

Unadopted Minutes of the BMFA North Eastern Area Meeting held on 5th July 2023 at Burnmoor Cricket Club, Burnmoor, Co. Durham, DH4 6EX



Officers Present

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

Clubs Represented (eligible to vote)

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

Apologies for Absence

John Auton (Cramlington & District MAC); Gerard Gaynor (Area 51)

Corrections to Previous Minutes

In the control line flying discipline officers report the result of the vintage combat competition held at Albemarle on 28th May was incorrectly recorded, the correct result was 1st Alan Bunker, 2nd Dave Riley and 3rd Martin Johnson.

Adoption of Minutes

Proposed: Peter Franklin (Weardale MGA)
Seconded: Paul Breckon (Hartlepool MFC)

Matters Arising

Following the last meeting the Secretary received a financial report from the secretary of the Eden Valley MAC detailing expenditure for their Aero-Tow event that the Area supported. Following receipt of the report a cheque was issued to the club treasurer which was subsequently returned by the bank as "not signed in accordance with mandate", Tom Walker (Area Treasurer) will give further details in his report. David Riley reported that Andrew Shields one of the control line team members that we had offered financial support to had withdrawn from the team and had destroyed his cheque.

Further to the last meeting where delegates were asked to consult their clubs about introducing "rolling" membership of the BMFA, several clubs reported their feelings on the issue, and the overwhelming majority were not in favour due to the increased workload for club treasurers/ membership secretaries in checking whether club members had renewed their BMFA membership, especially if the renewal date was different to the clubs membership year (usually 1st Jan to 31st Dec).

Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that the new date requested for the Area Training and Testing Day at Albemarle Barracks of 3rd September had finally been confirmed following a telephone call to the military during which they informed us that the automated booking system was not working correctly. Peterlee RMC have requested use of Albemarle on 30th July and this request has been submitted to the military for approval.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary reported that he had received a request from the Copeland MFC (Whitehaven) to consider using "Zoom" for future area meetings to allow clubs such as theirs to attend and have an input. In order to do this the Area would need a Zoom licence, although the BMFA's could be used initially, a camera and a reliable internet connection, plus some one to host the meeting. The matter was discussed by those present, and the general feeling was that for the small number of clubs that would potentially benefit it was not worth pursuing at this time.

Treasurers Report

The Treasurer reported the current state of the Area finances and the outstanding cheques that have not yet been presented. He also gave an update on the situation with the cheque issued to Eden Valley MAC which as reported earlier was returned by the bank as "not signed in accordance with mandate". After telephoning HSBC to sort the issue out they chose to lock the account as Tom gave an incorrect answer to one of the security questions and sent out the required paperwork to update the mandate and security questions. This was duly completed by Tom and the Secretary and returned to them but has still not solved the problem. Tom was asked to contact the local branch to make an appointment to speak to someone to sort the matter once and for all, the Chairman and Secretary offered to accompany him if they are needed.

Delegates Report

The Area Delegate reported that following a meeting on 21st June the new BMFA Scotland area was now up and running with a full committee in place. The result of this change is that the North East Area is now much smaller both in terms of the number of clubs and the geographical area covered. The next Area council meeting is on 14th September but as yet the agenda has not been published.

Achievement Scheme Controllers Report

The ASC confirmed that the new date for the Area Training and Testing Day at Albemarle is 3rd September as reported earlier and asked all delegates to publicise the event within their clubs, especially those who may not have access to a club examiner and who have members who would like to attempt one of the achievement scheme tests. Gary also reported that at the request of the achievement scheme controller Duncan McClure he was working with the new Scotland Area ASC, Andrew Pirie to identify potential Area Chief Examiners, and Club Examiners to get the scheme up and running in the new area. A further meeting is planned for later in the month to discuss the appointments.

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 Mansfield on 23rd July, and a team selection event at Hurley (Warwickshire) on 30th July.

Control Line

At the CLAPA Championships for F2b (stunt) models held on 17/18th June, Barry Robinson (Shildon MFC) was 2nd and Steve White (Novocastrians) 3rd, whilst in the Classic Stunt class Barry placed 1st. At the Vintage Combat competition held at Buckminster on 10th June, Dave Riley (Novocastrians) was 2nd and in the same class flown at Basildon on 2nd July, Martin Johnson was 4th and Ben Johnson 5th (Both Novocastrians).

Indoor

Indoor events hosted by Peterlee RMC at East Durham College will resume on 2nd September and then be held on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month from 11am to 1pm at a cost of £4.00 per pilot, all of the dates are on the Area website www.northeast.bmfa.uk

Any Other Business

The Secretary reported receipt of an email from Euan Galloway, chairman of the Area 51 club expressing their clubs' concerns about the difficulties in booking Albemarle Barracks and the time taken to have bookings confirmed. Gary is to reply explaining the situation regarding bookings and the problems with the automated system and staff sometimes being "off camp".

As reported in previous minutes areas are being encouraged to appoint an outreach co-ordinator, this is basically the old education co-ordinator role, if anyone is interested in taking on this post (they don't need to be a club delegate) then the Area committee would love to hear from you.

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

The next meeting will be at 8pm on Wednesday 2nd August 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 or Gary Armstrong, Area Secretary:

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 st & 3 rd Sat each month	Peterlee RMC Indoor Flying @ East Durham College 11am-1pm. Session's resume September 2nd, 2023. See Area website www.northeast.bmfa.uk for details.	bgworrall@tiscali.co.uk
2 nd & 4 th Sat each month	Washington MFC Indoor Flying @ Nissan Sports Hall, Washington 2-4pm. Session's resume September 2023 See Area website www.northeast.bmfa.uk . For details	peterjwatson@blueyonder.co.uk
30 th July 2023	Peterlee RMC general Fly-in for all types of R/C models, plus control line flying on the sports field. See Area website www.northeast.bmfa.uk . For more details	bgworrall@tiscali.co.uk
3 rd Sept 2023	New Date Confirmed 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