

**Confirmed Minutes from the RCPTC  
Held at the BMFA headquarters Leicester 27<sup>th</sup> January 2008  
Opened at 11.00am**

**Present:**

Pete Christy	(Elected)
Les Eagle	(Elected)
S. Ogden	(Elected)
Keith Barker	(Elected)
Pete Cappleman	(Elected)
David Tappin	(JMA)
Dave Pacey	(AHA)
Dave Lucas	(IMAC)
John Barker	(BMPRA)
Andy Prime	(GBRCAA)
Darron Rodrigues	(UK F5D)
Gerry Harrison	(BWA)

- 1) The Chairman had received a complaint from Steve Ogden regarding the order of business of the meeting, and he invited Steve to state his complaint. Following Steve's statement, the Chairman commented that he had consulted with Executive members of the BMFA, and had received conflicting advice. Following a discussion with the BMFA Chairman to clarify the matter, he had decided to move Correction and Adoption of the Minutes of the previous meeting higher up the agenda, in order to avoid any possible conflicts of interpretation of events.

The Chairman pointed out that initially neither Darron Rodrigues, nor Gerry Harrison would be eligible to vote, until their positions had been regularised.

**2) : Apologies**

There had been on apologies received.

**3) Correction and adoption of the provisional minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2008 meeting.**

- a) Steve Ogden asked on page 1. section 1d to remove "as they had not yet formed a specialist body"
- b) A correction on page 6 section 11a Team selection fees should have read F3D.
- c) A correction on page 6 section 11b heading should read F5D.
- d) A correction on page 7 section 11d (F3A) added to heading.
- e) A correction on page 7 section 14a "800w limiters" removed and (Ref paragraph 5.562 FAI sporting code 2008) added
- f) Steve Ogden commented he could not remember seconding the F5D proposal but this was confirmed by the notes taken from the meeting.

The minutes were proposed for adoption by Les Eagle and seconded by Andy Prime

A vote was taken

(10 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

**4) To propose Darron Rodrigues be co-opted on to the RCPTC**

A proposal was put forward by the Chairman (Pete Christy) and seconded Les Eagle.  
To co-opt Darron Rodrigues on to the RCPTC as the F5D Adviser.  
A vote was taken by Elected Members only.  
(4 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstention)

This brought the voting strength of the meeting to 11.

**5) To accept the BWA as a specialist body on the RCPTC**

A vote was taken by the elected members only  
(5 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

This brought the voting strength of the meeting to 12.

**6) To confirm the RCPTC Delegate to Council.**

It was proposed by Dave Pacey and seconded by Andy Prime that Les Eagle should be confirmed as Delegate to Council.  
A vote was taken  
(10 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention)

**7) To Elect a Safety officer**

There were two proposals for the position of safety officer

a) Darron Rodrigues

Proposed by Darron Rodrigues seconded by Keith Barker

b) Steve Ogden

Proposed by Steve Ogden seconded by John Barker

A vote was taken with 7 in favour of Darron Rodrigues.  
4 in favour of Steve Ogden.  
1 abstention

**Darron Rodrigues was confirmed as Safety Officer.**

**8) Matters arising.**

a) The matter of the static display at the Nationals by Keith Barker and was discussed with the common thought that it could be expanded, with the help from and involvement of all the specialist bodies competing at the nationals.

This might help publicise each discipline.

It was left that each separate discipline should go back and see how this could be achieved with models on display and information on show.

b) Darron Rodrigues asked about the situation regards adding a reserve team member for F5D he was advised he should contact Jo Halman (BMFA Comp. Sec.) to see if it was possible and to see if there were any implications.

c) It was confirmed by the secretary that IMAC contest fees had now been sent to Linda at the BMFA.

## 9) Correspondence

The secretary had received

- a) Bulletin 1 FAI world championships for Electric Model Aircraft
- b) Bulletin 1 FFAM F3C European Championships
- c) Copy of the FAI sporting codes 2008.

## 10) 2.4 GHZ

Some points were made by the chairman regards grey imports of 2.4 GHz Radio equipment

a) The compliance of sets brought into the country were the responsibility of the importer and people grey importing radio control equipment themselves would be taking on the role of importer and therefore be responsible for their compliance. There could be no blame attached to someone who had purchased equipment in the UK from a reputable importer or distributor as long as they had not modified it.

b) At this point in time there are no JR CE Approved 2.4GHz radios available anywhere in the world.

There have been reports of JR 2.4 GHz radios with CE labelling in the UK but these have been imported from abroad, and the CE markings are invalid.

c) Steve Ogden reported that Chris Bromley (BMFA) has stated that the use of the JR X9303 2.4Ghz must not be used at the BMFA Nationals this year due to the issues surrounding the power output of the sets, the power output of this radio is known to exceed the legal output for the UK and in addition has not been subjected to CE approval in the UK. This decision from Chris Bromley may be subject to change should a resolution be found to the issue. In response to this recommendation through Steve Ogden, Andy Prime replied that he would report back to the GBRCAA committee with the advisory from Chris Bromley and would recommend that the GBRCAA act on this information and ban the use of this radio system at all of the GBRCAA's events with immediate effect.

d) The Chairman reported he had been in contact with Ripmax and gave an account of the information he was given in a phone call with them.

Of particular concern was the possibility – however remote – that sets could become “zeroed” through rapidly switching them on and off again. Although RipMax were making “zero-id” receivers available to shops and event organisers, this would not prevent sets becoming corrupted AFTER they had been tested, lulling owners into a false sense of security. It was stressed that “zero-id” sets could only affect another “zero-id” set, and that they could not affect a correctly operating set.

Affected sets are the Futaba 6EX, 7C and TM7 modules. RipMax have held the 7C sets back in the warehouse – none have been released into the retail chain – but there could still be “grey imports” about.

e) There was a widely held view that RipMax should recall all suspect units to rectify the ID and switch problem. As this is a safety issue, it would require maximum publicity.

f) There were concerns that although RipMax were going to provide 0000 ID receivers to the BMFA that could be used to help monitor the situation at BMFA events, this might put the responsibility for this problem on someone running transmitter control, rather than with the suppliers of the equipment.

g) There were concerns from many members of the committee that even if all sets were recalled there would almost certainly be some that would slip through the net.

h) Steve Ogden suggested that CD's at different events would need to decide on the day if people should be allowed to fly with possible affected units.

i) Les Eagle suggested he would like to ask a Futaba Representative to attend major events so they could take on the responsibility for monitoring the situation with regards rogue sets.

j) A proposal was made by Darron Rodrigues and seconded by Les Eagle

That Futaba 6EX and 7C transmitters, along with TM7 modules are banned from use at BMFA sanctioned events.

A vote was taken  
(12 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

k) a proposal was made by Les Eagle and seconded by Andy Prime

That as a matter of urgency, the BMFA seek legal advice on the best way to promulgate the advice concerning Futaba "zero-id" systems as widely and as quickly as possible.

A vote was taken (12 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

### **11) Request from IMAC UK to be allocated 1 extra 35 MHz spot frequency at the 2008 nationals**

a) Steve Ogden informed the committee that Chris Bromley had asked RCPTC to decide if IMAC could have an extra frequency. This would probably have to come from FunFly.

The Chairman pointed out that the Committee didn't have all the information to hand to recommend where the frequency should come from, but that on the basis of the information available there did seem to be a disparity of allocation between FunFly and IMAC.

b) A proposal was made by Les Eagle and seconded by The Chairman (Pete Christy)  
That IMAC be allocated an extra 35 MHz frequency at the Nationals.

### **12 To approve changes to the Fun Fly rules at the Nats**

After a short discussion a proposal was made by Les Eagle and seconded by Steve Ogden  
That FunFly sends a representative to the next meeting of the RCPTC to discuss the rule changes they sent to the RCPTC and we should postpone any decision until they can attend.

A vote was taken  
(11 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstention)

### **13) To discuss a modified version of the JMA's proposed "J"**

Certificate which would complement the GTBA/JMA Code of Practice.

a) It was suggested by the chairman that this item would be best deferred until the March meeting when we should know if we will have a RCPTC Rep on the Achievements scheme committee and to see if the code of practice had been finalised and adopted.

b) Code of practice

There had been corrections made and issues addressed to the code of practice due to contradictory information with CAP 658. Section E4 had been duplicated and the second E4 was correct and the 1<sup>st</sup> should be deleted. They had also been asked for diagrams and illustrations to be done for when it talks about distances and ground layouts.

#### **14) Training & Excellence**

a) Dave Pacey reported that the AHA might not be able to take up the whole offer of financial help from the Training & Excellence scheme as there might be an issue with the whole team attending the Cyprus training event but the help for the international judge to visit the UK was still needed he would let the committee know when he had more information.

b) John Barker informed the committee that the budget for Training & Excellence was to be cut to £1800 for the next financial year and funds would not be carried forward if un-used from previous years.

#### **15) To discuss the BMFA website (Keith Barker)**

Keith Barker suggested he would like to see the BMFA website better used and the minutes of the RCPTC displayed for public view. After a short discussion Darron Rodrigues volunteered to see if he could obtain the passwords and information he needed to implement this.

#### **16) Up-date about the F5D rules**

Darron Rodrigues informed the committee that F5D had now had its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting and was now seeking specialist body status in due course.

Darron had been in talks with Jim Andrews about rule and minutes discrepancy's. Darron reported that Jim was now up to speed with the issues and that Jim agrees that there is a discrepancy with the F5SC minutes, what the Plenary had voted on and the published Plenary minutes with regards to F5D rules. To this extent, Darron reported that Jim was happy to raise a proposal to correct this discrepancy in the AOB section of the Plenary meeting. Jim had also informed Darron that he would be approving funding for Darron to attend the March CIAM meeting providing that the Plenary minutes published in February contained resolutions that concerned F5D.

A point was raised by David Taplin on this issue of expenses to attend CIAM meetings. These always seemed to be approved late thereby increasing the cost of flights which was not in the best interests of the association. He asked if the travel expenses could be underwritten by the RCPTC. Pete Christy did not think this was appropriate.

#### **17) Discussion on smoke and emissions.**

a) The Chairman had distributed a document regards Smoke and its possible effects for general information.

b) Steve Ogden informed the committee that smoke was going to be allowed on the Nationals Show Line with in certain rules.

#### **18) Licences for MOD property**

Jo Halman was trying to obtain a single defence fee licence for RAF Cottesmore so this would reduce the costs for events being held there and any Event wanting to use Cottesmore should contact her for information.

### **19) Any Other Business**

a) Steve Ogden raised some issues he has with reference the Scale Flying Only Class and wanted to put forward some proposed changes to eligibility for entering this class. It was agreed that the information that Steve had should be passed onto the Secretary of the Scale Technical Committee (Mike Goldby)

b) the chairman reminded all the representatives of the various disciplines that all rule changes should be given to Chris Bromley as time was getting near to the BMFA rule book being completed.

### **20) Date and Venue of the next meeting**

- a) The next meeting will be held on Sunday 6<sup>TH</sup> April 2008 at BMFA headquarters Leicester at 11.00am
- b) The following meeting will be held on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> Aug 2008 at BMFA headquarters Leicester at 11.00am

**The meeting was closed with no other business at 3.50pm**