

	BDRA AGM 2025 - Minutes	
	Date: 09-10-25	Start time: 8PM
	Invited: All current members	End Time: 10PM

Please note, due to a technical issue the meetings recording has since been corrupted. Therefore, any abridged minutes below are a summary based on the only available information that was able to be recalled by the committee.

Please accept our apologies for the failure and the BDRA will endeavour to ensure this does not occur again.

#	Item	
1	Welcome and Introduction by current outgoing Chairman Calum Maxwell	A short welcome and thank you to all members and committee members.
2	Review/accept the minutes from the 2024 AGM	Reviewed and accepted
3	Reports from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chairman ○ Secretary ○ Treasurer ○ Membership Secretary ○ BMFA and FAI Liaison Officer ○ Whoop Liaison Officer 	Treasurer - Opening balance for years just under £6000. Finishing with just over £5084. Finishing with just over £5084 Membership Secretary - Last year 120 members
4	Proposal from the Committee to update to Constitution to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● include 'Whoop Liaison Officer' as core position ● make all committee positions a 2 year tenure (with a stagger if possible) 	Whoop Liaison Officer - 22 Voted for, 0 voted against and 0 abstentions. Make all committee positions 2-years - 19 voted for, 3 voted against and 1 abstained vote.
5	Committee comments and advisories Following a static year with the current rules and in line with the Constitution, it is proposed that changes to the rules and constitution are not debated in detail at the AGM, but that the main changes should be discussed by those presenting them and that this will be taken away by	

	<p>the new Committee and combined into an updated set for 2026.</p> <p>It is noted that the previous changes to the constitution and rules agreed at the 2025 AGM have yet to be formally noted in the published set and are:</p> <div><div>a)</div><div>‘BMFA Liaison Officer’ to be retitled to ‘BMFA and FAI Liaison Officer’ and to be made a core position.</div></div> <div><div>b)</div><div>To create the position of ‘Whoop Liaison Officer’ to become a Core Committee member.</div></div> <div><div>c)</div><div>Committee to be permitted to allocate three wildcard places in the Championships. These places would only be available if the Champs did not fill by Qualifying events and Scottish events.</div></div>																																																		
6	<p>Election of Committee Members (All posts are up for Election)</p> <p>Each candidate will have up to 2 minutes to describe why they are the best person for the position and to describe what they would like to achieve. Voting will be in the following order:</p> <div><div>○</div><div>Chairman</div></div> <div><div>○</div><div>Secretary</div></div> <div><div>○</div><div>Treasurer</div></div> <div><div>○</div><div>Membership Secretary</div></div> <div><div>○</div><div>BMFA and FAI Liaison Officer</div></div> <div><div>○</div><div>Whoop Liaison Officer</div></div> <p>Note. Candidates who have been put forward in advance of the meeting for a committee position are: Jon Timms, Matthew Neale, David Bosmans, Matt Shawtell and Eric Li-Koo</p>	<table><tr><th>Committee positions</th><th>Candidate</th><th>Proposer</th><th>Seconder</th><th>For</th><th>Against</th><th>Abstain</th></tr><tr><td>Chair</td><td>Jon Timms</td><td>Matt Neale</td><td>Jamie</td><td>22</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Sec</td><td>Matt Neale</td><td>Martin FPV</td><td>Jon Timms</td><td>21</td><td>0</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Treas</td><td>David Bosmans</td><td>David Allen</td><td>Karl Payne</td><td>21</td><td>0</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>BMFA/FAI</td><td>Eric Li-Koo</td><td>Soley Elwell</td><td>Karl Payne</td><td>22</td><td>0</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Whoop</td><td>Matt Shawtell</td><td>Owen Knight</td><td>Paul Jaggars</td><td>22</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Memb Sec</td><td>Dan Carbis</td><td>Soley Elwell</td><td>Clive Easton</td><td>24</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr></table>	Committee positions	Candidate	Proposer	Seconder	For	Against	Abstain	Chair	Jon Timms	Matt Neale	Jamie	22	0	0	Sec	Matt Neale	Martin FPV	Jon Timms	21	0	1	Treas	David Bosmans	David Allen	Karl Payne	21	0	1	BMFA/FAI	Eric Li-Koo	Soley Elwell	Karl Payne	22	0	1	Whoop	Matt Shawtell	Owen Knight	Paul Jaggars	22	0	0	Memb Sec	Dan Carbis	Soley Elwell	Clive Easton	24	0	0
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7	Proposed Membership fees for 2026	Constitution caps increase to 20% per year, therefore agreed to keep as is, thus no price increase.
8	<p>Proposals received from Members in advance of the meeting</p> <p>To avoid an unduly extended meeting each Member will have up to 5 minutes to present their proposal and this will be followed by 5 minutes of discussion.</p> <p><u>Jon Timms</u> Noted here, but to be talked about as part of pitch as to why Jon would like a committee position</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To incorporate additional formats for BQE status without the need for special permissions to give a wider freedom to clubs and organisers as to the type of BQE they host. Focus on formats usable in Livetime in particular the double elimination formats for 2 day events and best 3 rounds (consecutive 3 laps) instead of top 3 consecutive dropping 50%. This is to 1. enable spectators to easily be able to see pilot standings making it far easier for a commentator and spectator to follow the racing. And 2. Still reward a level of consistency throughout seeding/qualifying. To further align our formats of racing to be closer to FAI events for larger events. With the aim of hosting or being in a position to host an international FAI event. <p><u>David Bosmans</u></p>	<p>Not much was discussed here as previous points unfortunately meant we did not have time to hear everyone's proposals. Therefore, again I have only minuted what can be recalled.</p> <p>Additionally, some chat from the AGM is still available, I have also used this to assist the minutes in an attempt to summarise as much as possible..</p> <p>Simulator officer (James Rodgers suggestion) , no-one volunteered for this role but the the committee agreed that it maybe something we can sort amongst ourselves in the upcoming season.</p> <p>IFPV - Committee to discuss with Ben Drew the future of IFPV, is there a possibility of more BDRA branding in IFPV and easier links.</p> <p>Whoops (MrE suggestion) - statement from Matt Shawtell in response;</p> <p>Yes the first year was a little haphazard but that going forward, all TWUK whoop events would be applied for following protocol. Also that the ruleset had been reviewed following the 1st year and updated working in partnership with all the TWUK club representatives. It has been passed to the RC Power Tech Committee to be included in the BMFA rule book officially for next year (Eric to corroborate). Current rulebook widely distributed among TWUK participants but should be published to the BDRA website shortly.</p> <p>5 Inch rulesets</p> <p>As listed in the "items" column, discussions around rules were fairly consistent with what was proposed in the agenda. It was agreed that the committee are best placed to decide the rulesets and to expand on them in the next delegates meeting which will take place on Monday 8th December @ 20:00pm.</p>

	<p>Noted here, but to be talked about as part of pitch as to why David would like a committee position</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In summary "I firstly want to say that I understand that this year, especially towards the end, has been particularly hard for the committee and while I am unable to take a side and would wish to remain neutral I do currently stand that the committee actions have been correct given the level of detail that is currently within the ruleset and constitution. This is also where I have felt that a lot of the conflict has come from and where a lot of negative discussions on how everything is run could be quashed with the development of a much more robust constitution." <p><u>James Rodgers (unable to attend meeting)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should we have a "Simulator Liaison Officer" - its a great way to get into the sport and having a coordinated/communicated alignment across the community would be of benefit. • iFPV has been an invaluable asset to the community. It has been good to keep it independent but given its importance to communication and running of events, should this or an equivalent project be taken on by the BDRA - 	
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	<p>perhaps commissioned. It's probably fair to say there is still more potential for the platform through further development.</p> <p><u>Leigh Elwell</u> Whoops</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lot of the events last year weren't applied for in the correct manner, will the correct procedure be followed for the coming year? • This year's ruleset has been finalised, yet we've heard nothing through official channels. Could this be brought into the limelight a bit more? <p>For open class (5")</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we keep local variation in the rules to run popular formats if there are changes? <p><u>Stephen Gibbs</u> Qualifying– top 50% of three consecutive laps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would prefer it be just single best 3 consecutive due to some of the reasons I outlined in discord. And keeps things simple <p>Double eliminations for finals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think double elimination for finals should be strongly encouraged for large multi day events. Shuttleworth, Weston, champs. For smaller <30 participant bques 3 points rounds finals or local variation is fine. <p><u>Kieran Tucker</u> Qualification Scoring Method</p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current system, based on a pilot's top 50% of scores, can scale unevenly depending on the number of qualifying heats. On shorter race days, this is manageable, but on longer schedules (e.g. 12 heats) the requirement to complete six strong runs can be unnecessarily demanding and out of proportion to the purpose of qualifying. • I propose a refinement: qualification to be determined by a pilot's best 33% of times, capped at a maximum of three runs, and rounded down where the percentage produces a decimal. This approach: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides consistency across both short and long qualifying schedules. • Rewards sustained performance while avoiding excessive weighting on the total number of heats flown. • Keeps the system simple, fair, and easy to understand. <p>Flight Line Positioning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where site conditions permit, I propose that 	
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	<p>the flight line be positioned as close to the pilot line as is safely appropriate. This would increase efficiency on race days by reducing downtime between heats, streamlining battery changes, and minimising unnecessary movement around the race area.</p> <p>Informal Pre-AGM Discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I recommend the introduction of more frequent, shorter, informal meetings in the lead-up to the AGM and major calendar events. These would provide opportunities to catalogue suggestions, test ideas, and address smaller issues incrementally. Such an approach would both strengthen community engagement and ease the workload on the AGM itself. <p>Race Day Communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finally, I suggest that race day information be distributed in the most accessible way possible. One specific idea is the creation of a dedicated, restricted-permission Discord channel for each race. This channel would be used exclusively for official announcements, such as scheduling updates, finals points, and alerts. This system would ensure clarity, reduce confusion, and provide a reliable, centralised communication method. 	
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Clive Easton (and very similar
proposed by Graeme Rowney

- The introduction of a dedicated role of fund raising / sponsorship officer - to build relationships with companies directly tied to the sport and to seek out corporate sponsorship both inside and outside of the UAS industry
- The possible removal of the "finals" for MultiGP GQ / BQE events - this would allow more pilots to attend what is a very popular event, and less work for the RD's - I would put a Cap on the number of times in a Season this could be done as to not make it a default event type
- Change the number of counted qualifiers to 3 or 5 depending on event size - this would still force a level of consistency but would be quicker to get the overall positions to make it easier

For the 2nd and 3rd proposals the suggestion is:

- We nominate a chair for '5" League class' (or whatever we want to call it) in the same way we've done for Tiny Whoops,
- that chair builds a subcommittee of delegates from interested clubs,
- the subcommittee discusses rules in a structured fashion (i.e.: problem, desired

	<p>outcome, solutions), they refine their proposal that then gets put to the vote within that subcommittee,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • output of vote gets taken to the Core committee for ratification and inclusion into the rules during an annual rules review window that coincides with the season schedule., • The Chair should guide and remind the subcommittee what the over-arching principles are that we want and need to maintain and be there to facilitate the rules discussions rather than influence. This would allow us to have time for meaningful discussion of the challenges we want to fix as well as time for writing proposals for rules changes and time to implement them. <p><u>Scott Blood</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • So it seems to me a lot our current issues stem from the conflict between the 'fun, relaxed hobbyist crowd' and the 'serious, competitive, sport crowd' to oversimplify things a bit. I don't consider myself firmly in one or the other but I think we should be able to cater to both. To that end I propose a return of the Team GB selection event. An invite only, very serious, 	
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	<p>very competitive race day for the biggest prize. A spot on Team GB. I think this would go some way to taking the pressure of BQEs and Champs to be both serious/competitive and relaxed/fun.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less qualifying and more finals would be better. I don't know how long double elims with bump ups would take but I suggest doing that and the remaining time (at the start obvs) for qualifying. Single fastest or 3 fastest - 3 lap runs depending on time. • Stricter control of pilots when racing. Start blocks should be as close to the pilot line as possible. Pilots should go out as soon as track is called clear, put quad down, arm test, pit mode and go sit. Ignoring everything else. Pilots collecting quads after their round should make haste. Only if track repairs are needed should the timer be stopped. • With a reduction in the 50% rule, missing a round would no longer be a disaster. This could be slackened a bit for finals. • With much less faffing around in between rounds we could get in many more rounds, making changes to the rules that increase the number of rounds 	
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	<p>between flying less of a problem.</p> <p>Mike Bellingham</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I know I've joked about it a bit previously, but sadly I think we need a rule that supports the RD when pilots decide to have an argument mid event. Something to the effect of a yellow card red card system. One warning for behaviour (yellow card) and then if they continue to be a nuisance the pilot can be removed from the race (red card). Two red cards in a season and no more BQE points or champs invite. 	
9	Any Other Business	No time for any further business