/Results Coordinator

Results

The results are now coming out early which all welcomed. There was a slight delay in the Nationals results due to waiting for Aeromodeller publicity flyers. We need to close the loop to ensure that results get onto the BMFA website asap

Safety

Nothing to report.

Rules Officer

Change process is now working. See Rules below

CIAM feedback

Nothing to report

International Teams

F1A,B,C

MW now back in circulation following accident repairs. A successful team meeting has been held. Following a road accident there may be problems with Brian Baines taking up his team place. MW to chase up and inform reserve (PB) asap.

Space

Ok to go but some problems with availability of team manager due to family health issue. John Jacomb filling in at present.

F1E

All in order. IK to work up a team selection process more appropriate to today's conditions of difficulties with weather and flying sites together with low entry numbers in time for agreement at the next FFTC meeting.

FAI Competition calendar

Carry forward to next meeting

Team funding.

The proposals submitted to the Full Council on 19th May and subsequently withdrawn for further discussion were considered by the meeting in the light of existing systems and the FFTC's own comments passed to the study group in response to the request in the minutes of that meeting for inputs by 15th June. The meeting's considerations looked at existing systems, which for Free Flight work very well. We were also much influenced by the feeling that each discipline should be responsible for generating its own supplements to the competition funding properly distributed from BMFA budgeted funds. The FFTC await developments

with interest and thanked the Competition Secretary for her participation in the meeting.

**World Cup
Events**

Stonehenge Cup 2012

To be run again in 2013. No action at this time but it is hoped that the 2012 team will repeat their success. MW to ask in due course

MW

Equinox Cup 2012

JC to email publicity material to PW. JC to produce a new scoreboard.

JC
PW

Rules

Rule Changes for 2013

The rule change process is now in process and has already been publicised in News. A further reminder to be placed in the next News

TG PW

Radio Assist/ 2.4 Ghz

Nothing to report but item to remain and be carefully watched.

1066/Crookham appeal

JH informed us that she is near to a conclusion on the appeal.

Electric/Combined Power

To be detailed.

TG

Plugge eligibility rules

To be detailed

TG

1066/35 rules

CS reported that the only major rule differences were the relaxed eligibility criteria in the SAM rules and their inclusion of DT fly offs. In both case the meeting were clear that no change should be considered for the BMFA rules. A number of minor differences appear worthy of consideration and CS and TG agreed to consider further.

CS
TG

Extending RDT times while in flight

A query has been received from John Cooper on the legality/desirability of this practice. TG to consider the input and the discussion.

TG

F1Q Input to CIAM

TG presented an initial paper on the need for a change to F1Q rules and the basis of a possible approach. It was noted that the earliest possible date for implementation is January 2014 and to meet that date a proposal needs to go to Technical Council in October 2012. TG to continue with the development of a proposal in discussion with UK interested parties and IK.

TG

CIAM Sub Committees

A discussion of the structure and selection process for these committees once again looked at a number of issues

- The members are supposed to be technical experts but the smaller a sub-committee the harder to cover all the technical subjects
- The Chairman is his own country's member, which might be an invidious position. A separate chairman with a further delegate from his country would avoid this.
- There is cost pressure to keep the committees small
- The larger the sub-committee the greater the need for an independent chairman

The committee agreed that MW should put together a proposal for change for consideration by Technical Council.

MW

**Free Flight
Info.**

Website

The updating of the FFTC website is through Bryan Spooner and works OK Getting information onto the BMFA website has been difficult at times due to

illness of Chris Bromley and unclear alternative authorisation routes to the webmaster. JH stated that she is looking into the issue.

Events

Free Flight Showcase

All in hand between PB and Martin Dilly .

TG

Museum

See report from Council meeting in appendix A

FFTC

Nothing to report.

Deliverables

A.O.B.

There was no other business

Next

Dates

meetings

Wednesday 12th September 11.00 am at Chacksfield House.

FFTC 02/07/12

Critical dates for FFTC

BMFA News Copy dates October 2012 Issue (111) – deadline 19th August

Full Council Sept 10th Agenda deadline August 15th

Technical Council October 26th Agenda deadline September 17th

FFTC meetings 12th September

Appendix A

Full Council Meeting, 19th May 2012 – T.Grey

Items concerning or connected with FFTC

(see Council Agenda 19th May 2012)

1. Agenda item 8

The Vice Chairman presented a report on team funding (which he had been instructed to do at the previous Full Council meeting – 7th Jan 2012), together with a collection of proposals to enable implementation of the report's recommendations. These proposals were subsequently withdrawn due, amongst other reasons, as it was suggested that the report had not adhered to the original terms of reference.

Eventually the Vice Chairman asked that the Technical Committees submit their views and suggestions to him in writing. I suggested that he might like to come and hear the views of the FFTC first hand at an FFTC meeting – this he declined somewhat scathingly! Subsequent to this he was approached personally and agreed to consider the said visit. Finally he agreed to attend and then withdrew.

The FFTC – via the chairman and with contributions from other FFTC members – submitted their views in a short paper by the required deadline (15th June 2012 ?) with copies sent to the CEO and Competition Secretary.

2. Agenda item 9

The Competition Secretary and Records Officer were required, by the recently approved rules, to request permission to seek nomination for re-election as both had served for over 10 years. A closed ballot was enacted and the Competition Secretary's application approved; the Records Officer's was declined.

3. Agenda Item 13

The London Area Delegate (M.Dilly) expressed his concern that there was a lack of information on the FFTC website with regard to which events were on which days at the 2012 Free Flight Nationals. I replied that we (FFTC) did not previously think this was necessary as the information could be freely obtained from other sources – BMFA News, Entry Form, Published Programme, etc. I did however say that we would look at the situation again for the 2013 event.

4. Agenda Item 15

A proposal (15 vi on the agenda) had included references to the Free Flight Nationals with respect to postponements in extreme weather. Comments, before the meeting, to the inclusion of these references had produced the response that these were drafting errors and would be withdrawn from the proposal. This proved to be the case and the references to the Free Flight Nationals were withdrawn from the proposal.

5. Agenda Item 16

I submitted a written report on the state of preparedness of the (then) upcoming Free Flight Nationals (notwithstanding item 4. above) and this was accepted.

6. Agenda Item 19

Under AOB I asked for a progress report on the “Museum” proposal. The answer was effectively: still working at it but nothing definite achieved.

I further asked for a progress report on our (FFTC) submissions for spending any extra amount received from an increase in income. To quote the minutes: “... Unfortunately nobody could recollect this and the Chairman advised that we would have to look in to it...”.

Subsequent to this the FFTC Secretary (Chris Strachan) checked that the submissions had in fact been sent and that also he was in receipt of an acknowledgement letter to that effect from the said Chairman...

5. Next Meeting

The next Full Council Meeting will take place at Husband’s Bosworth (again).

T.G. 26.6.12