

BMFA Wales
Unadopted notes of the
Officers Meeting
held on Tuesday ^{21st} January 2025
via the internet platform 'ZOOM'

The meeting commenced at 19:00

PRESENT:

Mike Tiley (Chairman)	Cardiff MAC
Allan Belcher (Area Delegate)	Swansea MFC
John Taylor (Secretary)	Cardiff MAC
Andy Green (Achievement Scheme Coordinator)	South Wales Soaring Assocn.
Phil Charlesworth (Education & Outreach Officer)	Fins over Gwent
Michael Budge (Communications and Web)	
John Charles (N Wales Clubs Liaison Officer)	Anglesey

AGENDA

1 Apologies for absence

Henry Fray (Vice-Chairman), Eglwysilan MFC

2 Approval of the Agenda and items for any other business

Agenda items were tabled and accepted.

3 Area Chief Examiner (ACE)

Andy informed the group that we had been offered ACE support from Western Area to help test Wales ACE's but this would not extend to North and Mid Wales.

Mike's name had been put forward and he had no objections to becoming an ACE.

We had attempted to get clubs involved but very little response was received, one response suggested it was too difficult to become an examiner let alone an ACE. We need to address this perception and convince clubs that the Achievement scheme was something everyone should strive for and becoming an examiner or ACE was not as difficult as people think.

We need to run some test and training events around Wales and publicise them to get clubs engaged. Cardiff, Haverford West and Swansea have offered their facilities

To become an ACE a person has to have a B certification for at least six months, an examiner for two years, nominated by their club, and perform a B flight test with slightly smoother control.

?? is the test necessary ??

A potential ACE in North Wales is an examiner in Rhyl MFC.

The question regarding non fixed wing tests was discussed. One fixed wing examiners can perform a Helicopter A test but not a B test.

Action: Andy will compile a list of examiners who could be approached before the next General Meeting to see if they would accept nomination to become ACE's.

Area Chief Instructors (ACI) was then discussed. To become a BMFA approved Instructor would require examination by an ACI. Wales does not have a ACI. The question regarding

ACE automatically being given an ACI was discussed. Further investigation in this area would be required, the Achievement Scheme handbook would have to be reviewed.

4 BMFA Radio Expert Group Proposal

Allan, being a Amateur Radio License holder, and through his connections with the Amateur Radio Society of Great Britain, identified that the BMFA document proposer, Stewart Bryant, was the director of that society.

Allan contacted Stewart and discussed the fact that the document appeared to be focused on Drones, to which Stewart suggested that was OFCOMS view. Allan then pointed out that was not the CAA's view. With that knowledge Stewart would be rewriting the document with the CAA view in mind.

Allan informed the group that standard were in place for the manufactures to ensure their equipment worked together without interference; however this did not apply between suppliers.

For the model flying community to operate in a licence exempt situation all equipment must carry the CE mark and conforms to EU and International standards, if we use equipment that does not comply then we will be breaking the law. This applies to transmitters, their modules and receivers.

All equipment in models, including servos and other devices, can generate interference which needs to be addressed.

The proposal is to set up a specialist group to address these concerns.

The Chairman summarised the collective view of the meeting as being that we were in favour of such a group, providing it didn't provoke legislators into bringing down more onerous legislation on us, and that we liked the idea that it would provide a conduit for making concerted representations to manufacturers about issues such as improving interoperability and commonality, while hopefully avoiding them using it as an excuse to foist a whole new standard on us."

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 20:00