

**BMFA  
FREE FLIGHT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING 19th June 2013**

Action

<b>Present</b>	Mike Woodhouse	MW	Phil Ball	PB
	Chris Strachan	CS	Trevor Grey	TG
	John Carter	JC	Ian Kaynes	IK
	Stuart Darmon	SD	Nigel Bathe	NB
			Dave Phipps (part time)	DP

**Absent** Ian Lever  
**Apologies**

**Minutes of 08.05.13** Accepted

**Matters Arising**

- SD reported that he has written to Aeromodeller but as yet has had no response.
- CD boxes have now been completed and are held by JC, Peter tribe, TG, and Dave Oldfield
- TG undertook to make sure that signs are available and used for the London and Southern galas on Salisbury.

TG

**Contest Calendar** 2013 Calendar  
Version V1f remains current.

East Anglian Gala  
All arrangements are in place

Barkston availability  
Although resurfacing work is now complete Barkston is now being used at weekends to catch up on a backlog of training. Until further notice it will not be available for Area meetings which will be held at North Luffenham.

First Thoughts for 2014 Calendar  
TG presented a draft calendar of dates for 2014. A number of points were raised in discussion and the following changes were agreed

- London Gala to be moved to 4<sup>th</sup> May
- 1st Team Selection to be moved to 21/ 22<sup>nd</sup> June
- 2nd Team Selection to be moved to 30/31<sup>st</sup> August
- Equinox Cup to move to 27/28 September
- 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> F1E to be moved to earlier dates
- Space events to be at London and EA Galas and Nationals.

TG to produce the next draft including contest to be run at each event. This might include the running of a selection of events at the second day of each team selection meeting.

TG

**SAM 35 Relationship** Nothing to report. It was agreed that SAM would be welcome at the 2014 nationals subject to appropriate agreements. MW to contact SAM 35 (Brian Lever?) to start discussion process.

MW

**Nationals 2013** DP joined the meeting for these discussions  
2013

MW reported that at this early stage it looks as if we will have made a reasonable profit, largely due to gate takings' being well above budget. A few outstanding points were covered

- A protest from John Billam with respect to the late fly-offs on Saturday is agreed as unfounded. SD to explain to John. SD
- A protest on the Bowden results has been satisfied once the protester had agreed that his protest was based on the 1948 rulebook!
- Results from the Bowden, Space and Scale were produced in their own formats and lead to a two stage release of results after the event. A standard format will be adopted in 2014
- Why don't we send out the results by email? Agreed, email address to be added in 2014
- PB expressed concern at the safety issues resulting from the operation of a radio model downwind from the launch point. This had been previously agreed but should be avoided in future.

PB proposed a different way of calculating the Championships in future (attached as Appendix A). This will require the use of the FFTC laptop and PB was confident that he could handle the process over the three days. The adoption of this approach was voted upon:-

Proposed PB

Seconded CS

Accepted unanimously.

### **2013 Nats report**

MW to produce the Nats report

MW

### **2014**

MW presented an initial paper stating that he will not be doing the co-ordination in 2014 (after having established and taken on the role in the last 12 years). This paper, with some modifications based on the subsequent discussion, is attached as Appendix C. The role as operated over those years involves both the preparation and planning of the event and the on-site leadership on all 3 days, which makes flying at the Nationals impossible. This led to substantial discussion of how to handle the Nats in future. Points made included

- A co-ordinator is needed dawn to dusk on each day. These persons should do no flying and should (this was not universally agreed) be an FFTC member (different one each day?). PB volunteered to fill this role on the Sunday. PB
- More support from the office, led by DP, could provide the control of the pre-event logistics. DP acting as co-ordinator would run the two initial planning meetings and decide on outstanding issues. The daily co-ordinators should be responsible for the recruitment and support of the CD and his scorers. DP
- PR needs to be well handled.
- Results officer should collect the results each day

MW will write up the process and procedures as it has been up to and including 2013. An overview of where we might go in future possibly suggesting a different way which the Committee could take in future is attached as Appendix C.

MW

### **Nationals accounts**

The separation of the Nationals accounts from all other Free Flight accounts arose for historical reasons but it is the Committee's view that it now makes little sense. The return of the Nationals accounts to the Free Flight Competition account would provide more flexibility and has been discussed with both the Chairman and PD. The next step is for MW to discuss with the Hon Treasurer

MW

<b>Officer's Reports</b>	<p><b><u>Treasurer</u></b> JC reported that all accounts are OK. The Stonehenge Cup achieved a £300 positive result.</p> <p><b><u>Council Delegate</u></b> Report from Full Council had been circulated and is attached as appendix B. TG asked that MW investigate point 2 (agenda item 6).</p> <p><b><u>PRO</u></b> SD reported that he is awaiting a response from Aeromodeller and has also sent them details of the Equinox Cup. He is still having problems with his computer and email and agreed that once the next News is complete he will send it to TG for circulation. He will also return the FFTC laptop and printer to TG who will attempt to sort out the lack of file structure in the records of the previous PRO. It was agreed that TG should visit and work with SD to sort out these problems as necessary.</p> <p><b><u>Results Officer</u></b> No problems other than with some Nationals events (see elsewhere)</p> <p><b><u>Safety Officer</u></b> See under Nationals</p> <p><b><u>Rules Officer</u></b> Nothing else to report other than items covered by Rules below</p>	<p>MW</p> <p>SD TG TG</p>
<b>International Teams</b>	<p><b><u>Progress report F1A,B,C 2013</u></b> Team meeting held. All set up and planned. A further team meeting will be held in France two days before the event.</p> <p><b><u>Progress report F1E 2013</u></b> Steve Philpott's health is still in doubt and Doug Bartle is no longer available as a reserve, so it may end up as a two man team</p> <p><b><u>Team selection 2013</u></b> Entries are coming in.</p>	<p>MW</p> <p>IK</p>
<b>Stonehenge Cup 2013</b>	<p><b><u>2013</u></b> Event went well and made a profit. See treasurers report.</p>	
<b>Equinox Cup</b>	<p><b><u>2013</u></b> All underway. Entry forms passed to MW for distribution in France.</p>	<p>JC</p>
<b>Rules</b>	<p><b><u>E36 Progress</u></b> Trial events continuing. A good entry of E36s (flying in BMFA Electric) was received at the Nationals and the next private trial event will be at the East Anglian Gala.</p> <p><b><u>Rule change proposals</u></b> A statement of rule change proposals and feedback received so far was circulated before the meeting. These were discussed and the Committee's responses are :- <b>I Separate BMFA 1/2A from F1J and run as a three flight contest.</b> <i>We do not wish to have an additional class (too many already) and to run F1J to three flights would open FIH and FIG to similar pressure. As a compromise we are inclined to increase the BMFA 1/2A run to 9 seconds</i></p> <p><b>2 Ball race motors in SLOP</b> <i>We are inclined to no change as plenty of motors are available – both new and second hand</i></p>	

### **3 Not discussed**

*This is not really a proposal more a comment.*

### **4 Timing of engine runs**

*We are interested in the suggestion that if there is a burble after the watch is stopped then (1 or 2?) seconds should be added to the watch reading.*

### **5 Revision to HLG and CLG to produce fly-offs**

*We are inclined to support this.*

TG to write up these proposals and reactions and add to next News  
SD wished to raise a proposal on the introduction of a simple F1A class. SD to write this up and send it to CS

TG  
SD  
CS

### **PR on BMFA and FFTC websites**

#### **BMFA**

Ease of access from here to the FFTC website is poor

#### **FFTC**

SD stated that he considers the site to be quite good. Needs some contacts, sources of help, supplier information etc. Main problem seems to be getting Bryan to work to a consistent standard. He will keep working on it.

SD

#### **Free Flight/Radio future**

TG circulated a paper and asked for comments.

ALL

### **Events**

#### **A future event**

TG reported that he no longer has the time to work on this event. He is happy to pass on the work done so far. To be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

CS

#### **Free Flight Tent at the 2013 Power Nats**

Martin Dilly has asked if the FFTC will be doing this next year. It was agreed that we will not. CS to inform Martin

CS

### **2014**

#### **FFTC Membership**

Papers will be sent out shortly and must be returned by 12<sup>th</sup> August.

### **AOB**

#### **Museum**

Jim Wright is still working on this and may consider Husbands Bosworth.

#### **PA System**

It was agreed that we need our own FFTC portable PA System. MW to ask DaveOldfield to look at some options and prices

MW

### **Next meetings**

#### **Dates**

Wednesday 18th September 11.00 am at Chacksfield House.

FFTC 21/06/13

#### **Critical dates for FFTC**

<b>BMFA News Copy dates</b>	Oct 2013 Issue– 3 <sup>rd</sup> August 2013 (estimated)
<b>Full Council</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> September Agenda deadline 12 <sup>th</sup> August
<b>Technical Council</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> October Agenda deadline 23 <sup>rd</sup> September
<b>FFTC meetings</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> September

### **Appendix A**

**Received from Phil Ball 07/06/13**

Can we discuss again my proposal from last year to update the above to include several of the popular events that do not currently count towards the Championships.

My proposal is as follows:-

1 Add P30 to the Rubber Championship, SLOP to the Power Championship and Classic Glider to the Glider Championship, and perhaps in the future E36 to the Electric Championship.

2 Use Senior champs points to make calculation easier and also to enable a running total to be established and so increase interest at the event.

3 Winner to be the contestant with the highest points total of the best 3 events.

Reasoning behind the above proposal.

1 Currently only Glider has competition in depth, only 2 contested all three Power events, 3 contested all 3 Rubber events and only 2 contested all 3 Electric events.

2 Adding popular events will increase the status of the Championship, SLOP was the most popular power event and P30 was the second most popular rubber event yet neither are currently included.

3 Using Senior Champs points will not only give credit where its due but also make calculation easier and enable running totals to be established.

4 Best 3 from will make the award more open and perhaps breathe life into the awards.

Regards Phil

## **Appendix B**

### **Full Council Meeting, 18th May 2013 – T.Grey**

Items concerning or connected with FFTC

(see: Full Council Agenda 18.5.13))

As FFTC council delegate I attended the full council meeting on May 18th at the BMFA Office Leicester. Another recent death - John Shaw - was announced to the meeting and condolences noted.

#### 1. Agenda item 4

The minutes of the January Full Council meeting were corrected with reference to the replacement of Stafford Screen (deceased) by Simon Dixon (F1C team for 2013 World Championships). Stafford was second reserve and had been incorrectly noted as a 'flying' member of the team.

#### 2. Agenda item 6

The Honorary Treasurer presented a financial report which included details of allocations from the Central Team Travel Fund (CTTF) to various teams including Free Flight. Frankly I did not understand the calculations - despite asking for clarification - so I have appended a copy of the calculation sheet to this report. Also appended is an e-mail from the Hon Treasurer concerning a request he made at the meeting for a transfer from the development fund to the CTTF, due to a possible deficit in income. The e-mail explains why this transfer will no longer be required.

#### 3. Agenda Item 9

The Honorary Secretary's report included a proposal that the distribution of minutes from Executive Council meetings should be restricted to Full Council members only, and further that 'confidential item minutes' should be distributed only to the Executive Council members. The meeting passed this proposal - I voted against.

There was an additional suggestion that he 'might' introduce a proposal to remove tech committee representatives from full council meetings (to reduce the size of the meeting). This suggestion was not well received and I in particular voiced my disapproval.

#### 4. Agenda Item 10

The Technical Secretary was not present so his proposals for 'tidying up' the BMFA General Rules with respect to contests and events titling, publication and entry requirement, were held over until the next Full Council Meeting. The proposals are detailed in full in the meeting agenda.

#### 5. Agenda Item 16

This item determined the eligibility of the Chairman, Technical Secretary, and Treasurer for re-election as each had served for more than 10 years. The Chairman declined to stand for another term and the Treasurer was given permission to stand again. However The Tech Secretary (Chris Bromley) did not achieve the required 75% in favour vote. His term will now end at the next AGM (November 2013).

#### 6. Agenda Item 17

I gave a brief report on the state of preparation of the Free Flight Nationals, i.e. all OK.

#### 7. Agenda Item 19

During the reports of the Treasurer/ CEO/BMFA News Publishers I asked why the Editor of BMFA News was not having his contract renewed (rumour/word on the street had indicated this). The CEO confirmed this as fact and gave the reason/s that generally there had been problems with the Editor fulfilling all the conditions of his contract, and that this coupled with some personality conflicts had led to the decision not to renew the contract.

#### 8. General

a) There was a presentation by Jim Wright on the state of progress with the proposed 'Museum'. Some discussion took place but no firm conclusions were reached. The general feeling seemed to be that it was necessary to combine the museum with a permanent flying site. All the documentation received at this presentation is available from Jim Wright at: [jim.wright@dsl.pipex.com](mailto:jim.wright@dsl.pipex.com) . This documentation is worth reading if you have particular feelings on this project.

b) The Club Bulletin would no longer be sent by post and only by e-mail.

c) It was also reported that at the 2013 dinner there would not be a 'disco', and that a photographer would be employed to take a record of all the prize-winners.

#### 9. Next Meeting

The next Full Council Meeting will take place on Sat 7.8.13, venue to be decided.

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Attached : 1) CTTF Accounts  
2) Treasurer e-mail

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## **Appendix C**

### **FREE FLIGHT NATIONALS 2014**

Below is a summary of thoughts with respect to the Free Flight Nationals as presented to the FFTC on 19<sup>th</sup> June. Modified from the draft as a result of said meeting.

#### **Scenario**

What do we want?

Do we want the same as now?

If so what do we need to carry this out?

MJW as Chairman will not take the centre role and do all the detail work as been done for this and the last few years. The Chairman will simply coordinate. This is not a sudden decision, I've been pondering on it for a while. I used this year's event to watch and think through what should/could be done in the future. This central organisational/work role has happened because MJW has simply absorbed the job and as allowed it to happen. We need to spread the work, if, for no other reason than, to have cover.

#### **Where from here? Some options?**

The first and simple option is that somebody else on the FFTC takes on the complete role that MJW has been doing.

Another alternative is that the BMFA Office do more and the balance of workload to be shared amongst the rest of the FFTC members at all stages of pre, post and during the event. This is the way I believe that it should go. This way there is more cover and it becomes fair for all.

How would this work? Details follow.

#### **FFTC at the nats**

Each of the three days a different member of the FFTC should take charge. This person will have to give up their flying on that day.

That FFTC member to take overall charge and be available at control for question, query and give direction. This is a necessity for the event to operate as a composite operation. An FFTC member is the best person to carry out the task being au fait with what is required.

I consider this to be essential part of running the type of event that we have developed. This required dedication is likely to expand further with the return of SAM35 etc.

The FFTC as a whole need to be available all of the time to help the initial set up and take down each day and be of general assistance to the day FFTC member. This assistance means Friday afternoon through to the Monday evening. Failing a full weekend cover the FFTC members need to be on hand or available to help as much as possible with the logistics. FFTC members when present to remember to keep an eye on the overall picture.

#### **FFTC prior to the nats**

There is some overlap with what actually happens at the Nats.

Chairman will retain outline coordination however more help has to be provided as follows.

Budget – The FFTC treasurer to be more involved with the production of the national's budget to ensure that the financial criteria are achieved.

PR - The FFTC PR Officer to take the total responsibility for all PR for the event. This is from the entry form through to BMFA News and notes for the competitors, public and the CDs.

Liaison with the site manager - The BMFA office to take over the role and work with the FFTC.

Daily FFTC Nats Officer - to take responsibility of the finding of CDs for the day and organising the day's events. To be there to ensure that all works well, from the set up to the conclusion of the fly offs and prize giving. The CDs manage the event the FFTC officer to keep the watching brief on the totality of the day. All to communicate across the FFTC. All to prompt and the chairman to keep a weather eye open.

### **Results**

Results – The FFTC results officer to take full responsibility for collection, collating and reporting on and off the field. Includes the calculation of championships and the involved ancillary events. The organisation of the awards prior to and the presentation at the event. The forwarding of the non-collected awards will be required.

### **Overall**

In doing all this the office will assist on a secretarial basis. The above ideas are proposed in order to spread the load by getting more involved. These ideas are not sacrosanct but are a suggested basis to build on.

### **Procedures**

The Chairman will write up the comprehensive details of what tasks require to be undertaken.

**M. J. Woodhouse Chairman FFTC**



TREASURER REPORT

**Central Team Travel Fund - Report to Council meeting 18th May**

**Income:**

Category	Rule	2012/13 Situation		Available for CTF
Saleable Goods Surplus	Any surplus made from sales of Saleable Goods (net of any taxes and contributions made to Areas organising stands), from financial year 2012/13 onwards, should be transferred into the Central Team Travel Fund.	Cost of Stock	£10,941.00	£2,920.80
		Income	£14,592.00	
		Gross Surplus	£3,651.00	
		Corporation Tax (20%)	£730.20	
		Net Surplus	£2,920.80	
Sponsorship	Any balance of sponsorship, net of any taxes, received from the Insurance Brokers, and not allocated to other purposes, should be transferred to the Central Team Travel Fund.	Sponsorship Received	£30,000.00	£0.00
		Less VAT	£5,000.00	
		Net Sponsorship	£25,000.00	
		University Challenge	£6,203.00	
		EIM	£232.00	
		International Teams	£4,000.00	
		Website developments	£9,734.00	
		PR / Simulator Trailer	£5,395.79	
		Other	£1,072.68	
Over-allocation	-£1,637.47			
Donations	Eighty per cent of any donations made to BMFA, that do not have a specific use identified by the donor, should be transferred into the Central Team Travel Fund	No unspecified donations received	£4.00	£4.00
Power Nationals Surplus	A proportion of the 50% of the operational surplus, not allocated to participating disciplines' TTFs, from the Power Nationals should be transferred into the Central Team Travel Fund.	Nats Surplus	£2,524.00	£1,262.00
		50% available	£1,262.00	
		Proportion for CTF	100%	
<b>Total Funding Available for CTF:</b>				<b>£4,186.80</b>

**Dispersal:**

F3A have requested additional support due to World Champs being held in South Africa. The Executive have authority to allocate up to 20% for special consideration, and as only one request was received have decided to allocate 10% to this request. Once allocated it is at the discretion of RC Power T/C to pass this on with the team; however the Executive strongly recommend that they do so.

Discipline	Ratified Team Members	Share of:	Share of:
		<b>£4,186.80</b>	<b>£1,262.00</b>
10% allocation to F3A		£418.68	£126.20
Free Flight	10	£710.97	£214.30
Control Line	17	£1,208.64	£364.31
RC Power	14	£995.35	£300.02
RC Silent Flight	10	£710.97	£214.30
Indoor	2	£142.19	£42.86
Scale	0	£0.00	£0.00
Space	0	£0.00	£0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>£4,186.80</b>	<b>£1,262.00</b>

Keith Lomax FSMAE  
Honorary Treasurer  
May 2013

To: all Council Members

At the Full Council meeting, I mentioned to you the likely small deficit in the accounts, and you kindly supported my proposal for a one-off payment of £2924 from the development reserve to make up the amount for the Central Team Travel Fund that would have been due from the saleable goods surplus and donations, had the overall accounts not fallen into deficit.

However, we also informed you that the Accounts Manager was chasing HMRC with regard to the potential recovery of approximately £16,000 in VAT that we had paid on BMFA News postage. I'm delighted to inform you that Sian's efforts have paid off, and that HMRC have determined that we should have been able to recover this amount, and this will now lead to a surplus in the accounts for financial year 2012/13.

As such, I will be asking that the decision to take the £2924 from development reserve is not carried out, as this amount can now be met from the Income and Expenditure account as per the original Council decisions resolved last September.

This will be treated in the minutes as a "post meeting note".

Best regards

Keith Lomax FSMAE

Honorary Treasurer