

# F3A Aerobatic Competitions

## Return to Knettishall

Two rounds of the GBRCAA National League competitions return to Knettishall for 2022. Around 16 pilots fly three flights each which are judged. The best two scores are added up and the competitors ranked.

Normally, four classes are flown:

- Clubman Schedule – this is the entry level schedule. For the first time in over 10 years, 2022 sees a new Clubman Schedule – for details see [http://www.gbrcaa.org/?page\\_id=84](http://www.gbrcaa.org/?page_id=84)
- Intermediate Schedule – see [http://www.gbrcaa.org/?page\\_id=99](http://www.gbrcaa.org/?page_id=99)
- Masters Schedule – this is based on the FAI's A schedule that is changed every two years. See [http://www.gbrcaa.org/?page\\_id=104](http://www.gbrcaa.org/?page_id=104)
- FAI(P) Schedule – this is the schedule that is flown in all International Competitions in the early rounds. See [http://www.gbrcaa.org/?page\\_id=116](http://www.gbrcaa.org/?page_id=116)

The P stands for Preliminary. In International Competitions, to advance to the Semi-Finals, the line is drawn at the top twenty pilots who then go on to fly the FAI(F), or Finals Schedule, as well as an Unknown Schedule. The Unknown Schedule is briefed to pilots the night before. They are not allowed to practice it until they do so in front of the judges.

At the 18<sup>th</sup> June competition, we already have 17 entrants. Since each pilot flies on their own, that means we must get through 51 flights in the day. Flying normally starts at, or soon after, 9 am. There are breaks through the day to allow judges to change over between schedules. We aim to end at or soon after 4 pm.

The photo below was taken at last year's competition. Three BMFC members who flew in the competition are in the photo – Mark Allen, Mike Rieder and Peter Jenkins.



In the past, we have used paper to record the score awarded by each judge, there are usually two, to each pilot. In the past couple of years, technology has transformed this ritual into each judge having a small WiFi connected tablet into which they can enter the score for each manoeuvre. The advantage of this system is that the pilots' scores are immediately available at the main scorer's laptop and can be displayed on large screens so everyone can see who has scored what and what position they are in.

This greatly reduces the paperwork needed but does mean that everyone knows the scores after the three flights in each class so the Contest Director reading out the final scores and positions at the end of the day rather loses its impact.

The Competition is run by BMFC Club members. Without their support, there would be no competition. Each competition has to be self-financing. This has to pay for any expenses e.g. use of the field, expenses for judges, marking out the flying field etc. The BMFC gets £60 for the use of Knettishall for this event so since the Club has agreed to allow two competitions this year that makes £120 income for the Club. So, you do get something back for the loss of field. Bear in mind that once the competition flying is finished, if Club members wish to fly you will be able to do so.

If you would like to know more about this event, please contact Peter Jenkins, who is the Contest Director for these competitions at [peterjenkinsbmfc@btinternet.com](mailto:peterjenkinsbmfc@btinternet.com). You are welcome to come along and watch but please contact Peter Jenkins first and do not just come along on the day - so that you can be briefed on what procedure you must follow.