

Editorial Any rule change proposals for the AGM must be with me by Aug 10th, properly seconded. You can email combatflyers@talktalk.net or write to 40 Upton, DURSLEY, Glos., GL11 5HR.

April

The season started with a 'bang' as no less than 38 entered the first competition ever at the new BMFA Buckminster Lodge site (now to be known as the National Flying Centre or NFC for short) This could have been more but the organisers gave up their days flying to make quite certain that everything ran smoothly.

A full report on this competition appeared in Aero Modeller so no need in this newsletter.

May

Old Warden

After the enormous entry of 38 at Buckminster it was back to more normal numbers at Old Warden. The weather was sunny and a little windy but nothing the majority of models could not cope with quite easily.

With the imposed area restriction the 33 flyers found it difficult not to overfly each other but this must be avoided at all costs as accidents will happen. The need for crash hats was self evident and most of the flyers observed this 'rule'.

Two circles were set up and to keep things moving the entry was divided down the middle. An effort was made to keep 'teams' together so that the often heard 'I can't fly now my pitman is flying in the other circle' could be avoided.

Another problem with running 2 circles is that the 'report writer' only sees what goes on in one of the circles. Perhaps we need 2 reporters? Offers anyone?

I did manage to see the bout between John Allcock and Richard Herbert though. John was using one of the new PAW 19TBR motors and impressively it was keeping pace with Richard's Rothwell. A very good bout with cuts being 2 apiece and John unluckily losing on ground time.

Newcomer Nick Thorne had a tough draw losing to Simon Miller and then Roger Fisher in the losers round. Hopefully it will not have put him off as easier draws are just around the corner I'm sure.

John Allcock and Tim Hobbins both made round 2 after defeating Tony Cookson and John Leggott respectively in the losers round.

Most interesting second round bout in circle 2 was between Roger Fisher and Martin Kizel. There had not been too much free flight at our end of the field but Martin set about putting that right. After a line tangle Martin's model got loose. Up it went but then deciding it had 'no head for heights' it turned tail and headed for the ground with the Rothwell reaching peak revs just before impact.

Martin was soon in hot pursuit and disappeared behind the trees. The scorers were totally confused. Would it be a re-fly? According to the rules for that to happen it has to fly out side of a 'pre-determined area. As no such area had been set up it was decided to count ground time from the moment the lines were cut. This left Roger a perplexed loser.

Another SECA guy to go out in round 2 was Richard Herbert who lost to Mike Waller when problems with his control system saw him spend far too long on the ground.

Recent returnee John Hammersley got himself on the wrong end of the score sheet against Brian Waters who was putting in one of his 'occasional' appearances. Sadly for Brian his luck ran out in the next round against Nick Stowe of the South Bristol club. Another third round winner was Mike Waller who dispatched another SECA flyer namely young Chris Fisher. With Bob Payne losing to Tim Hobbins this just left Simon Miller flying the SECA flag which he did really well. After 2 very entertaining drawn bouts against Richard Evans he emerged the winner at the third attempt by 2 cuts to 1.

Mick Lewis had a good bout against Eamonn Forsdike winning by 2 cuts to 1 and was somewhat relieved to find that his next opponent would be Tim Hobbins rather than his 'bogeyman' Bob Payne (nothing personal Bob)

Last SECA man standing Simon Miller lost against Martin Kiszal who had given up the search for his fly away and returned to the fray. Also going out in these quarter finals Nick Stowe, Tim Hobbins and Stuart Vickers losing to Mike Waller, Mick Lewis and Steve Malone respectively. The first semi saw Mike Waller against Mick Lewis. Mick was slightly up on ground time but 2 to 1 down on cuts. Still with no streamer left and plenty to go for and half a minute remaining he seemed to be favourite. However a mid air removed the entire centre of his Supermonger and annoyingly wrecked the tank as well. Such is combat!

In the other semi Steve Malone got the better of Martin Kiszal by 2 cuts to 1 and progressed to the final to face Mike Waller.

Usually at this stage there is a fly-off for third place but with the clock fast approaching 5.30pm there was not time so Mick Lewis conceded third place to Martin Kiszal.

Proceedings had been held up earlier in the day when some flyers had to be fetched to fly their bouts. It was suggested they be given a dq and this might need to be considered for the future.

The final itself was a very messy affair in contrast to some of the great combat we had seen earlier.

The only cut went to Mike Waller with both flyers spending far too much time on the ground.

It was then a rush to get everyone back to the car park by the 6pm deadline. I think we just about made it.

Prize giving of trophies and wine followed and a few snaps were taken. Eventually everyone drifted away to the 4 corners of the country.

Many thanks to Caroline Roberts, Pete Happle and others for taking care of the scoring.

Saddest story of the day came from Tony Frost who spent most of the day looking for his lost wallet.

His wife stopped his cards and he was resigned to the situation. Bombing down the A421 in the Chairman's new Merc we received a phone call from Tony. Yes you guessed it he found his wallet in his pit box. I put spare lines, props etc. in mine Tony.

And for anyone who doesn't know Martin returned to Old Warden and is happily reunited with his lost Rothwell.

1 st	Mike Waller
2 nd	Steve Malone
3 rd	Martin Kiszal
4 th	Mick Lewis

Note:- The Chairman hit a deer in the Cotswolds on his way home. The new Merc now has a dent in the bonnet. Oh deer!



This time SECA took an 'early bath'



May

Manchester International

I believe there will be a report in Aero Modeller so just the results here.

First	Mick Lewis	won	Rothwell 320
Second	Martin Kiszal	won	Fora F2E engine
Third	Tony Frost	won	£50 Technohobbywest voucher

June

South Bristol 70 Years Anniversary Gala

There will be a full report in Aero Modeller very soon.

July

VINTAGE COMBAT 2nd JULY AT BUCKMINSTER LODGE reported by Caroline Roberts

July 2nd dawned bright and quite breezy, with promises of that big yellow globe in the sky to come. Plenty of pale grey cloud, and whilst it had rained none was to come on Vintage Combat Sunday. We all arrived at the BMFA Buckminster Lodge site, to a nicely cleaned up drive with new passing places, really pretty flower troughs and a large freshly stone chipped arrivals area. Going round through the drive to the car park the new loos were open, a welcome site for both the male and female pilots (especially the ladies). All parked up and the large trolleys provided to take the models to the flying area were much appreciated and well used. It is clearly work in progress and already Buckminster is improving with every visit. Cleanest bout of the day was between Chris and Roger Fisher in the ¼ finals with 2 cuts to Chris and 1 cut to Roger. So nice to see father and son in the circle together really battling it out.



Most cuts of the day went to Richard Herbert and Simon Miller who each took 4 nice small cuts off their opponents. They made it look so easy!!

Best Comment of the day was made by a fellow pilot who after watching the Stitson Herbert bout above – said “I think Richard Stitson really had Richard Herbert worried in that bout!!”

We had 28 pilots entered and they split by club into two circles of 14 pilots each, maintained separately for the 1 st round Losers round and an eliminator round.



Circle 1

7 bouts with only 3 cuts between them. 2 of those came in the first bout between Richard Herbert and John Spink which ended in a mid air crash wiping out John's inboard wing, leaving Richard the victor. The other cut was in the Geoff Sizer (nice to see Geoff back after a number of years not being with us) against Frank Marshall. Geoff gained a cut over Frank to win the bout. The other bouts were all won or lost depending upon how you look at it by achieving less ground time than the opponent.

Other winners at this stage were John Hammersley, Chris Fisher, Steve Malone, Simon Miller and Roger Fisher with victories over Richard Perks, Francis Roberts, Eamonn Forsdike, Dave Chalk and Richard Stitson respectively. Simon Miller did particularly well in having an intact model at the end of his bout.

In the resulting losers round it tested the organisers skills to draw the Basildon crowd out so that they could fly one another and still have pit crew's but it all worked well in the end with Eamonn Forsdyke beating Richard Perks by 3 cuts to 1. Richard fought back but with not enough cuts it was too little too late and extra ground time also compounded his loss. In the Francis Roberts v Dave Chalk bout a mid air shortly after combat commenced put both pilots down, Francis with a broken prop causing him more ground time. Despite some entertaining combat when they were both back up Francis lost out to Dave on ground time being unable to take the cuts he needed for victory. Frank Marshall flew Richard Stitson with Frank taking the full streamer early on and achieving some ground time and Richard achieving 2 nice cuts to put him in the winner's slot. In the Eliminator round John Spink put up a respectable defence against Steve Malone, with some great following by both pilots but the relentless pursuit by Steve finally saw him the winner by 2 cuts to nil – another good clean bout. The Geoff Sizer match against Dave Chalk was an entirely different case with a mid air that left both models damaged and Geoff doing a fantastic job of flying a ½ size

model with no outboard wing, ending in a draw and a re-fly. The re-fly took exactly the same shape as the first match but on this occasion Dave Chalk had to concede as Geoff for ever the competitor got back up with additional side thrust and no outboard wing – again. Flying for just a circuit or two was just enough to put him through with a win over Dave. In the Leggott v Miller match both pilots were quite equally matched but Simon achieved 1 cut over John who went on to be grounded for 4 points, putting Simon through to the quarter final.



Circle 2

1st Round saw single cut victories for Vickers over Stowe and Legg over Bunker. Willie Wallace lost to Tim Hobbins while the Severne girls Leanne and Sam lost to Richard Berry and John Leggott respectively. John Allcock then defeated Tony Cookson all of these winners being decided by achieving less ground time than their opponents. Dave Marshall scratched. The resulting losers round saw Tony Cookson win over Sam Severne by 2 cuts to nil and Leanne Severne put Alan Bunker back on the sidelines by a 1 cut win. Nick Stowe had a win over Willy Wallace with 1 cut despite losing most of it in ground time.

Eliminators drawn from the winners and losers rounds gave us a Vickers v Hobbins match with Hobbins knocking Vickers out by 2 cuts to 1 despite having 3 ground time points. Tim's Fora Junior proving it really has potential in the right hands. Stowe v Cookson promised to be a good bout initially but ended with Nick Stowe winning with 1 cut negated by 4 ground points and Tony also losing 3 points on the ground. In the Legg v Berry match Richard Berry achieved 2 cuts with Mark Legg gaining one and being clean on ground time whilst Richard Berry had two ground points counting against his second cut, not quite enough Mark to put you through. In the Karl Severne v J Leggott match John took 3 cuts off Karl who responded with 1 cut taking the whole streamer, and in the Leanne Severn v John Allcock match Leanne spent quite a bit of time on the ground leaving

John no opportunity to manoeuvre around her to achieve any respectable cuts. Despite this John emerged the winner.

This brought us down to the last 8 for the quarter finals, and we amalgamated into one circle leaving those who were not flying to clear up and clean up around circle 2.

First bout of the ¼ final was a very hot Nick Stowe against Richard Herbert where Nick put up a good account of himself taking the first cut but unfortunately the whole streamer thus leaving Richard to nibble away at his streamer for 3 cuts. Then we saw a great bout from Simon Miller and John Allcock with a resulting long round of applause. Simon took 4 super classic small cuts to John's 1. This put Simon through after a lovely clean bout. In the Richard Berry match against returnee Geoff Sizer unfortunately for Richard his model was totalled in the first minute putting Geoff through. The fourth bout was a father son match – so nice to see the two Fisher's flying against one another. Roger certainly did not take it easy on Chris and the final result was a win by Chris (son) over Roger (father).

The Semi Finals were Herbert v C Fisher and Sizer v Miller. Richard H unusually had 5 ground time points suffering a broken prop – in common with a lot of other pilots today, before scoring 2 cuts off Chris who took one cut back but ran out of time to improve and allowed Richard through to the final by one point. Simon Miller was then victorious over Geoff Sizer to go through to the final. The 3rd 4th Fly off between Sizer and C Fisher was a great bout seeing Chris Fisher achieve one cut against Geoff and undertake some fantastic avoiding from Geoff who was very aggressively trying to win one back, but failed. So the result put Geoff in 4th and Chris in 3rd.

The final match of the day was Richard Herbert against Simon Miller, Richard got a nice early cut and it looked like we were in for an exciting final. Unfortunately a mid-air followed where Simon cut all of Richard's streamer but was unable to continue due to model damage. This left Richard to fly out the remaining time with both pilots scoring one cut each this saw Richard Herbert win on ground time. Final bout of the day saw Richard Herbert in 1st place with Simon Miller in 2nd. A much better day for the SECA boys after some disappointing results recently.



The Jack Marsh Memorial Trophy For Oliver Tiger Combat

Until last year the Jack Marsh was awarded to the winner of Oliver at the Nationals. Last year it was replaced by the Peter Freebrey Memorial Trophy which meant it became available to be awarded at another event. At present there are only three Oliver competitions each season two of which already carried trophies so Old Warden in July was the only candidate. Being a BMFA trophy the entry fees, less expenses, have to go to the BMFA. The winner will also be invited to the BMFA dinner to collect the trophy. The ticket price will also be refunded by the Association.

OK now that is out of the way lets get down to 'brass tacks'

Of the 16 entries 8 were flying under the Basildon banner (did they bond?) Well they seemed to get on pretty well from what I saw.

Their names were put down and the other 8 flyers were drawn against them at random.

Not a great first round by any stretch of the imagination.

Nick Stowe and Richard Herbert both won by virtue of single cuts without reply against Richard Perks and Frank Marshall. Going one better was Darryl Hinton of the South Bristol club who managed a brace without reply against Francis Roberts. We welcomed newcomers Nigel Thorpe and Nigel Crabtree and as luck would have it they were drawn against each other in bout 4. Nigel Thorpe looked composed as he just allowed his opponent to rack up nearly 3 minutes ground time. Back to the drawing board for Mr Crabtree? I believe he is a 'great fisherman'

Chris Fisher was clearly saving his best models for the Nationals but still managed to 'put the skids under' John Spink. Well possibly not as both had scores less than zero and not a cut to be seen anywhere.

It was great to see Richard Cooke giving it a go after a long break. However his very underpowered Orcrist was no match for Tim Hobbins who has a nice Ridley Mk4.

Another with engine problems was Peter Tribe whose usually reliable CS was having an off day.

Richard Stitson took full advantage for a convincing win.

They say everything comes to he (or she) who waits and so it was in the final bout of the round between Roger Fisher and Simon Cassidy. A great bout at last needing a re-fly to settle it in Rogers favour.

Before the losers round Richard Perks decided to scratch as his engine would not fit in his spare model. What is all that about Richard?

Anyway the losers round gave the organisers a problem as it was infested by the Basildon Bonders meaning that John Spink had to fly Richard Cooke who he beat by just allowing Richard to keep crashing. Nigel Crabtree made up for his first round loss as this time it was his opponent Frank Marshall who spent a whole 3 minutes on the deck. Francis Roberts came through against Peter Tribe scores being minus 7 to minus 11. You can guess the rest.

Simon Cassidy, after his tussle with Roger Fisher, had a bye into round 2.

In the elimination round 4 flyers Nick Stowe, Chris Fisher, Tim Hobbins and Nigel Crabtree had byes. The other 8 flyers were left to fight for the remaining quarter final places.

Richard Herbert was his usual calm and collected self as he disposed of John Spink by 3 cuts to nil. Bet you have him next time though John?

Darryl Hinton took out Nigel Thorpe and Roger Fisher did the same to Richard Stitson who took the only cut in that bout but lost on the dreaded ground time.

Francis Roberts had a great win over Simon Cassidy taking it on ground time at 1 cut all. This brought us to the end of the elimination round.

Richard Herbert took 2 cuts without reply against Nigel Crabtree but his SECA team mate Roger Fisher had a more experienced opponent in Nick Stowe. This bout was much closer with Roger edging out Nick thanks to the only cut of the bout going to him.

I imagine Darryl Hinton thought it must be his lucky day when Chris Fisher's model simply fell apart on a run of the mill contact with the hard stuff.

After a good close encounter scores were equal for Francis Roberts and Tim Hobbins so a re-fly was needed. This turned out to be a complete mess with a massive line tangle. Francis was on the ground but Tim was still flying. For some strange reason Francis let go of his handle and of course the inevitable happened. His lines went further up Tim's making it impossible to retrieve the situation.

First semi saw Richard Herbert taking on Darryl Hinton. Although Richard was on Darryl's tail for much of the time it only resulted in him removing the whole streamer. This gave Darryl a real chance but try as he might he just could not get close enough to take any cuts.

Roger Fisher's win over Tim Hobbins was also by just a single cut. It must be said however that even without it Roger would have won as Tim had far too much ground time.

In the fly-off for third all was going well at 1 cut all when Darryl was forced to retire with a badly damaged model. So Tim was third leaving Darryl to collect the trophy for fourth to add to the one he won recently for coming second in the Belgian 1/2A event.

Some finals are fantastic some are good some merely average and some are not worth watching like this one.

Richard said he 'wasn't watching' as he calmly removed the whole streamer for the second time running. What were you watching then Rich?

Roger seeing his advantage was probably a little over eager and the inevitable happened. After the coming together Richard's film covered model was written off but Rogers (perhaps by virtue of its Koveral?) was just flyable without its outboard wing. So that is how Roger won the Jack Marsh Trophy at Old Warden on the 23rd July 2017.

Back in the car park the usual CFA trophies were presented and of course don't let us forget that the top 4 also went away with a bottle of wine.

A relaxed day without the 'madness' of a Vintage do with over thirty entries. That's for next week at Scampton-bring it on!







Roger to Nick.

Look what you have done to my model!

Nick to Roger

Mine needs a slight repair too!





Not to mention by T3 then!

Scampton July 2017

In a rush to get this into the newsletter and out to CFA members so I'll keep it short. Apparently I flew like poo! End of story.

Well not quite as those guys who flew well want a mention and rightly so.

Despite a huge list submitted to the RAF only 19 turned up to fly. The weather forecast said rain around 3 or 4 pm so it was decided to run 2 circles in the hope of an early (and dry) finish.

I was busy getting 'spanked' firstly by Richard Stitson and then by John Spink in circle 1 so did not see anything of circle 2. Hard luck those who flew 'out of their skin' over there.

Silly guy of the first round was Nigel Thorpe. Leading John Allcock by 2 cuts to 1 and with both models grounded near the end of the bout he just needed to stay down for a handsome victory.

Sadly he decided to take off not realising the lines were still tangled. So a very lucky win for John. Nigel flew really well and with a little more experience will start making a name for himself.

All the other first round bouts went to form.

Eamonn Forsdike, Francis Roberts and John Leggott all managed to do what I couldn't and redeem themselves in the losers round. This left Richard Perks, Frank Marshall and Dave Chalk joining me in the 'early bath'

Two flyers namely Chris Fisher and Eamonn Forsdike had byes in round 2 which left the remaining 12 flyers fighting it out for quarter final places.

Much was expected of the John Allcock v Richard Herbert bout but as so often happens it was an anti climax. It looked very even early on but then 'smack' and a yellow Piranha no longer had much

of an inboard wing. You could say Lady Luck had smiled upon John for the second time in 2 bouts! Richard Stitson maintained his form of round 1 in defeating John Leggott but the Harry Walker v Francis Roberts bout was much more even. Has anyone else noticed how Francis has improved this season? Harry managed to use his greater experience to progress into the next round.

John Spink had it quite easy against Bob Payne who was worried that his (old?) model may not tow a streamer. It did but only just!

Changing a prop prior to the bout really cost Roger Fisher against Tim Hobbins as his motor was considerably under compressed. Possibly it would have been sensible to ditch and let the pit men sort it but Roger decided to 'soldier on'. This left him at Tim's mercy as his Fora was really howling and very quick through the manoeuvres. A grateful Tim took full advantage and grabbed his place in the quarters.

Simon Cassidy put up a good show against Stuart Vickers but broken lines cost him dearly. (note:- there are some 15 thou stainless lines about only rated at 30lbs whereas others are rated at 42lbs. Worth checking if you use stainless)

So 3 of the 4 man SECA team were out which left young Chris Fisher flying their flag. This he did very successfully against Eamonn Forsdike before John Allcock ended Richard Stitson's interest in the proceedings. Harry Walker did the same to my other conqueror John Spink but despite a valiant effort Tim Hobbins could not get the better of Stuart Vickers with his very good Finale.

So the first semi saw Chris Fisher against John Allcock. Chris always looks as if he is 'struggling' with both motor and model but has a flying style just like his dad's. This seems to get him into positions to take the cuts he needs. John's previous luck had run out at last and he lost this time to Chris whose smart movement around the centre circle showed his relative youth.

The second semi was a very even affair. Harry's T4 and Stuarts 'vintage' PAW were evenly matched as were their models. The final score 2 cuts to 1 in Stuart's favour and zero ground time.

In his fly off for third against John Allcock Harry managed to reverse the previous score line winning by 2 cuts to one. Both pilots with just a couple of ground points.

By this time there was a little precipitation so more haste was called for over the tannoy.

Soon both models were in the air. Stuart sticking to his trusty Finale while Chris had chosen a Styrobat (the wood version obviously) with a 17 year old PAW up front. Again to an observer Chris appeared to be the 'under dog' with less power than Stuart. This matters not to this young man who went on the win with a score of zero!

I assume Stuart must have had a negative score but nothing was recorded by the scorers (why?)

So another great days flying (by some folk at least!) had come to an end.

Trophies and bottles (kindly donated by the Scampton club) were presented to the winners (except Stuart who was miles away packing his gear)

Many thanks to Alan Watson (Scampton MAC) and Ben Taylor (RAF) without whom this could not have

happened.
Perhaps
we can do
it all again
next year?



What is it? Answers on a postcard to





The Nationals

Guys the job of overall Combat CD at the Nationals involves a lot more than just organising the competitions. There is quite a bit of 'paperwork' involved. This continues after returning home as well with results etc. I have been the only one doing this so no one else is familiar with it. I will not go on forever so I think it sensible for someone to 'learn the job' Any offers?

Cheers,
Mick

CFA Committee Posts

The Chairman, Richard Evans is retiring this year. Tony Cookson is standing for the Chairman post.

The Competition Secretary is Vernon Hunt. He is prepared to continue in post.

The Treasurer is Richard Herbert. He is prepared to continue in post.

The Secretary is myself. I am prepared to continue as Secretary. I will drive my computer but take part far less in 'on the field' organisation.

We need to share the CD's jobs around. So I will be asking for volunteers to be CD at certain comps next season. I will do this once the calendar is finalised.

The equipment will need to 'travel' and be maintained by these people and not live in my garage any more.

We also need to make a list of people who are prepared to be centre marshal as not everyone feels confident enough to do it.

Any nominations for these posts to me by Aug 10th please.

United we stand, divided we fall! It is up to you.

Cheers,
Mick

