

MINUTES

SOCIETY OF MODEL AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERS LTD

(T/A British Model Flying Association)

Minutes of the **Technical Council Meeting**

held on the 24th March 2012 at 11am

at Chacksfield House, 31 St Andrews Road, Leicester LE2 8RE

Provisional until confirmed at the next Technical Council Meeting

PRESENT

Jo Halman FSMAE	Meeting Chairman / Competition Secretary / CLTC Secretary
Peter Halman FSMAE	FAI Delegate / Meeting Vice-Chair
John French	Records Officer
Chris Allen	Scale TC Representative Alternate
Mike Proctor FSMAE	R/C Silent Flight TC Member
Clive Needham	Silent Flight TC Representative
Mike Colling FSMAE	Indoor TC Representative
Keith Barker	RC Power TC Representative
Mike Francies	FFTC Representative Alternate
Vernon Hunt	CLTC Representative
Jon Edison	BARCS Representative
<u>In Attendance</u>	
Linda Harding	Office Manager

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for Absence.
- 2 Request for permission to be absent.
- 3 To verify the voting strength of the meeting.
- 4 Correction and adoption of the Minutes of the Technical Council Meeting held on 15th October 2011.
- 5 Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting on 15th October 2011 that are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.

- 6 To review the set agenda for the first meeting of a Technical Committee each year (Current issue appended as separate document).
- 7 To appoint the current year representative to the Awards Committee.
- 8 To discuss the CIAM Agenda (**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU BRING YOUR CIAM AGENDA WITH YOU**).
- 9 This year's Nationals updates from the Power Nationals Co-ordinator and Technical Committees to include:
 - a Discussion on flightlines.
 - b Nationals results requirements.
- 10 To receive any reports from Technical Committees. (Preferably in writing and not concerning Agenda Items.)
- 11 To receive a report from the Competition Secretary to include:
 - a The receipt and ratification of any contests for the FAI Calendar.
- 12 To receive any reports from Council, Sub-committees or Elected Officers. (Reports should be brief, preferably in writing & in advance and not concerning Agenda Items.)
- 13 Any Other Business.

Please note: Items for Any Other Business should be handed, or sent, to the Office Manager in writing before the meeting commences.

Any questions to be asked under AOB that require detailed answers should be previously advised to the Office Manager to allow preparation of replies.
- 14 Date of next meeting.

MINUTES

The FAI Delegate was appointed as Vice-Chairman of this meeting.

Proposed by the Records Officer
 Seconded by SFTC
 Carried unanimously

TC707/03/12 (1) Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Trevor Grey Free Flight Technical Committee, Chris Bromley FSMAE Technical Secretary, Ian Pallister Scale Technical Committee.

TC708/03/12 (2) Request for permission to be absent.

There were no requests.

TC709/03/12 (3) To verify the voting strength of the meeting.

There were eleven (11) members eligible to vote.

TC710/03/12 (4) Correction and adoption of the Minutes of the Technical Council Meeting held on 15th October 2011

***** Appendices for the last meeting were omitted when the Minutes were circulated. The Office Manager will send these out as soon as possible. – **Action Office Mgr**

Page 1

- List of members present – Clive Needham, delete “Chairman”; Jon Edison, delete “R/C Silent Flight Representative”, insert “BARCS Rep”.

Page 3

- Agenda Item 19, should say 2012 not 2011.

Page 5

- Fourth paragraph, first line – Replace “Eight” with “Eighth”.
- Final paragraph, replace “set agenda for the first meeting” with “Set Agenda for a First Meeting”.

Page 6

- Fifth paragraph, last line – replace “minutes” with “Minutes”.

Page 12

- Second paragraph, third line – replace “here” with “her”.
- Fourth paragraph, 6th line – replace “Jamie Griffin received the CM Scholarship” with “Jamie Griffin was proposed for the CIAM Scholarship”.

The CLTC proposed that the Minutes of the Technical Council Meeting held on 15th October 2011 be accepted as a true record of that meeting.

Seconded by the Records Officer

Vote: For: 8
Abs: 3
Ags: 0

Carried by a majority vote.

ACTION / NOTES

TC712/03/12 (5) Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting on 15th October 2011 that are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.

Page 4

- **Second paragraph, action FAI Del/Comp Sec re proposal to FAI to prevent fast tracking of Championships - Work in progress.**

FAI DEL/ COMP SEC

- **Final paragraph, action Comp Sec re facilitation letters - Imminent.**

COMP SEC

Page 5

- **Third paragraph from the bottom re F3D two-day Open International for 2012 – The Competition Secretary confirmed that the F3D two-day Open International event will not be held in 2012.**

Page 8

- **Penultimate paragraph, deferred Record Claim Bruce Illingworth** – The Records Officer informed the meeting that Full Council in January 2012 approved the F3D Record Claim by Bruce Illingworth.

If in the future if we receive multiple seven day notifications for the same discipline/class, we will have to wait until the time limit of 60 days for receipt of the full claim has expired before they are put on to an agenda for voting.

**RECORDS
OFFICER/OFFICE
MGR**

Page 9

- **FAI/CIAM Technical Sub-Committee List** – The Competition Secretary and FAI Delegate will submit a proposal to the October Tech Council meeting for discussion re election of Technical Experts.

FAI DEL/COMP SEC

Page 10

- **First paragraph, Barkston Heath Bookings 2012** – We have not yet been able to secure an alternative venue for Aerobatics meeting on 16th / 17th June.

Page 11

- **Halfway down the page item c) “Updates on the results from this year’s (2011) National Championships”** – The results that are not on the BMFA website for 2011 Nationals are:

Power Nationals – Scale
R/C – Aerobatics; Helicopter; Pylon
No Indoor results
No Silent Flight results
No Free Flight results

Several of the Technical Committee representatives expressed strong concerns that they had forwarded results but for whatever reason they do not appear on the website.

The meeting agreed it might be necessary to institute a different system for getting Nationals results on the BMFA website.

It was agreed that from 2012 the Records Officer would be responsible for forwarding the results to the webmaster as soon as he receives them from the relevant Technical Committees, copied to the Competition Secretary and Technical Secretary with a request to the webmaster to publish them as soon as possible. All National results sent to the Records Officer must still be copied to the Competition and Technical Secretaries.

RECORDS OFFICER

Excel, Word or PDF are the preferred format for results to be submitted.

Page 13

- Fifth paragraph, request from the Competition Secretary that the October Technical Council Meeting is moved to Saturday 20th October 2012 – The date of the next Technical Council Meeting was confirmed as Saturday 20th October 2012.

The Office Manager will circulate an updated version of the Council Diary Dates.

OFFICE MGR

This concluded matters arising.

TC713/03/12 (6) To review set agenda for the first meeting of a Technical Committee each year.

No amendments required to the set agenda for the first meeting of a Technical Committee each year.

TC714/03/12 (7) To appoint a current year representative to the Awards Committee.

SFTC proposed that Mike Colling FSMAE is appointed as the current year representative to the Awards Committee.

AWARDS CTTEE

Seconded by R/CPTC
Carried unanimously.

TC714/03/12 (8) To discuss the CIAM Agenda.

The results of voting are listed in a separate file.
(APPENDIX D)

TC715/03/12 (9) This year's Nationals updates from the Power Nationals Co-ordinator and Technical Committees.

WRITTEN REPORT from the Power Nationals Co-ordinator – (APPENDIX A)

Discussion on flightlines
Free Flight & Space – All OK.

Scale Indoor – Nothing to report.

Indoor Duration – The event will take place over three days at Boulash Potash Mine on 15/16/17 June 2012.

Silent Flight – Silent Flight extended their appreciation to the CEO for his assistance in helping to find and secure a venue for the Silent Flight Nationals.

The event will be split over two weekends at Wetlands.

Electric 27/28/29 July 2012;

Gliding Sat Aug 25th / Sun August 26th, Monday August 27th as reserve day.

R/C Power – All OK.

Scale – All OK.

Control Line – The Control Line World Championships are being held the same weekend as the Power Nationals. Control Line discussed this at their last meeting and decided that the 2012 Control Line Nationals would still be held.

The classes will be the same as in previous years. The Records Officer was informed for results purposes, that this year, there will not be a separate F2A classification and F2A will be included in Open Speed..

The likelihood is that Control Line Speed will be moved down to the intersection between VTR and Team Race because of the state of the runway. This is to be confirmed upon further survey of the area which will take place sometime during the Free Flight Nationals in June.

There will be no overall Control Line co-ordinator at this year's Control Line Nationals. The CLTC Secretary will prepare detailed packs for the individual CL CD's.

The Records Officer requested a copy of the list of the individual CD's. The Competition Secretary will provide a copy as soon as it is available.

COMP SEC

TC716/03/12 (10) To receive any reports from Technical Committees.

***** **Scale – Written Report (APPENDIX B)**

***** **Free Flight – Written Report (APPENDIX C)**

Control Line – Verbal report

There had been some uncertainty as to whether all of the Control Line events would take place at this year's Nationals because the CL World Champs and World Cup takes place over the same weekend, but this has been resolved. (See item TC715/03/12 (9).

R/C Power – No Report.

Silent Flight – Verbal report.

All teams are ratified. Silent Flight thanked the Competition Secretary for her assistance with ratifying the teams.

Indoor – Verbal report.

The Indoor Nationals this year takes place over three days at Boulby Potash Mine, 15-17 June 2012.

The first North West Area Indoor Gala took place at the Velodrome in Manchester recently. It was a great success and it is hoped to run it again next year in conjunction with the North West Area.

Everything is in place for sending the Indoor Team to the World Championships and this year we are also sending two-thirds of a Junior team with a dedicated Junior Team Manager.

TC717/03/12 (11) To receive a report from the Competition Secretary.

There are no more receipts or ratifications of any contests for the FAI Calendar.

All the Teams and Team Managers that were not available for the January Council Meeting have been finally ratified. The Competition Secretary commented that Teams should be ratified at January Full Council as far as possible as it is very labour intensive to do this post meeting, although she understands that in some cases this is unavoidable.

She will be attending a meeting to discuss Team Travel funding which should bring news whether the Teams will be receiving extra financial help.

TC718/03/12 (12) To receive any reports from Council, Sub-Committees or Elected Officers.

Records Officer – Verbal report

There are possibly two trophies which might be put to the May Full Council meeting for adoption. One is for F3N Helicopter and the other is for Scale Helicopter.

FAI Delegate – Verbal report

FAI has appointed a new member of staff, Rob Hughes. It is to be hoped that Rob will be assigned to addressing some of the issues currently being experienced with the FAI website and that we will see some improvements in this area.

*Post Meeting Note: the response speed of the FAI website has greatly improved but it is strongly recommended that web browser, Windows Explorer, is **not** used; Firefox is good.*

TC719/03/12 (13) Any Other Business.

Item 1 from Mike Colling FSMAE Indoor TC – Clarification of CAP 658 (2012) Model Aircraft: a guide to safe flying.

4.2.2 states:

‘the person in charge of a small unmanned aircraft must maintain direct unaided visual contact with the aircraft sufficient to monitor its flight path in relation to other aircraft, persons, vehicles, vessels, structures for the purpose of avoiding collision’.

The question that has been raised is that this is fine for radio control but does not really help free flight and there should be an exemption for free flight.

Mike Colling said that this statement prohibits Free Flight. If the CEO agrees that it effectively prohibits free flight then we will request that he asks for an exemption.

CEO

Item 2 from Ian Pallister Scale TC – Control Line pulse jet flying at the Power Nationals.

The Competition Secretary provided background information regarding this issue.

Chris Allen provided comments on behalf of Scale TC.

As the topic concerned the demonstration of Scale pulse jets then the meeting felt that the best place for this at the Nationals would be on the Show Line.

However, the Meeting agreed to follow the advice of the Power Nationals Co-ordinator and to offer a short, specific period in the Control Line Speed circle, after competition flights had finished, on one day to provide some demonstration flights. This would, of course, require an organiser. It was agreed that, as Steve Dorling had raised the issue in the first place, then he should be asked to organise any such event.

The Competition Secretary will liaise with the CEO to progress this.

CEO/COMP SEC

TC720/03/12 (14) Date of next meeting.

The next meeting was confirmed as **Saturday 20th October 2012.**

Please note this is a change to the published date of 13th October 2012.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 4.10 pm.

Circulation:

All attendees of the meeting

Copies to:

All Technical Committee Members
All Members of the Full Council
Secretaries of Specialist Bodies
Fellows (Selected)
Club Bulletin
Office Manager
Accounts Manager
Chief Executive
Development Officer
Club Support Officer

Note Those with voting rights are the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the meeting, the FAI Delegate, Records Officer and two members from each of the six Technical Committees. The voting representatives of the Technical Committees can be any two members of the Committee, elected, co-opted or Specialist Body representative.

Chief Executive - Report to Technical Council – 2012

Barkston Bookings

I have attached the latest version of the bookings for Barkston for 2012 for information. I would like to thank Tech Council and the Comp Sec for their help in co-ordinating this. I would ask anyone who is not using their bookings to let me know before the booked date otherwise they may still be charged the admin element of the fee.

We are fortunate that for we continue to deal with long established contacts yet again this year, principally Barry Kenney (SATCO at Barkston) and Leon Creese (RAF Liaison at Cranwell). Some changes in personnel and responsibilities at Cranwell did cause a few headaches initially (the FF NATS and RC, CL & Scale Nats dates were booked out to someone else initially!).

Free Flight & Space Nationals

Planning for the FF Nationals is well underway. The meeting at Barkston to agree the Admin order has not taken place yet, but will take place late April/early May. This will also present an opportunity to start discussions for August and determine the availability of the hangar etc.

Silent Flight Nationals

I have spent considerable time trying to secure a venue for the Silent Flight Nationals:

1. Prince William of Gloucester Barracks (Spitalgate). The booking for 2012 was refused and I am told that the Woodland Trust will be turning most of the area into woodland which will probably render it useless to us for the future.
2. RAF Cottesmore. The Army are due to be moving in around the time of the SF NATS and Defence Estates have told me that there is 'no chance'. I have approached Cottesmore on several fronts and there is still a small chance that we could secure use (which will be confirmed either way next week). However, the SFTC have already decided to locate the SF NATS at Wetlands split over two weekends.
3. Arena U.K. Unfortunately, the proximity of the A1 renders all bar one field unusable. However, I understand that Clive Needham may be 'giving it a try' for an event.
4. Another option for next year which will be considered is North Luffenham.

RC, CL & Scale Nationals

Arrangements are underway and initial discussions with the RAF will take place at the FF Nats meeting.

I would be grateful if the Technical Committees involved could confirm the CD's to me at the earliest opportunity, so that we can establish contact for equipment ordering etc.

Showline will again operate for Saturday and Sunday, with IMAC being invited to relocate from the Peacekeeper Compound to the Showline on Monday. The 2012 Showline will be co-ordinated by Manny Williamson.

I understand that CL Speed are likely to be submitting a request for a rigid cage for 2012.

We will be assessing the condition of the runway surface over the FF Nats weekend, to try and establish the best positions for the CL circles.

As always, if anyone has any queries could I ask that you contact me directly and ignore the 'rumour mill'.

Dave Phipps

23 March 2012

SCALE TC REPORT TO TECHNICAL COUNCIL – 24 MARCH 2012

A full programme of R/C Scale competitions has been planned for this year with an extra early season event at Osbournby tomorrow (25 Mar) which will be one of 4 events to include the new Standoff Scale class (in addition to the August Nationals). Pre-qualifying will again be a requirement to enter Flying Only at the Nats and, in order to make it easier (and much cheaper!) for members from Northern Ireland to qualify, arrangements have been made for Chris Allen to hold a judging seminar in the NI Area to standardise the quality of judging and enable the STC to approve their Area scale competition as a qualifying event. We are indebted to the Development Officer for his financial support to this exercise. Although Chris will not conduct any specific C certificate training, the seminar should be of value to ACEs who wish to award Scale C certificates.

The first combined Indoor/Scale Indoor FF event hosted by the NW Area at the Manchester Velodrome last month was a great success and proved that the format was worth repeating. Arrangements for the Scale Indoor Nats at Nottingham University on 29 April are progressing well. Andy Sephton has been very active in promoting the event, including giving a number of club talks, as it is hoped that model flyers from other disciplines will swell the numbers of spectators and open a few more eyes to the delights of indoor FF Scale. With a steadily ageing population of participants this injection of new blood is paramount to ensure the sustainability of the Scale Indoor competition scene.

Following various critical articles in certain areas of the modelling press about pulse jet powered C/L scale models not being allowed to fly at the Nats last year the STC has been considering the implications of the appearance of such models. The Scale Contest Rules do not permit pulse jets in any Scale class and we see no reason to change this long-standing limitation, which is in accord with the FAI Sporting Code. However, the question of whether pulse jet-powered C/L demonstration flying should be allowed at the Nats and, if so, where it should take place and who should administer it (Scale, C/L or Show Line) is a matter for wider debate and has been raised as an agenda item for this meeting.

Finally, we are pleased that arrangements to send a full F4C team to the World Championships in Spain are on track. Team member Dave Knott is recovering well from recent heart surgery and we look forward to seeing him back on the flying field.

Ian Pallister

Scale Tech Committee Chairman & Delegate

FFTC Free Flight Report - March 2012

The 2011/12 Free Flight rule change procedures have been fully implemented including a change to the Team Selection process. All of these changes bring the BMFA Free Flight rules in line with the FAI Free Flight rules where relevant. The 2012 Free Flight Rule Book has been published including the BMFA and FAI rule changes.

Planning for the 2012 Free Flight Nationals is complete and preparations are in progress and on schedule.

The planned "Technical Workshop" took place in February and was a great success. A Further "Workshop" event, to build on this success, is being considered for 2013. Three Events on the 2012 contest calendar have already taken place and received good entries.

Some planning for the 2013 season has already taken place and proposals for further rule changes and calendar content are being considered.