

BMFA
FREE FLIGHT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING 16th June 2016

				Action
Present	Mike Woodhouse	MW	Phil Ball	PB
	Chris Strachan	CS	Ken Faux	KF
	John Carter	JC	Mark Benns	MB
	John Jacomb	JJ	Ian Kaynes	IK
Apologies	All present			
Minutes of previous meeting,	Minutes accepted from 27 th April			
Matters arising	PB queried who had told the CD at the London gala not to plan to go off the site. CS stated that, in his role as FFTC contact for the event, he had done so.			
Contest Calendar	<u>Calendar 2016</u>			
	IK asked that in future the location for F1E meetings should be given as “Peak District or near Melton Mowbray”. PB to revise calendar and KF to mention in News.			PB KF
	<u>Calendar 2017</u>			
	PB had prepared a spreadsheet of Area meetings based on 3 combined events per meeting plus additional FAI and domestic events at each meeting. This was discussed and accepted in principle but it was agreed that the number of classes should be increased to try to ensure that there was always something for everyone to fly. PB agreed to do a further iteration taking the complete 2016 Calendar and adding combined events where appropriate.			PB
Nationals	<u>Results</u>			
	These have now been completed and will be circulated by the office to all competitors. The use of hard copy by post for this was queried and it was suggested that in future entrants should be given the opportunity to tick a box asking for results by post			
	<u>Airfield</u>			
	The building works compound was managed OK, the RAF were happy with the clear up. One broken runway light was properly reported and is not an issue.			
	<u>Finance</u>			
	All monies have now been collected and it looks like a fair result. MW to complete the account.			MW
	<u>Medals</u>			
	These were well received and the same supplier will be used next time			
	<u>Fly-offs</u>			
	Some problems arose at fly-off time due to work overload on the CDs. It was agreed that in future fly-offs will not commence before 7.00pm.			
	<u>Control locations</u>			
	The multiple controls for Scale, Bowden , Control line, SAM and Space showed the need for a map at main control to show where they are all located			
	<u>HLG Box</u>			
	Should be put out before the start of the day			
	<u>Flight Lines</u>			
	The flight lines were obeyed and other instructions were also accepted. There is still a need to make all competitors aware of the rule that all flight lines are of a finite			

length. KF to feature in News. KF

PA System

The new system was successful and it was agreed that the 2015 system should be disposed of by the office. Action JC

JC

Safety

The Bowden was well managed. JJ reported that Space set up a separate site but subsequently other people moved close to them and compromised safety. The issue was discussed but no conclusion was reached other than the need for marshals or cones.

International Teams

F1A,B,C

The team meeting has been held and all arrangements are in place

F1E

IK reported that he and Paul Fynn will comprise a two man team and all arrangements are in place

Space

All in place

Junior World Champs

Team selection at the Nationals produced a single team member – Joseph Gibbs and arrangements now proceeding. It was agreed that a rethink is required one this year's event is completed. CS to raise at next meeting.

CS

Stonehenge Cup and Equinox Officer's Reports

2016

Nothing to report

Treasurer

JC reported that all funds are healthy. He emphasized the need to make provision for Garthorpe and to maintain sufficient funds to be able to make approaches for access to private land in the eventuality that we lose one of our current major sites

Council Delegate

MB reported that at the recent Council meeting the proposal that a competition would only be valid with two or more entries was once again raised and withdrawn. Nothing else of interest to report

PRO

Nothing to report

Results Officer

See under Flying sites - Decentralised

Safety Officer

See under Nationals re. Space.

Rules Officer

Nothing to report

Rules Changes for 2017

Reminder of the process

ALL

It was agreed that following the conference a programme for change should be developed starting with changes for 2017 which should be put out for discussion as soon as possible. The time scale for the discussion will be

First release	asap
Cut-off for comments	1st June
Second release	1st July
Cut-off for comments	1st August
Finalisation	1st September

The cut-off date for comments has now passed and feedback received had raised

fears that the first proposals discussed are too radical - and would cause more loss of fliers than gain in site management. The meeting discussed all aspects and agreed as follows for the second release of proposals

Objectives

- To minimise excursions beyond the site boundaries.
- To have a truthful explanation of free flight that satisfies the requirements of site owners – which may/will differ from site to site.
- To be able to meet local risk analysis requirements.
- To accommodate the UK's variable weather.
- To control our flying to accommodate other site users (wildlife etc.).

Proposed changes

- Encourage RDT for all classes but not make it compulsory.

All Fly-offs

- 5 minute period. (Preparation in advance permitted).

Fly-offs for BMFA and Combined events

- Half motor runs for all power and electric classes (already in place for E36).
- Half towline lengths.
- Rubber models to be held with the prop running for a specified period before release and then launched immediately without stopping the prop.
- Times to be agreed but suggested are, BMFA rubber 20 seconds, Vintage, Classic and Mini Vintage 15 seconds

Fly-offs for F1 events

- No change other than 5 minute period

Centralised events

- Specify launch point by use of a downwind line specified by three poles. Flier to be on designated upwind side of the line at moment of launch. Move when necessary (CD's discretion)
- Specify the maximum at the start with due notice of weather forecasts

Area Centralised

- Cut maxes to 2 minutes for all classes.

Next action

These objectives and proposals to be circulated in News with request for feedback to CS.

Space Modelling

Promotion of Space Modelling and Free Flight

JJ's experience in the promotion of Space modelling with schools and industry is producing large amounts of activity but a debatable lack of long term involvement in the hobby/sport. The meeting agreed on much commonality between his situation and Free Flight and a shared need for promotion at National Body level. It was agreed to seek involvement by getting an opportunity for JJ to address the September Council meeting. MW agreed to investigate.

AOB

None

MW

Date of next meeting **Thursday 8th September**

Critical dates for FFTC

BMFA News	19 th June Copy deadline 21 th July Delivery
BMFA News	03 rd September Copy deadline 06 th October Delivery
Full Council	10 th September Agenda deadline 15 th August
Technical Council	15 th October Agenda deadline 19 th September
FFTC meetings	8 th September

FFTC 18/06/16