

BMFA Free Flight Tech Committee News. Issue 132

All correspondence re this news to the FFTC Secretary:

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The FFTC held a Zoom meeting from their homes on 13 November 2024.

The 2025 FREE FLIGHT PROGRAMME

The programme has now been completed it is based upon the results of the discussions at the conference. There is something for everyone in the resulting programme. The FFTC was guided by the overall desire expressed by all who have made input is that we all want a more worthwhile contest programme.

The FFTC will review at the end of 2025 the outcomes. The FFTC will make changes that come to light through the operation of the programme.

There will be changes to the rule book which the FFTC are working on and will release shortly. The rule book changes required in order that the calendar can be operated, there are no model specification changes apart from the requirement for rdt on models weighing over 250grams, simply operational procedures.

One thing that is required are CDs to run the events. Please step forward and offer you services.

FFTC 2025 CALENDAR

BMFA FREE FLIGHT CALENDAR 2025 V1.0

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

The F1A, B, C Team Selection, Women's Cup and Junior at the Nationals and Buckminster Gala are excluded from the Free Flight Championships.

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

Changes to version () shown in RED

Date	Venue	Event	Classes	Contact
9 March	Area	1st Area	Open (White Cup), FAI (SMAE Glider Cup), Vintage/Classic, Mini, Micro, HLG/CLG	Area
15-16 March	Near Melton Mowbray or Peak District	1 st F1E	F1E	Ian Kaynes kaynes@btinternet.com
23 March	Area	2nd Area	Open (Gamage), FAI (Halfax), Vintage/Classic, Mini, Micro	Area
6 April	Area	3rd Area	Open, FAI (Gutteridge), Vintage/Classic, Mini, Micro	Area
18 or 19 April	North Luffenham	Northern Gala	Open (CMA), Vintage/Classic (Caton), Mini (Hamley), Micro (Falcons Trophy), HLG/CLG. Club Championships	John Carter Nordicf1a@gmail.com

4 May	Area	4th Area	Open (Team Rubber - Farrow Shield), Vintage/Classic, Micro, HLG/CLG	Area
4 May	Salisbury Plain	First Space Practice	S1, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7, S8, S9	trevor seabrook contacttrevorseabrook@gmail.com
10-11 May	Near Melton Mowbray or Peak District	2 nd F1E	F1E (SMC Trophy)	Ian Kaynes kaynes@btinternet.com
17-18 May	Salisbury Plain	Team Selection	FAI.	Phil Ball Phil.ball@ntlworld.com
17-18 May	Salisbury Plain	First Space Team Selection	S1, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7, S8, S9	Slawomir Zach slawomirzach@gmail.com
24 or 25 May	Salisbury Plain	London Gala	Open (Pilcher), Vintage/Classic, Mini, Micro, HLG/CLG.	Simon Dixon Dixonfamily100@yahoo.co.uk
1 June	Area	5th Area	Open (Team Glider -Model Engineer), Mini, Micro, HLG/CLG.	Area
8-9 June	Near Melton Mowbray or Peak District	3 rd F1E	F1E Team selection	Ian Kaynes kaynes@btinternet.com
21-22 June	Near Melton Mowbray or Peak District	4 th F1E	F1E Team selection	Ian Kaynes kaynes@btinternet.com
6 July	Area	6th Area	Open (Team Power- Keil), FAI (Peter Buskell), Vintage/Classic, Mini, HLG/CLG .	Area
12-14 July	Near Melton Mowbray or Peak District	5 th F1E	F1E Team selection	Ian Kaynes kaynes@btinternet.com
26 or 27 July	Sculthorpe	East Anglian Gala	Open, Vintage/Classic, Mini, Micro, HLG/CLG.	Mike Woodhouse michaelwoodhouse1942@gmail.com
9 or 10 August	Salisbury Plain	Southern Gala	Open, Vintage/Classic, Mini, Micro, HLG/CLG.	Ken Faux Kn.faux@btinternet.com
23-25 August	Sculthorpe	Nationals	All classes	Mike Woodhouse michaelwoodhouse1942@gmail.com
7 September	Area	7th Area	Open (Frog Senior), FAI (K&MAA), Vintage/Classic, Mini, Micro.	Area
13-14 September	Sculthorpe	Stonehenge and Equinox Cups	FAI.	Peter Martin ffworldcupuk@gmail.com
13-14 September	Midland Rocket Club, Twycross	Second Space Team Selection	S1, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7, S8, S9	Slawomir Zach slawomirzach@gmail.com
27-28 September	Sculthorpe	Team Selection Reserve	FAI.	Phil Ball Phil.ball@ntlworld.com
27-28 September	Sculthorpe	Space Team Selection Reserve	S1, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7, S8, S9	Slawomir Zach slawomirzach@gmail.com
27-29 September	Near Melton Mowbray or Peak District	6 th F1E	F1E Team selection	Ian Kaynes kaynes@btinternet.com
12 October	Area	8 th Area	Open, FAI (Mick Duce), Vintage/Classic, Mini, Micro, HLG/CLG.	Area
25 or 26 October*	North Luffenham	Midland Gala	Vintage/Classic, Mini, Micro, HLG/CLG.	Phil Ball Phil.ball@ntlworld.com

*Team selection fall back date.

2025 CALENDAR NOTES

Models and classes are as currently specified in the rule book and are combined as shown below and are flown to their specific rules within each group combination.

Contest groups

1. Open group
 - All classes
2. FAI group
 - F1A, F1B, F1C, F1P, F1Q
3. Vintage/classic group
 - Vintage rubber, glider, power
 - Classic rubber, power, glider
 - SLOP
4. Mini group
 - Mini vintage
 - F1H, F1G, F1J, F1S
 - E36
 - 1/2A power
5. Micro group
 - Tailless
 - P30
 - Co2
 - E30
 - F1K
6. CLG/HLG group

Participation – calendar outline

Basic outlines full details of events are as shown on the calendar

A maximum of 5 events to be held on any one day.

8 Area meetings

Galas – all one day with alternate dates.

- Northern – Easter North Luffenham
- Southern – End May Bank Holiday Area 8
- London – June Area 8
- Midland – October end of summertime North Luffenham
- East Anglia – End of July Sculthorpe

The CD of each Gala will choose and advise 48 hours before event which day it will be flown. A notice to that effect will be posted on the FFTC website

The team events at the area meetings are for the open group models applicable to the event, being rubber, power or glider as appropriate.

Team selection - 2-day weekend 7 flights May Area 8. Reserve date Sculthorpe September

Free Flight Nationals - 3-day weekend end of August Bank Holiday Sculthorpe all classes as currently listed

World Cups - September Sculthorpe

All contest entries except for Team Selection and World Cup will be awarded senior, junior and Plugge points. See rule book for details.

A flyer can make a multiple entry and max out in more than one class in the group and can make a fly off in both or in either class in that group. CDs will need to prepare sheets to appropriately.

Club championships rotate annually around the 5 galas.

We will review the outcome at the end of 2025 and through a conference discussion update accordingly.

FREE FLIGHT CONFERENCE

The conference took place on Sunday 22nd September at the BMFA Centre at Buckminster. It was attended by about 40 people. Many topics were discussed and voted on for peoples preferences. The results are in the table below.

<u>Future of free flight conference 22.09.24</u>			
No	Question	Ye s	No
1	Would you still like 8 Area centralised events per year?	35	6
2	For classes currently with a 2.30 max would you like to keep at this?	35	4
3	How many flights per event would you like?		
3a.	FAI keep at 5 flights?	22	13
3b.	Mini reduce to 3 flights?	25	10
3c.	Open keep at 3 flights?	AL L	0
4	Would you like to see "K" factors used in combined events?	13	25
5	Would you like to use flexidays for contests (e.g Sat or Sun)?	22	14
6	Would you like to see postal events run as part of the calendar ?	10	18
7	Would you like to see the 2025 calendar the same as the 2024 calendar?	4	25
8	Would you like to see classes combined?	25	4
9	Should we run more than 2 combined classes at each area event?	25	6
10	Should the galas (SG, NG, LG, MG, EAG) have the same classes as the area events. ?	20	2
11	Re-entry allowed within combined events with another class of model ?	AL L	0
12	Keep the Plugge cup ?	AL L	0
13	For 3-person team events top 2 scores to count?	AL L	0
14	2025 Nationals will be 3 Day events with similar format to 2024, Sculthorpe August bank holiday.		

15	Should we use DT flyoffs?	10	18
16	Should we introduce any more classes?	0	AL L
17	Should we try any new ideas and formats at the galas (in addition to the area centralised events)	AL L	0

TEAM MANAGEMENT FOR 2025 SENIOR AND JUNIOR SPACE MODELS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Free Flight Technical Committee invites applications for the posts of Senior Team Manager and Assistant Senior Team Manager for the British Space Modelling teams competing in the European Championships to be held in Zrenjanin, Serbia on 21st-28th August 2025.

The role of Senior Team Manager includes arranging international and local travel for team members and their equipment, co-ordinating with organisers before and during the contest, and providing support and assistance to the team on the flying field.

The Free Flight Technical Committee invites applications for the posts of Junior Team Manager and Assistant Junior Team Manager for the British Space Modelling teams competing in the European Championships to be held in Zrenjanin, Serbia on 21st-28th August 2025.

The role of Junior Team Manager includes arranging international and local travel for team members and their equipment, co-ordinating with organisers before and during the contest, and providing support and assistance to the team on the flying field.

Applications should be made in writing, accompanied by modelling CV to;

Simon Dixon, (Secretary, FFTC)

8 Capulet Drive,

Bards Meadow,

Warwick Gate,

Warwick

CV34 6EU

Email – dixonfamily100@yahoo.co.uk

Applications must be received by 30th December 2024

2025 CONTEST FEES

The contest fees will remain as the 2024 level.

Single Entry Fees £5 (Covers all events on any single day at Area or Centralised Contests and all F1E contests). Multi day contests £5 per day.

Separate site fee is applicable. Site fee on FFTC sites is £5 per day; non FFTC sites charge may vary.

Team Selection: £30 covers all classes and site fee (included is Season Ticket).

World Cup: £30 per event (included is Season Ticket).

Note: Members of clubs who have use of the site for trimming and practise, i.e Grantham Club members for Barkston Heath, or permit holders for Salisbury Plain or North Luffenham, will still need to pay the field charge if they enter a contest.

Juniors: Free of Charge and no site fee except for Nationals

Nats Entry Fees – £10.00 a day plus site fee. £25 to cover all three days.

Space: Single Entry Fees £0 - but pay relevant Field charge for site

2025 SEASON TICKET

The Season Ticket for 2025 has been set at £75. It represents excellent value covering entry to all FFTC run events apart from the Area event site fees and the Nationals. Season tickets for 2025 are available now from John Carter. Please allow 14 days turn around for the licence to be operative.

To apply for a 2025 season ticket please contact John providing the following:-

- Copy of your BMFA membership card
- Your home postal address and email address
- Cheque for £75 made payable to BMFA
- A stamped self-addressed envelope

John's address is - La Petite Maison, 45 Grindley Lane, Meir Heath, Stoke on Trent, Staffs, ST3 7LN

Email: nordicf1a@outlook.com

FFTC WINTER RALLY

A CHANCE TO FLY TO THE NEW FREE FLIGHT CONTEST FORMULA BEFORE THE 2025 SEASON STARTS

VENUE NORTH LUFFENHAM

DATES

Dates will be subject to the weather forecast on the Wednesday prior to the event, confirmation will be published on the BMFA FFTC web page

First choice January 4th or 5th

Alternative choice January 11th or 12th

Classes Open, Classic/Vintage, Mini, Micro, HLG/Cat

Model eligibility as published on the FFTC Web page, all models subject to their BMFA rules, Max published on the day of the event

Contact Phil Ball phil.ball@ntlworld.com Tel 07470177947