

# MINUTES

## SOCIETY OF MODEL AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERS LTD

(T/A British Model Flying Association)

### Minutes of the **Technical Council Meeting**

held on the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at 11am

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

Provisional until confirmed at the next Technical Council Meeting

### PRESENT

Chris Bromley FSMAE	Meeting Chairman / Technical Secretary
Jo Halman FSMAE	Meeting Vice-Chairman / Competition Secretary / CLTC Secretary
Peter Halman FSMAE	FAI Delegate
John French	Records Officer
Ian Pallister	Scale TC Representative & Chairman
Mike Colling FSMAE	Indoor TC Representative
Keith Barker	RC Power TC Representative
Bob Ailles	GBRCAA Representative
Mike Francies	FFTC Representative
Vernon Hunt	CLTC Representative
Mike Proctor FSMAE	R/C Silent Flight Representative Alt

### In Attendance

Linda Harding

Office Manager

### Visitors

Nick Clark

AHA

### 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 16<sup>th</sup> October 2010.

- 5 Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2010 that are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.
- 6 To review the set agenda for the first meeting of a Technical Committee each year (appended).
- 7 To appoint the current year representative to the Awards Committee.
- 8 To discuss the CIAM Agenda.
- 9 To discuss the current rule (Articles 32 (B) and 46) in the Formation of, and Terms of Reference for, BMFA Technical Committees, specifically relating to elected representatives and not more than two from any one affiliated club. *(Deferred from January Full Council – Minute reference 718/1/11(16) item cii)*
- 10 Nationals updates from the Power Nationals Co-ordinator and Technical Committees to include:
  - a To discuss any flightline problems
  - b Nationals Results requirements
- 11 To receive any reports from Technical Committees. (Preferably in writing and not concerning Agenda Items.)
- 12 To receive a report from the Competition Secretary to include:
  - a Receipt and ratification of any contests for this year's FAI Calendar.
- 13 To receive any reports from Council, Sub-committees or Elected Officers.
- 14 Any Other Business.  
Please note: Items for Any Other Business should be handed, or sent, to the Office Manager or the meeting Chairman in writing before the meeting commences. This will be strictly enforced. Any questions asked under AOB that will require detailed replies beyond the knowledge of the meeting should be previously advised to the Office Manager to allow for the preparation of replies.
- 15 Date of next meeting.

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## **MINUTES**

### **TC670/03/11 (1) Apologies for absence.**

There were no apologies.

### **TC671/03/11 (2) Request for permission to be absent.**

There were no requests.

### **TC672/03/11 (3) To verify the voting strength of the meeting.**

There were eleven (11) members eligible to vote.

**TC673/03/11 (4) Correction and adoption of the Minutes of the Technical Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2010.**

**Page 3**

**Under heading "MINUTES"** - First line, add opening and closing brackets to "Technical Secretary" insert "Chairman" before that; add opening and closing brackets to "Competition Secretary" insert "Vice-Chairman" before that; Second line, insert "Meeting" before "Vice-Chairman".

**Page 11**

**Third paragraph** – Delete whole paragraph.

**Page 13**

**Final paragraph** – Last line, delete "selection at future National Championships"; insert "dedicated" before "team" and "trials" after "team".

**Page 15**

**Second paragraph** – Fourth line, change "issue" to "issued"; sixth line change full stop to comma after "and"; seventh line change "office" to "officer".

**Page 16**

**Fourth paragraph** - First line, delete "unanimously".

**The FAI Delegate proposed that the Minutes of the Technical Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2010 be accepted as a true record of that meeting.**

Seconded by Control Line

Vote:           For:    7  
                  Abs:    4  
                  Ags:    0

Carried by a majority vote.

**ACTION / NOTES**

**TC674/03/11 (5) Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2010 that are not included elsewhere on this Agenda.**

**Page 3**

**Second paragraph under heading Apologies for Absence, noted very low attendance and disappointment that very few representatives from Specialist Bodies attend Technical Council meetings** – The meeting Chairman implored Technical Committees to try to persuade more members to attend Technical Council. It is also important that more representatives from Specialist Bodies attend Technical Council.

**ALL TECH COMMS**

**Page 5**

*cont/...*

**Fifth paragraph under heading To receive proposals for FAI Rule changes** - F3K rule changes were put forward at the October Technical Council meeting.

.../cont

The meeting Chairman commented at the time that F3K had been raised to World Championship status and yet it is still necessary for rule changes to be applied. At the October meeting they agreed that for any class to be upgraded to World Championship status, the rules should have been very well designed first.

It was agreed at today's meeting that a ruling should be put in place to prevent this happening. The meeting Chairman tasked the FAI Delegate, in conjunction with the Competition Secretary to put together a suitable proposal to the October Technical Council for consideration, incorporating some form of clause that stipulates you cannot go forward until a certain number of years have elapsed with no major changes to the rules, which can then be submitted to CIAM.

**FAI DELEGATE /  
COMP SEC**

### **Page 6/7**

**Bottom page 6, top of page 7 F3K rule changes** – To review and clarify the wording of two F3K rule change proposals. The consultation between the FAI Delegate, Comp Sec and SFTC Rep to review and clarify the two proposals did not take place therefore the original proposals were submitted to CIAM.

FAI Delegate suggested a representative for F3K should attend the forthcoming CIAM Plenary meeting to put forward the necessary amendments to the proposals.

The FAI Delegate asked SFTC representative to ensure that whoever is delegated to attend makes contact with him to discuss the matter before attending CIAM.

**SFTC REP**

### **Page 9**

**First paragraph under voting of record claims** – Reported that the issue regarding whether RAeC can include the FAI logo on their record certificates has not been resolved.

This meeting agreed that they see no reason why the FAI logo should not be used on the RAeC record certificates. The meeting Chairman asked the Office Manager to convey to the RAeC Secretary that they recommend that any fully paid up member of the FAI should be able to use the FAI logo as a sub-heading on their documents.

**OFFICE MGR**

### **Page 10**

**Third paragraph under list of FAI/CIAM Judges, question raised whether another country could nominate a British Judge who did not have approval of British NAC but had approval of the other country's NAC** – Confirmed as follows:

- Any air sport persons NAC is defined by his citizenship or residency of another country as long as that residency meets with the FAI rules on residency in the FAI General Section.

Cont/...

.../cont

- An air sports person may only belong to one NAC at a time.
- Nomination forms are sent by the FAI to each air sport persons NAC, names have to be approved and the form stamped and signed by that NAC thus a NAC can only approve its own air sports persons.

#### **Page 11**

**Final paragraph, under heading Control Line written report** – Complaints from combat fliers at the 2010 R/C Power, Scale & CL Nationals that they were unable to practice at the site on the Friday night.

Reported that a decision has been made that there will be no practice combat flying on the Friday evening of the R/C Power, Scale & CL Nationals.

Also reported that a decision has been made by CLTC that there will be no Team Race practice along the runways on the Friday evening.

#### **Page 12**

**Fourth paragraph under heading Nationals Results** – Reported that all the results of the Power Nationals were on the website in the time specified. Thanks to everyone involved for making it happen.

#### **Page 13**

**Second paragraph, decision by Technical Committees whether a competition is held or not and whether the specified trophy can be awarded to a different competition** – Confirmed that if a trophy is specified as being a Nationals trophy it cannot be awarded elsewhere. However if a Nationals event has to be cancelled, Full Council have the remit to allow a separate one-off event later in the year if requested by the Technical Committee and, if the event is given Nationals status, that trophy can be awarded.

#### **Page 15**

**Top of page, RAeC issue facilitation letters** – Competition Secretary is still progressing this.

#### **Page 16**

**Bottom of page under heading Verification of Measurements for Altimeters/Barographs rule** – The Competition Secretary in her capacity as CIAM Technical Secretary will endeavour to progress this through CIAM.

**COMP SEC**

This concluded matters arising.

**TC675/03/11 (6) AOB, to discuss the possibility of allowing use of Metal Rotor Blades**

The meeting Chairman brought forward an AOB item. Nick Clark, representative from AHA provided some background information in support of the possibility of using Metal Rotor Blades. Referred by R/CPTC following discussion at their last meeting.

Having debated the concept and examined examples of the very high quality (and expensive) blades currently available, the meeting generally agreed that a complete reduction of the ban did not seem to be wise, considering the potential market for cheaper reproduction blades. It was felt that such a proposal would be unlikely to gain any favour at Full Council.

However, it is possible that a limited introduction in certain well defined circumstances might be possible and it was decided to refer the item to the Safety Review Committee to discuss and consider a proposal to submit to Full Council.

It was suggested that to have a chance to get through Full Council the discussion should look at the basic ban staying but introduce exceptions to it in certain circumstances. In order to get people to consider such a move, a well argued limited proposal should be put forward based on the current information and recommendations as to how to block the possibility of a mass market appearing with the probability of cheap copies coming in.

The Chairman asked the Office Manager to liaise with the Chairman of SRC and request the possibility of an early SRC meeting to include discussion on this issue and also to invite Nick Clark to give the same presentation as he gave today.

The meeting Chairman requested R/CPTC and AHA to review the section of helicopter rotor blade safety in the Members Handbook fairly urgently and provide him with recommendations accordingly.

SRC

OFFICE MGR

RCPTC/AHA

**TC676/03/11 (7) To review the set agenda for the first meeting of a Technical Committee each year (Current issue appended.)**

It was agreed that no changes were required to the set agenda for the first meeting of the Technical Committee.

**TC677/03/11 (8) To appoint the current year representative to the Awards Committee.**

Nominations were put forward as follows:

Chris Bromley FSMAE nominated by the Competition Secretary, seconded by CLTC

Mike Colling FSMAE nominated by the Records Officer, seconded by Scale TC

Vote : Mike Colling FSMAE – 6 votes  
Chris Bromley FSMAE – 5 votes

Therefore Mike Colling FSMAE was appointed Technical Council Representative to the Awards Committee for 2011.

**AWARDS CTTEE  
/OFFICE MGR**

**TC678/03/11 (9) To discuss the CIAM Agenda.**

The Chairman handed over to the FAI Delegate and Vice-Chairman to guide the meeting through the ABR, the FAI Awards and the 2012 Championships sections of the CIAM Agenda.

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

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**(Appendix A)**

The FAI Delegate implored Technical Committees to give consideration to the relevant class rules and provide him with any voting, amendments and a narrative to support any arguments about the rules as soon as possible. They should also liaise with the relevant Technical Committee CIAM Representative who will be attending CIAM Plenary on their behalf.

**ALL TECH COMMS**

**TC679/03/11 (10) To discuss the current rule (Articles 32 (B) and 46) in the Formation and Terms of Reference for, BMFA Technical Committees, specifically relating to elected representatives and not more than two from any one Specialist Body. (Deferred from January Full Council – Minute reference 718/1/11(16) item cii).**

A suggestion emanated from debate that a Technical Committee could invite a representative from any significant class that is not already represented as an elected Specialist Body on the Technical Committee, but they would not have any voting rights.

The Chairman will put a suitable proposal together for Full Council in May.

**CHAIRMAN**

**TC680/03/11 (11) Nationals updates from the Power Nationals Co-ordinator and Technical Committees.**

**\*\*\*\*\* CEO (Power Nationals Co-ordinator) – Written Report (Appendix B)**

**Nationals Results requirements** – Records Officer reported that he will be continuing with the same procedures as previous years, which seem to work very well.

**TC681/03/11 (12) To receive any reports from Technical Committees.**

**R/C Power**

No report was received from RCPT.

**\*\*\*\*\* Scale – Written Report (Appendix C)**

**\*\*\*\*\* Free Flight – Written Report (Appendix D)**

In relation to the notification that the Space Modelling Team has had to withdraw, it was noted that the entry fee for the Space Modelling Euro Champs in Romania is 350 Euros which is extraordinarily high for European Championships for Space Modelling.

**Indoor – Verbal Report**

The venue for 2011 Indoor Nationals is Boulby Potash Mine and the date is 18-19 June.

A decision has to be made in the next few days as to whether Indoor will be sending a team to compete in the 2011 F1D European Championships.

**Silent Flight – Verbal Report**

They will not be sending a team to compete in the 2011 F3B Championships due to prohibitive costs.

They will be sending teams to compete in the F3J European Championships and F3K World Championships.

Silent Flight extended thanks to the Technical Secretary for preparing the Rule Books so quickly.

**Control Line – Verbal Report**

They will be sending teams to compete in the European Championships.

A good deal of time this year is likely to be spent on dealing with noise pollution developments.

The concept of Judge sharing was raised for Aerobatics competition flying. The Chairman asked RCPTC representative to organise a meeting with IMAC to discuss this.

**RCPT**

**TC682/03/11 (13) To receive a report from the Competition Secretary.**

**Receipt and ratification of any contests for this year's FAI Calendar.**

Reported that there are four or five World Cups scheduled for this year that were submitted to FAI and appear on the FAI Calendar.

We may be holding an F3D two-day Open International however it has not been confirmed as a venue is yet to be secured.

The Competition Secretary commented that it is very encouraging that our fliers are looking to hold more Internationals.

**TC683/03/11 (14) To receive any reports from Council, Sub-Committees or Elected Officers.**

**Records Officer – Verbal Report**

Reminded Technical Committees of the SAA Challenge Trophy. It is a BMFA trophy that is awarded to the highest placed SAA member in a BMFA Nationals.

If there are any SAA members who have achieved a minimum of a podium position at one of the BMFA National competitions Technical Committees should convey this information to the Records Officer.

**ALL TECH COMMS**

**Technical Secretary – Verbal Report**

Reported that all Rule Books have been issued. The new system of appointing Rules Officers within Technical Committees works very well and enables him to issue the Rule Books on time.

Scale reported they have introduced Provisional rules for a new Stand-off Scale Class which they intend to run at the Scale event usually run concurrently with the Festival of Flight and is scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

Unfortunately the deadline was missed for inclusion in BMFA News to get it formally published before that event.

It will be an informal event to approve the rules before they are proposed as a formal class for 2012.

It was suggested Scale endeavour to get the rules published on the BMFA web site.

**TC684/03/11 (15) Any Other Business.**

There was no other business.

**TC685/03/11 (16) Date of next meeting.**

The next meeting will take place on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2011.**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 4.46pm.

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.

**2011 CIAM PLENARY PROPOSALS**  
**BMFA Technical Council Voting Instructions to the UK FAI Delegate**

Key: **F** = For; **A** = Against; **AB** = Abstain; **AM** = Amendments

	PROPOSALS	Code	GBR	Comments
	<b>Nominations for Awards</b>			
	<b>Alphonse Penaud Diploma</b>			Antonio Mazzaracchio
	<b>FAI Aeromodelling Gold Medal</b>			Dr Laid Jackson
<b>11.1</b>	<b>ABR Section 4A</b>			
a)	A4 Sub-Committees	Scale S-C	<b>A</b>	Class not ready for Championship status. F4B already deleted.
<b>11.2</b>	<b>ABR, SECTION 4B</b>			
a)	B.10.1 Control Line site	BUL	<b>F</b>	
b)	B.11.2 Radio Control	GBR	<b>F</b>	
c)	B16 Classification and Awards at World and Continental Championships	F3 Aero S-C	<b>A</b>	Already part of the code. Ref 2011(4 <sup>th</sup> member a junior)
<b>11.3</b>	<b>ABR, SECTION 4C, PART ONE</b>			
a)	1.3.1 Category F1 - Free Flight	F1 S-C	<b>F</b>	
b)	1.3.1 Category F1 - Free Flight	F1 S-C	<b>F</b>	
c)	1.3.2 Category F2 – Control Line	USA	<b>A</b>	Reasons quoted considered spurious and unfounded.
d)	1.3.2 Category F2 – Control Line	USA	<b>A</b>	Reasons given not proven
e)	1.4.2 Weight	GBR	<b>F</b>	
f)	Annex 1.1 World Championship Events F3N	GER	<b>A</b>	Rules not stable, insufficient number of countries hosting the class.
g)	Annex 1.1 World Championship Events F3P	GER	<b>A</b>	Rules not stable, insufficient number of countries hosting the class.
<b>11.4</b>	<b>F1 – Free Flight</b>			
a)	F1 Covering all volumes except ABR	F1 S-C	<b>A</b>	Any changes should wait for the Technical Secretary's working group to report.

**Chief Executive - Report to Technical Council – 26 March 2011**

**Barkston Bookings**

I have attached the final version of the bookings for Barkston for 2011 for information. I would like to thank Tech Council and the Comp Sec for their help in co-ordinating this. One of the recent bookings was not utilised and this only came to light when BMFA Accounts contacted the CD to confirm numbers. 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 once again this year, principally Barry Kenney (SATCO at Barkston) and Leon Creese (RAF Liaison at Cranwell).

**Free Flight & Space Nationals**

Planning for the FF Nationals is well underway. A meeting was held on Monday 21 March with representatives of the FFTC and Roy Wright (who organises most of the FF NATS logistics). A meeting is scheduled to take place at RAF Cranwell on Wednesday March 30<sup>th</sup> to discuss the arrangements for the RAF Admin Order. This will also present an opportunity to start discussions for August and determine the availability of the hangar.

**Silent Flight Nationals**

I have been in negotiation with the Royal Logistics Corp and Prince William of Gloucester Barracks (Spitalgate) regarding the Silent Flight Nationals. Unfortunately, they have refused my booking for 2011. There are several reasons for this:

1. Some live ordnance has been found on the site. It is believed that this is from WW1. Restrictions have been placed on access to the training ground pending further investigation and a wider 'sweep'.
2. Blue asbestos has also surfaced on the training ground (believed to have been buried in the past by the RAF – allegedly) and again this has led to restrictions on access.
3. Dispute over access using Turner Road. Last year at the SF Nats, we ran into some local difficulties with some of the neighbours who live on the road used for access. The RLC have confirmed that the neighbours were probably justified in their argument as it is indeed a private road which they pay to have surfaced. Had we been aware of the ongoing situation with the neighbours (which is not just an issue at the SF Nats) then we could have dealt with it differently and possibly diffused the situation. However, points 1 & 2 above are the principal reasons for declining our booking.

Efforts will now be turned to securing another venue in conjunction with the SFTC.

**RC, CL & Scale Nationals**

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

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 relocating from the Peacekeeper Compound to the Showline on Monday (contrary to rumours propagated by a member of the RCPTC!). The 2011 Showline will be co-ordinated by Manny Williamson.

IMAC will be operating two flightlines once again within the Peacekeeper Compound on Saturday and Sunday. Helicopter will also be operating two flightlines once again.

CL Team Race have submitted a request for a cage using rigid barriers rather than netting. This is under consideration, but cannot be easily undertaken with existing manpower.

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

Dave Phipps  
25 March 2010



## British Model Flying Association

### Approved Dates for use of RAF Barkston Heath for 2011

Date	Event	Organiser
23 January	Area Free Flight*	Midland Area/FFTC
20 February	Area Free Flight*	Midland Area/FFTC
6 March	Area Free Flight*	Midland Area/FFTC
19 & 20 March	Pylon Shared with Javelin Track Days	Dave Cline Javelin
27 March	Area Free Flight*	Midland Area/FFTC
23 & 24 April	Pylon F5B Eurotour F2D Combat Centralised	Dave Cline Alan Flockhart CLTC
21 & 22 May	Pylon F5B Shared with RAFMSA	Dave Cline Alan Flockhart RAF Motorsport Association
28, 29, 30 May	Free Flight and FAI Rocketry National Championships 2011	BMFA – FFTC - FAIR
5 June	Midland Area Festival of Flight	Midland Area
12 June	Area Free Flight* F5B F3A Shared with RAFMSA	Midland Area/FFTC Alan Flockhart GBRCAA RAF Motorsport Association
25 & 26 June	Pylon Shared with RAFMSA	Dave Cline RAF Motorsport Association
2 & 3 July	Brumfly* (3 <sup>rd</sup> only) F5B Shared with RAFMSA	Birmingham MA Club Alan Flockhart RAF Motorsport Association
10 July	Area Free Flight* Vintage Combat	Midland Area/FFTC CLTC
17 July	F3B Shared with RAFMSA	Clive Needham RAF Motorsport Association
23 & 24 July	Pylon F5B (24 <sup>th</sup> only) Shared with Javelin Track Days	Dave Cline Alan Flockhart Javelin
7 August	Area Free Flight*	Midland Area/FFTC
13 & 14 August	Timperley Gala* FAI Rocketry*	Timperley Club/FAIR
27-29 August	BMFA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2011	BMFA – Dave Phipps
10-11 Sept	Free Flight Team Selection* F5B Shared with Javelin Track Days	FFTC Alan Flockhart Javelin
17 & 18 Sept	Space Modelling Equinox World Cup* Area Free Flight* Shared with ATC (using Peacekeeper compound on 17th)	FAIR/FFTC Air Training Corp
24 & 25 Sept	Pylon Shared with RAFMSA	Dave Cline RAF Motorsport Association
15 & 16 Oct	Area Free Flight* Pylon CL Aerobatics Centralised Shared with RAFMSA on 16th	Midland Area/FFTC Dave Cline CLTC RAF Motorsport Association

For items marked with \* exclusive use (with the exception of the Grantham Club) would be preferable.

For highest priority event items highlighted in blue, exclusive use is requested.

Items in red show shared use with non-BMFA activities.

Dave Phipps, 5 January 2011 V5

**SCALE TC REPORT TO TECHNICAL COUNCIL – 26<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2011**

After all of the efforts made to select a UK team and team manager it was disappointing that the European F4C Championships due to be held in Romania in July were cancelled due to lack of entries. This was not unexpected due the difficulty in travelling across Europe with large models. However, it was reassuring that the UK was one of the 4 countries who had provisionally entered a team. With no Championships competition this year we will not be holding our usual team training session. However, we do anticipate much greater interest in competition for places for next year's World Championships in Spain.

A full programme of R/C Scale competitions has been planned for this year and we have offered coaching in scale flight 'judging' for Area Chief Examiners in preparation for the launch of the Scale C Certificate next year. Attendance at the Scale Indoor R/C event held earlier this month was disappointing but the standard of models and flying continues to rise and we will persevere with trying to promote this new class. Plans are well in hand the Scale Indoor Nationals at Nottingham University on 1 May and the University has agreed dates for the next 2 years. We hope to have a small BMFA stand there which has not been present in recent years but I understand that the PRO will not be available.

The main issues confronting the Scale TC have been controlling the number of entries at the Nationals and developing the rules for a new Standoff Scale class. On the latter point, we now have a draft set of rules which we intend to trial informally at the event at Barkston Heath on 5 June. If successful, they will be proposed for formal adoption next year. Regrettably we have been compelled to restrict entries for the Nationals but only in the Flying-Only class; it will not affect F4C. For this year entries for Flying-Only will be accepted only from those who have achieved a normalised flight score of at least 80% in 2 events over the past 2 seasons, or 90% in one event. This may be reviewed next year once we see what effect it has on the number of entries. Details will be published in the next BMFA News and on the website.

**Ian Pallister**

Scale Tech Committee Chairman & Delegate

## FFTC Report

Preparations are well underway for the 2011 Free Flight and Space Nationals and the three World Cup events that the FFTC are running this year, namely the Stonehenge Cup, the Equinox Cup for Free Flight and the Equinox Cup for Space Modelling.

Unfortunately, the Space Modelling team for this year's European Championships in Romania, has had to withdraw. It was only a small team of five to begin with and two members withdrew on grounds of cost and one due to academic commitments, leaving just two, one of whom was doubtful. It is true to say that European Championships are just as expensive as World Championships but without the status and the costs for both are spiralling. FAIR, the specialist body looking after the interests of of the UK, FAI Space Modellers, are considering dropping the Continental Championships to concentrate solely on World Championships every two years though no decision has yet been made.

At the FFTC meeting, held just three days before this Technical Council meeting, the full CIAM agenda was not available and it is suggested that maybe the proposal deadline for CIAM should be brought forward to allow more time for the agenda to be finalised.

Mike Francies  
FFTC Council Delegate