

**Unadopted Minutes of the BMFA North Eastern Area Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 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; Tynedale MFC; Weardale MGA; Novocastrians; Cramlington & District MAC; Sunderland & District MAC; City of Sunderland MFC; Chester-le-Street RMC; Area 51; Peterlee RMC.

**Apologies for Absence**

Lez Scurfield (Tynedale MFC); Ian Jones (Darlington & District MFC); Jeff Staines (Teesside MFC)

**Corrections to Previous Minutes**

None.

**Adoption of Minutes**

Proposed: Peter Franklin (Weardale MGA)  
Seconded: David Riley (Novocastrians)

**Matters Arising**

The Treasurer reported that following the last meeting he had again contacted HSBC business banking and after both he and the Secretary had spoken to their representatives the issues affecting our bank account have been resolved. Further confirmation was provided following a visit to the local branch by the Treasurer, where he was advised to allow things to settle for a couple of months before we add additional signatories.

**Chairman's Report**

The Chairman reported that we have now used nine of the twelve available dates at Albemarle Barracks and that following initial problems the new automated booking system appears to be working correctly with the last request being approved within twenty-four hours. Details of the booking also seem to be getting to the right people with the guardroom being aware of the booking in advance of Martin checking that all was ok in the week before. There was a minor problem at the last event on 30<sup>th</sup> July when a country member turned up without proof of membership to watch the control line flying but was not intending to fly. The control line fliers present agreed to look after him as a guest, but members are reminded that they should be carrying proof of membership regardless of whether they are flying or not, and should report to the key orderly on arrival, particularly if flying control line and should not head straight to the sports field. Concerns about members driving on the active runway on arrival or departure were raised by Euan Galloway (Area 51) and Gerard Gaynor, there is no simple solution to the problem as if those heading to or leaving the sports field drive around the perimeter track then the key orderly either has to drive down to them to check membership cards, or to verify they have all left before arranging for the access gate to be

locked. The chairman suggested obtaining some temporary signs to place on the active runway or perimeter track to direct traffic away from the active runway, it was agreed that this could be a possible solution and Martin is to look at what is available and report at the next meeting. The secretary was asked to have a look at the guidance notes for Albemarle and amend them to reflect what is expected of attendees.

### **Secretary's Report**

The Secretary reported that he had been contacted by Nick Powley (Eden Valley MAC) regarding the replacement of the cheque we sent them to support their Aero-tow event. As the issues with HSBC Bank have been resolved as reported in "matters arising" the replacement will be issued following the meeting and forwarded to their Treasurer. Gary also reported that he had been contacted by Apian Airspace regarding an airspace change request that they are proposing to submit to the CAA to establish a TDA (Temporary Danger Area) to the north of Newcastle to allow trials of drone deliveries to an assortment of NHS establishments. The area covered will affect several clubs in the area and whilst both the BMFA and LMA are included in the stakeholder list being contacted for feedback there are a number of clubs that may be impacted. Gary is to circulate the proposal and feedback form to those clubs concerned so that they can respond directly.

### **Treasurers Report**

As reported earlier the issues with HSBC have been resolved and the replacement cheques for Eden Valley MAC and those control line pilots representing the UK at the European Championships can now be issued if required. Tom also reported the current state of the area finances with a number of cheques not yet presented.

### **Delegates Report**

The Area Delegate reported that the next Area Council meeting is due to be held on 14<sup>th</sup> September via Zoom, but as yet the agenda has not been published. He also confirmed that comments received from Area clubs about "rolling" BMFA membership had been uploaded to the Area Council forum.

### **Achievement Scheme Controllers Report**

Due to total lack of interest from clubs within the Area the ASC reluctantly announced that the Area Training & Testing Day at Albemarle on 3<sup>rd</sup> September was cancelled as it was not fair to ask our Area Chief Examiners to travel long distances to attend if there were no candidates for them to test or train. The date was offered to other clubs and Peterlee RMC have taken it on as a general R/C flying day, should anyone want to take a test then the ASC will be available to attend as long as he is notified in advance.

### **Flying Disciplines Officers Reports**

#### **Free Flight**

Nothing to report.

#### **Radio Control**

There are two GBRCAA (Great Britain Radio Control Aerobatic Association) competitions this month at Baldock on 6<sup>th</sup> August and Ashbourne (Derbyshire) on the 20<sup>th</sup>. The F3A world championships take place in Australia from 20<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> August with the UK fielding a team of three, Thomas David, Kevin Caton and Garry Peacock plus team manager Eugene Anker.

## Control Line

The Control Line Nationals are being held at Buckminster on 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023 whilst the F2 (control line) European Championships get under way in Poland on 5<sup>th</sup> August.

## Indoor

Indoor events hosted by Peterlee RMC at East Durham College will resume on 2<sup>nd</sup> September and continue on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month until May, except for the session on 21<sup>st</sup> October which has been cancelled as the hall is being used by the college. Full details are on the area website [www.northeast.bmfa.uk](http://www.northeast.bmfa.uk)

## Any Other Business

The Secretary reminded delegates that the LMA (Large Model Association) airshow takes place at Elvington on the weekend of 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> August. Gerard Gaynor reported that his planned static model show will take place one weekend in October and invited the control line fliers to let him know what date would be best for them as there is the option for them to put on a demonstration event.

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

**The next meeting will be at 8pm on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 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

Date	Event	Contact
1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat each month	Peterlee RMC Indoor Flying @ East Durham College 11am-1pm. Session's resume September 2nd, 2023. See Area website <a href="http://www.northeast.bmfa.uk">www.northeast.bmfa.uk</a> for details.	bgworrall@tiscali.co.uk
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sat each month	Washington MFC Indoor Flying @ Nissan Sports Hall, Washington 2-4pm. Session's resume September 2023 See Area website <a href="http://www.northeast.bmfa.uk">www.northeast.bmfa.uk</a> . For details	peterjwatson@blueyonder.co.uk
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept 2023	<b>CANCELLED</b> 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.	garyarmstrong13@virginmedia.com
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept 2023	Peterlee RMC general Fly-in for all types of R/C models, plus control line flying on the sports field. See Area website <a href="http://www.northeast.bmfa.uk">www.northeast.bmfa.uk</a> . For more details	bgworrall@tiscali.co.uk