

Minutes of the BARCS AGM 2017
held at BMFA Buckminster 26th May 2017

Committee members present: Sydney Lenssen, Gary Binnie, Mike Fantham, Peter Allen,
Pete Mitchell, Graham James

Apologies for absence: John Wighton, Chas Dunster

1. Minutes of the 2016 AGM

Minutes as published on the web site were accepted as a true record

Proposed SL Seconded MF Accepted unanimously

2. Matters arising

All covered in the agenda

3. Presentation of Fellowship

BARCS fellowship is an honour bestowed upon a few members, who over the years have shown great support to BARCS and the world of competitive radio soaring in general.

This year's recipient has been a constant presence in BARCS since the days of Open soaring and has embraced developments through F3J and more recently, F5J. His designs have been household names in the past and he continues to build and innovate.

He has been a good friend to BARCS. An ambassador, promoting the future of soaring, participating in European and World Championships, organising domestic competitions. He has given of his professional skills, willingly, providing designs and artwork for BARCS, Radioglide and Interglide logos.

Colin Paddon, BARCS 493, designer of the Fendon glider and more recently part of the Proglide Team, BARCS honours you with a Fellowship of the Association.

4. Presentation of Eppler Trophy

The Eppler Trophy is presented by BARCS in recognition of innovation and achievement in the world of model construction and design. Increasingly, new technologies and materials have forced the home builder into the shadow of manufacturers from Europe and the Far East.

The cost and complexity to construct competitive models from modern composite materials is beyond most and it takes special dedication, tenacity and skill to achieve the standard of quality with built in lightness desired by today's competitive pilots.

Team Proglide, Kevin Beale and Colin Paddon have great heritage in the traditional design and construction of models, from Open class soarers, through scale and electric power. They have been part of the fabric of F3J in Great Britain having been involved in many national and international competitions. When F5J started to gain popularity, they immediately saw the potential of the new class. In particular, it provided an opportunity to develop a model which embraced many of the techniques developed in the world of discus launch gliders. Lighter wing loadings and reduced launch stresses mean that foam cores and woven glass and carbon skins combined with fully moulded fuselage form a potent solution. All they had to do was teach themselves how to do it. After months of trial and error and considerable experimentation they have eventually produced the Proglide F5J glider to a standard which meets their high expectations and which they hope to campaign in future seasons. Proglide is a 3.8 metre, lightweight electric launch glider whose specification and build quality holds up against much available in the commercial market place.

In recognition of their innovative approach to the home construction of composite models BARCS is awarding The Eppler Trophy to Kevin Beale and Colin Paddon, Team Proglide, on 28th May 2017.

5. Treasurers Report

- John Wighton sends apologies.
- John took over last year, some problems with bank signatories complicated by Robin's death.
- Debit card obtained.
- Current account: £2,605
- Savings account: £8,435 • Total: £11,040
- Accounts to be published

6. Presidents Report

2016-17 has again been marked with difficulties. Most sadly has been the death of our chairman Robin Sleight, a good friend to many of us and a true gentleman who brought a welcome order to all BARCS activities.

• So far we have yet to elect a new chairman, although Robin himself did issue notice that he would be standing down. In the meantime your committee has been chaired on a rotating basis and I would like to thank Graham James who has shepherded us through a busy time, and also Gary Binnie who has kindly agreed to chair this AGM.

• Returning to not so happy developments, F3J UK league contests have been abandoned and for the first time GBR will not have a team competing at the European Championships in Martin, Slovakia in July.

• More encouraging is the growing popularity of F5J and BARCS has used its Contest Eurotour slot in June to hold Interglide as an F5J contest to be held just outside Ashford in Kent.

• Membership continues to grow albeit slowly. I can assure you that your committee works hard to organise and sustain our Association. Also special thanks to Austin Guerrier who looks after and maintains the BARCS website.

• I wish you all a happy successful contest season for the remainder of 2017

7. BARCS League Organiser Report

- Season ran from April 2016 to March 2017
- 79 Pilots participated
- 66 League events
- 619 Scores submitted
- League results posted monthly and Final Leagues on Website
- Winners have received trophies and certificates for 1st, 2nd, 3rd
- Neil Jones Retained F3J
- John Shenstone – Open, Alan Morton - 100s and RES
- Dave East – ELG, Tony Merritt Restricted ELG, Richard Swindells – Miniglider
- Alan Twine – Multi-launch
- Neil Webb All Rounder 2016 – John Shenstone

- 2017 Season in full swing. Comprehensive Event Calendar on BARCS website homepage

8. Membership Report

- Membership on 25/05/2017 stands at 211.
- At the end of 2016/7, our total membership numbered 230 and it looks like we could exceed that number this year.
- Today's total includes 25 new members and a few past members who have re joined.
- 51 Members from last year are still yet to renew.

9. Web Site

- Forum is increasingly popular.
- Statistics April 2016 - April 2017:
- Unique visitors: 98,864 • Number of Visits: 316,750
- Page Views 3,412,531
- Articles and comp reports are always needed.
- Members only section exists under the "BARCS" tab, and a "BARCS Matters" section in forums

10. Executive Committee

Existing members willing to stand for re-election:

- Peter Allen (Secretary and Primary SFTC Rep).
 - Graham James (Leagues).
 - Chas Dunster and Chris Moynihan (members).
 - John Wighton (treasurer).
 - Peter Mitchell (Membership).
 - Mike Fantham (F3K).
 - Gary Binnie (PRO).
 - Greg Lewis recently joined the committee as F5B rep.
 - Sydney Lenssen continues as our President.
- The following jobs are vacant: Chairman, Slope Rep, Electric Rep, Newsletter Editor. • All positions, including that of the BARCS Reps to the SFTC and Tech Council need AGM confirmation.

Proposed: Kevin Beale Seconded Colin Paddon Voting: all in favour

11. 2017 Membership Fees

The BARCS Committee recommend the fees remain unchanged, at £10 for senior members and £12 for family membership

- This is the ninth year that the fees have remained fixed due to the continued savings achieved in operating expenses
- The surplus income from Radioglide and Interglide allows surplus and continued help to International team members

12. Interglide 2107

- Will be a two day F5J international competition to FAI rules
- Location will be at Ashford, Kent.
- Date is 24th-25th June 2016

13. Silent Flight Nationals

- 26th-28th August
- Location National Flying Centre •

Details TBA

14 Proposals

Committee Proposal – Open class reflights

Proposed handbook wording:

4. Organisation of the flying slot

c) Reflights

A competitor is entitled to a fly in a new slot in the same round if their original flight is impeded by an event which was not under their own control. The competitor must claim a re-flight immediately after the event and should land as soon as safely possible. If they continue to fly then they will be deemed to have forgone their right to a re-flight.

The re-flight will be organised according to the following priorities:

1. To be fitted into a later slot in the same round, if possible.
2. In a new group comprising any pilot claiming a re-flight plus more pilots drawn at random to make the group up to a minimum of three.

A pilot called to fly by random selection in a new group has the right to accept or reject the invitation. If a pilot chooses to fly their score for the round will be the better of that achieved in the original flight or the reflight.

If the impeding event happens within the first 30 seconds of launching during a fly off round or the last slot of a round then the CD has the right to cancel the flight and order a re-launch.

Voting: 15 in favour 0 against Proposal passed

Member's Proposal – ELG rules

- Peter Mitchell proposes that the current BARCS ELG rules are replaced with the Bartlett's League rules.
- These rules allow for three wingspan classes in one competition. A competitor may enter any two classes, with two different models. But not one model in two classes.
- All models must have a readable AMRT, set to 30 sec motor run time, and can have any cut off height set, but no higher than max 200 metres. • All launch heights are recorded, anything over 200 metres is penalised with a 3 point per metre penalty, but there is no advantage for launching lower than 200 metres.
- Non-readable CAM type height limiters are permitted but automatically score a 20 metre height penalty.
- One relaunch in each slot is allowed.
- Everything else is normal BARCS league, 10 minute slot etc.
- The full proposed rules are available on the BARCS forum.
- There is now more interest in F5J, and some say that we should reduce the number of electric

gliding classes because of it.

- This proposal would go some way towards that end, but still encourage those BARCS members who fly electric powered thermal soarers, but who either consider their model not suitable for, or who don't want to fly in F5J.

Voting: 17 in favour 0 against Proposal passed

AGM 2018

- Provisionally the date of May 27th is proposed.
- Venue TBD but most likely NFC.