

**Unadopted Minutes of the BMFA North Eastern Area Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at Burnmoor Cricket Club, Burnmoor, Co. Durham, DH4 6EX**



**Officers Present**

Y <b>Chairman:</b> Martin Johnson (Novocastrians)	Y <b>Treasurer:</b> Tom Walker (Sunderland & DMAC)
Y <b>Vice Chairman:</b> Peter Franklin (Weardale MGA)	Y <b>Delegate:</b> Gary Armstrong (Newcastle MFA)
Y <b>Secretary:</b> Gary Armstrong (Newcastle MFA)	
Y <b>Achievement Scheme Co-ordinator:</b> Gary Armstrong (Newcastle MFA)	

**Clubs Represented (eligible to vote)**

Newcastle MFA; Peterlee RMC; Washington MFC; Chester-le-Street RMC; Novocastrians; Tynedale MFC; Weardale MGA; Sunderland & District MAC.

**Apologies for Absence**

Gerard Gaynor (Area 51); Ian Jones (Darlington & District MFC)

**Corrections to Previous Minutes**

None.

**Adoption of Minutes**

Proposed: Keith Jones (Washington MFC)  
Seconded: Peter Franklin (Weardale MGC)

**Matters Arising**

None.

**Chairman's Report**

The Chairman reported that following the last meeting he is fairly sure that at least four North East Area members will be representing Great Britain at the forthcoming F2 (Control Line) European Championships in Poland. They are, Barry Robinson, Gordon Price, Alan Bunker, and Andrew Shields. As in previous years the Area will be offering financial support to assist with travel costs, the exact amounts to be determined at the next meeting. Use of Albemarle Barracks has been requested by the Novocastrians on 9<sup>th</sup> April, and 16<sup>th</sup> April by Peterlee RMC, the request has been passed to Albemarle via the new automated booking system, but no confirmation has been received, all of the dates previously requested have been confirmed. The date for the Eden Valley Aero-tow event has not yet been confirmed by the club, the Secretary reported he had contacted the club earlier in the week but had not had a response. (*Following the meeting the date was confirmed as Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2023*)

The Chairman gave a report on the demonstration event run at the Beamish Museum, the day was blessed with good weather and the site is entirely suitable for control line flying, the museum staff were pleased with what was on offer and we are now just waiting for them to confirm their preferred dates. Martin concluded his report by stating he would like to see some of the Area's trophies brought back into use, in particular the Brian Park Memorial Trophy. His initial proposal is to award the trophy to the member who flies the most models in a single day at Albemarle. This is very much in keeping with what Brian used to do, he would turn up with his Volvo estate stuffed full of models and wouldn't go home until he'd flown them all. The proposal was accepted with a suggestion that a mass build of one of Brian's published designs would be a good idea for 2024, the model suggested being the "Hairy Gnome" biplane.

**Secretary's Report**

The Secretary reported that Area Funding requests from all areas for the 2023/4 financial year have been processed by the Hon. Treasurer and Members Director and most Areas have got what they asked for. The

Hon. Treasurer will be in touch in the next few weeks to confirm the amounts. The Chairman added that he had received the email from the Hon. Treasurer confirming that we would be receiving the amount requested which was just over £2000.00. Gary also reported on the proposed changes to the Explosives Precursor legislation which would have limited the maximum percentage of Nitromethane in glow fuel you can buy without a licence to 16%. Following the public consultation process which included a massive response from modellers, and discussions with the BMFA the proposal was dropped so the maximum concentration of Nitro' in fuel that can be bought without a licence is 30%. Amounts over this or purchase of pure Nitromethane for those mixing their own fuel will require a licence as per the original legislation. The proposed CAA Operator ID price rise of 13% rounded up to the nearest whole pound which would have seen the price go from £10.00 to £12.00 also met with a large number of complaints from BMFA members and Drone Flyers. As a result, the proposal was changed to a price rise of 3.3% which means that as of 1<sup>st</sup> April new or renewed CAA Operator ID's will cost £10.33.

### **Treasurers Report**

The Treasurer reported the current state of the Area finances and outgoings since the last meeting. Area Support for the 2023/4 financial year has not shown up on the latest bank statement but Tom is expecting the next one later in the week.

### **Delegates Report**

The Area Delegate reported that the agenda for the next Area Council meeting due on 4<sup>th</sup> May has not yet been published, which means any topics requiring discussion and voting guidance will have to be discussed at the next area meeting which is the day before. The area funding process for the 2024/5 financial year is expected to start later in the year so that the BMFA are in a position to pay area support at the start of the year.

### **Flying Disciplines Officers Reports**

#### **Free Flight**

Nothing to report.

#### **Radio Control**

The first F3A (aerobatics) competition of the season to feature north east flyers is on 21<sup>st</sup> May at Skelbrooke near Doncaster.

#### **Control Line**

The vintage combat competition at Buckminster on the weekend of 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> April was cancelled due to ground conditions, the next competition being at Bristol on 16<sup>th</sup> April. The weekend of 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> Aprils sees an F2D Training Session at Albemarle on the Saturday and a Vintage Combat competition on the Sunday.

#### **Indoor**

Indoor events hosted by Peterlee RMC at East Durham College have two more sessions before the summer break, the last day being 6<sup>th</sup> May, whilst Washington MFC at Nissan have their last session on 13<sup>th</sup> May. Full details are on the area website [www.northeast.bmfa.uk](http://www.northeast.bmfa.uk)

### **Any Other Business**

None.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

**The next meeting will be on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 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 Tom Jones, [tom.jp11@gmail.com](mailto:tom.jp11@gmail.com) or Gary Armstrong, Area Secretary: [garyarmstrong13@virginmedia.com](mailto:garyarmstrong13@virginmedia.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.

## **Forthcoming Events**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Contact</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept 2022 Then 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat each month	Peterlee RMC Indoor Flying @ East Durham College 11am-1pm. Last Session 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2023. See Area website <a href="http://www.northeast.bmfa.uk">www.northeast.bmfa.uk</a>	<a href="mailto:bgworrall@tiscali.co.uk">bgworrall@tiscali.co.uk</a>
10 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2022 Then 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sat each month	Washington MFC Indoor Flying @ Nissan Sports Hall, Washington 2-4pm. Last Session 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2023 See Area website <a href="http://www.northeast.bmfa.uk">www.northeast.bmfa.uk</a> .	<a href="mailto:peterjwatson@blueyonder.co.uk">peterjwatson@blueyonder.co.uk</a>
29 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Control Line F2D Combat Team Training Session at Albemarle Barracks. The Airfield will be available for general R/C flying.	<a href="mailto:dmriley1975@gmail.com">dmriley1975@gmail.com</a>
30 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Vintage Control Line Combat competition (reserve date) The Airfield will be available for general R/C flying.	<a href="mailto:dmriley1975@gmail.com">dmriley1975@gmail.com</a>
27 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Glider Aero-Tow Event in memory of Stephen Wilson Hosted by Eden Valley MFC. Pilots briefing at 10am, Free entry for BMFA members, free refreshments. More Info on the Area website, <a href="http://www.northeast.bmfa.uk">www.northeast.bmfa.uk</a>	Nick Powley. <a href="mailto:evmacsecretary@gmail.com">evmacsecretary@gmail.com</a>
27 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Control Line F2D Combat Team Training Session at Albemarle Barracks. The Airfield will be available for general R/C flying.	<a href="mailto:dmriley1975@gmail.com">dmriley1975@gmail.com</a>
28 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Vintage Control Line Combat competition. The Airfield will be available for general R/C flying.	<a href="mailto:dmriley1975@gmail.com">dmriley1975@gmail.com</a>
11 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	BMFA Achievement Scheme Training & Testing Day. The sports field will be available for control line and light R/C models. Note: there will be no other R/C flying on the main airfield other than those involved in taking or practising for A,B or C Tests.	<a href="mailto:garyarmstrong13@virginmedia.com">garyarmstrong13@virginmedia.com</a>