

MINUTES

SOCIETY OF MODEL AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERS LTD

(T/A British Model Flying Association)

Minutes of the **Technical Council Meeting**

held on the 17th March 2018 at 11am

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

Provisional until confirmed at the next Technical Council Meeting

PRESENT

David Varallo	Meeting Chairman / Technical Secretary
Julie Fisher	FAI Delegate
Simon Vaitkevicius	Records Officer
Chris Allen	Scale TC Representative Alternate
Ken Faux	FFTC Representative Alternate
Clive Needham	R/C Silent Flight Representative
Vernon Hunt	CLTC Representative
Ashley Hoyland	GBRCAA Representative
Geb Jones	BMPRA Representative
Richard Bloxam	BFPVRA Representative Alternate

In Attendance

Linda Harding	Office Manager
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Visitor

Peter Halman FSMAE	BMFA Vice-Chair
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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 14th October 2017.
- 5 Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting on 14th October 2017 that are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.
- 6 Website.
- 7 To appoint or confirm 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, Technical Committees and RC Power Specialist Bodies to include:
 - a Discussion on flightlines.
 - b Nationals results requirements.
- 10 To receive any reports from Technical Committees and RC Power Specialist Bodies. (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 late UK hosted 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.

The Minutes begin below

MINUTES

TC918/03/18 (1) Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from the following:

Mike Woodhouse FSMAE FFTC Representative, Mike Colling FSMAE Indoor TC Representative, Stephen Kessel Scale TC Representative.

TC919/03/18 (2) Request for permission to be absent.

A request for permission to be absent was granted to Jo Halman FSMAE Competition Secretary. She is officiating as Team Manager at the 2018 F1D Indoor World Championships in Indiana, USA.

TC920/03/18 (3) To verify the voting strength of the meeting.

There were ten (10) members eligible to vote.

TC921/03/18 (4) Correction and adoption of the Minutes of the Technical Council Meeting held on 14th October 2017

CLTC proposed the Minutes of the Technical Council Meeting held on 14th October 2017 be accepted as a true record of that meeting.

Seconded by GBRCAA

Carried by a majority vote: 3 For, 7 Abs, 0 Ags

ACTION / NOTES

TC922/03/18 (5) Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting on 14th October 2017 that are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.

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- **Action Records Officer, listing historical record claims** – This is likely to be ongoing for some time and is no longer necessary to be included as a matters arising.

Page 6

- **Record Claims, action Office Mgr/Comp Sec**- The Office Manager confirmed that the Competition Secretary had made the necessary amendments to the record claim 7-day notification form.

Cont'd/...

Matters
Arising
Cont'd/...

Page 7

- Barkston Heath Bookings, action Comp Sec/Tech Sec –
The Competition Secretary had amended the October Technical Council Standard Agenda to replace “Barkston Heath Bookings” with “Buckminster Bookings”. Going forward the Chairman will arrange with Manny Williamson to obtain a list of bookings for the October Technical Council Meetings.

CHAIRMAN

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- AOB item, equipment range testing, action Chairman to amend Member’s Handbook (MHB) – An addendum to the MHB will be going out within the next few months and this will incorporate a change of wording in the relevant section.

CHAIRMAN

- AOB item, SFTC team selection process, possible rule change – The SFTC Representative confirmed that there were no changes to the team selection process rules.

TC923/03/18 (6) Website.

No comments were forthcoming.

TC924/03/18 (7) To appoint or confirm the current year representative to the Awards Committee.

Mike Colling FSMAE is happy to continue as Technical Council Committee Representative to the Awards Committee.

BMFA VICE-CHAIRMAN / OFFICE MGR

Proposed by SFTC Representative, seconded by the Records Officer and carried unanimously.

TC925/03/18 (8) To discuss the CIAM Agenda.

The Chairman handed over to the FAI Delegate, Julie Fisher to guide the meeting through the ABR and nominations for the FAI Awards, assisted by Peter Halman FSMAE ex FAI Delegate as this was Julies first meeting as FAI Delegate.

A table of the Technical Council voting instructions for the UK FAI Delegate is appended.

2018 CIAM PLENARY MEETING VOTING RECORD –
(APPENDIX A)**

TC926/03/18 (9) This year’s Nationals updates from the Power Nationals Co-ordinator and Technical Committees to include:

a) **Discussion on flight lines.**

Power Nationals Co-ordinator - WRITTEN REPORT
(APPENDIX B)**

Concerns were raised in relation to the above report that states the individual flight lines at the Power Nationals will be responsible for transmitter checking, because the flight lines may not have the capability of checking the use of illegal equipment.

Cont'd/...

Power

The Chairman will raise this with the Power Nationals Co-ordinator.

CHAIRMAN

Post Meeting Note

The Chairman duly raised the concerns with the Power Nationals Co-ordinator, the following correspondence refers:

Question to CEO from David Varallo, Chairman of Technical Council:

"In your report on the Nationals, to Tech Council you have indicated that transmitter checking will be the responsibility of individual flight lines.

This raised some concerns amongst those present over the control of 2.4Ghz TXs. There are usually a number of foreign entries at the Nationals and foreign TX regulation does not always agree with those of the UK. The particular worry would be the use by someone of a TX from the USA where allowed erp is greater than here. With a multiplicity of flight lines some might overlook a simple check for a CE mark so it was hoped that some guidelines on things to check would be issued - or are we over-emphasising a problem that doesn't exist?"

Response from Dave Phipps, Power Nationals Co-ordinator:

"Over recent years there has not been a problem and it was Derek Bailey himself (who has done the checking for the last dozen years or so) who suggested that it was perhaps unnecessary. The other factor was the big black hole we have in the finances (especially with the change to less favourable VAT recovery arrangements) which we cannot sustain. The provision of TX checking service is not an insignificant expense to the NATS.

I guess my question back to the disciplines is how do they deal with this issue at their own events? Surely the issues they have raised can arise at domestic comps? How do SF deal with it at the SF NATS?

We have had specific exemptions from OFCOM in the past when there was a big problem with TX's operating at US rather than EU erp, but there has been no evidence of a problem in recent years.

We perhaps need to make it clear on the entry form that only EU compliant radio equipment will be permitted?"

CLTC – The CLTC Representative advised that they are awaiting a decision on the location of Control Line flight lines.

b) Nationals results requirements.

The Records Officer commented that it seems to be a perennial problem when collecting results at the Power Nationals that not all flight lines comply with his request to follow the procedure asked of them.

**TECH C'TTEES /
SPEC BODIES**

TC927/03/18 (10) To receive any reports from Technical Committees and R/C Power Specialist Bodies.

***** **FFTC – WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX C)**

***** **GBR/CAA WRITTEN REPORT (APPENDIX D)**

CLTC – Verbal Report

The most significant undertaking for Control Line is that negotiations are underway to develop Control Line at the National Flying Centre at Buckminster, instigated by Jo Halman FSMAE, Competition Secretary.

CLTC are to hold their meetings at the National Centre. The National Centre is also hosting a CLAPA event.

SFTC – Verbal Report

It has been a fairly quiet winter as a result of the varying inclement weather conditions.

A member of the F5J European Championship (ECh) Team experienced a few difficulties when applying for a TUE (Therapeutic Use Exemption). The Competition Secretary has arranged a meeting in April for members of the SFTC and members of the F5J ECh Team, to provide further training and guidance.

BFPVRA (British First Person View Racing Association) – Verbal Report

Richard Bloxam, Chairman of BFPVRA was standing in as alternate, as Adam Mackrory is the nominated representative for this meeting however he was unable to attend due to work commitments.

***** Richard provided a brief insight into the BFPVRA, full details are appended to these minutes. **(APPENDIX E)**

The BFPVRA were accepted as a Specialist Body in 2015. They firmly believe there is an opportunity to recruit new people to drone racing, particularly the younger generation by way of turning their interest in computer gaming into something that is real.

It has been a learning curve over the last three years which has helped them to grow. A new committee was elected in October 2017 and they feel they now have control of how to take the sport forward.

They have published a new set of rules however the Chairman reminded Richard that he had yet to receive a copy.

They have organised several events and competitions during the last three seasons and they are very interested to learn more about the process of competing at FAI level.

SCALE – Verbal Report

Unfortunately they were given no choice but to cancel the Indoor RC Nats at Shawbury due to weather conditions. All those directly involved were notified by email.

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Tech
Ctee
Reports
Cont'd/...

The team trials were held at the National Centre in October 2017. Certain events unfolded during the process which has resulted in a fly-off, to be arranged at the first opportunity. This has highlighted a need for a possible review of the team selection process.

BMPRA Verbal Report

Season hasn't started yet. First practice day next weekend. E2K run couple of inter club flying events in Shropshire region and entries are good.

Team trials for F3D Team taking place at Nationals and hosting Queens Cup in F3T. Increasing problem when travelling getting airlines to accept travelling with the models.

TC928/03/18 (11) To receive a report from the Competition Secretary to include:

- a) Receipt and ratification of any late UK hosted contests for the FAI Calendar.

In the absence of the Competition Secretary, there was no report.

TC929/03/18 (12) To receive any reports from Council, Sub-Committees or Elected Officers.

Tech Sec – Verbal Report

The production of all the Rule Books is now complete.

Submission of rules from BFPVRA is still outstanding despite many reminders. Richard Bloxam, BFPVRA Alternate said he would chase this up.

BFPVRA

The Technical Secretary is currently working on producing the first addendum to the Member's Handbook.

The Technical Secretary welcomed any suggestions or comments with regard to any of the content in the Member's Handbook.

Records Officer - Verbal Report

The coming year will see the adoption of some new trophies.

The Records Officer will be undertaking a review of the trophies that are no longer awarded (currently around seventeen). Representatives were asked to report back to their committees to discuss whether if this applies to them, what they would like to do with the trophies.

**ALL TECH
COMMS**

The Records Officer explained that an oversight had occurred in relation to the ratification of a record claim which resulted in the claim not appearing on today's agenda.

Everything is in order in terms of completion and receipt of documents and the Records Officer therefore asked permission of this Committee to submit the Record Claim for ratification today, which was granted.

Cont'd/...

Records
Officer
Report
Cont'd/...

The following Record Claim was commended by the Records Officer, seconded by the FAI Delegate and carried unanimously.

Colin Dilloway (027140) E2K, 27/08/17 at RAF Barkston Heath – 67.13 seconds.

**RECORDS
OFFICER /
OFFICE**

TC930/03/18 (13) Any Other Business.

There was none.

TC931/03/18 (14) Date of next meeting.

Post Meeting Note:

The date of the meeting has changed to:

Saturday 20th October 2018, to take place at Chacksfield House.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 14.50pm

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.

2018 CIAM PLENARY MEETING VOTING RECORD

SENT WITH MINUTES AS SEPARATE ATTACHMENT

RATIFIED

Nationals - Report to Tech Council

The final arrangements for the airfield layout for the 2018 Power Nationals are still work in progress with some details subject to discussion with the RAF and the contractors who operate Barkston before they can be finalised.

Whatever arrangements are put in place, the CL Circles used for Team Race & Vintage Team race will be located on areas not susceptible to fuel staining as under no account can we repeat the problems we caused last year. There will also be a reduction in the provision of practice circles and steps will be taken to render sections of the East/West runway unusable to stop 'unofficial' circles being created as happened last year.

For the RC flightlines, please note that we will not be running Transmitter checking this year and responsibility for this will be down to individual flightlines. In 2017, we did not have any 35MhZ TX's booked in, but we will retain our established frequency allocations just in case.

Dave Phipps
2018 Nationals Coordinator.

**Free Flight Technical Committee report
March 2018**

Free flight Nationals

Planning is all now in place and the entry form is available. Some entries have already been received and are being logged by the office. All we need now is some decent weather! The only job outstanding is finding of CDs for the various competitions.

2nd Area meeting

The meeting was cancelled due to the “beast from the east” it was felt that conditions were too dangerous for flyers to venture out onto the sites. This meeting will not be run at a later date. There are no BMFA perpetual trophies involved.

2018 teams

Planning and entries all up to speed. The Final Entry Forms (FEF) will be submitted in the next few weeks.

Michael J. Woodhouse – Chairman FFTC

GBRCAA Report to the BMFA Technical Council 17 March 2018

1. Garry Peacock was appointed Chairman at our AGM. Vice Chairman Matt Hoyland. Our committee is Steve Hunt Treasurer, Ashley Hoyland Public Relations, Adrian Harrison Competition Secretary, Mark Pearce Secretary, Eugene Anker minutes secretary.
2. In line with the change in the FAI Sporting Code we now use half points to score manoeuvres.
3. Following our AGM we reorganised our leagues and renamed them with more meaningful names. Domestic league becomes GBRCAA National League which includes 3 BMFA Open Contests, BMFA Team Selection league with 3 competitions, the results taken from the GBRCAA Championships, The UK World Cup and the BMFA National Championships.

F3A

4. We have a full competition calendar arranged for 2018 by Adrian Harrison our competition secretary.
 - Twelve National league competitions, three of which are BMFA Open contests.
 - Three Team Selection competitions which are:
BMFA Nationals - CD Matt Hoyland.
GBR/CAA Championships – Buckminster – CD Matt Hoyland.
UK World Cup Ashford – Arranged and Directed by Matt Hoyland
 - Two possible NPODS (New Pilots Open Days) Peter Jenkins and Chris Bond.
 - The Triple Crown (Invitational Team Home International) hosted by Scotland this year.
 - A judges and pilots seminar with the French international judge Nico Bleas.
5. The experiment last year to open our Clubman league competitions, where flying site rules and CD allows to BMFA 'A' Certificate holders, has now been extended to all our leagues.
6. **All the details of our activities are on line at gbrcaa.org and members are kept up to date through automatic and online systems including competition entries and payments.**
7. We continue to update all our information to the BMFA and GBRCAA web sites with the least possible delay.
8. Our contributions to the BMFA News has been continuous.
9. Two members of the GBRCAA have agreed to run 'Introduction to Aerobatics' days at Buckminster on the first Wednesday of each month. We have had an average of six pilots at the four events held, but two planned for January and February had to be cancelled due to the weather. For new attendees through the morning we run an 'Introduction and basic rules discussion session' in the Events Centre and for returning pilots a full day of flying with mentored to practice. The runway is marked out with the aerobatic box and as a pilot advances we hope to give advice to improve their skills over several sessions building up to a simple competition. The intention is to invite a maximum of 10 pilots per session, although we can accommodate unlimited numbers of none flyers. Attendees are charged £12 for the day including a sandwich lunch.

10. Eugene Anker as F3A Team Manager 2017 had a traumatic time getting our pilots, Steve Underwood and Garry Peacock, to the World Championship in Argentina. Eugene commented that the help he received from the BMFA Competition Secretary and the Leicester office was exemplary. There were 64 competitors at the Championship and our pilots finished 41st and 42nd with a team place of 20th (two man team) out of 26. Tetsuo Onda (Japan) is World Champion for the first time after being in the top three for many years. Christophe Paysant-Le Roux (8 times World Champion) scored low for a stall turn in the final round and came second.

F3P

11. I have run the F3P league this year with a little help from two other members who agreed to be Contest Directors. This year to give F3P a chance of survival I have tried to include everyone in all aspects of the organisation by providing all the details in emails and at competitions and pass on all that is required to run the competitions and leagues. After the last competition on the 18th February we agreed to meet to decide the future. There were 22 attended and lots of ideas came forward but few volunteers. All the infrastructure is provided by the GBRCAA but it needs someone to take control. F3P needs a dedicated group to make it work. My main input will be towards F3A but I will do all I can to help anyone who wishes to take up the challenge to make F3P work.

Top of the F3P Team Selection league are: Liam Clayton, Paul Wilcockson and John Gaynor with Adam Lomax as reserve. Liam is a very promising pilot.

The F3P World Championship in March 2019 is to be held in Crete, but I think it is unlikely we will have a full team.

To compete at World Championships pilots should be competing at World Cup events to gain experience as we now do in F3A. This is imperative to broaden our knowledge, but there is little enthusiasm.

The BMFA Electric Indoor Masters was cancelled this year due to financial forecasts and although the usual team would have run the day if a volunteer could have been found to organise the competitions. No one came forward to take on that responsibility and as a consequence the BMFA and GBRCAA were blamed by many for not making it happen. I pointed out that they (our pilots/competitors) are the BMFA and they are the GBRCAA as far as F3P flying is concerned, however when a competition is organised for them we get between 12 and 16 competitors at each event and they are very successful and enjoyable.



www.bfpvra.org
info@bfpvra.org

British FPV Racing Association

The British FPV Racing Association is a 'not for profit' organisation run by FPV pilots, for FPV pilots in the UK. We believe it is the oldest specialist body for 'drone racing', formed in April 2015 and with recognition by the BMFA on the 12th September 2015.

Since formation we have delivered three national championships (2015, 2016 and 2017) which have involved more than 16 National qualification competitions.

Its objectives are as follows:

- To promote the sport of FPV multi-rotor racing
- To protect the sport from elitism and promote a vision of total inclusion regardless of age, gender, ability or financial means
- To have one set of rules, written by pilots for pilots, that ensure the sport remains safe, challenging and above all fun
- To help new clubs and groups form by sharing the collective experience and expertise with all who seek it
- To give all FPV pilots a voice and a chance to shape this exciting sport, guaranteeing its future for many years to come
- To remain a collective of pilots who drive the sport for the love of the sport.

We are recognised as a "Specialist Body" by the British Model Flying Association (BMFA) and we are tasked with promoting and developing the sport of FPV racing in the UK, which we do in a number of ways:

- We provide pilots with information and assistance when they want to find a club to join or to setup new ones
- We offer an affiliated club programme for clubs who want to be part of a wider community of like-minded pilots
- We provide affiliated clubs with support and equipment when they want to organise races and competitions
- We listen to the community and value its contribution to the foundations of the sport

We have produced a set of rules through a consultation process that has drawn upon the collective experience of clubs and organisers, and we are working with the BMFA to incorporate them into their rules handbook. We will continue to refine and adapt them as the sport evolves, with the support and feedback of the pilot community.

We strive to protect the interests of British FPV racers and work with organisations such as BMFA, OFCOM, CAA and FAI whose activities and decisions can affect our pilots and their capability to compete effectively in international competitions.

BFPVRA - BMFA affiliated special interest body for FPV racing in the UK



www.bfpvra.org
info@bfpvra.org

Events we have hosted in partnership with our affiliated clubs since 2015. All of these events were part of our British Championship season:

2015

- Weston Park <https://youtu.be/Jr8YMzCrzJc>
- British Championship <https://youtu.be/Oh8O6lvgpUc>

2016

- Whitechapel
- ThunderDrone <https://youtu.be/tfP-sOZ5E1A>
- Delta Hawks <https://youtu.be/GVxTkT3KaQE>
- Weston Park <https://youtu.be/iON63fKaagQ>
- Queens Cup <https://youtu.be/nCpROa3XATY>
- Formula FPV https://youtu.be/9WGxtWS_jiw
- Wembley <https://youtu.be/Y-bYwktmHzE>
- Scottish Championship https://youtu.be/z_d6xeRbe5U
- British Championship <https://youtu.be/n-pyWaJoZX0>

2017

- DRE Ladmas 1 <https://youtu.be/QjXdqB8aXNc>
- Delta Hawks Moira <https://youtu.be/VLHH-PBNEgo>
- Weston Park <https://youtu.be/tiXhgg97pAA>
- InsideFPV
- KCL @ DroneZone <https://youtu.be/OEbhSHQWc6E>
- Scottish Nationals
- Delta Hawks Breedon
- 3D Championships <https://youtu.be/k13V10WpCAg>
- British Championship <https://youtu.be/DNPZLt6Txqw>

2018 - Upcoming events

- DRM and YDR
- KCL @ DroneBase
- Weston Park
- British Championship (September 2018)

BFPVRA - BMFA affiliated special interest body for FPV racing in the UK