

## **BMFA Free Flight Tech Committee News. Issue 143**

Simon Dixon, 8 Capulet Drive, Bards Meadow, Warwick Gate, Warwick CV34 6EW  
email;- [bmfafttc@outlook.com](mailto:bmfafttc@outlook.com)

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Please note that all written correspondence by letter or email must be sent to the FFTC Secretary, Simon Dixon, at the above address.

### **FFTC 2026 CALENDAR**

#### **BMFA FREE FLIGHT CALENDAR 2026 V3.0**

**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, 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.**

**A reminder that we have licence restrictions at some of the sites that we are fortunate to have the use of. This could result in cancellation of the event due to conditions beyond our control in advance of the date at very short notice, or, on the day of the event. Cancellation in advance of the day will be notified by a news bulletin on the FFTC Website.**

**Changes to version (2.0) shown in RED**

#### **FFTC 2026 CALENDAR V3.0**

Date	Venue	Event	Classes	Contact
7 June	Area	4 <sup>th</sup> Area	CE, CG, CP (White), F1B (Plugge, Duce), 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 Kaynes

28 June	Area	5 <sup>th</sup> 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 Kaynes
26 July	Area	6 <sup>th</sup> Area	CR (Plugge, Team Farrow), CG, CE, F1C (Buskell), 1/2A/F1J, Co2/E30/P30 (Plugge co2), CRP/VRP/SLOP (Plugge CRP)	Area
16 August	Area	7 <sup>th</sup> Area	CR, CE, CP, F1A (, Plugge, K&MAA), F1G/F1H (Plugge F1G), E36 (Plugge), HLG/CLG	Area
29/30 August	Salisbury Plain	Nationals	Please refer to Nationals Information for classes on each day.	FFTC Lead – Stephen Philpott
5 September (Saturday)	North Luffenham	Nationals	Please refer to Nationals Information for classes.	FFTC Lead – Stephen Philpott
4-5 September	Slope Soaring	Team Selection reserve	F1E Choice of flying days be notified by email by 2 September.	Ian Kaynes
12 September	Salisbury Plain	Stonehenge Cup	F1A, F1B, F1C, F1Q	FFTC Lead John Carter CD Peter Martin ffworldcupuk@gmail.com
13 September	Salisbury Plain	Equinox Cup	F1A, F1B, F1C, F1Q	FFTC Lead John Carter CD Peter Martin ffworldcupuk@gmail.com
19-20 September	Salisbury Plain	Space 2nd Team Selection	S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7,S8, S9	Slawomir Zack Slawomic.zack@gmail.com
20 September	Sculthorpe	East Anglian Gala	CG, CR, CP, CE, ClassicG/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 <sup>th</sup> Area	CE, CP, CG, , MV (Plugge), F1B (Gutteridge), 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 to be notified by email by 18 October	Ian Kaynes
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
24 October*	North Luffenham	Space at the Midland Gala	S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7,S8, S9	Slawomir Zack Slawomic.zack@gmail.com
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

## Free Flight Nationals 2026

Unfortunately, we have been forced to make the decision of moving away from holding a three day National Championship at Sculthorpe. Sculthorpe is a designated SSSI for the Stone Curlews nesting there. We are completely at the call of the bird people letting us, or anyone else, use the airfield. This is very disappointing after the successful Nationals there last year.

The only viable alternative is holding a two day event at Salisbury over the bank holiday for larger models, and a single day at North Luffenham for smaller models a week later. This is very similar to the schedule we held in 2023.

### Free Flight Duration - Open, FAI and Mini Classes

<b>Salisbury Plain Area 8</b>	<b>Salisbury Plain Area 8</b>	<b>North Luffenham</b>
<b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August</b> <b>Start 09:00 – 17:00</b>	<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August</b> <b>Start 09:00 – 17:00</b> <b>NOTE FAI Classes may start at 08:00 and extend past 18:00</b>	<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September</b> <b>Start 09:00 – 17:00</b> <b>Anticipate access from 08:30 but no flying before 09:00</b>
Combined Glider	F1A Glider	F1H glider
Combined Rubber	F1B Rubber	F1G rubber
Combined Power	F1C Power	F1J Power
Combined Open Electric	F1Q Electric	BMFA 1/2A Power
Classic Rubber/Power	Vintage Rubber/Power	E36 Electric
Vintage Glider	Slow Open Power	P30 Rubber
Tailless	Classic Glider	E30 Electric
		Mini Vintage
		CO2 Duration
Hand Launched Glider HLG		Hand Launched Glider HLG
Catapult Glider CLG		Catapult Glider GLG
Women's Cup		Women's Cup

Frog Junior (J)	Note F1A,B,C&Q will in Rounds	Frog Junior (J)
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- The maximums will be decided on each day
- Fly offs – to be decided on the day
- 4 classes will be flown at both venues, a competitor can enter twice, once at either site, the Nationals Champion for these 4 classes will be the best score at any one venue.

### Entry and Payments

- Pre entry for all contests is pre-entry online, returns required before 31<sup>st</sup> July – The link is being set up and will be available shortly. A note will be put on the website as soon as it is available.
- Pre entry £10 per day or £15 on the day
- Please bring copy of pre entry form to the event (will ease entry)
- Casual sport flyers £10 per day
- Non flying partners free of charge

### Free Flight Overall Championships

Overall Championships	Saturday at Salisbury Plain	Sunday at Salisbury Plain	Monday at North Luffenham
Rubber	Combined Rubber	F1B	F1G & P30
Glider	Combined Glider	F1A Classic glider	F1H
Power	Combined Power	F1C	F1J & SLOP
Open	Combined Electric	F1Q	E36 & E30

### Awards

- Certificates and medals awarded for all events, **at the prize giving only**
- The prizegiving will take place as soon as possible after flyoffs on each day

### Facilities and access

- There is no camping or overnight stay allowed on either site
- Toilets will not be provided please provide or plan your own needs
- All contestants and flyers must be BMFA members and should have their membership card with them. Non-flying family members are permitted access.

## **Locations** Google Map Links

[Salisbury Plain East Entrance SP3 4SP \(59deg 13' 04" N, 1dg05@ 09"W\)](#)

[What3Words salads.plants.presides](#). entrance used on day may be further west along B390 actual entrance will be marked on day)

[Luffenham Entrance LE15 8HY](#)

**NB** All venues can be cancelled by the licence issuer at very little notice

## **NORTH LUFFENHAM**

The Paracending Club have kindly agreed to keep away from North Luffenham on Saturday 5 September to avoid interfering with the Free Flight Nationals. As a thank you we have agreed to reciprocate by not using the airfield for free flight trimming on Sunday 6 September. Please do not go there that day.

## **STONEHENGE CUP AND EQUINOX CUP**

For the same reason as having to move the Nationals the two internationals will be moved to Salisbury Plain.

## **RULE CHANGES FOR 2027**

The deadline for anyone to submit their suggestions for Rule changes to the Free Flight Rule book has been extended to 19 August 2026. Anything received after that date will not be considered this year.

This will provide ample time for their consultation and a decision by the FFTC.

Any changes will be added to the draft rules for submission to the Technical Secretary by the 30th November 2026