

**Unadopted Minutes of the BMFA North Eastern Area AGM held on 7th
December 2022 at Burnmoor Cricket Club, Burnmoor, Co. Durham. DH4 6EX**



Officers Present

Y	Chairman: Terry Bailey (Fellow)	N	P.R.O.: Position Vacant
Y	Vice Chairman: Martin Johnson (Novocastrians)	Y	Delegate: Gary Armstrong (Newcastle MFA)
Y	Secretary: Gary Armstrong (Newcastle MFA)	N	Education Co-ordinator: Position Vacant
Y	Treasurer: Tom Walker (Sunderland & DMAC)	N	Competition Secretary: Position Vacant
Y	Achievement Scheme Co-ordinator: Gary Armstrong (Newcastle MFA)		

Clubs Represented (eligible to vote)

Newcastle MFA; Glenluce & Galloway Flyers; Peterlee RMC; Washington MFC; Hartlepool MFC; Tynedale MFC; Novocastrians; Weardale MGA; Sunderland & District MAC; Teesside MFC; City of Sunderland MFC.

Apologies for Absence

Dave Errington (Teesside MFC); Allan Weighell (Fellow); Nick Powley (Eden Valley MAC)

Corrections to Previous Minutes

None.

Adoption of Minutes

Proposed: Peter Franklin (Weardale MGA)

Seconded: Dave Riley (Novocastrians)

Matters Arising

None.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman gave a short verbal report on events during the year, highlighting our continued good relationship with the military at Albemarle Barracks and competition successes both locally and nationally for NE Area members. The Chairman ended by thanking delegates for their support during his time in office and asked the Secretary to take over for the remainder of the meeting.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary reported on the current state of Area membership, the current state of the application to renew the licence to use Albemarle Barracks and the continuing impact of COVID-19 on Area meetings and activities. The full report is attached.

Treasurers Report

The Treasurer presented the annual accounts for the financial year 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022. The accounts have been audited and no issues were raised by the auditors. Tom answered any questions on the accounts to the satisfaction of those present.

Education Co-ordinators Report

As the position is vacant there is no report.

PRO's Report

As the position is vacant there is no report.

Delegates Report

The Area Delegate gave a brief report on his attendance at all of the online and in person meetings he attended during the year as well as the Society AGM. The full report is attached.

Competition Secretary's Report

The post of competition secretary is vacant so there is no report as such, however there were short reports from the Control Line and Radio Control Flying discipline officers which are as follows:

Control Line

As far as competition flying goes, it was nice to have the first full season of competitions since the Covid interruptions. There were a few more pilots than the previous year from the North East making the effort to build some models and participate in the various control line events. We had Steve White of Novocastrians and Barry Robinson of Shildon club flying F2B aerobatics, both being successful by winning competitions during the year. A special mention must go to Steve White for winning the nationals for a second year in a row and retaining the gold trophy, with Barry Robinson placing 3rd.

In combat, Martin Johnson, Graham Ives and Dave Riley have been mainly flying vintage combat as this event attracts the largest entry and there are plenty of competitions to attend. Points are awarded at each competition and a league table is populated over the season. Dave Riley placed second in the league this year, only two points behind the winner. At the nationals Martin Johnson and Dave Riley both flew well and both made it an all Novocastrian final in vintage combat, with Dave Riley emerging as the winner and winning his first ever vintage competition after 30 years of trying.

In F2D combat, there was only one competition flown all year which was the nationals. The entry in this event was very low with only 6 pilots. This didn't mean that the flying was any easier, and Gordon Price of the Motherwell club eventually won after being a finalist on three previous occasions. Dave Riley of Novocastrians came second.

As far as general flying goes in the North East, it's been nice to see a few people returning to control line flying. Numbers have been steadily increasing at Albemarle, and I hope this continues in 2023.

Radio Control

A quiet year for R/C competition flying with only two NE Area pilots competing in F3A (Aerobatics) competitions during the season. Bob Wasson (Darlington & District MFC) returned to competition flying after several years "retirement" and made steady progress up the rankings over the season with his best result being a 5th place at the GBRCAA (Great Britain Radio

Control Aerobatics Association) Mansfield competition. Gerhard Fehringer (Tranwell Model Flyers) continues to place well in the FAI P23 Class, his best result being a 1st place at the Mansfield competition.

Auditor's Report

The Auditors reported that they had examined the Area accounts, and everything was in order.

Achievement Scheme Coordinators report

Gary Armstrong gave a short report of activity within the Achievement scheme, the full report is attached.

Area Chief Examiners Reports.

Gary Armstrong submitted a joint report from all the Area Chief Examiners detailing their activities during the year. The full report is attached.

Before the election of officers, the Secretary made delegates aware of changes to the Area Constitution which will come into force early in 2023 and asked delegates to consider which elected officers the Area wishes to have in place in the future. After a short discussion it was agreed that the Area committee would be made up of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Delegate and Achievement Scheme Coordinator. The posts of Competition Secretary, PRO and Education Coordinator which have been vacant for several years are to be discontinued. The posts of Auditor will be filled at each AGM but will not be committee positions, as will the flying discipline officers. A proposal to adopt the new Area Constitution "in principle" was received from Tom Jones (Teesside MFC) and seconded by Peter Franklin (Weardale MGA) and carried unanimously.

Election of Officers.

Chairman: Martin Johnson. Proposed by Peter Franklin (Weardale MGA)
Seconded by Lez Scurfield (Tynedale MFC)

To accept the nomination Martin stood down from his role as Vice Chairman, with a replacement to be co-opted for a one-year term.

Vote: For 10, 0 Against, 1 Abstention.

Treasurer: Thomas Walker. Proposed by Tom Jones (Teesside MFC)
Seconded by Peter Franklin (Weardale MGA)

Vote: 10 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention.

Area Delegate: Gary Armstrong Proposed by Tom Jones (Teesside MFC)
Seconded by Peter Franklin (Weardale MGA)

Vote: 10 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention.

Auditor: Peter Franklin. Proposed by Gary Armstrong (Newcastle MFA)
Seconded by Lez Scurfield (Tynedale MFC)

Vote: 10 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention.

Vice Chairman: Peter Franklin Proposed by Tom Jones (Teesside MFC)
Seconded by Martin Johnson (Novocastrians).

Vote: 10 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention

Election of Area Chief Examiners.

Keith Jones, (Washington MFC) proposed that the current Area Chief Examiners be re-ratified for 2023, the proposal was seconded by Paul Brekon (Hartlepool MFC). The five are:

Gary Armstrong	81839	CE (FW & SF) & CI (FW & SF)
Jim Edwards	58674	CE (H) & CI (H)
Brian Johnson	72977	CE (SF)
Robert Wasson	36885	CE (FW) & CI (FW)
Michael Swales	175620	CE (FW) & CI (FW)

Voting 10 For, 0 Against and 1 Abstention.

Any Other Business

None.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

The next Annual General Meeting will be at 8pm on 6th December 2023 at Burnmoor Cricket Club, Burnmoor Co. Durham, DH4 6EX.

Club Secretaries and PROs please note: if you have an event to publicise, give the details to either.

Gary Armstrong, Area Secretary: garyarmstrong13@virginmedia.com or Martin Johnson, Vice Chairman: martinjohnson9531@gmail.com

The details of your event can then be distributed with the Area minutes in "Forthcoming Events", if there is sufficient time and posted on the Area web site and Facebook page.

BMFA NE Area Secretary's Report 2022.

Another quiet year for me as Area Secretary with most of my time devoted to the preparation and distribution of Area minutes and the application for the licence to use Albemarle Barracks. The application form for the 2023 licence has been requested from the DIO (Defence Infrastructure Organisation), and the associated risk assessment has been reviewed in readiness. The Area website is updated as and when required, and currently has a comprehensive events page and minutes of all meetings held in the last twelve months.

The current breakdown of affiliated clubs and members excluding country members is as follows:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
Affiliated Clubs	60	66 (+6)
Senior Members	990	1038 (+48)
Junior Members	14	16 (+2)
Family Members	29	32 (+3)

An increase in affiliated clubs and members, primarily due to the continuing uncertainty in Scotland which lead to several clubs leaving the SAA to affiliate to the BMFA to take advantage of our "Article 16 Authorisation". Whether this trend continues in 2023 will remain to be seen as the SAA finally got their own "Article 16" at the end of the year. We could see a dramatic

reduction in the number of clubs in the area next year if plans to create a fifteenth BMFA Area (Scotland) come to fruition.

The Covid-19 pandemic is still having an impact on numbers attending monthly meetings with attendance levels only slowly edging towards pre pandemic levels. On the plus side we have seen one or two new faces attending the meetings, and would like to see this trend continue as the area meeting is the only place where clubs can have their voice heard

In closing I would like to thank the committee and delegates for their support in 2022 and look forward to working with you all in the coming year.

Gary Armstrong. (N.E Area Secretary)

BMFA NE Area Delegates Report 2022.

Having volunteered to take on the role of Area Delegate following the March Area meeting and having been formally co-opted to the role at the April meeting I attended all the online "Zoom" meetings of both the Council and Areas Council as well as the Society AGM. I also attended the "in person" Council meeting held in Loughborough in September. I've enjoyed the role and having now got the hang of what is involved I would be happy to continue for a further two-year term if re-elected.

Gary Armstrong. (N.E Area Delegate)

Area Chief Examiners' Reports 2022

As in previous years I have contacted all our current Area Chief Examiners to request their annual reports and for confirmation of their willingness to continue for another year, and all have replied and are happy to continue if re-elected. Bob Wasson has been by far the busiest of the examiners although he reports that activity is still short of that pre-Covid. His club (Darlington & District MFC) continue to promote the Achievement scheme and the RCC (Registration Competency Certificate) and over 60% of their members have passed the RCC. The club also promote the various "C" tests as a worthy target for their more experienced fliers and in the last year have had three successful passes from their own club and one from the Newcastle MFA. Our newest ACE Mike Swales reported several successful "A" and "B" tests and continues to promote the scheme within his own club as well as overseeing club training. Jim Edwards and Brian Johnson reported very little activity with only some coaching and a couple of failed tests between them. As for myself I have done a fair bit of coaching within the clubs I'm in and have had a couple of successful "A" tests as well as helping a couple of members pass the RCC test. I still have one outstanding club examiner test to conduct for the Burns Country Flyers club in Ayrshire and have been invited to a training and testing day for another of our Scottish clubs in June 2023.

Gary Armstrong. (CE792)

(Report Submitted on behalf of: Bob Wasson, Jim Edwards, Mike Swales, and Brian Johnson)

Achievement Scheme Coordinators Report 2022

2022 has been a bit quieter than last year with the bulk of my time spent answering questions about the various tests, in particular the RCC (Registration Competency Certificate) and the reasons why it is better than the CAA DMARES (Drone and Model Aircraft Registration and Education System) test. I've assisted several clubs and individuals in arranging examiners to carry out tests and training and have given a couple of talks about the Achievement Scheme to clubs within the Area.

Gary Armstrong (ASC NE Area)

NORTH EAST AREA BMFA
INCOME + EXPENDITURE A/C 2021-2022

AIRFIELD HIRE	820.00		
EXPENSES	115.00	AREA SUPPORT	600.00
DONATION	100.00		
LOCK + CHAIN	16.35	DEFICIT	486.73
HOSPITALITY	13.78		
BANK CHARGES	21.60		
	<u>1086.73</u>		<u>1086.73</u>

BALANCE SHEET @ 31-3-2022

GENERAL FUND	4554.52	CASH IN HAND	0.00
LESS DEFICIT	<u>486.73</u>	CASH IN BANK	<u>4067.79</u>
	<u>4067.79</u>		<u>4067.79</u>

TREASURER M. Walker T. WALKER

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J Bailey

