

# **ACHIEVEMENT SCHEME REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING**

**4th April 2009**

## **Present**

Terry Rounce	Chairman
Peter Spurway	Member / PAS/SFAS Controller
Chris Bromley FSMAE	Member / BMFA Tech Sec
Dick Whitehead	Member
John Harris	Member
Bob Mahoney	Member
Mick Eames	Member
Andy Symons	Member
Linda Harding	Minute taker / Office Manager

## **Visitors**

Adam Woodley	BMFA Member/Indoor flyer
Kane Woodley	
Robin Sleight MBE	BMFA Hon Sec/Area Council Chair/ BARCS Member

## **List of contact/email/telephone/fax numbers**

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Ken McCormick	KWMcCormick@aol.com	01505 706300

The Chairman thanked visitors Adam Woodley, his brother Kane who brought him today and Robin Sleight for attending.

Adam has been asked to attend so that he can contribute to the discussion for implementing an Indoor Achievement Scheme, which Areas Council tasked this Committee to look into.

1. **Apologies**  
There were no apologies.
2. **Correction and Adoption of the Minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2008.**  
There were no corrections.

**Bob Mahoney proposed that the Minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2008 meeting be accepted as a true record of that meeting.**

Seconded by Dick Whitehead

Vote: For: 7  
Ags: 0  
Abs: 1

Carried by a majority vote.

3. **Matters arising from the Minutes of 13<sup>th</sup> December 2008 meeting.**

**Page 2**

- **Third paragraph, concerns re Electric Powered models** – Bob Mahoney advised that there had been no communication from the Development Officer to BEFA regarding the issue which was raised at the Safety Review Committee earlier in the year.
  
- **Fourth paragraph, publish advice re Electric models** – The Technical Secretary said he would be publishing advice in the next addendum, that for anything other than small Electric models, a separate receiver battery should be used. PAS Controller commented that we should clarify what we consider to be a small model. The response to this is that we know there is a hole where specific instructions are not given but it is not BMFA's policy to give specific instructions. We do only publish guidelines.
  
- **Sixth paragraph, testing day Old Warden** – Mick Eames (ASC South Midland Area) reported that he had received no communication in relation to the proposed commercial testing day again at Old Warden, which has been published.

The Chairman asked Mick Eames if he speaks with the organiser to let them know he would be attending together with the PAS Controller and is interested to know who would be observing the testing on the day.

**Page 3**

- **Top of page, bullet points ref ACE's and Club Examiner operating areas** – The Technical Secretary asked if it was necessary to include the notes in the last minutes reference ACE's and Club Examiners' operating areas in the Members Handbook. The PAS Controller raised a valid point that further clarification is required with regard to ACE's operating as Club Examiners outside their Area.

The Chairman said we need to address this issue at a future meeting because it required further discussion which we do not have time for today.

\*\*\*\*\* **AGENDA ITEM FOR FUTURE MEETING TO BE DECIDED – To discuss for clarification purposes ACE/Club Examiner areas of operation.**  
**ACTION: OFFICE MGR**

- **Final paragraph, Email from Adam Chambers** – A point was raised at the last meeting reference the age limit for flying at shows and clarification that might be required of any legal aspects pertaining to this.

The Technical Secretary said he would look at the Display Code in terms of any legality issues. He would also ask the CEO to run it past the Honorary Solicitor.

**ACTION: TECH SEC**

**Page 4**

- **Fifth paragraph, action on PAS Controller to place official notice in BMFA News listing current ASC's** - The PAS Controller had fulfilled this action and a notice is in the current issue of BMFA News.
  
- **Sixth paragraph, FAQ sheet** – Andy Symons provided an FAQ sheet for consideration which he was tasked to do at the last meeting.

A couple of points were raised which requires further discussion. As a result the following items are to be discussed at a future meeting.

- Question in FAQ – “If I am not happy the test has been conducted correctly what can I do?”
- Some schedules are in the ‘B’ test but not in the ‘A’ test and you do not have to have an ‘A’ before taking a ‘B’. This might have implications and requires extensive discussion.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING**  
**ACTION: CHAIRMAN / OFFICE MGR**

The document required a couple of alterations before putting on to the web site. Andy would make the amendments and circulate to the Committee for agreement before putting on the web site.

**ACTION: ANDY SYMONS**

- **Ninth paragraph, ASC guidance document** – The PAS Controller had provided a copy to the Committee after the last meeting for their comments. The Technical Secretary overlooked this and had not commented. He felt it should be an official BMFA document. The consensus of the Committee is that they consider it to be a BMFA document and it should be issued to all new ASC's.

The Chairman asked the Technical Secretary to have a look at the document and refer back to the PAS Controller if there was anything he felt required a change.

**ACTION: TECH SEC**

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- **Fifth paragraph, SFAS Controller position** – The PAS Controller was happy to continue with the duties of SF Controller however the Chairman said it would be preferable if we could appoint someone to take on the role. Copies of the AS Controller TOR were made available to Committee members who said they would ask around.

**4. Indoor Scheme**

The Chairman read out a letter he had received from John Armstrong. The comments were noted and much appreciated. The Chairman was grateful for John's input and for the fact that he had taken the time to write.

The Chairman said the aim today is to come up with schedules for an Indoor Achievement Scheme Fixed Wing ‘A’ and ‘B’ test which we can put to Areas Council for consideration.

We had an extensive discussion on the manoeuvres for the possible Indoor tests. We have passed them out to various Indoor flyers to practise the manoeuvres and come back with a response.

The Committee will not be considering an Indoor Helicopter Scheme at this time.

We will inform Areas Council that an ‘A’ and ‘B’ Fixed Wing Indoor Achievement Scheme has been put together for experimental purposes at this time. The schedules will be available to anyone who wishes to give it a go.

5. **Silent Flight 'A' – Could we use a HLG?**

Robin Sleight explained that a question had been put to him by a BARCS member why hand launched gliders (HLG) are not allowed as a launching method when taking the Silent Flight 'A' Certificate. The member is quite confident he could do the 'A' Certificate with his discuss launched HLG.

The response of the Committee following a brief discussion was that in principle they had no objections to HLG as a launching method for the Silent Flight 'A' Certificate.

A proposal to change the test wording will be put to Areas Council for consideration.

**ACTION: TECH SEC**

\*\*\*\*\* **AGENDA ITEM JUNE AREAS COUNCIL – Proposal to consider HLG as launching method for Silent Flight 'A' Certificate.**

**ACTION: OFFICE MGR**

6. **Jet 'C'**

The Technical Secretary gave a brief report on the discussion of the Jet 'C' at Technical Council Meeting in February at which two JMA Representatives attended.

Copies of a letter and suggestions regarding the Jet 'C' test from John McNamara were made available for the Committee. The Committee found his input extremely useful.

Andy Symons gave a brief report on some of the responses he had received to the letter he had sent out to various people on the Jet scene asking for their comments on the idea of a Jet 'C'.

Having given due consideration to the suggestions from John McNamara plus the other responses, the manoeuvres suggested in John's letter with a few additions, would be used as a skeleton schedule.

Andy Symons was tasked with putting this together and sending out to as many people as possible for comments, to include the Secretary of the JMA and the two JMA representatives who attended the Technical Council meeting in February. It was stressed that it should be made clear to the people who are to receive this that it is purely a consultation document on the provisional first draft schedule for a Jet 'C'.

**ACTION: ANDY SYMONS**

The Chairman thanked Andy for all his efforts. He also thanked John McNamara for his input, which has been very useful.

7. **Scale 'C'**

The first aim is to reach a point where we have something in place to put out to Clubs to practice. We will, however, be seeking advice from Scale Technical Committee and other recommended Scale flyers, before we put anything out to Clubs.

The Chairman asked the Committee to give it some thought and list salient bullet points on paper. We can then get them amalgamated into some form of document that we can discuss next time.

**ACTION: COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Points discussed today:  
Application form to take a Scale 'C':

- Application will need to include the model type the test will be taken with and what manoeuvres will be flown;
- Applicant can download Scale Rule Book from the web site;
- We can send a copy of the Scale Rule Book to the Examiners;
- Applicant needs to do the research on the model and provide the Examiner with the information on the application form.

8. **Silent Flight Controller position.**

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

9. **Advice to Club Examiners.**

It seems some Examiners have a problem accepting that electric models are capable of attaining the Fixed Wing 'A' and 'B' tests.

We need to provide clearer guidance to Examiners and candidates with regard to this issue. The Examiners/Candidates Standards Books are what the Examiners should examine to and this particular aspect is not covered in the guidelines. We need to define where the 'grey' area is. It has mainly come about because of the flood in the market of shock flyers and foamy flyers.

Following debate on the issue the consensus was that the simplest way would be to introduce a minimum weight limit. It requires some experiments on club fields before we progress it any further. The Committee were asked to do this where possible and come back to the next meeting with some thoughts for consideration as to what would be a sensible limit.

**ACTION: COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

10. **AOB**

**Re-tests**

The PAS Controller brought up the issue of re-tests. The wording in the Guidance Book says "from an adjoining Area". He would like it changing to "outside of the Area". The Committee did agree on this previously however we have been busy with too many other things to actually do something about the change.

The Technical Secretary would put a proposal together for Areas Council.

**ACTION: TECH SEC**

**Test Standards/Guidance Documents.**

The Technical Secretary provided copies of the draft Test Standards and Guidance Documents for approval by this Committee before issuing final documents. These were approved by the Committee.

**Members Handbook - General Section Radio Control Achievement Schemes**

A couple of points were raised with regard to the *Radio Control Achievement Schemes General* section in the Members Handbook.

The following amendment was agreed:

Item (b) Full stop after "safety"; delete rest of the sentence.

Penultimate paragraph states non-members must produce evidence of Third Party insurance not less than £5m. The Technical Secretary will check with the CEO if this requires changing in line with £10m cover now provided to BMFA members.

**ACTION: TECH SEC**

**Helicopter fly-bar less flying**

Helicopter fly bar-less systems were discussed. The Committee agreed we should make Examiners aware that if there is evidence of extra electronic stabilisation over and above the single gyro on the yaw, whether the helicopter has a fly-bar or not, it should not be allowed.

The PAS Controller was tasked with writing to ACE and Club Examiners outlining the above advice.

**ACTION: PAS CONTROLLER**

11. **Date of next meeting.**

The next meeting was confirmed as **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2009.**

Linda Harding  
Office Manager  
29<sup>th</sup> April 2009

<b>Circulation:</b>	ASRC Members	Development Officer
	Elected Officers	Chief Executive
	Area Council Members	Office Manager
	RCPTC Sec & Chair	Accounts Manager
	Scale TC Sec & Chair	Des Farthing FSMAE
	R/C SFTC Sec & Chair	All Area AS Co-ordinators
	Indoor TC Sec & Chair	All Chief Examiners
	Roger Bellingham SM Area Chair	John McNamara (073033)
	Adam Woodley (120499)	John Armstrong (154807)

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