

MINUTES OF THE BMFA SCALE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING **HELD AT HONILEY ON 6th MARCH 2010**

The meeting commenced at 1:00 pm.

Present were:

Gordon Warburton FSMAE, Ian Pallister, David Knott, Chris Allen, John Elkington and Steve Kessel

1. Apologies

None, all committee members present.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes for the meeting of 5th December 2010 were proposed by Gordon, seconded by Dave and accepted unanimously as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Item 4.1 Eric Coates Trophy

Gordon has spoken to John French about fitting another plate to make room for more winners' names.

3.2 Item 8.2 CD for 2010 Nationals

Ian reported that Graham Kennedy is prepared to be CD for the scale competitions at the 2010 BMFA Nationals.

3.3 Item 18.2 FAI Matters

Chris has been authorised to attend the CIAM Technical Committee Meeting in March 2010.

3.4 Item 19 BMFA Scale Rule Book

The BMFA Scale Rule Book for 2010 has now been published.

3.5 Item 21 Peanut Trophy

Ian has signed to accept responsibility for the Peanut Trophy on behalf of the STC and is in the progress of getting a similar signed undertaking from the current holder, Richard Crossley.

4. Co-option of John Elkington onto STC

Ian welcomed John Elkington to the meeting and thanked him for the interest he had shown in the STC. After some discussion Gordon proposed that John be co-opted onto the committee. This was seconded by Steve and carried unanimously.

5. Rules Officer

It was officially noted that Chris had agreed to take on this role for the STC.

6. Financial Matters

6.1 Treasurer's report

Gordon reported the following balances:

Interscale:	£3068.44
Contest Fund:	£3165.89
Team Travel:	£9143.03
Technical Committee:	£12,304.32
Training:	£736.17

6.2 2010 Team travel allowances

It was agreed that the travel allowances for competitors representing the BMFA at international competitions in 2010 would be: £600 for each individual team member and £900 for the Team Manager (or £600 plus expenses for a competitor taking the responsibility of the Team Manager). These allowances to be paid from the STC Team Travel Fund. In addition the BMFA makes an allowance of £400 per individual for competition fees and the end of competition banquet.

7. Report of the BMFA Council meeting of 9th January 2010

Ian reported that it was a 'very productive' council meeting. His written report had been circulated to the STC Committee members shortly after the meeting but he emphasised the following points:

- 7.1 The discussions taking place to make recommendations about the use of 'crash isolators' in electric powered models equipped with high capacity multi-cell battery packs.
- 7.2 The decision to put information on the BMFA web site about how to obtain a FAI Sporting Licence.
- 7.3 The need to remove out-of-date information from TC web sites. Gordon will take action on this for the STC.
- 7.4 Discussions on bringing in stricter guidelines for the use of 'Training and Excellence' funding.
- 7.5 ASRC Terms of reference.
- 7.6 A report by Jo Halman that the BMFA's bid to host the 2012 F4 World Championships has fallen through but a bid to host the 2014 F4 World Championships is now being seriously considered.

8. ASRC proposal for a Scale C award

Ian reported that he would be representing the STC at the ASRC meeting planned for 17th April 2010 when the proposal to create a Scale C award would be discussed. There was considerable discussion on the subject and the general feeling was that committee remained to be convinced about the purpose, need and desirability of such an award. However, if it is to happen, there was general consensus that it must include some means of assessing the candidates' competence in the disciplines of documentation, design and building as well as flying. Ian will report back to the STC after the ASRC meeting.

9. Scale Free Flight Competition Calendar

Bill Dennis reported prior to the meeting that there will again be two competitions at the FF Nationals arranged in conjunction with the FFTC, another at the Midland Festival of Flight and then the Nationals as per last year.

10. Indoor Scale Report

- 10.1 Ian announced his wish to stand down as the organiser for the Indoor Scale Nationals after this year.
- 10.2 This year's Indoor Scale Nationals will be held on 25th April in the Sports hall of Nottingham-Trent University, 9:00 – 17:00 hrs. Cost of hiring the hall is £1600; it is hoped that local advertising of the event will bring in a significant number of spectators to help towards covering this cost. Entry forms for competitors will be published in the next edition of the BMFA News. Ian asked for more judges to help run the event; eight judges are required, at present there are three volunteers.
- 10.3 RAF Digby has been booked for the weekend of 10th and 11th April to provide the opportunity for pilots to trim their models prior to the Nationals. There will not be a competition over the weekend. Cost will be £10 per person per day.

11. Scale Control Line Report

- 11.1 Ian drew our attention to the fact that Wal Cordwell, one of our most active scale control line flyers, passed away recently.
- 11.2 Chris highlighted the fact that the FAI intend to drop F4B as an international competition after the world championships this year.

12. Scale R/C Report

- 12.1 Dave reviewed the competition calendar for 2010 and the very healthy situation regarding the availability of judges.
- 12.2 Ian reported that Graham Kennedy has agreed to be CD for the Nationals this year.
- 12.3 The subject of how best to deal with a large entry for the Nationals was discussed at length. This was prompted by the growing popularity of the flying only competition. Based on the experience of previous years it was agreed that 40 flights per day (F4C plus Flying Only) is the maximum that is reasonably practicable. Bearing this in mind it was agreed that if the entries exceed 40 then pilots requesting entry to both competitions would be asked to drop out of one competition. If this does not completely resolve the problem then the number of optional manoeuvres will be reduced as done in previous years.
- 12.4 Since the last meeting STC members had received a request from Alan Glover, one of our judges, to consider the reintroduction of a Clubman style competition at the Nationals. There was general agreement that there might be some merit in doing this but it is too late to introduce it for this year because the BMFA Scale Rule Book for 2010 has only just been published. Therefore it was decided to put the item on the agenda for the next STC meeting. If it is subsequently agreed that a competition of this type should be reintroduced there would be time to plan for this to happen in 2011.

13. FAI Matters

- 13.1 Team Manager for 2010 World Championships
Ian reported that he had not had any response to the request in Scale News for a volunteer to be the UK Team Manager. After some discussion Gordon proposed that Dave should take on the role in addition to being a competitor. This was seconded by Ian and the vote was 5 in favour with Dave abstaining. Gordon offered to assist Dave with the pre-competition administration, much of which is already well in hand.
- 13.2 Chris reviewed the rule change proposals that have been submitted for consideration at the forthcoming CIAM Plenary Meeting in March. There are proposals from Norway, Sweden and Poland as well as the UK. It was interesting to note that one of the proposals from Sweden is similar to one from the UK in that it looks to remove the 'Choice of Options' rule; the difference between the two is the way in which the K factor is redistributed. Chris will send copies of the proposals with his annotations to all other STC members for their comment prior to the plenary meeting.
- 13.3 Chris suggested that a subject for review at a future CIAM Plenary should concern the use of gyros for stabilizing models. Both he and Dave said that it is quite obvious that some international competitors use gyros on the rudder to stabilize the model in yaw; and yet not action is taken against these individuals despite there being a ban on their use. The argument being put was that it would be better to remove the ban if it is not going to be enforced and so result in fairer competition.

14. Team Training

The Church Fenton airfield has been booked for the Team Training weekend on 29th and 30th May. In addition to the team other flyers and judges may attend the training weekend at their own expense.

15. BMFA Scale Rule Book for 2010

All STC members had received the new rule book and confirmed that the agreed changes had been implemented correctly.

16. Newsletter

Nothing to report.

17. A.O.B.

Nothing raised.

18. Provisional Date and Venue for next meeting

The next meeting was arranged for Saturday 26th June 2010 at Honiley.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 4:50pm.

Stephen Kessel
Secretary - Scale Technical Committee

9th March 2010