

MINUTES OF THE BMFA SCALE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING **HELD AT OLD WARDEN ON 12th October 2013**

The meeting commenced at 11:00 am.

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

1) Apologies – Richard Scarbrough

2) Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes for 15th June 2013 with some minor changes approved unanimously as a true record.
proposed: Chris, seconded: Andy

3) Matters Arising

None

4) Treasurers' Report

- a) Richard forwarded his report after the meeting. Please see attached pdf file.
- b) Ian advised us that the proposed STC budget for 2014/2015 has been reduced from £2000 to £1800. This was agreed as being acceptable because our spending on meetings has reduced since we have been meeting at Old Warden.
- c) The proposed T & E budget for Scale has been set at £1000 for 2014/2015.

5) Chairman's Report

- a) Full Council Meeting of 7th September 2013

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

- Budgets for next year (see treasurer's Report above)
- The new BMFA website
- Nationals - safety concerns - see 7 below.
- Scale 'C' - No tests to date.

6) PRO's Report

- a) Newsletter
Andy requested competition reports for the next newsletter.
- b) Publicity Leaflet
Plans in hand to include scale helicopters next year.

7) Review of Nationals

- a) Radio Control

The number of competitors was down compared to last year but this did allow full schedules to be flown and the results were close in all three classes.

We discussed the overflying and safety issues between the showline, scale and helicopter in depth. Ian took an action to write to the Nationals Coordinator, Dave Phipps, requesting that he chair a meeting with the organisers of the show line and helicopter with the intention of working out how to avoid such problems at next year's Nationals.

- b) Free Flight

The free flight competitions were run on both Saturday and Sunday evenings this year. There were no safety issues and the whole event went off very smoothly.

- c) Control Line

More entries than last year but numbers are still low.

8) F4C and F4H World Championships – Marmande, France 18th to 27th July 2014

a) Team Trials

The team Trials were held at Church Fenton on 21st and 22nd September and the teams selected were:

F4C Team Dave Wormersley Chipmunk, Dave Knott Hurricane, Mick Henderson DH9a
Reserve: Dave Toyer Messenger

F4H Team Alex Kennedy Tiger Moth, Dave Toyer Messenger, Richard Crapp Wessex
Reserve: Mick Reeves Spitfire

b) Team Manager and Assistant Team Manager

Since we have two teams the Comp Sec has agreed that we may appoint an assistant team manager in addition to the manager. An interest in the position of Assistant Manager has already been expressed by Neil Tidy. Steve took the action to put an advertisement in the BMFA News and on the BMFA website to advertise for the two posts. The closing date will be set at 5th January.

9) Indoor

Coming Events

- Shawbury on 27th October 2013 FF and FO RC event.
- Bushfields on 30th March 2014. FF with trimming plus FO RC.
- Scale Indoor Nationals – Nottingham 12th and 13th April 2014
- Graham reported that he plans to run one or two indoor R/C scale competitions in Scotland next year.

10) Proposed transfer of Scale Helicopter to the remit of the STC

This is on the agenda of the forthcoming Technical Council Meeting for a final decision but in principle all concerned parties are in agreement that it should go ahead.

11) Proposed changes to the BMFA Scale Competition Rules for 2014

Chris had produced draft rules for discussion. The major changes compared to the 2013 rules are:

- Clarification of the 'Builder of the Model rule to reflect current practice.
- Removal of the Declaration of non-aerobatic status for R/C classes (Chris did a 'straw poll' on this subject among the competitors at the Nats and everyone thought it would be a positive change).
- Removal of the need for details of non-listed manoeuvres to be entered on the declaration.
- Introduction of a revised and simplified Competitors Declaration (available as a download)
- The first stage of integration of the Rules for Scale R/C Helicopters, (the Judges Guide is also included at this time).
- Replacement of the 'Straight flight at constant altitude' manoeuvre with a 'Straight flight at low speed' manoeuvre for R/C classes.
- Change to the 'Sideslip' to make it an 'into wind' manoeuvre.
- Revision of the Team Trial Selection Process
- There was debate over the Radio Modeller Trophy No.1 which had yet to be allocated a BMFA number. It was agreed that it should not be awarded this year as the performance of the only eligible competitor did not warrant presentation of a trophy.

Andy asked that the following changes also be incorporated:

- Ban on winners in Kit Scale from entering Kit Scale again to be removed.
- Gliders to be allowed in Kit Scale.
- FF declaration to include statement on computer aided manufacture (3D printing).
- 30% reduction in marks to be applied to flying score for indoor R/C models that have gyro (electronic) stabilisation. After some debate it was agreed that this should be applied to the take-off, touch and go and approach and landing marks only as these were the only manoeuvres to benefit from the current level of electronic stabilisation.
- To aid static judging of FF (and particularly indoor) models in confined spaces it was agreed that documentation should be provided in a minimum of A4 and a maximum of A3 format.

- A new trophy had been donated by RCMF for scratch-built scale indoor RC at the Nationals. This would initially be a TC trophy until formally adopted by the BMFA.

All the changes proposed above were agreed. Chris will prepare the final draft and forward to the office.

12) Review of Actions (Tech Sec Memo)

- **Technical Experts:** Chris Allen and Graham Kennedy
- **Judges:** Chris Allen, Graham Kennedy and Stephen Kessel plus Andrew Hewitt (static only) Bill Dennis to stand down.

13) FAI/CIAM Rule Changes

Proposed rule changes were discussed. Chris will prepare formal proposals on the following matters to be considered at the next CIAM Plenary:

- 'Straight Flight' manoeuvre to be replaced by 'Straight Flight at Slow Speed'
- 'Builder of Model' to be clarified to avoid misinterpretation, prevent abuse and take account of modern computer aided manufacturing techniques.
- Definition of a scale model aircraft to be revised so that it is less restrictive and more realistic.
- Removal of 'aerobatic / non-aerobatic' declaration.
- Revision of 'Realism' rule with regard to sound.
- Change to the 'Photographic Evidence' rule to outlaw the use of digital photographs that have been manipulated. This will include a request that the changed rule be adopted as a 'local' rule for the 2014 World Championships.
- Changes to Competitors Declaration and Score Sheets to reflect the above proposed changes.

14) Any Other Business

- Following his attendance at the R/C Scale International Meeting at Rochefort in France, Graham reported that there is interest in making this a regular event held alternately in France and the UK and asked for our reaction to this. There was general agreement that it would be a good thing to do provided that a suitable venue could be found at a reasonable cost. We discussed possible venues and Graham said he would do some further investigation and report back to us.
- Steve said that he had not received a signed acknowledgement from Steve Jackson that he has the John D. Jones painting as yet.
- We have been asked to suggest possible models for display at the AGM. Suggestions were Pete Iliffe's indoor model and Dave Toyer's Miles Messenger.

15) Next Meeting

The next meeting is planned for Saturday 7th December in the SVAS Library at Old Warden.

The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 3:40pm.

Stephen Kessel
Secretary - Scale Technical Committee

21st October 2013