

BMFA
FREE FLIGHT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING 10th June 2015

				Action
Present	Mike Woodhouse	MW	Phil Ball	PB
	Chris Strachan	CS	Trevor Grey	TG
	John Carter	JC	Ian Kaynes	IK
	Ken Faux	KF	John Jacomb	JJ
	Peter Watson (guest)	PW	Dave Phipps (part time)	DP
	Jo Halman (part time)	JH	Andy Symons (part time)	AS
Apologies				
Minutes of previous meeting, Matters Arising	Minutes accepted from 6 th May			
	<u>Lodge Farm</u>			
	PB and Walter Hodgkinson will meet with the estate manager next week to discuss further use. They will discuss any requirements for rules and conditions of use (Noise, time of day, cash collection etc.) needed to safeguard the use of the field as a “trimming” site. All accept that it is not suitable as a contest site.			PB
	<u>Airfield Survey</u>			
	CS to invite Steve Philpott to the next meeting			CS
Contest Calendar	<u>Calendar</u>			
	Version 5 to be issued with experimental meeting moved to 9 th August, F1E on 10/11 October to be on both days to replace loss of early season dates due to wind and trials reserve date to become trials part 2 due to loss of trials part 1.			TG
	<u>Salisbury licence</u>			
	TG reported that the licence is now valid to end of March 2016			
	<u>Experimental meeting Aug 9th</u>			
	TG presented a programme which was agreed. KF to publicise at once			KF
Stonehenge Cup and Equinox Cup	<u>2015</u>			
	Entry forms have gone out and the first three entries have been received. KF to issue a reminder and include a further copy of the form.			KF
	<u>2016</u>			
	It was agreed to use the common weekend format again and the dates of September 24 th Stonehenge and 25 th Equinox were agreed. CS to produce registration forms.			CS
International teams	<u>F1A,B,C</u>			
	All possible arrangements now made but the next Bulletin is late and is being chased by both MW and IK.			MW IK
	£471 of extra funding has been allocated from the Central Travel Fund conditional on a matching payment from the FF Contest Fund.			
	CS proposed that this payment should be made			
	Seconded PB			
	Carried with 4 in favour and 3 abstentions. JC and MW to action			JC MW
	<u>F1E</u>			
	The full team of Doug Bartle, Paul Fynn and IK has now been entered			
	<u>Junior F1A,B,C</u>			
	Following a first class performance by Joseph Gibbs at the Nationals he has now			

been entered with Alan Jack as Team Manager. The Committee wishes to thank the Competition Secretary for her help in making this possible

Officer's Reports

Treasurer

Nothing to report

Council Delegate

MW has circulated a report on the Council meeting on 16th May. He reported that since then the potential Central Site near Wittering has been dropped and an EGM is to be called on 4th of July to propose a revised mandate for Council to negotiate on further sites.

PRO

Nothing to report

Results Officer

Nationals results are now complete and about to be issued

PB

Safety Officer

The Bowden CDs did an excellent job and there were no safety problems

Rules Officer

See under Rules below

Results System

The new results system was agreed to be no problem. PB to have a demonstration from AS after the meeting

PB AS

Salisbury Plain

TG provided details of BMFA operations required for use of Area 8 which is attached as Appendix A. Following discussion it was agreed that this provided the information needed for an approach fully satisfying the SPTA administrative requirements.

Sports and trimming flyers have been able to use Area 8 since the restrictions were imposed at the end of February whenever there has been a BMFA contest on site but it was noted that even this use has not fulfilled the requirement for Range Operations (24 hr opps) to be contacted prior to commencing and ceasing flying.

The principal areas now requiring detailing and allocation of responsibilities are:-

- Overall management of Area 8 booking and notification of availability for use by a single BMFA representative with one or two backups
- The obligation for 24 hr opps to be informed (in real time by a person on site) of the start and end of model flying and the clearance number under which it is being undertaken
- Adequate provision of red card holders

TG undertook to obtain agreements from BMFA members to take on the necessary management roles and then to set up a briefing meeting attended by all the key players. It is expected that a "BMFA Area 8 Group" will be established and that all flyers, other than those only competing in BMFA contests will be required to join the Group and be issued with passes including operational notes and maps

TG

It was agreed that a holding note should be put out within 24 hours of today's meeting saying that the necessary organisation is now being put in place to get trimming and sports flying back on Area 8 by 1st August

KF

Nationals

PB reported that on Saturday there were some problems with fly-off times but drift was in a helpful direction and flights were reasonably contained. The work on recording results by Roy Wright's guys worked very well and we should use them

again.

Sunday all went well until the problems at fly-off time. The decision to cancel all fly-offs was correct in the circumstances and well accepted by competitors.

Monday went ahead with short maxes and as the weather improved the day ended in large fly-offs but few very long times so that the welcome relaxation in access limitations to the downwind fields was not over-exploited.

The subsequent publication of an abusive article by a well-known critic was no great surprise and will be treated appropriately.

PB

Flying Fields **Barkston**

DP reported that no problems have arisen from the Nationals. However he had nothing to report on further access possibilities

Luffenham

DP stated that any progress on a trimming Club awaits discussion with the new station commander which should take place in mid June.

DP

Space Modelling

JJ reported a problem with abusive criticism and will circulate the material for comments and advice.

JJ

Stowe Maries

KF, TG and MW attended the recent space meeting showing Free Flight. They saw it as worthwhile but noted more interest from the teachers than the children. There was also interest from some of the sponsors. JJ will confirm date as soon as possible for next year when it will be worth having a larger presence

JJ

Rules

Two rule change suggestions have been received so far

- A move toward compulsory RDT (D Brawn)
- Encouragement of “lower tech” FAI models (S Darmon)

TG undertook to make a presentation on future rule possibilities particularly those for performance restriction, to the next meeting.

TG

BMFA and FFTC websites

Carried forward to next meeting before which we should review state of FF material on the BMFA site

CS

Events and Future Plans

An Autumn discussion meeting similar to the previous event at Husbands Bosworth, will be considered at the next meeting. TG to present

TG

AOB

None

Date of next meetings **Thursday 13th August.**

Critical dates for FFTC

BMFA News August 2015 Issue – copy 19th June
Full Council 5th September Agenda deadline 10th August
Technical Council 17th October Agenda deadline 21st September
FFTC meeting 13th August

FFTC 13/06/15

Appendix A

Salisbury Plain Area 8 – Details of BMFA Operations

Contacts

1. Bookings – SPTA Events coordinator, Helen Soulsby
SouthWestTPI@landmarc.mod.uk
landline: 01980 674602
mobile: 07884 231791
2. Red Card Applications - Team administrator, Tania Hackford
Landline: 01980 678953
3. General Postal Address - for both above:
Landmarc Support Services
Building 88
Westdown Camp
Tilshead
Wiltshire
SP3 4RS
4. Air Operations (air ops) – for clearance on preceding Friday to event weekend
(Simon, Tim, Bill, Ruth)
01980 674710
01980 674730
5. Range Operations (24 hr ops) – to be contacted prior to commencing flying and on ceasing flying
01980 674951
6. IC Air Operations (air training safety officer) – Philip Piper – Lt Col (retired):
P G Piper
TSO Air
DIO SD Trg SP
Building 14
Westdown Camp
Landline: 01980 674729
Philip.piper100@mod.uk

Current Red Card Holders

D.Greaves
P.Williams
B.Aslett
P.Tribe
T.Grey
M.Dilly
J.Thompson
R.Newman
J.Carter
I.Kaynes
P.Carter

Suggested Future Red Card Holders

K.Faux
P.Ball

M.Woodhouse
C.Strachan
J.Jacombe
C.Redrup
A.Shepherd
R.Vaughn
P.Watson
S.Dixon
C.Hutchinson
plus another 5-10 sports fliers

People needed to manage operation

1. Overall IC and liaison – main contact (from FFTC)
2. Back-up IC and liaison
3. Attendees at ‘Allocation Conferences’
4. Bookings, Licence Application and Free Flight Passes
5. Checker (phone) for Friday clearance and issue e-mails to list
6. Main Red Card Holder to manage/control sport fliers and trimming
7. Main Red Card Holder to ensure enough Red Card Holders are present at contests

Operations

a) Sport Flying/Trimming

1. Main Red Card Holder to be in overall in charge or nominate deputies Red Card Holder if he/she is not going to be present. He/she should also ensure enough Red Card Holders will be present to cover expected number of fliers – 1 per 6 fliers.
2. Main Red Card Holder or deputies to meet on ‘central square’ at 10am and notify 24hr ops of flying start and finish.
3. All sport flying/trimming to be carried out from ‘central square’.
4. All models must be fitted with and use when required functional DT mechanisms.

b) Contest Flying

1. IC/Organiser of Contest to be a Red Card Holder and ensure enough Red Card Holders will be present – 1 per 6 fliers.
2. Flying to operate (Launch Points) within defined Boundaries (define ‘extremes’ of Launch Points).
3. C.D./Organiser should set maxes to ensure models stay within site boundaries (except *in extremis*)

Future Operations

It may be necessary (possibly from January 2016) to make the use of RDT compulsory. This would require a change to the BMFA Free Flight Rule Book.

