

BMFA Free Flight Tech Committee News. Issue 140

All correspondence re this news to the FFTC Secretary:

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FFTC 2026 CALENDAR

BMFA FREE FLIGHT CALENDAR 2026 V1.2

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, Q 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 (1.0) shown in RED

FFTC 2026 CALENDAR V1.2

Note: Space events dates to follow.

Date	Venue	Event	Classes	Contact
1 March	Area	1 st Area	CR (Gamage), CG, CP, F1Q(Plugge), F1G/ F1H (Plugge F1H), CRP/VRP/SLOP (Plugge SLOP) CLG/HLG	Area
15 March	Slope Soaring		F1E	Ian Keynes
22 March	Area	2 nd Area	CR, CG (Plugge, Team Model Engineer), CE, F1C (Halifax, Plugge), 1/2/A/F1J (Plugge F1J), Classic G/Vintage G, E36	Area
3 April (Good Friday)	North Luffenham	Northern Gala	CR (Caton), CG (CMA), CP (Hamley), CE, MV, E36, 1/2A/F1J, F1G/F1H, HLG/CLG Club Champs CR, CG, CP, CE	FFTC Lead Stephen Philpott
11-13 April	Slope Soaring	Team Selection	F1E (one or two days). Choice of flying days will be notified by email by 9 April.	Ian Keynes
26 April	Area	3 rd Area	CR, CE (Plugge), CP, F1A (SMAE), Co2/E30/P30 (Plugge E30), CRP/VRP/SLOP (Plugge VRP, Frog Senior SLOP), MV	Area
2-3 May	Slope Soaring	Team Selection	F1E (one or two days). Choice of flying days will be notified by email by 30 April	Ian Keynes

9-10 May	Salisbury Plain	Team Selection F1A/B/C/Q	F1A, F1B, F1C, F1Q	FFTC Lead Mark Benns
23-24 May	Salisbury Plain	London Gala	Saturday – CG (Pilcher), CR, CP, CE, MV, HLG/CLG Sunday – Classic G/Vintage G, CRP/VRP/SLOP (Falcons SLOP), 1/2A/F1J, F1G/F1H, Co2/E30/P30, E36	FFTC Lead Simon Dixon CD Chris Redrup chrisredrup@yahoo.com
29-31 May	Slope Soaring	Sheffield Magnet Trophy	Sheffield Magnet Trophy (and Team Selection if two days). Choice of flying days will be notified by email by 27 May.	Ian Keynes
7 June	Area	4 th Area	CE, CG, CP (White), F1B (Gutteridge, Plugge), F1G/F1H, 1/2A/F1J (Plugge 1/2A), HLG/CLG (Plugge)	Area
19-22 June	Slope Soaring	Team Selection	F1E (one or two days). Choice of flying days will be notified by email by 17 June	Ian Keynes
28 June	Area	5 th Area	CR, CG, CP (Plugge, Team Keil CP), F1Q, MV, Classic G/ Vintage G (Plugge Classic G), E36, Tailless (Plugge),	Area
3-5 July	Slope Soaring		F1E (one or two days). Choice of flying days will be notified by email by 1 July	Ian Keynes
26 July	Area	6 th Area	CR (Team Farrow, Plugge), CG, CE, F1C (Buskell), 1/2A/F1J, Co2/E30/P30 (Plugge co2), CRP/VRP/SLOP (Plugge CRP)	Area
16 August	Area	7 th Area	CR, CE, CP, F1A (K&MAA, Plugge), F1G/F1H (Plugge F1G), E36 (Plugge), HLG/CLG	Area
29/30/31 August	Sculthorpe	Nationals	All events – Details to follow	CD TBC
4-5 September	Slope Soaring	Team Selection reserve	F1E Choice of flying days be notified by email by 2 September.	Ian Keynes
12 September	Sculthorpe	Stonehenge Cup	F1A, F1B, F1C, F1Q	FFTC Lead John Carter CD Peter Martin ffworldcupuk@gmail.com
13 September	Sculthorpe	Equinox Cup	F1A, F1B, F1C, F1Q	FFTC Lead John Carter CD Peter Martin ffworldcupuk@gmail.com
20 September	Sculthorpe	East Anglian Gala	CG, CR, CP, CE, Classic G/Vintage G, CRP/VRP/SLOP, Co2/E30/P30, MV, Tailless	FFTC Lead Ken Faux
19/20 September	Sculthorpe	Team Selection Reserve Date	F1A, F1B, F1C, F1Q	FFTC Lead Mark Benns
4 October	Area	8 th Area	CE, CP, CG, F1B (Duce, Plugge), MV (Plugge), Co2/E30/P30 (Plugge P30)/ Classic G/Vintage G (Plugge Vintage G)	Area
20-23 October	Slope Soaring	Team Selection reserve	F1E Choice of flying days be notified by email by 18 October	Ian Keynes

24 October*	North Luffenham	Midland Gala	Classic G/Vintage G, MV, 1/2A/F1J, Co2/E30/P30, F1G/F1H, E36, HLG/CLG	FFTC Lead Phil Ball
31 October- 1 November, Or 7-8 December	Buckminster	Buckminster Gala	TBC Note: Final date to be announced a few days in advance as site is weather critical.	FFTC LEAD Simon Dixon CD Stuart Darman

*Team Selection fall back date

2026 FEES

Regretfully the Free Flight Tec Committee have decided to increase Fees for 2026 due to the ever increasing running costs and Licence Fees.

This is the first increase for many years.

Contest Season ticket £90

Covers all contests including Trials and World Cup but not the Nationals.
Also covers site fees for Centralised Events.

Contest Entry Fee £7

Covers entry to all contests on the day of the event,

North Luffenham License £50

Salisbury Plain License £40

Luffenham and Salisbury Daily Site fee £7

Trials £35

World Cup Events £35

SPACE TEAM MANAGERS

SENIOR TEAM - OFFICIAL NOTICE

The Free Flight Technical Committee invites applications for the posts of Team Manager and Assistant Team Manager for the British Space Modelling Senior team competing in the European Championships to be held in Wloclawek, Poland on 14th -20th August 2026.

The role of Team Manager includes ensuring international and local travel arrangements are made for the 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 Assistant Team Manager's role is to support the Team Manager.

JUNIOR TEAM - OFFICIAL NOTICE

The Free Flight Technical Committee invites applications for the posts of Junior Team Manager and Assistant Junior Team Manager for the British Space Modelling Junior team competing in the European Championships to be held in Wloclawek, Poland on 14th -20th August 2026.

The role of Junior Team Manager includes ensuring international and local travel arrangements are made for the 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 Assistant Junior Team Manager's role is to support the Junior Team Manager.

Applications for any of these posts should be made in writing or via Email, accompanied by modelling CV to;

Simon Dixon, (Secretary, FFTC)

Email – BMFAFFTC@outlook.com

Applications must be received by 6th Jan 2026

SITE LIMITATIONS

Some of the sites we use for contests can be restrictive in size. Inevitably there will be occasions beyond our control that the max will have to be reduced, or the event will have to be cancelled due to these restrictions. This is particularly noticeable at North Luffenham, a site that is less suitable for flying contests when the wind is strong. Unfortunately, we have little alternative these days but to consider a short notice alteration to the contest. As always the CD will have the final say on the day or before if it is obvious that the conditions will be unsuitable.

PRIVATEER CONTESTS

The FFTC are keen to support any clubs or groups to run events alongside the trials or World Cup Dates. We are interested in maximizing use of the sites we have access to. If you wish to run an event please make a request to us and ensure you set up well away from the FAI line.

Similarly, if you are interested in running an event on North Luffenham or Salisbury Plain please contact us and we will let you know if it is possible.

SAFETY

A reminder that for your own safety it is best to leave your mobile phone number at Control or in the windscreen of your car. As we are a 'mature' group now it could be a life saver.

LOST MODEL

The farmer at Lodge Farm found a tissue covered model on his land that he has handed to John Carter. The model does not have a name and address label on it but does have a BMFA number of 43459. If this is your model please contact John on 07752 164372 to arrange collection.