

BMFA
FREE FLIGHT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING 16th May 2012

Action

Present	Chris Strachan	CS	Phil Ball	PB
	John Carter	JC	Trevor Grey	TG
	Peter Williams	PW	Ian Kaynes	IK
	Dick Roberts	DR	Mike Francies	MF

Apologies	John Huntley	JH	Mike Woodhouse	MW
------------------	--------------	----	----------------	----

CS chaired the meeting in MW's absence and welcomed DR as SAM 35 stand in for JH

Minutes of 14/03/12 Accepted as a true and accurate record

Matters Arising Little Rissington

CS reported that Dave Phipps has had difficulty chasing up the licence application due to changes at Cranwell. However contact has now been established with the new admin officer and he is trying to contact the the air commodore now responsible for ATC operations. Once the latest situation is clear a discussion can be made for the Southern Gala but it was agreed that a deadline for progress should be the end of next week, 25th May.

CS

Toilets on Salisbury Plain.

TG reported that booking is now entirely through Landmarc and has nothing to do with the military. Landmarc keep a full record and there has been no problem in adjusting their bill when problems have occurred.

Contest Calendar 2012 calendar

No change and V1.7c remains current.

Barkston Dates and Access

No problems at present. PB stated that the closing time situation appears to have become more sensible.

FOD on Barkston

The stir caused by a military FOD Plod finding some small model debris and a lost model has now been overcome with the assistance of the liaison officer. It was agreed that PW should put a note in News reminding that on all flying sites FOD is a potential problem (including fag ends) and we should all take care.

PW

Conduct on Salisbury Area 8

A briefing note from Martin Dilly detailing conduct required from users by the military was circulated and discussed. It was agreed that it should be made available to all users.

MW's accident on Area 8

The committee expressed their concern over Mike's accident and wished him well. The successful rescue emphasised the importance of mobile phones being carried and listed to the CD. PW to put a piece in News stressing the point.

PW

CD Expenses

It was agreed that the expenses process documented by PB and tested at the Northern and London Galas was a success and that it should be fully adopted for the Nationals and subsequent Centralised events. The following points were proposed by PW, seconded by TG and unanimously agreed.

- The mileage rate will be 35p
- Overnight B&B allowance to be £45
- Claims must use the BMFA expense form and must be submitted within 28

days of the event.

- Vouchers will be given in addition
- The FFTC contact for each event will offer and explain the use of the system with each CD

PB to update the explanatory document and pass to PW for inclusion in News

PB PW

2013 Calendar

TG had previously circulated a first draft which was discussed at length. The following points were made

- Combined events have their problems but are widely accepted and a radical change was expected to do more harm than good. However some change to the Galas reflecting local preferences might be appropriate. An example could be to stick with combined at the Northern Gala where there is more enthusiasm for vintage and classic classes but to feature more separate events in the South at the two day events. Separate events should certainly remain at the Nationals. (Electric to be removed from combined power whatever)
- Trials would be preferred in June and earlier in September
- Equinox Cup to be moved earlier
- IK to send F1E dates to TG
- Space to be same as for 2012
- RC assist to be removed.
- TG to produce a second draft
- PW and PB to collect GPS coordinates for flying sites and to pass them to TG for inclusion in the Calendar and on the web site

IK

TG
TG

Postponement of Events

The relevant item in the Council agenda for 19th May was discussed. Although we have been assured that this is a drafting error the Committee was mindful that this has been proposed by at least one individual in the past. In discussion there was the strongest agreement that to permit postponement on operational or weather related reason would be highly damaging. JC proposed and PB seconded that our Council delegate should reject the proposal. Carried with 6 in favour and one abstention. TG to present this view at Council

TG

Nationals

MW provided the meeting with a copy of his Actions and Progress and a statement of outstanding issues. These were

- The timing and details of SAM car boot sale remain unknown. DR agreed to find out the situation and inform MW.
- Hanger availability yet to be confirmed.
- Office still waiting for address labels in order to start sending out competitor papers
- CDs available for Saturday and sought for Sunday and Monday. TG to send list of possibles to MW

DR

MW

TG MW

Officer's Reports

Treasurer

JC reported a satisfactory end of year position on all accounts.

- The TTF stands at £3400 of which £1400 is to be paid to 2012 teams
- T&E stands at £1500 for 2012
- Contest fund has had a good year and he proposed that for 2013 we could promote selected Galas by giving free entry. To be further considered at the next meeting

CS

Council Delegate

MF attended the Tech Council meeting and stated that all CIAM proposals were put forward as we had recommended. Nothing else to report

TG will attend the Council meeting on 16th May and asked for guidance on the

- Central Team Funding proposals. After discussion the meeting agreed that
- The proposal is over complex yet leaves a lot of questions unanswered
 - The sources of funds are various and of disparate certainty
 - There is no justification offered as to why funds that might be used to build up the Societies reserves and /or for the benefit of all members are to be devoted to team support
 - The administrative process proposed is over complex, incomplete and requires a completely unrealistic in timescale.

It was proposed by DR and seconded by PW that TG should propose that the whole proposal should be withdrawn and widely circulated to Technical Committees for detailed consideration and that all specific proposals should be rejected.

TG

Proposed DR, seconded PW All in favour.

PRO

Nothing to report

Safety Officer/Results Coordinator

Results

Still to check that club memberships match all members' entry details. It was suggested the PB that a sample check should be sufficient

PB

Safety

Nothing to report.

Rules Officer

Need to start the change process by making a request for input in News

TG PW

CIAM feedback

Nothing to report from IK on Free Flight. MF reported that Space were able to make useful contributions in the discussion and voting on a number of submissions from other countries.

International Teams

F1A,B,C

All in order. Nothing to report

Space

All in order. Nothing to report

F1E

Steve Philpott will not be taking his team place, both reserves had previously dropped out of consideration, so team will consist of Ian Kaynes and Paul Fynn only. IK to inform Comp Sec of these changes and to request Paul Fynn be named as assistant team manager.

IK

FAI Competition calendar

World Cup proposal was passed by CIAM in original form with 4 events counting – UK suggestion for 5 events to count was not supported at the FF Technical Meeting.

World Cup Events

Stonehenge Cup 2012

Good event, Peter Tribe managed it very well, to be sent official letter of thanks by CS

CS

Equinox Cup 2012

Going to plan. Entry forms to go out in June

Rules

Radio Assist/ 2.4 ghz

Nothing to report but item to remain and be carefully watched. It was felt in discussion that we must further expand our thinking around the relationship between Free Flight as we know it and Radio as it is developing.

CS

1066/Crookham appeal

SAM 1066 have appealed against our decision at the previous meeting. At present

the appeal is with the Competition Secretary and we await developments.

Electric/Combined Power

The removal of BMFA Electric from combined power will be effective in the 2013 rules and should be included in the Rule Change process to permit further comment. TG

Plugge eligibility rules

The Crookham appeal has shown the need to clarify the membership requirements for the allocation of Plugge Cup scores. TG to draft a rule revision TG

1066/35 rules

A set of combined rules (based upon the BMFA Rule Book), produced by a combined 35/1066 team and coordinated by Tony Shepard, has been published on the 1066 web site. DR undertook to determine its status within SAM 35 as it does not appear in any of their publications. CS to produce a summary of the differences and scope for integration. DR CS

F1Q Input to CIAM

The current F1Q rules appear to have produced a virtual collapse in F1Q entries and have proved to offer no realistic method of determining engine runs other than the use of a limiter. Such devices are certainly not generally available and their cost and the ancillary equipment needed by both competitors and organisers is a source of argument and concern. The possibility of submission of a rule correction for 2013 and a full rule change for 2014 was discussed. IK stated that the chance of getting two changes accepted was zero. It was agreed that a meeting should be set up between the interested UK parties and IK to discuss options and compose a best approach to improving the situation. TG

Free Flight Info.

Website

PB queried that results are not appearing on the web site. He will speak to Bryan Spooner. PB TG

Events

Technical Workshop

TG is considering a further workshop or similar event in early 2013 TG

Free Flight Showcase

PB to talk once more to Martin Dilly about possibilities PB

Museum

TG to query progress at the Council meeting TG

FFTC Deliverables

Nothing to report.

BMFA Growth

Report awaited from DP

A.O.B.

IK reported that the F1E comp in April was not held when closer liaison with the Sheffield club to safeguard the site revealed a problem with nesting birds!

Next meetings

Dates

Thursday 21st June 11.00 am at Chacksfield House.
Wednesday 12th September 11.00 am at Chacksfield House.

FFTC 17/05/12

Critical dates for FFTC

BMFA News Copy dates August 2012 Issue (111) – deadline 29th June
Full Council **May 19th** Agenda deadline April 23rd
Technical Council October 26th Agenda deadline September 17th
FFTC meetings 21st June, 12th September