

MINUTES OF THE BMFA SCALE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT OLD WARDEN ON 7th March 2015

The meeting commenced at 11:00 am.

Present were: Chris Allen, Robin Gowler, Steve Kessel, Ian Pallister and John Minchell (observer)

1) Apologies - Richard Scarbrough and Andy Sephton

2) Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes for 7th December 2013 were approved minus the Treasurer's Report.

proposed: Robin, seconded: Ian.

Action: Steve to contact Richard for a copy of the December Treasurer's Report to append to the minutes.

3) Matters Arising

It has been confirmed that Bill Dennis will continue as the Scale FF contact for the STC but that Andy Hewitt is to take over from Bill as the organiser running the Scale FF competitions at the August Nats.

4) Treasurer's Report

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

Since the last meeting in December, a Scale indoor free flight competition took place at the Manchester Velodrome on 21st February. Figures for this event will be recorded on the 4th quarter's spreadsheets (1 January to 31 March 2015).

According to figures provided by Andy Sephton, the R/C Indoor Nats event held at Shawbury in Oct '14 showed a total income of £310, less Hall hire of £280, giving a net surplus of £30. However, these figures have not been recorded on any of the 3rd quarter printouts forwarded from BMFA head office. I have spoken to Sian for clarification and have made her aware of this situation.

The quarterly reports for the third quarter (October to December 2014) sent by Head Office, show the following:

	Costs for 3rd qtr to Dec '14
TC costs - scale	£
24/10/14 : Room hire (Mar - Dec '14)	266.68
Travel & lunch costs for STC meeting in Oct '14	396.64
Travel & lunch costs for STC meeting in Dec '14	367.93
7/11/14 : Postage charge	1.11
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	1,032.36
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Training & Excellence scale costs	£
No transactions for quarter	-
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TTF - Scale	£
No transactions for quarter	-
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Balance of monies held in the TTF Scale account at 31 December 2014 was £4,393.57.

Contest Fund Scale		£
04/10/2014	Bushfield Hall Hire (for Scale Indoor trimming Mar'15)	206.00
10/10/2014	Hall Hire – deposit for Scale Indoor Nats 15 at Walsall	737.60
19/10/2014	CD - Scale Indoor Nats	40.50
Oct '14	Scale income/Scale indoor Nats entry	- 47.00
		937.10

The balance of monies on this account at 31 December 2014 was £3,083.78.

BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

As stated in the last Treasurers Report, the budget for 2014/15 has been set at the following amounts:

TC costs	£1,800	£1,705.79
Training and excellence	£1,000	£875.72

meeting costs have still to be added to the above.

5) Chairman's Report on Full Council Meeting of 15th January 2015

Ian reported that there were no items of special interest to Scale. On a general note: the Air Navigation Order and CAP658 are being reviewed, partly because of concerns about multi-rotor 'drones'.

6) PRO Report and Newsletter

Ian passed on a message from Andy that the next Newsletter would be published before the end of March and thanked him for his efforts in producing the Newsletters. He also reported on discussions which he had had with Andy Symons regarding publicising the Indoor Nationals with local clubs. Apparently this has worked very well for the Indoors Masters, the organisers of which contact all clubs within a 30 mile radius of the event to publicise it.

7) Free Flight

- Andy Hewitt will take over the running of the Scale FF competitions at the August Nats. Ian thanked Bill Dennis for his sterling efforts in this respect over the past years. Bill will remain as the FF contact for the STC.
- Bill has reported that despite requests to the FF fraternity he has not had any offers of help with the three scale competitions he will be running at the FF Nats. This is very disappointing and if such events are to continue more help must be forthcoming.
- The Selby Trophy event will be held at North Luffenham later in the year.
- Bill reported that he has approved a three view drawing of an Antoinette for Peter Fardell.
- Bill made a direct request to the BMFA for the Nats debrief to discuss:
 - 'The uncontrolled incursions of the evening freeflight mayhem' into the Scale FF airspace and
 - 'The 15 minute overrun of the RC events on the Saturday evening'

Action: Robin will raise these issues at the next Technical Council Meeting.

8) Indoor

- a. It was noted that 21 prizes and certificates are needed for the Indoor Nats and that Gordon Warburton will continue to supply the certificates. John has two die-cast models and 8 pictures to use as prizes – more will be required and he is investigating the possibility of obtaining some framed prints of old Aeromodeller magazines.
- b. John proposed considering a change to the Scale Indoor RC weight limit. It had been suggested increasing the weight limit from 200g to 250g or possibly even 300g. The outcome of our discussion was that a trial event (not a competition class) should be run for perhaps 2 years with a limit of 300g weight and 20g/dm² wing loading to determine the interest and practicality of such a change.
- c. John also put forward the idea of moving the Scale Indoor RC Nats to later in the indoor season, possibly having it early in the New Year. The reason was to give competitors more time to practise and develop their models before the Nats, which did make sense. The ramifications of this with respect to the annual BMFA prizegiving were discussed and it was agreed that there should not be any change before the 2016 competition season. However, the Nats for this year will be at Shawbury it was agreed to try to push the date as late as practicable, ideally into mid-November.

Action: this will need to be discussed again at STC later this year.

9) Control Line

Nothing to report.

10) Helicopters

Nothing to report.

11) Radio Control

Ian thanked Alan Glover for his efforts in putting together the 2015 Contest Calendar. This was reviewed to decide which classes should be run at the different venues and decisions made as follows:

Osournby	22/3/15	Flying Only
Pontefract	5/4/15*	Flying Only (*note clash with Easter)
Druids	3/5/15	Flying Only and RC Scale
Merryfield	17/5/15	Flying Only
Dishforth	24/5/15	Flying Only and Stand-off also Anglo Scottish Event
Barkston	14/6/15	Festival of Flight Venue not available
Warboys	28/6/15	Flying Only and RC Scale also Ripmax Trophy
Osournby	26/7/15	Flying Only
Baldock	9/8/15	Flying Only
Barkston Nats	August PH Weekend	Flying Only, RC Scale and Stand-off
Merryfield	6/9/15	Flying Only
Dishforth	20/9/15	Team Trials F4C and F4H

In addition to the above it was proposed that the West London Site could be the venue for a training day on the 14th June in place of the Festival of Flight Weekend at Barkston but sadly we have since been told that the West London Club were losing their site. (Sec's Note: This may be back on – awaiting further news from WLMAC).

Also, we accepted an offer from John Minchell to investigate use of his club's Sleep site for a competition on 12/7/15. This would be a Flying Only competition.

12) BMFA Scale Rule Book and Judges Guide

- a) The new rulebook has been issued.
- b) Chris has received feedback on the Judges Guide and will issue this shortly.
- c) It has been suggested that a CD's guide is needed to assist CDs new to the task, especially those who have to get involved in organising the venue and dealing with the financial aspects of the event such as the Scale Indoor Nationals. It could also include procedural information for those who are not the CD but run competition classes such as the FF and CL events at the Nats.

Action: A subject for the STC to revisit.

13) CIAM

Chris reminded us that 2015 is not a Scale Year for rule changes.

14)Any Other Business

We discussed the prizes that are presented to winners of all our scale competitions and questioned whether we need something different from the pictures that are currently used. John Minchell is investigating obtaining some framed prints of old Aeromodeller magazines and Ian suggested low cost items such as coasters and placemats from the Shuttleworth shop as an alternative. However, we then questioned whether prizes are really required at all for Sunday competitions and whether it might be better to only have prizes for the podium places at the Nats. It was decided to canvass opinion on this among competitors before making such radical changes. In the meantime it was decided that we need 45 sets of prizes for the events in the current contest season.

12)Next Meeting

The next meeting is planned for Saturday 13th June in the SVAS Library at Old Warden.

The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 4:30pm.

Stephen Kessel
Secretary - Scale Technical Committee

18th March 2015

Approved