

SOCIETY OF MODEL AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERS LTD.

(T/A British Model Flying Association)

Minutes of the Technical Council Meeting held on the 20th October 2007 at Chacksfield House, 31 St Andrew's Road, Leicester LE2 8RE.

Provisional until confirmed at the next Technical Council Meeting.

PRESENT

Jo Halman FSMAE	Chairman of the Meeting / Comp Sec
Mike Goldby	Vice Chairman of the Meeting / Scale TC Representative
Jim Andrews	FAI Delegate
John French	Records Officer
Mike Proctor FSMAE	R/C Silent Flight TC Representative
Mike Colling FSMAE	Indoor TC Representative / Education Co-ordinator
Nick Aikman	Indoor TC Member
Steve Ogden	R/C Power TC Representative
Peter Christy	R/C Power TC Member / AHA Rep
Mike Francies	FAIR Representative
Peter Halman FSMAE	Control Line TC Member / SpeedCom Rep

In Attendance

Linda Harding	Minute Taker / 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 3rd March 2007.
- 5 Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting on 3rd March 2007 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).
- 7 Tech Sec reminder to Technical Committees of their responsibility to send in the Technical Committee's Annual Return immediately after their first Committee meeting after the BMFA AGM.
- 8 To receive proposals for FAI Rule changes: (Full proposals appended)
 - a Scale Technical Committee – Volume F4 Annex C Para V of the FAI Sporting Code – Lazy Eight.

- b Silent Flight Technical Committee – Para 5.K.6.2 of the current provisional FAI F3K Rules.
- c From BMFA Competition Secretary, on behalf of SpaceCom –
 - i) SM Space Models General Rules
 - ii) S4 – 8.1 Definition/Description
 - iii) S8E/P Rocket Glider – 11.7.1 Purpose
 - iv) S8E/P Rocket Glider – 11.7.3 Landing Area
 - v) S8E/P Rocket Glider – 11.7.4.6 Additional points will be awarded for landing
 - vi) S8E/P Rocket Glider – 11.7.5.4 S8E/P Landing Area diagram

9 To ratify the following British Record Claims:

- a Name Matthew Hart BMFA No 30844
 Class Record No 30 Control Line FAI Reaction Motor
 Site Barkston Heath Date 25th August 2007
 Speed 197.71 MPH
- b Name Peter Halman FSMAE BMFA No 50198
 Class Record No tba Control Line F2A (Speed) in WCH/ECH
 Site Batajnica, Belgrade, Serbia Date 12th July 2007
 Speed 298.4 KPH

10 To receive **FAI/CIAM Technical Sub-Committee List** recommendations from Technical Committees.

R/C Power

John Mee (072383) F3A
John Benyon (120098) F3C
John Barker (057229) F3D

Scale

Chris Allen (000377) F4

Free Flight

Ian Kaynes (021003) F1ABCD

Control Line

Peter Halman (050198) F2A
John Bonner (106589) F2B
Chris Barker (051784) F2C
John James (058506) F2D
Mike Whillance (088347) F2D

R/C Silent

George Shering (026644) F5B
Clive Needham (002566) F3B/J

Indoor

Not provided for the Agenda. This information must be provided at Technical Council Meeting 20th October 2007.

Space Modelling

Mike Francies (039222) Space Modelling

11 To receive **FAI/CIAM Judges List** recommendations from Technical Committees:

R/C Power

<i>Pete Cappleman (004379)</i>	<i>F3A</i>
<i>Dave Scoles (055768)</i>	<i>F3A</i>
<i>Robert Ailles (012721)</i>	<i>F3A</i>
<i>David Tappin (043764)</i>	<i>F3A</i>

Scale

<i>Chris Allen (000377)</i>	<i>F4C static and flying</i>
<i>John Miller (062736)</i>	<i>F4B/F4C flying only</i>
<i>Bill Dennis (062686)</i>	<i>F4BF4/C static only</i>
<i>Graham Kennedy (111140)</i>	<i>F4C static and flying</i>

Control Line

<i>Peter Halman (050198)</i>	<i>F2A</i>
<i>Jo Halman (001102)</i>	<i>F2A</i>
<i>David Brewin (058722)</i>	<i>F2A</i>
<i>Roger Ladds (000626)</i>	<i>F2B</i>
<i>John Bonner (106589)</i>	<i>F2B</i>
<i>Peter Jackson (051717)</i>	<i>F2B</i>
<i>Chris Barker (051784)</i>	<i>F2C</i>
<i>Dave Rudd (002417)</i>	<i>F2C</i>
<i>Bernie Langworth (040335)</i>	<i>F2C</i>
<i>Vernon Hunt (002234)</i>	<i>F2D</i>
<i>John James (058506)</i>	<i>F2D</i>
<i>Richard Evans (001629)</i>	<i>F2D</i>

Space Modelling

<i>Stuart Lodge (079141)</i>	<i>S</i>
<i>Ian Dowsett (056513)</i>	<i>S</i>
<i>Mike Francies (039222)</i>	<i>S</i>
<i>Nigel Bathe (063592)</i>	<i>S</i>
<i>Geoff Seabrook (118328)</i>	<i>S</i>

- 12 To receive de-briefing reports on this year's National Championships from Technical Committees & the Power Nationals Co-ordinator. (Reports should be brief, preferably in writing & in advance.)
- 13 To receive any reports from Technical Committees. (Reports should be brief, preferably in writing & in advance and not concerning Agenda Items.)
- 14 To receive a report from the Competition Secretary to include:
- a Receipt and ratification of any contests for next year's FAI Calendar.
- 15 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.)
- 16 To receive nominations for re-presentation of International Awards at the BMFA annual prize giving dinner. Invitations will only be to nominees from this meeting and are at the discretion of the Society Vice-Chairman. Depending on the numbers, not all nominees may be successful.

17 To receive the dates of the 2008 Technical Council Meetings:

1st Technical Council – 1st March 2008

2nd Technical Council – 18th October 2008

18 Any Other Business.

19 Date of next meeting.

MINUTES

Jo Halman, Comp Sec explained Chris Bromley, Tech Sec was still in hospital. He sent his best wishes to everyone and apologies for his absence. This Council passed on their best wishes to Tech Sec. As standing Vice-Chairman of the Technical Council, the Competition Secretary chaired the meeting.

A Vice-Chairman for the meeting was appointed at this point.

The Records Officer proposed that Mike Goldby, Scale TC Representative be Vice-Chairman of the meeting.

Seconded by FAI Delegate

Carried unanimously.

A warm welcome was extended to Mike Francies, Representative from FAIR Specialist Body, who was present today for the first time.

TC548/10/07 (1) Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received from Chris Bromley FSMAE, Tech Sec.

TC549/10/07 (2) Request for permission to be absent.

There were no requests.

TC550/10/07 (3) To verify the voting strength of the meeting.

There were 10 members eligible to vote at this meeting.

TC551/10/07 (4) Correction and adoption of the Minutes of the Technical Council Meeting held on 3rd March 2007.

Page 3

- **Final paragraph, third line** - Delete "interest", insert "responsibility".

Page 4

- **Second paragraph, sixth line** - Replace "As a" with "Any". Delete "you"; replace "your" with "the". **Seventh line** - Replace "being involved" with "involvement".

Page 6

- **Third paragraph, first line** - After "the" add "Team Race".

- **Fourth paragraph, first line** - After "erect" add "the Team Race".

Page 8

- **Second paragraph, first line** - After "use" insert "of". **Third line** - After "using" insert "an".

Page 9

- **Fourth paragraph from the bottom, second line** - After "Books" insert "that".

- **Final paragraph, final line** - Delete "s" from the end of "seasons".

FAI Delegate proposed that the Minutes of the Technical Council Meeting held on 3rd March 2007 be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Seconded by Control Line TC Representative.

Vote: For: 8

Ags: 0

Abs: 2

Carried by a majority vote.

TC552/10/07 (5) Matters/Actions arising from the 3rd March 2007 that are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.

ACTIONS / NOTES

Page 3

- **First paragraph, 'After the Dart' booklet** – The Chairman advised that the booklet, now called "Why not Compete", has been completed and is available from the office.

Congratulations on the successful completion of the project were extended to Mike Colling, Education Co-ordinator.

- **Second paragraph, Team Selection Dates** – The Chairman asked if any of the Tech Committees had implemented any changes to their Team Selection Trials dates.

The Chairman pointed out that the reason this was discussed as a possibility at the last meeting was in order to try to ensure that the very best team was selected for a Championship.

Because the date of the Championship was not yet known, Silent Flight advised that for 2008 only, they would select from the first three meetings of 2008. However they hope to appoint a Team Manager before that.

Indoor Representative advised that **due to** circumstances beyond their control meant that the completion of Team Trials will be taking place in the Spring of 2008. Normally Team Trials would have been completed by now and they hope to resume normal circumstances as soon as possible.

The Chairman reminded the meeting that team managers need to be ratified by Council at the January Council Meeting.

- Third paragraph, heading Page 6, 2.4 GHz – RCPTC
(Peter Christy) expressed concerns regarding what seems to be a 'grey' area in the 2.4GHz regulations issued by Ofcom.

Table 3.1 on page six of the Ofcom regulations document seems to imply that systems that do not use frequency hopping are limited to 10mW, not the 100mW we had assumed.

Although the Spektrum sets hop between two channels, this is not normally "frequency hopping" in the accepted sense of the phrase. He believes we should take up the issue with Ofcom to find out exactly what the position is.

Control Line pointed out the Spektrum system was withdrawn from sale in Germany a few weeks ago by Graupner. It is also not allowed to be sold in Belgium and Sweden has withdrawn it from sale. It is back on sale in Germany but it has been self-certified (itself a grey area) by Graupner. He was not sure whether it had gone back on sale in Sweden nor what was likely to happen in the future.

Peter Christy advised that Belgium is banning all 2.4GHz equipment on the grounds that they do not believe it is a wide band transmission system. He believes they have come under pressure from the Computer Wireless LAN people to ban it.

He also pointed out that Ofcom are also discussing the possibility of increasing the power output available on 2.4GHz for all users up to 10W. The original proposal was to raise it to 4W.

The Meeting concurred that the matter should be referred to Graham Lynn, UKRCC Representative to seek clarification from Ofcom. Peter Christy would provide a copy of the relevant document, to be passed on to Graham Lynn.

**GRAHAM LYNN,
UKRCC REP
RCPT (PETER
CHRISTY)**

Page 4

- Second paragraph, modules imported from Taiwan -

Control Line commented that we should not single out Taiwan as a grey importer of 2.4GHz modules. There are many other countries that grey import into the UK.

- Fourth paragraph, Record Claims ratification -

Records Officer informed the meeting that at the **September** Council meeting, Full Council in September agreed that this Council is competent to approve Record Claims. This was welcome news.

- Penultimate paragraph, action SFTC to look at rules for Electric Power Assisted Glider record class - Silent Flight advised that they are still investigating this.

The Chairman requested that this item is no longer brought up as 'Matters Arising' and that when the matter is resolved, Silent Flight include it as an Agenda item for this Council.

SILENT FLIGHT

- **Final paragraph, review of Records Book** - Records Officer advised that a meeting was held between himself, Tech Sec and Comp Sec.

The Chairman, in her capacity as Comp Sec explained further that the main outcome of the meeting was an agreement that the Records Book as it is at the moment is split into two and becomes a Records Book with all the information in it plus a Records Index with all the Records in it. Those Records may even eventually be put into a database that will be accessible on the website.

The Records previously ratified had been updated by the Records Officer and put on the website soon after the May Council meeting.

The "splitting" of the Records Book into (i) Records Information and (ii) Records Index is in the hands of the Tech Sec so there is likely to be an unfortunate delay because of his health situation.

Comments were made that the website is not up-to-date with the latest Records ratified at the September 2007 Council Meeting. It transpired that the Records Officer had not passed on the information to the Tech Sec for updating the Records Book because he knew Tech Sec was unable to work on it.

The Chairman commented that a procedure must be put in place to allow faster updating of records ratified by either this Council or Full Council. As soon as the Records have been ratified at Council, the Records Officer should advise the details to whoever is in charge of the updating at that time (in the absence of the Tech Sec this would be the Comp Sec) so that person could update the records and get the updated file onto the website.

The Chairman asked Records Officer to pass the details of the ratifications at September Full Council on to her as soon as possible. She would then do the necessary update and get the information on the website.

**RECORDS
OFFICER /
COMP SEC**

Page 6

- **Third paragraph from the bottom, marshals at Scale Free Flight to prevent nuisance of R/C cars** – The Chairman asked if marshals had been made available this year and Scale advised that they had and there had been no problems this year.

Page 7

- **Second paragraph, Nationals results** – The Chairman made a request for Tech Committees to let her, in the Tech Sec's absence, have the full Nationals results so that she could get them onto the website. Normally they would send them to Tech Sec for publication on the website; however she had noticed that some are still missing, which is probably because of the Tech Sec's illness. The specific ones still needed are Scale, Helicopter, Aerobatics, IMAC, Silent Flight and Free Flight.

TECH COMMS

This is something that needs to be looked at in the future. It would be quicker for the Tech Committees to post their results themselves and the new website will likely allow this.

Seventh paragraph, licence for Cottesmore - Comp Sec reminded Tech Committees to make sure they remind Specialist Bodies, namely Pylon and Aerobatics, to liaise with her when arranging use of Cottesmore for events for 2008. Also if they have any problems with dates they should liaise with her.

**COMP SEC
TECH COMMS**

She requires the dates by end of the year. Peter Christy RCPTC advised Pylon had already arranged dates for 2007 but they are aware of the procedure for the future.

- **Ninth paragraph, multiple uses of airfields** - Comp Sec advised that she had not heard anything from anybody about site sharing. She made a plea that if there is any opportunity where you can share your site with an appropriate discipline, to contact her initially, as she is acting as co-ordinator.

- **Final paragraph, discussion on excessive smoke output from ic model engines** - Peter Christy RCPTC advised that he had read an article in Pilot magazine (full size aviation) about a new oil by Shell for smoke generation at displays, which apparently was food-stuff based. Shell have been promoting it for Full Size display pilots who have reported that it is a cheaper and more environmentally friendly product that did not damage the paint on the aircraft.

He had circulated the article to members of RCPTC. The turbine fliers seemed to receive the information enthusiastically and the Chairman of RCPTC is trying to get hold of samples to see it if is suitable for use in models.

Peter Halman had provided copies of a document he had produced on the subject of health and safety issues relating to model aircraft fuel and the use of liquids to generate additional smoke. **(APPENDIX A)**

Cont'd.....

The document was very well received. It was agreed that the statement under the 'Conclusion' heading should be referred to the CEO to be considered for inclusion in the Member's Handbook, with a short explanation note, and should also be included as Pilot briefing notes in the Public Display section of the Handbook.

CEO

Peter Halman would provide the CEO with suitable wording for the explanatory and briefing notes.

**PETER HALMAN
(CL)**

It would also be advantageous, to publicise this more widely and the Development Officer could include an article in 'Chacksfield Chat' in the BMFA News.

**DEVELOPMENT
OFFICER**

Peter Halman agreed that Peter Christy could circulate the document at the next RCPTC meeting and he would email the .pdf to Peter Christy.

**PETER HALMAN
(CL)**

Peter Halman explained that as far as he was aware, no evaluation had been undertaken of the harmful effects of the oils and fuels used in model flying. He hoped that this document highlighted some of the effects particularly with reference to the use of big ic petrol engines.

The Records Officer asked the question whether we should consider a ban on the use of additional smoke at Displays but the general consensus was that that we should not.

Peter Halman raised the concerns regarding the amount of smoke generated from F3C helicopters and said that we should be looking for ideas of how that could be reduced. Peter Christy strongly supported this statement.

Reducing the exhaust smoke from the engines would involve fundamental changes to the way the engines are designed and it would require a considerable amount of international pressure to be brought to bear on the manufacturers. Peter Halman suggested that if the FAI were to impose a timescale, say six or seven years, for a gradual reduction in the fuel allowed in F3C and to have an explicit fuel mix which could be verified by specific gravity, it would be possible for the engine manufacturers to change the engine design and production.

**PETER
HALMAN/PETER
CHRISTY /
CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman asked Peter Halman to provide a short paper outlining his suggestions and to liaise with Peter Christy. In her capacity as CIAM Technical Secretary she would ensure that the topic is included on the CIAM Bureau Agenda for progression that way.

Page 8

- **Fifth paragraph from the bottom, details of RAF Swinderby for Comp Sec from Silent Flight** - Silent Flight advised that they had not progressed looking in to use of Swinderby so did not have any contact details to pass on. Comp Sec asked Control Line to email her to remind her to try and organise Swinderby.

CLTC

Page 9

- **Fourth paragraph from the bottom, Team Selection procedures in Rule Books** – The Comp Sec asked all Tech Committees to check if their Rule Books contained their Team Selection procedures and if they did not then she strongly recommended that the Technical Committees rectify this sooner rather than later.

TECH COMMS

This concluded matters arising.

TC553/10/07 (6) To review the set agenda for the first meeting of a Technical Committee each year.

At the March 2007 Technical Council Meeting, the Chairman thought that the addition of “meeting voting strength” had been agreed to be a separate item for emphasis and not part of item 1 d). After discussion the following changes were agreed to item 2 “Election of Officers, Co-options and Acceptance of Specialist Body Representatives.”

- The second line currently under item 1 d) "The final voting strength of the meeting can now be noted", to become (e).
- The second and third paragraphs following on after the new (e) to become (e) i) and (e) ii) respectively. All subsequent bracketed paragraphs to be amended accordingly to follow on alphabetically.
- Item 9, third paragraph is a helpful hint and should be in italics.
- Item 11, insert an additional helpful hint as follows: *“Entry fees may carry a supplement to cover site fees. If they do so then this should be noted, in brackets after the entry fee, in the information that is sent to the office for inclusion in the January Agenda.*

Office Manager would make the changes in the absence of Tech Sec to enable her to send out the notice to Tech Committees to call their first meeting. The amended document would be copied to Tech Sec and Comp Sec.

OFFICE MGR

TC554/10/07 (7) Tech Sec reminder to Technical Committees of their responsibility to send in the Technical Committee's Annual Return immediately after their first Committee meeting after the BMFA AGM.

Cont'd.....

