

# **BMFA Free Flight Tech Committee News. Issue 107**

**All correspondence re this news to the FFTC Secretary:**

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The FFTC held an internet virtual Zoom meeting from their homes on 7 October 2020.

## **2020 CONTEST CALENDAR**

### **BMFA FREE FLIGHT AND SPACE CALENDAR 2020 Publication V8.0**

**Please note that Space events appear on this calendar as they are the responsibility of the FFTC. Due to the Covid 19 Pandemic cancelling most competitions in 2020 the Senior Championship and Plugge competitions will not be awarded this year.**

11 October	7th Area. Team Glider Day. Area Venues.	<i>C/G Team (Model Engineer), F1B (Duce), SLOP (Frog Sen'), Mini Vintage, E30, C/E, HLG/CLG.</i>	Contact: Area Comp Secs.
18 October	7th F1E  Not Team Selection  Venue: Peak District or near Melton Mowbray.	<i>F1E (FF Slope Soaring).</i>	Contact: Ian Kaynes 01252 512538. kaynes@btinternet.com
24 October (N.B. Saturday)	Midland Gala.  Venue: Barkston Heath.	<i>F1H, F1G, BMFA1/2A Power, E36, P30, SLOP, Mini Vintage, CO2, HLG-CLG.</i>  <i>Cranfield Classic – Non FFTC Contest Contact Simon Dixon 07976 408765</i>	Contact: Phil Ball 07470 177947 e-mail: <a href="mailto:phil.ball@ntlworld.com">phil.ball@ntlworld.com</a>
24 October (N.B. Saturday)  <u>Cancelled</u>	Space. Team Selection 2nd Reserve. Venue: Barkston Heath.	<b><i>S1A, S3A, S4A, S6A, S9A.</i></b>	Contact: Trevor Seabrook, phone: 07899 030875, e-mail: <a href="mailto:contacttrevorseabrook@gmail.com">contacttrevorseabrook@gmail.com</a>

# COVID RULES FOR COMPETITION DAYS

The following procedures and measures will apply to all BMFA free flight contests and all non BMFA (privately run contests) that take place on sites operated by FFTC, including but not limited to, Barkston Heath, North Luffenham, Salisbury and Sculthorpe.

No person shall attend any contest or flying site if they are showing signs of Covid 19 or have been told to self-isolate or are required to quarantine in a regional lockdown. **Under no circumstances should anyone break local or national lock down measures to attend a Contest**

All persons who attend the flying site are required to register their name, contact details and BMFA number at contest control for contact tracing purposes.

Where a site requires a gate, access point to be manned and a sign in is required i.e. Barkston Heath. The attendee must sanitise before and after touching any gates or barriers and use own pen to sign the site log .

## General

Sites have their own Covid 19 risk assessments and measures in place to mitigate the risk. The following measures are additional and will run alongside any existing site procedures.

- CD for each venue must ensure they have completed the Covid Checklist for each competition day and each venue. This is available on the BMFA Website at <https://eforms.bmfa.org/covid-checklist>.
- All attendees must provide their names and contact details to the CD for contact tracing purposes..
- The CD will have available at control suitable hand sanitiser
- The CD will at all times social distance from all persons at control and engage in frequent use of hand cleaning and or wearing of latex/vinyl gloves to reduce the risk of transmission of virus from score sheets etc.
- Competitors should only visit control as necessary for registration, entry, score recording, or information. Avoid forming any groups around contest control.
- Travel to and from contest site. All contestants and attendees should travel to the contest site in their own vehicles and only carry passengers who are from the same household bubble.
- Entry to site to be in accordance with site specific rules.
- Parking, all vehicles should be parked to form a line leaving a clear space of 4 metres between adjacent vehicles (This will allow sufficient social distancing when doors are open for access and egress).

## Contest entry

**ALL CONTESTS FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2020 WILL BE FREE OF CHARGE. NO ENTRY FEE OR SITE FEES.**

(This will be reviewed for 2021 along with concessions for season ticket holders).

- Contestants will register with the CD, ensuring at all times a social distance from the control table (Self entry and recording scores. Entrant shall only use their own pens).
- NO flight cards will be issued.
- All official flights and attempts will be recorded by verbal communication to the CD and or by themselves self-scoring on official score sheets (using own pen).

## Flying

- All practice flying, and trimming must be undertaken at a distance from the competitors flying in the contest.
- All competitors must position themselves to maintain a social distance of at least 2 metres from other flyers helpers and timekeepers.
- For events and classes where it is required to fly from a line or box. The line and box will be of sufficient length and area to enable all flyers, helpers and timekeepers to social distance of at least 2 metres.

### **Handling**

Where possible models and equipment should only be handled by the owner and or a member of the same household bubble.

In cases where it is absolutely necessary for another person to handle models etc. THE OWNER MUST FIRST SANITISE THE MODEL AND EQUIPMENT.

The handler is advised to wear suitable latex/vinyl gloves and or sanitise hands before and after handling.

Glider (Towline) Specific. This class of model generally requires the model to be launched by another person the following should be adopted .

- Flyer mount the model on a self launch devise,
- Flyer to operate a self-launch procedure with model in own hands. This procedure is compliant with BMFA rules.
- In the event the flyers requires another person to launch the model preference is that the helper be a person from same household.
- If this is not possible then the model should be made ready for flight by the flyer and attached to towline, placed on the floor or other safe place .
- The helper should only pick up and handle the model when a safe social distance is in place between flyer/helper. After handling the model, the model must be sanitised, and the helper must sanitise hands.
- It is essential that the flyer before collecting the model after the flight sanitises the model (taking suitable cleansing wipes and or sanitiser on retrieval).

### **Timekeeping**

- The timekeeper must observe a 2-metre social distance from the flyer and others on the site.
- Flight scores to be verbally reported or if self-recording use own pen and recorded on official score sheets (avoiding hand contact with score sheets).

### **ADDITIONAL**

**ALL ON SITE SHOULD AVOID FORMING GROUPS of more than 6 people** in any one location and always social distance.

All persons attending the contest whether they compete or not must sign in at control and provide BMFA number and contact details.

ANY person who during a contest day displays symptoms of Covid 19 MUST leave the site immediately and inform the CD

The BMFA and the FFTC are committed to ensuring that all contests take place with the minimum of risk of contacting and spreading the Covid 19 virus

The measures outlined must be followed in full.

## RULE CHANGES FOR 2021

For Rule Book: Free Flight            Class:            F1A, B, C & E

Number & heading of the paragraph: 3.2.4 Team Selection Process

Page number if appropriate: 14

**Instruction-** to ensure that under exceptional circumstances such as Pandemic more than a single Team selection Competition could be held in one year as well as a Championships in that same year.

### 3.2.4 Team Selection Process

#### 3.2.4.1 Team Selection F1A, F1B, F1C and F1P (See also General Rule Book rule 2.1.3)

- (a) One Team Selection competition plus a reserve date **for each Championship** will be included in the Contest and Events Calendar ([www.bmfa.org/Contests-Events/Contest-and-Event-Calendar](http://www.bmfa.org/Contests-Events/Contest-and-Event-Calendar)) ~~each year~~ for the purpose of selecting the Senior World and European teams for F1A, F1B and F1C ~~in the following year~~.

**Instruction-** to ensure that under exceptional circumstances such as Pandemic more than a single Team selection Competition could be held in one year as well as a Championships in that same year.

and... to alter the rules format generally.

#### 3.2.4.2 Team Selection F1E

- (a) Three (3) centralised competitions and a reserve will be nominated each year for the purpose of selecting a team for ~~either the World~~ **and** ~~or the European F1E Championships in the following year.~~ **A period of up 4 days may be specified for each competition, and if this period is more than 2 days it must include a weekend. The day to be used for the competition will be selected 2 days in advance and communicated to the registered competitors.**
- (b) The competitions will be run to FAI rules and percentage scoring in the rounds will be to the FAI Sporting Code.
- (c) Dependant on their placing in these competitions each competitor will be awarded points in accordance with the table in 3.1.11.(b). Only the competitor's best two results will count for team selection points.
- (d) **If no selection competitions have been flown during the year before the Championships, then one competition and a reserve date will be scheduled for the year of the Championships. The competition period rule of (a) applies to this competition and reserve date. The team selection will be based on the result of this competition**
- (e) **If the selection competitions flown do not produce a team then the FFTC shall**

**take appropriate action in consultation with the Competition Secretary.**

- (f) The number of rounds planned to be flown must be between 5 and 7 inclusive and must be announced before the start of the competition. The maximum time for each round may be up to 5 minutes and must be announced before the start of that round.
- (g) If fewer than 3 rounds can be flown then the contest shall be null and void.

**For Rule Book: Free Flight            Class:            The Bowden Class**

**Number & heading of the paragraph: 3.14.2**

**Page number if appropriate: 41**

**Instruction-** to reduce the risk of personal injury from impact by a model aircraft in the contest the engine size is restricted 2.5cc and only a single engine permitted.

### **3.14            The Bowden Class**

#### **3.2.4.2**

Models shall be powered by Petrol, Compression Ignition (Diesel), or Glo-plug engines only. Radio control is not permitted. **The engine is limited in size to 2.5cc and only a single engine is permitted.** The model shall have a cabin with clear glazing or a cockpit with a suitably sized aperture and a clear windscreen.

## **SALISBURY PLAIN AREA 8**

Driving on Salisbury Plain.

We have frequently been reminded by the authorities that allow our access to Area 8 of,

1. The need to drive and behave safely, as it is a potentially dangerous place.
2. Respect the environment, as it is a conservation area with numerous vulnerable species.

More recently all users of the Plain have been asked to avoid creating any new vehicle tracks.

The Salisbury Plain Military Lands Byelaws 1983, state that a driver may only leave the road (Public Right of Way), by 15 yards, and then only to park. For practical reasons, the interpretation of this can be somewhat liberal for our purposes.

Three farmers have grazing licences for Area 8, and an annual hay crop is taken from the plateau. Their rights and livelihoods must be respected.

This leads to the conclusion that vehicle movements should be kept to a minimum on grassy areas, and any motorised retrieval should be confined to the well-established tracks.

We never know who is watching our behaviour on any of our few remaining flying sites.

Peter Watson. FFTC Area 8 liaison.

## **CRANFIELD CLASSIC – NON FFTC EVENT**

To celebrate the 60 year anniversary of the 1960 Cranfield world champs where we had 5 joint winners Simon Dixon will be running an event at the Midland gala on 24th October at Barkston Heath. The rules are simple it's basically BMFA classic power but only for the 5 designs :-

- Gloworm, Mr Max, no. 18, La Bestia, Lucky Lindy mk3 or taper wing version
- Built from a published plan - Zaic 1959-61 year book, Aeromodeller, American modeller, etc
- Any engine
- Any fuel, any fuel system
- No minimum weight
- 12 sec run
- 2m 30sec Max

The scores will also be entered into a postal type event which I am running through the vintage FAI Facebook group. A lot of interest from around the world - also being followed very closely by John Sheppard the Gloworm designer / flyer.

You can enter the postal event upto 5 times as long as it's with one of the other designs with all flights on the same day and venue with someone else timing. 3 x 2.30 max plus unlimited flyoff.

- ie. other entries can be different days and venues
- scores emailed to Simon Dixon at [dixonfamily100@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:dixonfamily100@yahoo.co.uk) stating date, venue, name of flyer and model, with pictures if you can.
- posted anytime from now until closing date of midnight UK time on 31st December 2020

Simon thinks there are plenty of models being built for these events so I hope there will be a large entry.