

BMFA Free Flight Tech Committee News. Issue 111

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 3 March 2021.

2021 CONTEST CALENDAR

The availability of MOD flying fields remains unclear at this time resulting in us having to make further cancellations on the calendar. Interim decisions to report are that two BMFA competitions – the Second Area events and Northern Gala - are cancelled, and the Team Selection events in April are also cancelled, with the reserve dates being postponed until after the decision is made as to whether the Championships will go ahead by the organisers. Other events will be reviewed at the end of March meeting when there might be further information available about access to airfields.

The following 2021 Calendar is published on the understanding that Covid restrictions will enable competitions to take place. If any events are cancelled due to Covid restrictions they will be cancelled ahead of the event date via the FFTC website with as much notice as possible.

BMFA FREE FLIGHT AND SPACE CALENDAR 2021 Publication V4.0

Please note that Space events appear on this calendar as they are the responsibility of the FFTC. They are not part of the Overall British Free Flight Championship

Please also note that ONLY Team Selection events are subject to postponement due to unsuitable weather

Changes to version (3.0) shown in RED

| Start date | Event | Classes | |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|
| 28 February CANCELLED | 1st Area - Winter Warmer Venue: Area Venues | CG, CR, CP, CE (Plugge), F1H, F1J (Plugge), P30 (Plugge), H/CLG | Contact: Area Comp Secs. |
| 21 March CANCELLED | 2nd Area - Spring Sorter Venue: Area Venues | CR, CP (White), CE, F1A (SMAE), F1G (Plugge), E36 (Plugge), Mini Vintage (Plugge), H/CLG | Contact: Area Comp Secs. |
| 26-29 March CANCELLED | F1E Team Selection (for 2021) Venue: Peak District or Melton Mowbray | F1E | Contact: Ian Kaynes 01252 512538 kaynes@btinternet.com |

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| 2 April (Good Friday) CANCELLED | Northern Gala Venue: Barkston Heath | CG (CMA), CR (Caton), CP (Hamley), CE, F1H, SLOP (Falcons), Mini Vintage, P30, H/CLG, E30 | Contact Phil Ball 07470177947 Phil.ball@ntlworld.com |
| 17-18 April CANCELLED | Team Selection (for 2021) Venue: TBC | F1A, F1B, F1C | Contact Phil Ball 07470177947 Phil.ball@ntlworld.com |
| 21-23 April CANCELLED | F1E Team Selection (for 2021) Venue: Peak District or Melton Mowbray | F1E | Contact: Ian Kaynes 01252 512538 kaynes@btinternet.com |
| 25 April | 3rd Area - Gamage Day Venue: Area Venues | CG, CR (Gamage), F1C (Halfax, Plugge), F1Q, Vintage G (Plugge), P30, H/CLG (Plugge), Tailless | Contact: Area Comp Secs. |
| 8-9 May | London Gala Venue: Salisbury Plain | CG, CR, CP, CE, F1H, F1G, F1J, Mini Vintage, P30, H/CLG, E30, CO2. | John Carter 01782 398816 Nordicf1a@outlook.com |
| 8-9 May | London Gala Space FAI Practice Venue: Salisbury Plain | S1A,S3A, S4A, S6A, S9A | Trevor Seabrook 07899 030875 contacttrevorseabrook@gmail.com |
| 15-16 May POSTPONED to 12 -13 June | Team Selection (for 2021) Reserve Venue TBC | F1A, F1B, F1C | Contact Phil Ball 07470177947 Phil.ball@ntlworld.com |
| 14/16 May POSTPONED to 10 – 13 June | 1st F1E Team Selection (for 2021) Reserve Venue: Peak District or Melton Mowbray | F1E Team Selection | Contact: Ian Kaynes 01252 512538 kaynes@btinternet.com |
| 29-31 May | Nationals Venue: Barkston Heath | CG (Thurston), CR (Model Aircraft), CP (Shelley), CE, F1A (Ronytube), F1B (Boxall), F1C (Cosh), F1Q (Astral), F1H (BA), F1G (308), F1J (Quickstart), 1/2A (Hales), E36, Vintage RP (Jubilee), Vintage G, Classic RP, Classic G, SLOP (Plugge .Harris), Mini Vintage (Weston), P30, H/CLG (Nats), Tailless (Lady Shelley), E30, CO2 (Sparklets). SAM 35 to run non championship events | Mike Woodhouse 01603 457754 michael.woodhouse1942@gmail.com Contact for SAM Events John Ashmole 01406 370188 Email: johnashmole@yahoo.co.uk |
| 29-31 May | Space Nationals 1 st Team Selection Venue Barkston Heath | S1, S2/P,S3, S4,S5,S6,S8E/P, S9 | Trevor Seabrook 07899 030875 contacttrevorseabrook@gmail.com |
| 12 – 13 June | Team Selection (for 2021) Reserve Venue TBC | F1A, F1B, F1C | Contact Phil Ball 07470177947 Phil.ball@ntlworld.com |

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| 12 or 13 June POSTPONED to 19 – 20 June | *Team Selection (for 2021) Fall back date. Venue TBC | Absolute fall back date for F1A, F1B and F1C teams for 2021 World Championships. Only one day, to be declared a few days earlier, will be used for a flyoff. No wind restrictions will be applied. | Contact Phil Ball 07470177947 Phil.ball@ntlworld.com |
| 10 - 13 June | 1st F1E Team Selection (for 2021) Reserve Venue: Peak District or Melton Mowbray | F1E Team Selection | Contact: Ian Kaynes 01252 512538 kaynes@btinternet.com |
| 19 or 20 June | *Team Selection (for 2021) Fall back date. Venue TBC | Absolute fall back date for F1A, F1B and F1C teams for 2021 World Championships. Only one day, to be declared a few days earlier, will be used for a flyoff. No wind restrictions will be applied. | Contact Phil Ball 07470177947 Phil.ball@ntlworld.com |
| 20 June | 4th Area - Team Power Day Venue: Area Venues | CG, Team CP (Keil, Plugge), CE, F1B (Gutteridge), Vintage RP (Plugge), Mini Vintage, H/CLG, E30 (Plugge) | Contact: Area Comp Secs. |
| 4 July | 3rd F1E Venue: Peak District or Melton Mowbray | F1E Team Selection 2022 | Contact: Ian Kaynes 01252 512538 kaynes@btinternet.com |
| 11 July | 5th Area - Summer Mini Day | CG, CR, CP, F1H (Plugge), F1G, 1/2A (Plugge), E36, H/CLG, CO2 (Plugge) | Contact: Area Comp Secs. |
| 31 July- 1 August | East Anglian Gala Venue: Sculthorpe | CG, CR, CP, CE, E36, Vintage RP, Vintage G, Classic RP, Classic G, Mini Vintage, P30, H/CLG, Tailless, CO2. | Mike Woodhouse 01603 457754 Michael.woodhouse1942@gmail.com |
| 31 July- 1 August | Space FAI Practice Venue: Sculthorpe. | S1A, s3A, S4A, S6A,S9A | Trevor Seabrook 07899 030875 contacttrevorseabrook@gmail.com |
| 15 August | Southern Gala Venue: Salisbury Plain | CG (Pilcher), CR (Flight), CP (Short), CE, F1H (Ripmax), F1G, F1J, 1/2A, H/CLG, E30 | Ken Faux 01279 721008 Ken.faux@btinternet.com |
| 22 August | 4th F1E Venue: Peak District or Melton Mowbray | F1E SMC | Contact: Ian Kaynes 01252 512538 kaynes@btinternet.com |
| 4 September | Stonehenge Cup Venue: Salisbury Plain | F1A, F1B, F1C, F1Q | John Carter 01782 398816 Nordicf1a@outlook.com |
| 5 September | Equinox Cup Venue: Salisbury Plain | F1A, F1B, F1C, F1Q | John Carter 01782 398816 Nordicf1a@outlook.com |
| 12 September | 6th Area - KMAA Day Venue: Area Venues | CR, CP, F1A (Plugge KMAA), F1Q (Plugge), Vintage RP, SLOP, P30, H/CLG, Tailless (Plugge) | Contact: Area Comp Secs. |

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| 18-19 September | Team Selection (for 2022) Venue TBC | F1A, F1B, F1C, | Contact Phil Ball 07470177947 Phil.ball@ntlworld.com |
| 26 September | 5th F1E Venue: Peak District or Melton Mowbray | F1E Team Selection 2022 | Contact: Ian Kaynes 01252 512538 kaynes@btinternet.com |
| 3 October | 7th Area - Team Rubber Day | CG, Team CR (Farrow Shield, Plugge), CE, F1C (Buskell), Classic RP (Plugge), Classic G (Plugge), H/CLG | Contact: Area Comp Secs. |
| 9-10 October | Trials (for 2022) Reserve | F1A, F1B, F1C | Contact Phil Ball 07470177947 Phil.ball@ntlworld.com |
| 17 October | 8th Area - Team Glider Day Venue: Area Venues | Team CG (Model Engineer, Plugge), CE, F1B (Duce, Plugge), SLOP (Frog Senior, Plugge), Mini Vintage, H/CLG, E30 | Contact: Area Comp Secs. |
| 23 October (Saturday) | 6th F1E Venue: Peak District or Melton Mowbray | F1E Reserve for team selection 2022 if required. | Contact: Ian Kaynes 01252 512538 kaynes@btinternet.com |
| 30 October (Saturday) | Midland Gala + Team Selection Reserve Venue: Barkston Heath | F1H, F1G, 1/2A, E36, SLOP, Mini Vintage, P30, H/CLG, CO2. | Contact Phil Ball 07470177947 Phil.ball@ntlworld.com |
| 30 October (Saturday) | Space Team Selection 2 nd Reserve Venue: Barkston Heath | S1A, S3A, S4A, S6A, S9A | Trevor Seabrook 07899 030875 contacttrevorseabrook@gmail.com |

FREE FLIGHT NATIONALS

At this time we are unsure of the availability of Barkston Heath for the Nationals at the end of May. We have been informed that it is extremely unlikely, but things can change quickly. We will make a final decision at the end of March to run the event as planned or cancel. If it does go ahead it will have to be a stripped down Nationals without camping etc due to the shortened time for planning. If it has to be cancelled we will look at options available to us later in the year. Please be patient with us at this unprecedented time.

CAA REGULATIONS

FF & The new regulations for model flying

Reminders to renew your registration are being sent out by the CAA at present. If you have done the competency test last year through the BMFA and have paid your £9.00 fee for 2021 with your membership renewal please ignore the CAA request. You will shortly be sent a new ID number.

A reminder - Flyers of models of less than 250 grams are exempt from having to have evidence of competency or have CAA registration for general flying. However, there is now a subtle change in the

regulations which needs consideration. If you want to take advantage of the BMFA's CAA Authorisation (which unlocks permission to fly above 400ft – and a decent thermal will ensure that this happens) you are now required from the 1st January 2021 to take the BMFA's online test, register with the CAA (which you can do via the BMFA) and display your CAA number on your models. The CAA has also re-iterated that free flight models must not be deliberately flown beyond visual line of sight.

If you are a free flight competition flyer you will need to register as your models will at times breach 400ft, even it is only a very small light model.

CLASSIC A1 GLIDER 'POSTAL' CONTEST

This is not an FFTC run competition but it has raised a lot of interest around the World so we have agreed to put this notice in the newsletter. Over to Stuart –

Most of you will be aware that Stuart Darmon is running an 'Email international' contest for Classic A1 gliders, sponsored by FF 'cottage industries', partly to keep the ball rolling for this 'new' and popular informal class, but mostly to give us all something to do while we wait for 'normal' contests to get going again. However, not everyone reads the modelling press, so for the benefit of those who still aren't sure of the rules, here they are:

CLASSIC A1 GLIDER EMAIL INTERNATIONAL 2021

1. ELIGIBLE MODELS

A Classic A1 glider is any Free Flight towline glider of total projected surface area not exceeding 18 square decimetres, built in accordance with a design first published or kitted between January 1951 and January 1961, as per BMFA Classic Glider rules
([https://britishmfa.sharepoint.com/sites/public/Rule Books](https://britishmfa.sharepoint.com/sites/public/Rule%20Books))

Maximum length of towline 50 metres under 2Kg. tensile load

2. THE CONTEST

All flights for each entry must be made on the same day between 01 January 2021 and 01 July 2021 inclusive. All flights must comply with local regulations governing model flying and with the guidelines of the national aeromodelling governing body (BMFA, AMA, etc.)

All flights for each entry must be made with the same model. An individual may make up to three separate entries provided that each is made with an entirely different eligible model.

A model may not be used by more than one individual over the age of 16 years. Juniors below this age may fly a model borrowed from another entrant.

The maximum for the first flight of each entry is 30 seconds. If this is achieved, the entrant is permitted a second flight of maximum 60 seconds, and so on, the maximum increasing in increments of 30 seconds until either a max is not achieved, or flying cannot continue (e.g. because the model is lost or damaged). The score for that entry is the total flight time including the sub- max final flight.

*All flights must be timed by a person other than the entrant. Procedure for starts, timing, attempts etc. is per F1H **except** that a flight aborted by RDT does **not** qualify for a second attempt, even if less than 20 seconds (in line with BMFA classic rules)*

3. ENTRY

Entry is free of charge. Once the flights are completed, entry is submitted no later than 07 July 2021 by email to classica1postal@gmail.com by sending the following information;

- 1.) The name & contact email* of the entrant
- 2.) The name(s) of the timekeeper(s)
- 3.) The score, in seconds, in the form of an addition, e.g.
30+ 60+ 90+ 120+ 124= 424
- 4.) The name of the model and where it was published
- 5.) The country and location where the flights were made

If entrants aged 16 or under wish to be eligible for the junior prize they must include their age in years (D.O.B. not required). Juniors are also included in the overall results and are eligible for the other prizes.

In order to qualify for the team prize the entries of all three team members must be submitted in the same email, also stating the name of the team. Entries received in this way will also be included in the individual results.

Information about the flying, the site, etc. plus photographs will be very welcome and will help in reporting the contest in the modelling press.

Winner receives a trophy plus a complete Peter Brown stand- alone RDT system; second wins a £50 Free Flight supplies voucher and 3rd a subscription to Aeromodeller. Top junior gets a Hummingbird Models laser cut A1 kit and the team of three with highest aggregate score each get an engraved whisky tumbler trophy . To encourage people to send in scores, there's a prize draw of non-winning entries to win ten rolled sheets of coloured Esaki tissue. Entry is free. Any questions to stuardarmonf1a@yahoo.com, Tel. 01858882057.