



British Model Flying Association **CLUB BULLETIN**

March 2015

Issue no 220

IMPORTANT !!! SECRETARY PLEASE NOTE

**PLEASE CIRCULATE THE CLUB BULLETIN TO YOUR CLUB MEMBERS. YOU CAN DOWNLOAD THE CLUB BULLETIN FROM THE BMFA WEBSITE
(Ctrl + click on the link below, or copy the link below)**

<http://www.bmfa.org/Clubs/ClubBulletins/tabid/137/Default.aspx>

TO ALL TECHNICAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

There will be a Meeting of the Technical Council on Saturday 21st March 2015 at 11.00am which is to be held at: Chacksfield House, 31 St Andrew's Road, Leicester LE2 8RE. Tel: 0116-2440028 Fax: 0116-2440645. Email: admin@bmfa.org

A G E N D A

(To download the Technical Council Agenda Ctrl + click on the link below, or copy the link below:)

<https://www.bmfa.org/Home/Minutes-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 18th October 2014.
- 5 Matters/Actions Arising from the meeting on 18th October 2015 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 and Technical Committees to include:
 - a Discussion on flightlines.
 - b Nationals results requirements.

- 10 To receive any reports from Technical Committees. (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 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.



Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 10th January 2015

Ctrl + click on the link below or copy the link to download:

https://www.bmfa.org/Home/Minutes-Agenda?Command=Core_Download&EntryId=1042

**2015 BMFA SCALE INDOOR FREE FLIGHT
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Sunday 19th April 2015

at University of Wolverhampton Sports Centre, Gorway Road, Walsall, West Midlands WS1 3TA

The 2015 BMFA Scale Indoor National Championships will be held in a new venue this year, the University of Wolverhampton Sports Centre. The Hall is about the same size as Nottingham and has a relatively smooth ceiling and good lighting.

Official events will include free flight competitions for Open Rubber, CO2/Electric, Peanut, Pistachio, Kit Scale and the newly introduced Glider class. Contact the organiser for more information on the Glider class and for the others, please refer to the 2015 BMFA Scale Rule Book and the BMFA Scale Judges Guide. Pre-entry to the main events must be made by Friday 10th April 2015.

Unofficial competitions will be held for Air Race and Mass Launch – these are free entry on the day to competitors.

A raffle will be held for aviation and modelling related goodies – please help to make it successful by bringing and donating a prize.

Access to the site and parking facilities are excellent and there is a viewing gallery with a restaurant that will be open all day.

Doors open at 8.00am and will close at 6.00pm. Competitors: pre-entry only. Spectators: £6.00

Accompanied children and those under 18 years: free

Contact the organiser for the official competition entry form and/or more information.

Competitors please note that there will be a pre-Nats trimming meeting at The Bushfield Leisure Centre, Orton Centre, Peterborough, PE2 5RG from 10am to 6pm on Saturday 28th March 2015. Entry Flyers: £15, Juniors: Free.

Organiser: Andy Sephton – email andrewjsephton@gmail.com tel: 07872 625279

British Model Flying Association

23rd-25th May
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For more info or to join contact the office

0116 2440028 admin@bmfa.org www.bmfa.org

National Centre Study

The National Centre Feasibility Study is gradually gaining momentum, and we are currently evaluating a small number of potential locations.

Early indications are that there is broad support for the establishing of a National facility, and members appear to appreciate the potential benefits of an enduring location which provides a sustainable “national identity” for the sport of model flying.

The aim of the study is to investigate the various aspects of establishing a facility, and to provide a structured summary of findings, perhaps the two primary areas of concern for the average BMFA member are location and cost.

In terms of location we are focussing predominantly on the middle of the country for fairly obvious reasons, it is of course clear that wherever a centre is established it would be closer to some people than others, some may visit regularly, some infrequently, the significant point is the establishing of such a centre has wider benefits to the future of model flying, and support for such a project shouldn't be considered on a “will I visit it?” basis.

The Academy of Model Aeronautics (the American equivalent to the BMFA) established a national facility with a flying site, museum, archive and offices a number of years ago which is very successful, as well as regular flying activity and training they also host a number of large events each year which attract support from all over the United States, other countries have also established significant centres for model flying. In terms of cost, the brief has always been that any project should be considered on a no direct cost to members' basis (i.e. no increase in annual subscriptions to fund the project) however it is clear that for such a major project to succeed will require significant financial resources without in any way compromising the current sound financial position of the society.

We are currently exploring the various funding options and there are funds available through schemes such as National Lottery which need to be explored further, however all of the schemes have the requirement for matched funding as a primary requirement.

Clearly if we are to develop such a project then it can only move forward with input from members and clubs, one of the difficulties is establishing the level of likely support, both financial and in more general terms, there is no doubt that what we are talking about is very much a “long term strategy” and if a decision is taken to proceed with this project then a significant area of activity will be raising the required funds in order to move forward.

I am keen to hear ideas and views on this subject and also keen to hear from those who may be considering a financial input, there are a number of possible options under discussion such as membership bonds, sponsorships and buy a brick schemes which have all proven successful with other similar organisations.

The BMFA has already set up a trust to accept donations and bequests which is entirely ring fenced from the day to day running of the BMFA and the office.

There is no doubt that the establishing of a National Centre is a potentially contentious subject, and whilst the possibility is gaining significant support over time, there are most certainly those who remain unconvinced of the worth of perhaps never will be.

For my part I remain a firm believer that should the findings of the study reveal that it is indeed a viable proposition, then we should absolutely proceed with the establishing of an enduring, inclusive, National facility for the future health of model flying in the UK, of course, exactly what such a facility could ultimately encompass is at this time still the subject of the study and it is entirely possible that looking to the further future the long term outcome will be a network of sites across the country.

The final decision will rest with the BMFA Full Council who have collectively provided safe hands for the society for over eighty years.

The question is of course, where do we want to be in another eighty years? To stand still is to decline and it is worth noting that pressure on flying sites is at an all time high and ease of access to military airfields at an all time low, food for thought perhaps.

Manny Williamson
Development Officer