

MINUTES OF THE BMFA SCALE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MEETING
HELD AT THE BMFA NATIONAL CENTRE ON 23rd JUNE 2018

Those present:

Steve Kessel (SK), Chairman
Chris Allen (CA),
Mike Sollitt, (MS)
John Minchell (JM),
Steve Jackson (SJ), (ex officio)
Mike Stuart, (ex officio)
John Carpenter. (JC) Secretary

The meeting opened at 11:00 hr

In opening the meeting the chairman reported that Robin Gowler had stood down as Results Officer and Dave Knott had taken on the duty until the end of the year.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting.

2.

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 24th February, were accepted.

2. Matters arising.

All matters arising are dealt with in the following paragraphs, with references to the relevant paragraphs of the minutes of the previous meeting.

a). (Minutes item 2(a)) JM reported that there had so far been about 100 replies to his GDPR letter although not all had provided the requested data. This represented about seventy five percent of those canvassed. The action remained ongoing. **Action JM**
It was further mentioned that the newsletter could not be made available to those who had not agreed to be on the database.

b). (Minutes item 2(e)). A statement of account with regard to Team Travel Fund was in preparation. The treasurer (AS) was unable to attend the meeting but had provided a statement of accounts and these are attached at Annex A. It was noted that that since these summaries were produced there have been several travel allowances authorised plus team uniform expenditure at just under £600 and team travel at £2500.

c). (Minutes item 2(f)). PRO's Report. MS undertook to contact AS with a view to taking over the role of PRO as soon as convenient. **Action: MS.**

d). (Minutes item 2(h)) Eddie Riding event. Preparations for the Eddie Riding event were reported to be well in hand. **Post Meeting Note:** The event was reported to have been a great success with fifteen entries. This was seen as an encouraging start by those involved.

e). (Minutes item 3(b)) Delegate's Report. SK reported that he had spoken to the FAI delegate, Julie Fisher, concerning the lack of support from the nominated carrier, DHL. The matter had been taken up with DHL but the response had been unhelpful. Better

arrangements were needed for transportation of models generally, not just for the World Championships. S K has also written to the Scale Sub Committee, Pal Anthoniensen, in an effort to ensure that change is introduced.

f). (Minutes item 7.) RC Scale Indoor Trophy. It was agreed that the Model Flyer Trophy would be officially adopted by the BMFA and awarded for this event.

g). (Minutes item 10(a)) Preparations for the World Championships.

1). Team selection had been finalised in that Dave Knott had been adopted to compete in both F4(c) and F4(h) using two different models.

2). Uniforms had been provisioned, as agreed at the last meeting.

3). There having been some confusion over allocation of funds it was confirmed that the allocations reported in the minutes of the STC meeting of 24 February were correct.

h). (Minutes item 13(b)) Guide for Judges and CDs. The preparation of the document was ongoing and presently in a rough state. Implementation was aimed for 2019. CA undertook to circulate a draft to the next STC meeting. **Action: AS**

i). (Minutes item 13(e)) The GDPR list was in hand and will be circulated to STC members when complete.

j). (Minutes item 14(c)) Judges guide. There was some discussion of the format and purpose of the proposed guide during which the following points emerged.

1. The idea for the video was to educate anyone interested in scale flying. It might also assist in the area of scale documentation and leading to the building of better models.

2. a storyboard approach was under consideration which might, for example, illustrate how scoring is done by deducting points from a theoretically perfect ten for deviations from the requirement.

k). (Minutes item 15(b)) Light scale competition class. An advertisement for this event had been placed in BMFA News. This first event would be used to gauge interest.

l). (Minutes item 16(a)) A 'rules' meeting. There was some discussion of how a meeting of representatives of all the scale disciplines might be organised. A physical meeting might be difficult to arrange and might have cost implications whereas a conference call might be an alternative. CA agreed to set things in motion by email to representatives of each discipline seeking a proposed procedure for dealing with rule changes with the intention of holding a rules meeting or conference call before the next STC meeting in October. **Action:CA**

3. Delegate's Report

- a). The chairman reported that, as mentioned under Actions Arising above, The Model Flyer Trophy had been adopted as the RC Scale Indoor trophy.
- b). It had been confirmed that the Nationals has been adopted as an RAF100 event.
- c). A recent CIAM meeting had reminded all that nominations for awards by the FAI could be put forward.

4. Treasurer's Report

A statement of accounts was made at Annex A. An update reflecting recent expenditure, and including expenditure in respect of the World Championships, was due in late July. AS will provide an update on the financial situation as soon as it is received. **Action: AS.**

5. PRO's Report

- a). The handover of the PRO's function from AS to MS was discussed concerning who should manage the allocated space in BMFA News. There was a view that this should be concerned with more than just competition related news. It was agreed that AS and MS would discuss whether the BMFA News element should be partly or totally the responsibility of the PRO. **Action: AS, MS.**
- b). It was further agreed that STC members should canvass local club members to gain an insight as to how many actually read the magazine. **Action: All STC members.**

6. Free Flight

CO2/electric free flight (JM)

It was reported that there had been some discussion over outdoor electric requiring some means of cut-off of power. Use of radio control had been suggested. However, such means could be open to abuse and discussions were ongoing, which might also involve the proposed rules meeting mentioned above. The item was deferred until the next meeting to allow ongoing discussions.

7. Indoor

- a). It was reported that future use of Shawbury was in doubt due to the need for remedial work on site.
- b). Mike Stuart indicated his willingness to take on the role of STC Indoor representative in the future.
- c). The date for the 2019 Indoor Free Flight Nationals had been set for 27/28 April.

8. Control Line

Nothing to report.

9. Helicopter

Nothing to report.

10. August Nationals

Arrangements for the event were well in hand and would be similar to those of last year. For RC scale, a 'walkie-talkie' system would be introduced to provide warnings of overflying the pylon flight line. This would still require an individual to report incidents but his location on the field could be in a safer position. Details of the system were being refined.

11. Festival of Scale Event 2019

Control line and Helicopter disciplines had been contacted seeking their involvement in the proposed event. No replies had so far been received. It was agreed that announcement of the event was needed before the end of the year and that detailed planning should begin shortly. It was agreed that a sub-group should be formed to take on the task. It was intended that the event should cover all disciplines if possible and include indoor flying if it could be arranged. There could also be seminars on matters of interest as well as competitions and general fun flying.

It was agreed that the sub-committee should be chaired by SK with SJ as RC Scale rep, Mike Stuart covering Free Flight and representation from Helicopter and Control Line. **Action: SK.**

Post meeting note: Helicopter have since replied but still nothing from Control Line.

12. Scale Website

It was noted that the 'old' website continued to exist but no new additions were being made to it. The BMFA Chairman was transferring data to the new site and in due course the old site would be abandoned or shut down. A question remained as to who should take over running the site once the transfer was complete. No decision was taken but it was considered a possibility that this could become part of the PRO remit already under discussion.

13. Competition Programme

SJ reported that the programme for this year was now finalised. He undertook to organise the programme for 2019. **Action: SJ.**

14. BMFA Scale Rulebooks and associated documentation.

a) Correction of errors notified

CA reported that errors had been found in the contest rules under Scale Outdoor Free Flight (CO2 or Electric powered) Para 6.4.3.5. The titles under Categories (c) and (e) were incorrect. CA undertook to advise the Free Flight discipline and the Nationals Contest Director of the errors. **Action: CA.**

b) Eddie Riding Competition

It was noted that rules for this event should be included in the rule book.

c) Ripmax Trophy.

There was some discussion concerning this event in that there appeared to be confusion as to whether this was scored to F4(c) rules or more biased towards F4(h). It was agreed that it should be regarded as an F4(c) event and scoring adjusted as necessary to reflect this. It was agreed that it should be run with a F4H flying/static but F4C static rule to apply.

d) Calcutta Cup

Refinement of rules and arrangements for the competition were needed. England/Scotland team selection was also problematical. It could be that team members be nominated before they fly from those competitors present. Alternatively, the smallest team present from either England or Scotland would define the team size and lots could be drawn amongst the larger team to select an equivalent sized team. The event was due to take place at the Nationals and some announcement was required. After some discussion it was agreed that CA would email all potential competitors apprising them of the event and SK would arrange for publicity on the website. **Action: CA, SK.**

e) Rule changes.

Some rule changes for RC scale had been put forward at the Plenary meeting. Most of these reflected present custom and practice. These included that aircraft max and cruise speeds should be on the flight score sheet and that it was required that, for static judging, both flight and static spinners should be shown. It was also proposed that 'model sound' should be done away with and that a scoring category of 'Flight Presentation' be introduced, having a K factor of 4. This category was intended to cover the appropriateness of the choice of manoeuvres. This was passed at the Plenary meeting and would come into effect on 1st January 2019. It was pointed out that the BMFA does not have to adopt this as UK rules do not impinge on the rules used internationally. CA undertook to prepare a paper asking if BMFA should adopt the new rules. **Action:CA.**

15. The Aims and Direction of the Scale Technical Committee

In opening the discussion MS stated that in his view the STC was too involved in matters related to scale competitions and not on encouragement of general scale modelling. He pointed out that scale modelling was almost the last area where model building remains a part. This part of the hobby needed to be promoted. The STC should exist to promote all aspects of scale modelling and there were a variety of means of doing this. The first step in this direction would be preparation of a mission statement providing objectives and the actions needed to achieve this. He had prepared a paper setting out his thoughts on the subject and a copy is attached at Annex B to these minutes. Further discussion on this subject would take place at the next meeting and in the meantime members were invited to consider the paper with a view to considering next steps. **Action: all members.**

16. Any other business

a). The Eddie Riding competition

1. It was noted that certificates would be required for the five classes of the event in addition to an overall Eddie Riding trophy.

2. The rules may need to be adjusted in the future based on further experience of the event.

3. The event was not a championship event and an entry fee of £3 per class was considered appropriate.

b). The date for the next meeting is Saturday 6th October at BMFA Centre, Buckminster.

The meeting closed at 4.30pm.