

MINUTES OF THE BMFA SCALE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT OLD WARDEN ON 8th March 2014

The meeting commenced at 11:00 am.

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

1) Apologies - Richard Scarbrough

2) Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes for 7th December 2013 were approved with some minor changes.
proposed: Dave, seconded: Andy

3) Matters Arising

There were no matters arising that were not on the agenda.

4) Treasurers' Report

a) Richard was not present but later forwarded the report below.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE MEETING HELD ON 8 MARCH 2014

The only event that has taken place since the last Treasurer's Report on 7 December 2013 was the Scale Indoor Free Flight - Manchester Velodrome on 22 February 2014. We have not seen any receipts yet for this event as they will be recorded on the 4th quarter's reports.

The quarterly reports for October to December 2013 have been received from Head Office and show the following:

	Costs for 3rd qtr to Dec '13
TC costs - scale	
Travel & food (re:meeting Oct '13)	390.16
Travel & food (re:meeting Dec '13)	275.75
Shuttleworth Trust - room hire 4 dates	266.68
Website hosting/postage	64.18
Postage	7.20
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	1,003.97
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Training & Excellence scale costs - no transactions in quarter

TTF - Scale - no transactions in quarter

Balance of monies held in the TTF Scale account at 31 December 2013 was £6,610.98.

	Costs
Contest Fund Scale	
07/12/2013 Scale indoor venue	456.00
07/12/2013 Shawbury CD, travel	40.50
Ramsey Club - use of	
07/12/2013 Warboys	40.00
AGM refunds etc.	32.00
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TOTAL	568.50
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Balance of monies held in the Contest Fund Scale account at 31 December 2013 was £5,835.70.

Contest Fund Interscale - No transaction report received for 3rd quarter from Head Office.

BUDGET DETAILS

Actual costs to date for quarters 1-3 (i.e 1 April 2013 to 31 December 2013) are

	Budget	Actual	Balance
TC costs	£2,000	£1,163.89	£836.11
Training and excellence	£1,500	£344.00	£1,156

As stated in the last Treasurers Report, the budget for 2014/15 has been reduced to the following :

TC costs	£1,800
Training and excellence	£1,000

5) Chairman's Report on Full Council Meeting of 11th January 2014

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

- a) Club details were needed on International team nominations in case Areas wished to offer some financial assistance to members from their Area.
- b) The Hon Sec's draft proposal to reduce the number of TC (and Area) Directors to 2 from each was resisted by TC reps as the competition disciplines were too diverse to be represented at Council by someone without specialist knowledge. The Comp Sec agreed.
- c) The new Tech Sec outlined his plans to further rationalise the Rule Books.
- d) It was pragmatically (and reluctantly) agreed that all Specialist Bodies should be allowed a rep and vote at TC but only whilst the RCPTC was suspended.
- e) The FAI delegate reported from CIAM that 2 LiPo packs each not exceeding 6S and 6000 mAh could be carried in airline hand luggage subject to appropriate documentation and packaging.
- f) The CEO reported that the Nats would be one of 3 major events to be observed by the CAA in 2014. However, the STC's concerns over the safety of high energy jet operation in the confined space available at the Nats had not been addressed at the BMFA's annual meeting with the CAA.

6) PRO Report and Newsletter

- a) The next Newsletter is planned to be issued on 12th/13th April.
- b) No input has been received for the newsletter regarding helicopters.
- c) Andy is preparing an article about indoor glider and indoor scale R/C for the Aeromodeller.
- d) Andy said he intends to send a copy of the information boards to be used at the Nats to the rest of the committee for comment soon after the meeting. Likewise, the latest version of the A5 booklet/flyer on scale models.

7) Free Flight

- a) The rules for outdoor kit scale are now on the scale web site.
- b) The question was raised as to whether Bill Dennis is going to organise FF Scale at the Nats this year or whether Andy Hewitt is taking over.
- c) An organiser is needed for the Selby Trophy Competition. Bill has sent an e-mail to the competitors to ask for a volunteer.

8) Indoor

- a) Eight competitions are planned for this year.
- b) The Manchester Velodrome event on 22nd February covered costs. However, there was only one entrant in Pistachio.
- c) The pre-Nats event will be at Peterborough on 30th March.
- d) Indoor Nationals at Nottingham University on 12th/13th April – Judges are needed (32 in total). Andy reported that there were only 5 entries so far. Apparently some people are not coming because it has been planned as a two day event. (Post meeting note: 27/3/14 The Nationals has been cut back to a one day event and will not include an R/C event.)
- e) The costs of the Indoor Nats will be an agenda item for the next STC meeting. Richard to talk to Sian to gather information.
- f) Andy will be approaching other people to take on the organisation of indoor events next year.
- g) Andy requested that the new score sheets and competitor's declaration be put on the Scale web site. Ian will do this.

9) Control Line

It was noted that there were 40+ entries for C/L Scale at the Old Warden SAM 35 event. We questioned whether there are lessons to be learned that might improve interest in the Nats C/L Scale events. Andy will talk to Brian Lever to find out more details and then Brian Caldwell.

10) Helicopters

Nothing reported. A helicopter representative will be invited to attend the next STC meeting.

11) Radio Control

- a) 2014 Contest Calendar - Dave has everything in hand.
- b) Nationals Planning - Graham Kennedy to be CD. Learning from events last year it was agreed that the CD should be given the power to prevent a flight because of serious safety concerns.
- c) Safety Concerns at Nationals
We are still waiting for a date for the proposed 'Nationals Flightline Meeting'. (Post meeting note: It was subsequently decided by the Nats Co-ordinator not to hold this meeting.) Chris, in his role as Safety Officer, will prepare a document that will express our concerns. This will be sent to Dave Phipps, Manny Williamson and the Chairman. Chris will also raise the matter at the forthcoming Technical Council Meeting (22/3/14).
- d) 2014 F4C and F4H World Championships
Steve reported that the provisional entry form for the British Team has been sent to the organisers. Both he and Neil attended the Team Manager's training session organised by Jo Halman and found it very worthwhile.
About half the team plans to camp on site at the airfield and the others are booked into a hotel nearby. To date two official supporters have said they will be joining the team (John Carpenter and Tony Peak); Ian and Chris are also looking into the possibility of attending. Mick Reeves is planning to make a private entry for F4G.
It was unanimously agreed that, provided funds permit, the contribution to our competitors from the Team Travel Fund should be £500 each. As Richard was not present at the meeting, Ian undertook to speak to him on the matter to find out if there are sufficient funds to do this.
It was noted that Romania has put in a bid for the 2016 F4C and F4H World Championships.
- e) Proposed Open International
Graham has advised that the date for this event may have to be put back because of a double booking of Barkston Heath on 27th/28th September. We expressed concern that this would make it late in the year and so weather and daylight would probably be against us. The general feeling was that it might be better to go for a date in 2015. This would give more time for organisation and the opportunity to secure a more suitable date.

12) BMFA Scale Rule Book and Judges Guide

- a) The new rulebook has been issued. There are some page number errors which have arisen out of the inclusion of the helicopter rules but we can live with that.
- b) Andy has yet to check the Indoor Judges Guide.
- c) With reference to a recent request by an indoor competitor as to whether he could make a proxy entry for the Nats it was noted that the BMFA general rules do not permit this.

13) Forthcoming CIAM Meeting

We went through the proposals to be put forward at the forthcoming CIAM meeting relating to scale and agreed our recommendations for voting. One of the items is a proposal from Spain to introduce a new class for helicopters. In general we agree with having a separate scale class for helicopters flown to F4C rules with additional manoeuvres applicable to helicopters. However, the current proposal is not workable and does not get our support. Chris to send our recommendations to Peter Halman.

14) Any Other Business

Chris to attend the next Full Council Meeting on 17th May in place of Ian.

12) Next Meeting

The next meeting is planned for Saturday 28th June* in the SVAS Library at Old Warden.

The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 4:00pm.

Stephen Kessel
Secretary - Scale Technical Committee

4th April 2014

*Please note this date has changed - was 21st June