

BMFA  
FREE FLIGHT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING 27 SEPTEMBER 2017

**Present:**

Mike Woodhouse	MW	Phil Ball	PB
Chris Strachan	CS	Ken Faux	KF
Ian Kaynes	IK	John Carter	JC
Mark Bennis	MB	John Jacomb	JJ
John Ashmole	JA (Guest)		

- |   |                             | Action   |
|---|-----------------------------|--|
| 1 | Apologies                   | All present  |
| 2 | Minutes of Previous Meeting | Accepted   |
| 3 | Matters Arising             | None   |
| 4 | Flying Fields               | <p>North Luffenham: Both the Committee and Alan Jack are concerned at possible overuse of the field and recent problems such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The need to abandon the Timperley Gala due to interaction with a golf tournament. Gerry Ferrer, the CD, took the action to abandon and the Committee wished to thank him for a good decision.</li><li>• Hostility from local horse owners has also given cause for concern.</li><li>• The trashing of at least one model.</li></ul> <p>After discussion it was agreed that the FFTC need to, at least, be in the booking loop when anyone applies for use not already specified in the calendar. MW undertook to talk to David Phipps about the allocation process, with specific reference to Luffenham but also</p> <p style="text-align: right;">MW</p> <p>Barkston: The current access to Barkston for Grantham members is one Sunday every two months plus Summer Wednesday evenings. The possibility of the Calendar being adjusted to allow the Sundays to coincide with the Grantham use and hence allow its use of Area meetings could be a target. MW to add this to his discussion with David Phipps.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">MW</p> <p>Odiham: Recent problems with a booked date, resulting in minimal flying times, were noted.</p> |

5	Management of Sites	<p>Decentralised sites: PB has sent out the forms and will chase them up with the objective of being ready to use them as registered sites for the 2018 season.</p> <p>The possibility of using Little Rissington once more was discussed. CS agreed to see if it is in active use and if an approach is feasible.</p>	<p>PB</p> <p>CS</p>
6	Contest Calendar	<p>2017 Calendar</p> <p>JJ to supply a date to KF for an S8EP class trial. An additional non-championship event to be added at Buckminster Lodge on 12 November for mini classes. MB to CD and provide classes to be flown to KF.</p> <p>PB to add a social event in the Golf Club after the Midland Gala.</p> <p>2018 Calendar</p> <p>KF provided the draft as discussed at the previous meeting for finalisation. The changes agreed were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move 6<sup>th</sup> Area to 8<sup>th</sup> July</li> <li>• Move 4<sup>th</sup> F1E to 7<sup>th</sup> July</li> <li>• Remove ancillary events from F1ABC team selection events. (note: this applies to all trials but JA may run his events at some of these occasions).</li> <li>• All F1ABC trials to be at Sculthorpe</li> <li>• Move F1E 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Selection from 12<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> May.</li> </ul> <p>KF to make all these changes and circulate to all for checking.</p> <p>KF to send an early copy to Peter Tribe for booking Merryfield.</p> <p>Entry Fees 2018: It was agreed that entry fees for calendar events will be the same as for 2017. Nationals Entry fees to be agreed at the next meeting.</p> <p>Defibrillator: The option of a defibrillator being available at free flight meetings has been suggested to the Committee but it was not considered a practical possibility. It was noted that at the Nationals one would be available with the ambulance provision.</p>	<p>JJ</p> <p>MB</p> <p>PB</p> <p>KF</p> <p>KF</p> <p>MW</p>
7	Nationals	<p>2017: Accounts are almost finalised and a satisfactory surplus is assured.</p> <p>2018: Preparations are underway.</p>	<p>MW</p>
8	International Teams	<p>F1ABC 2017. The organisation in Hungary left much to be desired, both on the field and in administration. Meal charges made before the event and additional charges at the hotel specified by the organiser had to be settled before leaving and this has left a deficit which needs to be funded.</p> <p>It was proposed that “£200 should be transferred from the TTF</p>	

to the team account in order to mitigate the excess meal charges”.

Proposed CS 3 in favour  
Seconded JJ 4 abstentions

JC to action JC

F1E 2017 IK reported that the team did not do brilliantly. Organisation in Romania was patchy but Steve Phillipott did a good job as team manager.

IK’s report will be available shortly IK

Junior 2017 Joseph Gibbs did well

F1ABC 2018 Team trials have been completed and team members and reserves will now be contacted CS

F1E 2018 IK to provide team details to CS IK

Space 2018 JJ to provide team details to CS JJ

## 9 Officers’ Reports

Treasurer As expected the Contest Fund has decreased during the year due to old age and bad weather reducing the number of entries.

Team Travel fund is healthy.

Training and Excellence has been spent in line with budget.

FFTC running costs are to budget

Council Delegate attended and reported to the committee that

- A new Members’ Handbook has now been produced
- Darts are now assembled in the office
- The committee’s concerns about “Chuck and Duck” now seem to be shared by the executive
- BMFA made a loss in 17/17 and fees are expected to increase

PRO MW to liaise with KF on getting notices onto the website MW

Results Officer PB raised the issue of events with one flyer only. However this is covered by the rulebook which says that a single flyer gets one point. MW

PB reported that the Bowden Trophy, Southern Gala and Team Rubber results have yet to be added to the website due to linkage problems on his computer, which he will resolve with Andy Symons. There are also a few details from the Nationals, such as non-BMFA members, to be resolved.

Safety Officer: nothing to report other than that “chuck and duck” is not our responsibility. PB

Rules Officer: see below

- 10 Rules
- Fly-offs: MB reported that he had attempted to produce guidelines for fly-offs but after discussion it was agreed that offering a choice to CDs would do more harm than good and we should take no further action.
- Extended maximums at Trials: It was agreed that the extended maximum for F1A should be increased to 5 minutes (as is now the FIA rule).
- Trials Guidelines: A number of issues were raised and discussed and it was agreed that MB should lead a process to produce a revised set of guidelines. MB
- E30: A revision of Rule 3.13 to increase battery capacity from 70 mAh to 150 mAh and reduce engine run from 60 to 55 seconds was accepted. This will resolve the difficulty in obtaining the 70mAh batteries currently called for MB
- F1Q: A new rule 3.3.41 was accepted defining a new class F1QUK which will permit flyers in UK domestic competitions to continue to use a measured motor run as an alternative to the use of an energy limiter now specified by the FIA MB
- 11 BMFA Website Nothing to report
- 12 Space Modelling See under International Teams and Calendar changes above. In addition JJ reported upon his continuing involvement with space modelling in technical education.
- 13 Any other business The meeting thanked Manny Williamson for his excellent support
- 14 Date and venue of next meeting Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at Chacksfield House
- Critical dates for FFTC
- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| BMFA News         | Delivery Early December Copy 16 October  |
| Full Council      | 13 January Agenda Deadline 11 December   |
| Technical Council | 14 October Agenda Deadline 18 September  |
| FFTC meetings     | Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2017 |