

MINUTES OF THE BMFA SCALE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MEETING
HELD AT THE BMFA NATIONAL CENTRE ON 1st December 2018

Those present:

Andy Sephton (AS), Chairman
Steve Kessel (SK),
Chris Allen (CA),
Mike Sollitt, (MS)
John Minchell (JM),
Steve Jackson (SJ)
John Carpenter. (JC) Secretary

Apologies for absence were received from Mike Stuart.

There is a set agenda for the first meeting of a new Scale Technical Committee and this formed the first part of the meeting. As the person nominated by the BMFA CEO to open the meeting John Minchell took the Chair and welcomed all present.

1. Election of Officers, co-options and Acceptance of Specialist Body Representatives.

- a). The Initial voting strength of the meeting was five.
- b). By universal agreement AS was elected as Chairman
- c). It was confirmed that Mike Stuart had been co-opted to take on the post of Secretary. JC, retiring from that post, agreed to attend future meetings, ex officio, acting as representative of RC competitors.
- d). The voting strength at this point was five
- e). Andy Sephton was confirmed as Chairman
- f). Mike Stuart was confirmed as Secretary.
- g). Steve Kessel was confirmed as Treasurer.
- h). Andy Sephton undertook to be council delegate with Chris Allen as a stand-in when required.
- i). There were no voting specialist body representatives.
- j). The final voting strength of the meeting was five.
- k). This item completed above at item e).
- l). Completed at items f). g). and h) above.

- m). Mike Sollit was unanimously confirmed as PRO.
- n). Chris Allen was unanimously confirmed as Safety Officer.
- o). Chris Allen was voted to continue as Rules Officer.
- p). John Minchell was unanimously confirmed as Committee Results Officer.
- q). The Budget Signatory for Team Travel Funds remained with the Treasurer.

In addition Steve Jackson agreed to continue in the role of Competition Secretary .

2. Apologies for Absence

Mike Stuart had sent his apologies for absence due to an overseas holiday.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

4. Matters Arising.

All matters arising had been taken at the subsequent meeting.

5. Miscellaneous Appointments

(a) The following posts and appointments were annotated:

Contest manager	Steve Jackson	(ex committee)
Free Flight Representative	Mike Smith	(ex committee)
Control Line Representative	Brian Cordwell	(ex committee)
Helicopter Representative	John Copplestone	(ex committee)
CIAM Representative	Chris Allen	
Newsletter	Mike Sollitt	

Post meeting note: Bill Dennis will be remaining as FF Representative as Mike Smith will only be organising the Scale FF Event at the FF Nationals. See Agenda Item F. a). below

All ex committee representatives are welcome to attend any STC meetings, when appropriate, in a non-voting capacity.

6. Disciplines

Disciplines covered by the Scale Technical committee are Scale FF, Scale RC. Scale CL, Scale Helicopter and Scale Indoor.

7. Council Agenda.

There were no proposals for the Council Agenda.

8. Nationals Debriefing and Pre-Planning.

De-briefing had taken place in October and there were presently no pre-planning matters presently under consideration.

9. Teams

The programme of competitions that would be used to identify teams for the next World Championships was in preparation.

10. Team Managers

No team managers were presently required but this subject was to be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting of the STC. **Action: Secretary**

11. BMFA Competition Details.

Competition entry fees were agreed as follows

RC events at £15 and season tickets at £70

Control line - £11

Free Flight - £3

Indoor - £15

Junior entries – free

Power Nationals Events

RC - £30

Helicopter - £20

Control line - £20

Free flight - £12

Junior entries – free

Indoor free flight Nationals

Registration - £17

Entry by class £4

Junior entries – free

12. Annual Return.

The annual return was prepared and checked for accuracy. -AS to submit to BMFA HQ.

Action: AS

13. Safety Review.

There were no issues to report.

14. Priority Buckminster Bookings.

Bookings were required for RC scale events on 8th September and 6th October 2019.

Post Meeting Note. These dates were booked at the close of the meeting.

15. Technical Committee Other Agenda Items.

A. Minutes of the previous meeting.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved subject to minor corrections.

Secretary's Note: For the sake of good order a revised set of minutes incorporating the agreed amendments was issued.

B. 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). It was reported that the action was complete.
- b). Minutes item 2 e). Guide for Judges and CDs. CA reported that the action was still in progress and remained outstanding. **Action: CA Secretary's note:** see also Agenda Item L below.
- c). Minutes item 4 c). The action to change the arrangements for payments to competition judges to a 'cash or claim' system was complete.
- d). Payment of claim by JM for mileage in respect of the Scale World Championships Had been authorised. Action complete.
- e). Minutes Item 5 c). The action to include a response to the published denigration of the Scale World Championships and the UK teams' performance would be included in the report on the event to be published in BMFA News. Action complete.
- f). Minutes Item 6). An acceptable means of power cut off in CO2/Electric events. It was reported that revised wording had been incorporated in the latest amendments to the rule book. Action complete.

g). Minutes item 8. Control line static judging at the Nationals. The matter was ongoing.
Action: CA

h). Minutes item 10b)

1. Alex Kennedy and Mick Henderson had verbally expressed interest in competing for places at the 2020 RC Scale World Championships. Early announcement of the revised selection process was intended for the next Scale Newsletter.

2. 2020 WC Team manager selection to be put on the agenda for the next meeting. **Action: JC**

3. Information to advertise entry to the world championships should be in the Newsletter and BMFA News – **Action: MS and AS**

4. Revised rules covering selection of individuals had been prepared. Action complete.

j). Minutes item 10 c). World Championships 2022. SK reported that a briefing note had been put forward and the response had been that the STC should make further, more detailed investigations into possible arrangements, backed up with outline indications of cost. After some discussion of possible realistic locations and potential sponsors it was agreed that SK would undertake initial researches and put together some basic costings for further consideration at the next meeting. **Action:SK**

k). Minutes item 11. Festival of Scale. Dates for the event, of 27/28 July 2019 had been booked for use of Buckminster for the event. Action complete. **Secretary's note:** see also Agenda Item M.

l). Minutes item 13 a). Competition programme for 2019. The possibility of an event in the Wessex area had been researched. Action complete.

m). Minutes item 13. The actions were complete.

n). Minutes item 14. Scale rulebooks. The final draft of the rulebooks had been produced. Action complete.

C. Delegate's Report.

In the absence of SK who had to depart for another appointment, the delegates report was not available.

D. Treasurer's report.

AS circulated the latest report (copied at Annex A to these minutes). It was reported that representation had been made to request increased funds for 2019 to cover preparations for the 2020 World Championships.

E. PRO's report.

It was reported that the plan was to issue the next newsletter in the New Year and input for inclusion was required. During the discussion the following points for possible inclusion emerged:-

- a). Publication of fees for competitions, as had been agreed.
- b). Promulgation of the 2019 competition rule book.
- c). An open invitation to clubs who would welcome a talk from the STC on scale matters.
- d). Contact the Areas to establish if they have any input they would wish to make.
- e). Provide details of the procedures for selecting team members for F4c and F4H World Championships in 2020 .
- e). The possibility of setting up a 'Scale' Facebook page. The present list of scale enthusiasts would provide the core mailing list. It was considered that it could be possible to link this to the BMFA Scale web site.

It was further agreed that members would research and report on any local club members who might be willing to give a talk to local clubs on scale matters. **Action:** All.

F. Free Flight.

- a). It was reported that Bill Dennis was stepping down from the Free Flight committee and his place would be taken by Mike Smith.

Post meeting note from AS - following the meeting, an email exchange with Bill confirmed that he was only standing down as organiser of the Scale FF competition at the BMFA FF Nats. This event would be organised by Mike Smith. Bill would continue to organise the non-nationals Scale FF events. This left us with no-one to organise the BMFA Scale Nationals, a task that was later taken on by Chris Allen. Chris's offer should be confirmed and if applicable, agreed at the next STC meeting. Bill offered to remain as FF contact for the STC, which I accepted. This will also need to be accepted by the STC at the next meeting. **Action:** **AS**

- b). There was a need for scale judges for Eddie Riding and Velodrome events. AS and MS agreed to produce advertising to meet the need. JM agreed to provide guidance as to what help was required. **Action:** **AS, MS and JM**
- c). The Eddie Riding Trophy should appear as an agenda item at the next meeting . **Action:** **JC**

G. Indoor

JM confirmed that he was stepping down from the Indoor committee after the Indoor Nationals in April 2019. Mike Stuart and Doug Hunt would be taking on the task.

H. Control Line.

Nil report

I. Helicopter.

Nil report.

J. Radio Control.

a). SJ reported that a provisional list of competitions for next year had been produced which, in the main, mirrored that for the current year. The list was provisional because dates for particular events had yet to be agreed with the relevant clubs. The use of Merryfield remained problematical over the need to find an individual prepared to provide a guarantee against damage (i.e. a fall guy).

b). There was some discussion over the possibility of using alternative sites during which the following were mentioned:

Brian Wood had mentioned that the Blackpool club have a good site which might be available.

Paul Bardoe, who used the Garstang site, had mentioned that it might be available.

Chetwynd and Sharlowe had also been mentioned in the past.

c). It was noted that with the Postponement of the Festival of Scale the date of 28th July was now available for competition purposes if required. **Secretary's note:** See Para M.

d). Light Scale events would take place at all Flying Only events except the Nationals where timescales would be insufficient.

e). SJ agreed to keep all the above points in mind in finalising and publishing the programme for 2019. **Action: SJ**

K. Competition programme for 2019 (supporting items)

a). It was proposed that some form of competition prizes should be given, not for podium positions as such, but more for achievement in effort such as, but not limited to, 'most improved flyer', 'best effort' or 'most improvement between rounds'. After some discussion it was agreed that there should be two such awards per event at the discretion of the CD who would decide the criteria to use on the day and produce the prizes within maximum of £15 each. It was further agreed that committee members would give thought to the production of some guidelines for CDs on criteria, for awarding such prizes, for further discussion at the next meeting. **Action: all members.**

b). There was a program available for use in recording flight and static scores which could be used with any laptop. However, there was a need for a dedicated printer and voltage inverter rather than relying on individuals to provide them. It was agreed that a printer and

inverter be purchased to meet the need, within the sum of £150. SK was nominated to make the necessary purchase. **Action: SK**

L. BMFA Scale rule books and associated documentation.

- a). It was agreed that the CD's guide would be produced as a separate downloadable document rather than an Annex to the Judges Guide. **Action CA**
- b). CA reported that draft amendments to the rule books had been circulated to all and comments received. It was decided that the closing date for further corrections proposed to the rule book should be 15th December to allow time for final preparation and presentation to the Technical Secretary as the 2019 rule book. **Action:CA**

M. Festival of Scale event 2019

It having been decided that there would be insufficient time to prepare for this event, the decision was taken to postpone it until the following year. Accordingly the booking at Buckminster was cancelled. A booking could not be made for 2020 as the Buckminster diary was not yet available.

Action JC - post meeting note, action carried out.

N. The Aims and Direction of the Scale Technical Committee.

- a). Discussion of this item was deferred to allow MS time to prepare a draft short, medium and long term plan. **Action MS.**
- b). AS reported that BMFA 'Terms of Reference' and 'role of the Chairman' were available. He undertook to provide members with copies of the documents via Email. **Action: AS**

O. Dates for STC meetings in 2019.

The Secretary reported that the following dates had been booked:-

Saturday 9th February
Saturday 15th June
Saturday 5th October
Saturday 30th November

All meetings will be at Buckminster, starting at 11.AM.

P. Any Other Business

- a). It was reported that the adjustments to the Eric Coates trophy would be complete by the end of December. **Action: SK.**
- b). The RC Model Flyer Trophy has now been formally adopted as the Indoor RC trophy and accordingly an adjustment is required to place reference at the correct section of the rule book. **Action: CA**

c). It had been pointed out that, since the introduction of 2.4Ghz and the consequent discontinuation of frequency checks at the Nationals, checks on B certificates also appeared to have ceased. CA advised that, in fact, checks were undertaken by the BMFA HQ and Contest Director as part of the competitor clearance process. However, fail safe checks still needed to be done before flight at the competition.

d). CA confirmed that the 2020 F4 World Championships will be held in Norway from 25th July to 2nd August.

e). A recent RCM&E scale article referred to our sport as a hobby. It was agreed that AS should write to RCM&E pointing out the error. **Action AS**

f) AS read out an agreed action list for members at the end of the meeting. he agreed to send it to members post meeting by email. **Action: AS**

g) JC agreed to firm-up and publish the meeting dates for 2019. **Action JC (see para O. above)**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2.36pm.