

BMFA
FREE FLIGHT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING 30th January 2013

				Action
Present	Mike Woodhouse	MW	Phil Ball	PB
	Chris Strachan	CS	Trevor Grey	TG
	John Carter	JC	Ian Kaynes	IK
	Stuart Darmon	SD	Mike Francies	MF
			Dave Phipps (part time)	DP
Apologies	Ian Lever			
Minutes of 21.11.12	Accepted			
Matters Arising	<u>BMFA News calendar amendments.</u>			
	TG reported that the system set up after the last meeting proved not to work in practice. Discussion later in this meeting produced agreement that in future TG will report and problems direct to DP who will then authorise the required changes			DP TG
Contest Calendar	<u>2013 calendar</u>			
	Latest version 1d to be issued asap. Changes to include confirmation of Northern Gala at Church Fenton, trials co-ordinator to be given as tba and trials fall-back date to be moved to 12/13 th October			TG
	<u>Barkston availability</u>			
	Resurfacing has now started. DP reported that there will be no "Casual" use before the end of March. Dates after this are being accepted. In particular the Nationals has been accepted and booked. SD to mention in News. However many other dates are at present showing clashes with motor sport use and negotiations are continuing.			SD
	<u>Salisbury fund moneys</u>			
	CS to draft a letter to those who have recently contributed to the fund informing them of the intention to hold the fee at the 2012 level of £15, retain £1000 as a reserve and transfer the balance to the TTF. DP will take on the role of account controller.			CS DP
SAM 35 Relationship	SAM 35 now report directly to the Chief Executive. All Technical Committees will offer an open invitation to SAM 35 to attend their meetings as non-voting guests and SAM 35 will be expected to accept when matters of mutual interest require.			
Nationals 2013	<u>SAM Presence in 2013</u>			
	MW reported that, following his informing Ian Lever that the FFTC were unable to countenance a radio assist flightline at the Free Flight Nationals, Ian had stated that there would be no SAM 35 presence at the event. SD has produced an explanatory note and it was agreed that this should go out as part of News from the FFTC.			SD
	<u>Vintage Team Race</u>			
	DP stated that vintage team race (Dave Finch) have asked if they can be at the Free Flight Nats this year. DP contact Dave Finch and ask him to contact MW.			DP
	<u>Entry Form</u>			
	The final draft of the entry form was agreed with the suggestion that a note should be added to make it as clear as possible that the Bowden is now a full BMFA event and it is to the advantage of competitors to pre-enter.			MW
	<u>Bowden trophy.</u>			
	MW to speak to Ian Middlemiss about being CD in 2013 and to ensure no problems arising from views on the departure of SAM 35.			MW

Space modelling

MF stated that he will be unable to attend this year but at the FAIR AGM a new co-ordinator will be appointed MF

Gate control

The need for improved gate control was discussed. It was agreed that the use of the ticket machine from the Power Nationals would be too costly. DP suggested using a version of the Power Nationals paper ticket system and this was agreed. MW will follow up. DP MW

Progress

MW and DP to meet with Roy Wright on Monday 4th February to agree initial arrangements. DP MW

Officer's Reports

Treasurer

All accounts OK.

Council Delegate

Report on Council Meeting already circulated and no matters arising. Awards have been made to PB and to the F1C team and will be presented at the RAF Club on 23rd April. PB

A new records officer has been appointed and has asked for help with the allocation of awards. TG to assist. TG

The CIAM position on drug taking should be noted. In 2012 tests were made at at least one Champs. Team members to be reminded to get a TU Exemption certificate if necessary. MW IK

PRO

SD reported that he has now completed his house move and can focus on PR work. It was felt that we need to think about counteracting the SAM 35 attempt to monopolise "Real Aeromodelling" and SD agreed to draft some ideas SD

Safety Officer/Results Coordinator

Results

PB stated that he had little to report but he needs to sort and present a Junior Championship trophy from 2012 to Joseph Gibbs PB

Safety

Nothing to report. MW pointed out that we must be prepared for more emphasis on Risk assessments and expect sites to require that they be updated annually.

Rules Officer

The 2013 Rulebook is now published. Nothing else to report

International Teams

Team Managers

Three applications for team managers had been received by the cut-off date. These were voted upon as follows:

Team Manager F1A,B,C

Applicant M Woodhouse Proposed CS Seconded TG Votes All in favour

Team Manager F1E

Applicant Ian Kaynes Proposed JC Seconded SD Votes All in favour

Assistant Team manager F1E

Applicant S Philpott Proposed JC Seconded SD Votes All in favour

No application has been received for ATM for F1A,B,C. MW to explore options CS to inform the Competition Secretary, and to was noted that she has called a meeting for all 2013 Team Managers, to be held on 9th February. CS

Progress report F1A,B,C 2013

MW reported that entries have been sent in and all members have already made accommodation arrangements.

Progress report F1E 2013

Nothing to report

Team selection for 2013

JC has prepared a paper suggesting improvements to the team selection process following lessons learned during 2012, attached as Appendix 1. This was discussed at length and items 1,2,4,5 and 6, all of which could be introduced without a rule change were accepted for inclusion in a set of operating instructions. These will also include suggestions from PB on mandatory timing of rounds, JC's suggestion to appoint a jury at the start of each event and any relevant items from previous guidelines which will be provided by MW. TG undertook to pull all of these inputs together and circulate for review and subsequent discussion at the next meeting.

PB

MW

TG

Trials Co-ordinator

JC will not undertake this role in 2013 and the search is on for a replacement. SD to follow up one possibility.

SD

Trials CDs

Bryan Spooner agreed to undertake the first weekend. Paul Fynn offered to do the second. CS to contact Paul and accept his offer subject to his agreement to the above operating instructions.

CS

Stonehenge Cup 2013

Stonehenge Cup 2013

An offer to run the event has been received from Peter Tribe and accepted. JC to link up with Peter and to be the FFTC liaison link.

JC

Equinox Cup Rules

2013

JC will run it in 2013. Nothing to report at present.

E36 rules

The draft E36 rules have been widely circulated and the first event was run successfully at the Crookham Gala on 27th January. As intended the flexibility of the rules was exploited successfully on a very windy day. CS to send a copy of the BMFA draft rules to MW.

CS

PR on BMFA and FFTC websites

BMFA

Ease of access from here to the FFTC website is poor

FFTC

It is felt that the FFTC site is too difficult to access or manipulate. SD and TG to look at more information for newcomers.

SD agreed to pick up both these issues now that he has more time available.

SD

Events

A future event

TG is working on the possibility of a workshop event combined with the FF Forum.

TG

Future Calendar

2014

MW's paper had been circulated and discussed and the general feeling is that we have evolved into a situation where most participants are happy with what we are doing and so there seems to be little point in trying to make radical improvements. MW will produce a "philosophy statement" to summarize where we might go from here.

MW

Future of Free Flight verses Radio

CS raised the need to start thinking about how Free Flight and Radio might fit together in the future. After some discussion TG offered to contribute some thoughts.

TG

AOB

- A five year FAI licence is now available at a lower price per year than the one year rate

- Some redundant RAFMA trophies have been offered to BMFA Technical committees. MW to obtain a list. MW
- MW asked that all FFTC members will provide him with job descriptions ALL
- IK reported that he had been offered a slope soaring trophy previously won by George Fuller. He proposed to use it for F1E. All agreed.
- MF stated that this will have been his last FFTC meeting and a replacement delegate will be appointed at the FAIR AGM in February. The meeting thanked Mike for his regular attendance and the help he has been both in securing the relationship between FAIR and Free Flight and his contributions on wider issues and discussions. IK

Next meetings **Dates :**
Wednesday 20th March 11.00 am at Chacksfield House. (note this is a change)
Wednesday 8th May 11.00 am at Chacksfield House.

FFTC 01/02/13

Critical dates for FFTC

BMFA News Copy dates April 2013 Issue– 16th February 2013
Full Council
Technical Council
FFTC meetings 20th March, 8th May

Appendix A

Team Selection.

We have tried in 2012 a new [if not readopted an old] system to select our teams for the following championships. I believe this system should be used for the selection in 2013 and at least 2014. [Maybe we consider later to incorporate the w/ cups Stonehenge/Equinox but would need a complete rule change, something for later discussion] It became apparent during the two meeting that we need to add a few additional rules and guide lines in order to have a better chance to achieve a series of events that are as near to the principle in the rule book as we can. I.e. 2x 7 round events flown in favourable conditions with if necessary fly offs to determine the team placing's One major problem is finding willing and competent CDs. The guys flying would be the best to be CD but it is not practical with the present rules.

1/ THE START TIME ON THE FIRST DAY SHOULD REMAIN AS 9 AM *but be amended to 8am for the second day [Sunday] provided access is available to the site used.*

2/ THE FINISH TIME ON THE FIRST DAY TO BE AS NOW *but again amend the finish time on the second day first meeting to be able to fly rounds to end at sunset [no fly offs at this first meeting]*

3/FINISH TIME FINAL DAY, *amend the finish time to one hr. before sunset*

THE ABOVE CHANGES WILL OPEN UP MORE TIME TO GET IN THE 7 ROUNDS AS INTENDED IN THE RULES.

4/ *Specify a standard round time as was in the old rules 30minutes per round*

5/ *specify the order and sequence of flying ROUND OF F1A THEN BREAK THEN COMBINED F1B/F1C.*

6/ SPECIFY A STANDARD BREAK BETWEEN ROUND SUCCESSIVE ROUNDS THIS TO BE EITHER 15 MINUTES [PROVIDED EASY RETRIEVEL] OR 30 MINUTES MAXIMUM [IF WIND OR HARD GOING IE SALISBURY]

8/ MAXIMUM TO BE FLOWN REMOVE FROM THE RULES THE ABILITY TO REDUCE THE MAX FLY 3 MINUTES ALLWAYS APART FROM ONE ROUND AT INCREASED MAX TO 3.5 MINS FOR F1A AND 4.0 MINS FOR B/C

9/ REMOVE FROM THE RULES THE REFERENCE TO FOLLOWING YR RULE 3.2.4.1[A] [This will allow the selection to be completed in the same yr. as the champs they are for.]

10/MINIMUM NUMBER OR ROUNDS TO COUNT amended to be 10 not as now 3 .3 is not enough?