

MINUTES OF SCALE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT HONILEY ON 1ST JULY 2006

The meeting commenced at 1 pm. Present were Dave Kerswell FSMAE(chairman), Gordon Warburton FSMAE, Bill Dennis, Mike Goldby and Martin Fardell.

1. Apologies for Absence and Co-options

- 1.1. The chairman read a letter from Eric Clark explaining that he had had to resign from the committee for health reasons.
- 1.2. We agreed to co-opt Ian Pallister to one of the vacant places on the committee. Ian would take over from Eric looking after indoor events.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

The date of the meeting was corrected to **25th February**. The minutes were then signed as a true record by the chairman.

3. Matters Arising.

- 3.1. East Kirby is now ruled out as a possible RC venue because of noise problems
- 3.2. Mike has raised the problems with toilets on the Scale line at the August Nationals. Efforts are being made to address the problem.
- 3.3. Dave will contact Eric Clark about the Vildebeest painting which we are expecting to give as a special prize at the Nationals.
- 3.4. Dave now holds our scales, weights, Compac computer and printer.

4. Technical Council Meeting.

- 4.1. Mike has issued a report. There was nothing specific concerning Scale which we need to discuss.

5. Full Council meeting.

- 5.1. Eric attended. Of direct interest to us is the change in electing Technical Committee members; this will now be by the individual votes of the entire BMFA membership.

6. Indoor

- 6.1. The Scale Indoor Nationals went very well, in spite of some behind the scenes problems. We made a probable surplus of £334. Takings on the day were about £1400.
- 6.2. We discussed whether the Saturday evening set-up session was worthwhile – some years back competitors used to bring their own tables and chairs. We decided to continue with the setting up session on Saturdays.
- 6.3. Practice flying on the Saturday evening caused some problems with the Sports Centre. We need to be clear exactly what time has been booked on the Saturday.
- 6.4. The hall has now been booked for the next four years, for the following dates:

2007	21 st /22 nd April
2008	26 th /27 th April
2009	25 th /26 th April
2010	24 th /25 th April

7. Review of Scale RC events to date.

- 7.1. Entries have been healthy so far this year, and weather has been flyable at all events.
- 7.2. We discussed the number of Flying Only events we should include in future years. These have proved very popular, and so far there has been no sign of them being swamped by ARTF's and semi-scale models. We will review this again at the end of the season.
- 7.3. Paintings for prizes are still costing us only £5, although they may well be dearer next season. We looked at Mick Reeve's samples of laser cut plaques, but decided we would continue with pictures.

8. Scale Free Flight

- 8.1. There was some good flying on the Sunday evening at the Free Flight Nats, when the wind had dropped. There was also some flying at Church Fenton on 14th June.
- 8.2. Bill said there was no enthusiasm for flying at the Festival of Flight, so he had cancelled his event.

9. August Nationals

- 9.1. Dave has ordered a marquee of the same size as last year, but with no internal poles or gutters. Two extra tables have also been ordered.
- 9.2. We decided to provide our own ropes and poles for the Free Flight events in the evenings, to allow maximum speed and flexibility in setting up.

- 9.3. We decided that Scale CL static judging will be by Gordon and a CL nominee.
- 9.4. Martin and Bill will send a complete list of judges to Dave so that passes and permits can be issued.
- 9.5. We are hoping that John Stokes will be able to commentate for us again this year. If his health does not permit this Mike, Martin and Gordon will try and fill the slots, possibly with other volunteers.

10. FAI

10.1. Mike has circulated his report. We discussed the timing of changes to BMFA rules, when alterations are needed to keep in line with FAI. Mike felt that we had changed the 'Choice of Options' rule in F4C too early, as our changes have now been overtaken by another FAI change. FAI changes can now be made every two years instead of every four, compounding the problems of keeping in line. Ideally, we like our teams to have had at least one year's practice at home on new rules before international events, but this is increasingly leading to too many rapid changes. Clearly, Team Trials must be flown to the rules which will be in force at the relevant international event, and all our competitors must be kept informed of coming FAI changes. We agreed that future BMFA changes will follow FAI rather than trying to keep one year ahead.

10.2. At CIAM, Mike was unable to prevent the change to the 'Choice of Options' rule for F4C, which will in effect give higher marks to manoeuvres with greater 'wow factor'. We remain strongly opposed to changes in this direction, as it means different aircraft types will no longer be competing on an equal footing. However, the present change is relatively minor, and we felt that we had no alternative but to change the BMFA rule in due course to follow FAI.

10.3. Gordon reported on progress for the trip to Sweden later this month. All FAI licences are OK, also uniforms, also travel arrangements.

10.4. Bill raised the question of static judging at international events, and the best way of ensuring that judging was according to the rules. We discussed this briefly.

10.5. We discussed the proposal that BMFA should pay for all FAI licences. We considered this, and decided that we did not wish to support this idea.

10.6. We discussed the judges guide for the Lazy Eight manoeuvre. Mike will circulate our finalised proposal, and when there is agreement send it to CIAM.

10.7. We discussed the designations of our scale classes. Gordon felt that we had been hasty in re-designating F4B as 'Scale Control Line'. We did this when the compulsory taxi manoeuvre was brought in by FAI. Gordon said that the implications of changing the name and no longer following FAI rules were probably wider than we realised at the time. We agreed to discuss this with the control line fliers at the Nationals, and then make a decision whether to go back to F4B rules or not.

10.8. Mike raised the subject of role equipment (bombs, torpedoes, rockets, drop tanks, etc) and static judging. The rules require that that the equipment should be in place for static judging if the model flies with this equipment. What is not clear is whether the equipment must be fitted if it is shown on the photograph of the subject aircraft. Martin pointed out that the photo of the subject aircraft frequently does not show the bombs etc (eg Pete's Snipe) although the bombs obviously have to be in place for static judging. There was a majority view that the presence or absence of the role equipment should not be down-marked under "accuracy of outline", but that it should only be considered under "scale detail". Mike will circulate a draft proposal and when we reach agreement we will advise our static judges and competitors accordingly.

10.9 South Africa will not now be hosting 2008 World Championships; the event will now be in Poland. The 2007 European Championships will still be in the Ukraine.

11. Accounts

11.1 Mike briefly summarised the position in each account

Team Travel	£7144 balance. Income roughly matching withdrawals
Scale TC	New grant not yet received. We under-spent last year
Interscale	No change
Scale Contest	£2024 in credit. Expenditure well in hand, and we should be able to transfer funds to Team Travel at the end of the season.

11. Eric Coates Trophy.

11.1 The trophy has now been presented to Mike Smith.

11.2. The adoption of the trophy by BMFA is now in the hands of John French, and it will come up at the next Council meeting. We will decide on this year's winner at the August nationals, and it will be presented at the dinner, assuming that the trophy is adopted.

12. AOB.

12.1. Gordon said that he had been informed that the Safety Officers have been briefed concerning the 6 pm start for FF at the August nationals.

13. Next Meeting

The next meeting was fixed for 30th September.