

BMFA
FREE FLIGHT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING 27th April 2016

				Action
Present	Mike Woodhouse	MW	Phil Ball	PB
	Chris Strachan	CS	Ken Faux	KF
	John Carter	JC	Mark Benns	MB
	John Jacomb	JJ	David Phipps (part time)	DP
	Ian Kaynes	IK		
Apologies	All present			
Minutes of previous meeting,	Minutes accepted from 1 st March			
Matters arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A single up to date circulation list for News and Results is still required. • MW to add a note to his column in BMFA News telling people how to access results on the BMFA website 			PB KF MW
Contest Calendar	<u>Calendar 2016</u>			
	F1E meeting June 12 th to be brought forward to June 5 th and noted as Melton Mowbray only.			PB
	BMFA website contact shows JC as contact for Stonehenge and Equinox. KF to get it changed to Richard Jack.			KF
	<u>Calendar 2017</u>			
	All to consider a draft calendar (including inputs from discussions later in this meeting) and prepare for inputs for a draft at the next FFTC meeting.			ALL
	<u>Juries</u>			
	The proposal for a jury to be appointed at the start of all centralised meetings to assist CDs in meeting the increased workloads being imposed by future requirements was discussed and agreed in principal as a rule for 2017. MB to work up a draft proposal.			MB
Flying fields	<u>Barkston</u>			
	Grantham are now flying on Wednesday evenings. The building site has now been fenced off – see below under Nationals.			
	<u>Luffenham</u>			
	Bryan Spooner is awaiting the return of his contact on 2 nd May and will then finalise access arrangements. All flyers on non-contest days must be members of Midland Free Flight Group – annual fee £55 which will be used to pay half of the annual licence fee.			
	<u>Middle Wallop</u>			
	Use of the site has been withdrawn. (not only for free flight – parachutists and balloonists et al also being affected)			
	<u>Salisbury Plain</u>			
	At the London Gala it became apparent that there is a sensitive bird breeding area in the valley to the South of the airstrip. Subsequent contact with the Great Bustard breeding project established that they have no immediate concern but it was agreed that extra care must be taken to avoid this area in future. CS to inform Peter Watson			CS CS
	<u>Salisbury Site Fees</u>			
	JC stated that site fees will be £5 and he will produce a schedule of how they must			

be charged by future users JC

Merryfield

The requirement for sponsors is being met. It is understood that Cornish flyers may be developing a site on Bodmin Moor.

A New Flying Field

Discussions with the new site are continuing and look promising for some conclusions in the next few months. The FFTC is being kept informed but details must remain confidential. MB

Decentralised Sites.

The Yorkshire site is now in use successfully. Such sites must be agreed with the results officer at least 21 days before their first use. MB to develop wording for the 2017 rule books. MB

Nationals

Overall situation

MW reported everything is now in place. Particular items noted were

Scale

The Scale Nationals will now be taking place on the site with entries and charges as for all other events

Junior Team Trials

Alan Jack will supervise junior participation in the FAI events

Access to the building site

DP reported that Ian Palister has spoken to the Contractors and they are amenable to our possible need for retrievals. Ian will brief us nearer the time. MW

International Teams

F1A,B,C

Entries are all in and bookings are made

F1E

IK reported that the ATM will be Paul Fynn and Steve Philpott has yet to declare. CS to send a revised form to the Competition Secretary and the office. CS

Space

Nothing to report

Stonehenge Cup and Equinox Officer's Reports

2016

Nothing to report

Treasurer

JC reported that all funds are healthy.

Council Delegate

Report circulated after Technical Council meeting. Nothing further to report

PRO

Nothing to report

Results Officer

PB queried whether the results of the 3 DT fly-offs at the London Gala should be accepted as full details were not published in advance.

It was pointed out that the CD had been asked to take care that no flights left the site, that the use of a DT fly-off had been publicised at the start of the day and the procedure was well known to the majority of contestants.

It was proposed that "the 3 DT fly-offs at the London Gala be accepted in spite of the lack of displayed detailed rules"

Proposed CS In favour 3 Carried

Seconded KF Against 1

Abstentions 3

Safety Officer

There has been some concern that when space flyers are launching at a Free Flight event there has been insufficient separation between their site and the free flight flyers and cars. JJ to ensure that a sensible gap is set up and CDs to ensure that this is not then eroded by the parking of additional cars during the day. KF to put a note in News

KF

Rules Officer

Nothing to report

Rules

DT Fly-offs

The rules for DT Fly-off used at Middle Wallop over the last few years to be requested from John Thompson.

CS

Changes for 2017

Reminder of the process

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

Progress since previous meeting

Following the release of the initial proposals in News from the FFTC a substantial volume of feedback had been received and circulated to the Committee members. A wide ranging discussion now took place in the light of this feedback considering both revisions to contest organisation and changes to model specifications.

Contest Organisation- Centralised contests - Consensus

Rounds (3 rounds lengths set to accommodate 3 and 5 round classes)

Downwind Line

5 minute fly-off period (advance preparation permitted)

Contest Organisation - Area Centralised contests - Consensus

2 minute max all classes

5 minute fly-off period (advance preparation permitted)

Model Specifications

Discussion was very wide ranging and MB has agreed to set up a spreadsheet of classes and suggestions based on the current ideas

MB

Space Modelling

BMFA attendance at UKAYRoC 2016

The final will be at Farnborough on 14/15 July.

CIAM representative

Nigel Bathe failed to attend the recent CIAM meeting after promising to do so. The Committee agreed to his removal and JJ to take over the position himself. CS asked JJ to provide him with a suitable email including a request for a reliable presence from the CIAM committee chairman. CS to action the change.

JJ
CS

AOB

None

Date of next Thursday 16th June

meeting

BMFA News
Full Council
Technical Council
FFTC meetings

Critical dates for FFTC

17th June Copy deadline 19th July Delivery
14th May Agenda deadline 18th April
15th October Agenda deadline 19th September
16th June

FFTC 28/04/16