

# **MINUTES OF THE BMFA SCALE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING** **HELD AT OLD WARDEN ON 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012**

The meeting commenced at 11:00 am.

Present were: Chris Allen, Steve Kessel, Dave Knott, Ian Pallister and Andy Sephton

## **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Richard Scarborough

## **2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes for 17<sup>th</sup> March 2011 were approved unanimously as a true record.

## **3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

## **4. Treasurers' Report**

Richard was not able to attend the meeting and will forward his report later.

Dave highlighted that the UK Team Members for the 2012 F4C World Champs have not received the correct amount from the team travel fund, i.e. only £400 each rather than £1200 each as agreed.

## **5. Chairman's Report on Full Council Meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

Ian elaborated on the FCM report that he had already sent by e-mail. Points he highlighted were:

- Team Funding – the next Team Travel sub-committee meeting will be on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2012.
- The continuing debate about FPV.
- The proposal from the CL Tech Committee that each Tech Committee nominates an alternative place and time to hold the Nationals competitions they are responsible for should the weather prevent the competitions taking place at the Nats in August. Ian had consulted with the other STC members before the council meeting and put the case that this would not be practical for RC Scale competitions. This remains the position of the STC.

## **6. Technical Council Meeting of 24th March**

Chris attended this meeting on behalf of the STC and reported on the following points:

- It was reiterated that the individual CD's are responsible for reporting the results of Nationals competitions to the Technical Secretary, Competition Officer and the BMFA Web Master.
- Any Changes to the published competition programme must be made known at the March Technical Council Meeting.
- The discussion on the CIAM Plenary.
- Pulse Jets – Pulse jet models will be only be allowed to fly demonstration flights at the Nationals.

## **7. Free Flight**

Ian reported that Bill says the location used in previous years for the Nationals FF Scale competitions cannot be made safe without stewards to control the spectators. Recommendations to be made to the Nationals Planning Meeting are:

- No cars to be allowed near runway (100m minimum distance),
- Access track for Helicopter competition area to be roped off during FF Scale competitions,
- Loud Hailer required for CD, and
- The need for stewards (Chris Allen and Steve Kessel have volunteered).

## **8. Indoor**

a) Indoor Scale Nats

Andy reported that this year's Nationals meeting was successful in that the income exceeded the expenditure by over £488 - the figure does not include cost of producing plaques and picture prizes. Competition entries were similar to previous years, spectator levels were increased slightly but fun flyer numbers were down. There were few juniors. The profit margin was due to increased entry fees and a large prize pool tied up with good sales technique for the raffle. Recommendations for next year's event includes a further increase in charges, more targeted advertising for juniors and a re-think on the fun flyer hall. The event is booked for Nottingham on 21 April 2013.

b) Proposed Rule Changes for Next Year

Andy outlined various changes he is proposing for the indoor rules for next year. In brief these were:  
Proposed indoor rule changes for next year to be ratified at the next STC mtg include:

- Increase max weight to 200gm, leave max wing loading at 15 gm/sq dm
  - Introduce helicopters - no auto-stabilising devices allowed
  - Ban previous winners of indoor events within the past five years from entering kit scale
  - Introduce flight bonus for CO2 to 5% per motor (possible change for outdoor free flight as well).
  - Expand declaration to include peanut and pistachio and add statement on commercial items
  - Allow change of prop block with change of propeller for open events - flying prop block must be presented with model for static judging to ensure similarity with static prop block.
- c) The possibility of holding an event in Birmingham has been proposed and Andy is investigating a possible venue. There will be a combined indoor scale event with the Indoor Free Flight Committee in November at Manchester, and a further Indoor Scale event in Birmingham in February/March next year. Both dates TBD.
- d) Charlie Newman is happy to remain as a scale document reviewer for the STC.

## 9. Control Line

Nothing to report other than the decision on pulse jet models noted in item 6.

## 10. Radio Control

- a) Contest Calendar – Contests are progressing well but we are in need of another static judge for Osbournby on 22<sup>nd</sup> July.
- b) Scoring Programme – We are still waiting for Ian's contact to see if they can make the look of the Excel spreadsheet less cluttered and more 'user friendly'.
- c) Scoring Sheets – It has been noticed that there are two versions of the Flying Score Sheet in circulation (version in Rule Book and version on STC website). This will be rectified for the future. It was also suggested that Flying Score Sheets should only have space for one set of scores to avoid the possibility that judges are influenced by the scores they have given for earlier flights.
- d) Approval of three-view drawings - There was unanimous agreement that Graham Kennedy and Andy Sephton should be added to the STC list of those authorised to approve three-view drawings. Those now on the list are: Chris Allen, Bill Dennis, Graham Kennedy, Charlie Newman and Andy Sephton.
- e) Nationals – weighing of models – Ian will put in a request for a 5m x 6m marquee to house the scoring team and the scales for weighing models.
- f) CIAM - F4H – Chris explained the situation regarding the F4H, which will be an international championship class for the 2014 World Championships. The current rules are unworkable and the deadline for any proposals to revise the rules in time for 2014 is 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012. Chris circulated the draft of a proposal he is working on before the meeting and briefly reviewed the main points.
- g) CIAM – F4J – It was noted that F4J has been created as a provisional class for 2013 and will be a competition for a Pilot and 'designated' builder.

## 11. Newsletter

Andy reminded everyone that the deadline for copy for the next newsletter is 7/7/2012.

## 12. Any Other Business

Chris said he will send discussion documents on the following subjects before the next meeting:

- The 'Aerobatic' and 'Non Aerobatic' classification for RC models.
- Formalisation of a Judges List for scale competitions.
- The instigation of a Results Board at the Nats which includes information about how the competitions are scored and the results calculated.

It was agreed that we should write to Tony Hay Thomas (Aviation Trustee for The Shuttleworth Collection) to formally note our disappointment at the SVAS decision not to make their Library available for STC meetings after the end of 2012.

## 13. Next Meeting

The next meeting is planned for Saturday 13th October in the SVAS Library at Old Warden.  
The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 4:00 pm.

Stephen Kessel  
Secretary - Scale Technical Committee

25<sup>th</sup> July 2012