



Minutes of 10th FRA General Meeting - 25th Sept 2004

Present :- Andy Kane, Geoff Smith, Kevin Scott, John Reason, Kane Aston, Mark & Belinda Hamilton, Trevor Wright, Arthur Chillcott, John Findlay, Steve Johnson

1	<p><u>Apologies</u> Andrew Marchant, Adam Emmett, Mike Lambert, James Baker, Stu Barnwell, Ed Hoppitt</p>	<u>ACTION:-</u>
2	<p><u>Approval of Last Minutes</u> Minutes of the 9th General Mtg were approved. Stu had posted on Website (at Kev's request). Kev agreed that this set would be posted in the file upload section of fightingrobots@yahoogroup to give attendees the chance to comment before they are published.</p>	Kevin S.
3	<p><u>Area Chairpersons</u> Mark&Belinda Hamilton were appointed as FRA reps for the S.Wales region. They will carry one vote for official business which either person can use. Trevor Wright was voted as area rep for East Midds & Yorks. He will work with Jeremy Cuss who is Deputy for the region and covers Yorks. (Jeremy does not hold a voting position). Stu is to place their names and emails on website Contact List. Jonno to include them on the fightingrobots@yahoogroup distribution.</p>	Stu B. John F.
4	<p><u>Membership and Finances</u> Current membership is around 170 teams Bank account shows £530.50 with 3 membership cheques to add. It is great to see we are still picking up new members, although there is concern that some people may not renew in the new year.</p>	
5	<p><u>Failure of World Championship</u> The FRA deeply regret the last minute cancellation of the FRA World Championships and many thanks are made to the Phantom Events who worked so hard on the event. The Association wrote to all ticketholders who had upgraded to VIP status expressing our disappointment was as strong as theirs, and that the FRA would endeavour to help our hard core fans enjoy roboteing in the future. The FRA was in a position and ready to do all the tasks that the event organiser had asked the Association to undertake. Many thanks are made to Ian Lockhart, Roaming Robots and Ed Hoppit for arranging and funding the alternative event at Billing Aquadrome.</p>	
6	<p><u>Improper Use of the Forum</u> There have been a number of occasions where people have abused Forum etiquette which is wasting time and energy of your moderator and the committee. Some offenders have been identified and dealt with, others are reminded of the terms below. False name(s) have also been used in emails and it was agreed that warning(s) will be issued when this situation is</p>	Andy K.

	<p>identified. Disregard may result in the ability to post being denied.</p> <p>Please note that the opinions posted by members of the FRA website may not reflect the opinion of the Fighting Robot Association. Keep chat clean and non-offensive. Spamming, harassment, foul language or behaviour that is inappropriate on a public forum will result in your account being terminated. Posting anything that is considered to bring Roboteering into disrepute will be removed without warning. This is a public forum and a moderated environment - multiple IDs and cloning will not be tolerated. Membership of the FRA Forum is a privilege, not a right. Use of this forum is taken as acceptance of these terms and rules.</p>										
7	<p><u>Forum Hosting and Administration</u></p> <p>Discussion was held over a potential change of forum administration. The current administrator is to be asked if he is willing to continue.</p>	Andy K.									
8	<p><u>FRA Organisation and Structure</u></p> <p>The South & West region was split into 2 sections :- South Wales, and S.West England. S.West England is vacant and the area is currently being covered by Mark/Belinda Hamilton & John Reason.</p> <p>Scotland & North is inactive and has been incorporated into North Wales & West (Adam Emmett).</p> <p>A clarification of the regions is to be added to the website, either by maps as previously discussed, or by simply listing the relevant counties</p> <p>Association aims, goals, purpose and structure are to be written in a 'simple' constitution to be circulated for discussion by November.</p> <p>Since the mtg, a constitution proposal has been received from Jeremy Cuss - thank you.</p>	<p>Kevin S. Stu B.</p> <p>Geoff S. Andy K.</p>									
9	<p><u>Arrangements for AGM</u></p> <p>Date for the first AGM was discussed. The new organisers of the Robot Rumble are to be asked if this could be arranged during the Easter 2005 event which is planned to take place at Ipswich.</p> <p>Some attendees felt it should be sooner. It was agreed that a members meeting would be arranged 12.00-2.00pm at the final of Roaming Robots winter tour on 27th Nov in Doncaster. The committee will address the members and invite an open discussion on the future of the association.</p>	<p>Geoff S.</p> <p>FRA Committee & Members</p>									
10	<p><u>Event Reports</u></p> <p>Discussion was held on the events of Billing Aquadrome, Wickstead Park, Newport & Wrexham. No report sheets were available, but those that are complete must be passed to your secretary.</p>	John F.									
11	<p><u>Future Events</u></p> <p>The following new events are to be posted on the website Events page <http://www.fightingrobots.co.uk/events></p> <table> <tr> <td>Model World, Brighton</td> <td>14/15th Feb 05</td> <td>RR</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Robot Rumble, Ipswich</td> <td>26/27th Mar 05</td> <td>Geoff Thorpe</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Robot Rampage, Newark</td> <td>18/19th Jun 05</td> <td>Kevin S.</td> </tr> </table> <p>Other potential events are listed below in an attempt to avoid clashes. You are reminded that events are NOT endorsed by the FRA unless posted on the official Events page above (not just the Forum discussion pages) :-</p>	Model World, Brighton	14/15 th Feb 05	RR	Robot Rumble, Ipswich	26/27 th Mar 05	Geoff Thorpe	Robot Rampage, Newark	18/19 th Jun 05	Kevin S.	Stu B.
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	<p>Aberystwyth Mar 05 RR</p> <p>ROBOlympics, San Francisco (USA) 24/27th Mar 05 Geoff S.</p> <p>RAF Cosford 12th June 05 BTP</p> <p>RAF Waddington 2nd/3rd Jul 05 BTP</p> <p>RAF Fairford 16/18th Jul 05 BTP</p> <p>RAF Leuchars 10th Sept 05 BTP</p>	
12	<p><u>Proposal for Build Rule on Failsafe Lights</u></p> <p>Rule 4.3 currently states that FailSafe indicator lights are mandatory. It was agreed to re-write essentially as follows :-</p> <p>Indicator light(s) may be fitted to show that the robot is in failsafe mode. This is at the discretion of the constructor who will still be required to demonstrate that all systems 'failsafe' in accordance with rule 4.2</p>	Stu B.
13	<p><u>International Matters</u></p> <p>The FRA is in discussion with South African roboters who would like to operate 250kg robots ! They have subsequently indicated that they will be using the FRA Arena and Robot build guidelines and are likely to affiliate with us for the long term future of world robotering.</p> <p>Negotiation with the organisers for ROBOlympics in USA has resulted in acceptance of UK robots without change to meet their rules. A group are planning to attend, contact Geoff Smith for details.</p>	
14	<p><u>6kg Class</u></p> <p>The FRA will consider new / additional weight classes should a sufficient number of roboters require. We are awaiting proposals from the GRA and James Cooper with respect to a joint European 6kg class</p>	
15	<p><u>Website Download Material</u></p> <p>Jonno has sent the Event Report Sheet + Robot Checklist to Stu for inclusion on the website.</p> <p>Outstanding items listed in 8th Mtg minutes are FRA Promotional Leaflet, The Guide to Sponsorship, Tech Guide for Spinners & Tech Guide for Gyros (last 2 not yet written).</p>	Stu B. Andy M. Ed H. & Kevin S.
16	<p><u>Promotional Leaflets</u></p> <p>Quotes are required for printing (proposed spec, Double Sided, Light Glossy Paper, With & Without Folding, at quantities of 500 & 1000)</p>	Craig D.
17	<p><u>Guidelines for Robot out of Control at an Event</u></p> <p>Sentence required in Robotic Event Safety Guidelines stating that it is responsibility of EO or his arena supervisor to decide the appropriate action for a robot that is out of control in the arena. This should be incorporated with item 18.</p> <p>Post mtg proposal - suggest this goes in a General section in the blank space at end of Event Grading.</p>	
18	<p><u>Re-Write of Arena Classification</u></p> <p>As agreed at 9th Mtg, a modification of Arena Classifications (section 2 of Robotic Event Guidelines) is required to allow Featherweight spinners in arenas with Polycarb that is insufficient to meet the full Class 2 specification.</p>	

	Consideration must be given throughout the document, such as the section on Event Grading, and the table on Robot Weaponry Classification.	John F. Kane A.
19	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>A letter was read out from John Heatlie proposing “that the Governing Body of the FRA should resign enmass for our participation in supporting the Phantom Events proposal for the World Champs”</p> <p>This was discussed for 30 secs. The Governing Body disagreed, but will stand down at the elections next spring when all nominations would be extremely welcome.</p>	

Prepared by :- **Kevin Scott** General Secretary
Andy Kane President

Approved by :- _____ date _____