

Achievement Scheme Review Committee
Report to BMFA Full Council Meeting
8th January 2022

The ASRC has met three times since our last report to Council. We met in September, October and November, all on 'Zoom', but also with associated correspondence on email. The frequency of meetings is an indication of the workload involved in the end of season review of all the scheme tests, which has now largely been completed. Importantly, this now includes the Registration Competency Certificate (RCC).

The headlines for this report are:-

- The 'Training & Testing days' initiative, originally pioneered by the ASRC at Buckminster, and subsequently trialled and promoted by the North West Area, continues to grow in popularity with both members and Areas. Northern Area ran two last year, and have three planned for this year, and South Midland are also running at least one in 2022. The Midland Area has taken it a stage further, and has incorporated a 'centenary' element, which I think is a great idea, that other areas might like to embrace. The Midland plan is to deliver events at multiple clubs, with the aim of achieving 100 tests passes during the season. They also hope to be able to appoint 10 Club Examiners during all of this. If Areas let me know of their plans, I can include a 'plug' for their event(s) in the AS column in BMFA News.
- By way of setting a good example, the ASRC have several 'Training & Testing' events scheduled at Buckminster this year. In addition, the committee would like to point out that they would be only too pleased to assist Areas and or clubs in the role out and delivery of any 'Training & Testing' events they are organising.
- A second 'Zoom' meeting for area co-ordinators was held at the end of September, and included discussions on the role-out of Training & Testing events, the implementation of the requirement for Examiners to hold a valid RCC, and the Examiners 'Retirement' Certificate of Appreciation.
- I delivered an Achievement Scheme 'In The Air Tonight' presentations on the 9th November, the first of the autumn season, assisted by several members of the committee. The content covered all of the items mentioned above, plus an element covering the new Camera Drone test.
- The previous Camera Drone BPC (Basic Proficiency Certificate) and 'A' Certificate, have now been combined into a single test, called the Camera Drone Certificate of Competence. Importantly, the use of GPS is permitted in the test, which opens the test to a wide variety of machines, with a view to attracting participation by BDF members.

- There has been a flurry of correspondence concerning the introduction of the requirement for Examiner to hold a valid RCC. Some quite positive, but inevitably and unfortunately, some negative. Often the negative comments came from simple mis-understandings, which were easy to correct. Others focused erroneously on communication, which again were easy to counter. For clarity, every examiner for whom we had a registered email address received a detailed, direct personal email, covering every aspect of the requirement. In addition, the details were publicised in the October BMFA News, having previously been propagated to delegates (and hence Areas) in September. Perhaps not unsurprisingly, there was a significant upsurge in the number of members taking the RCC shortly after the announcement, from a handful a day to over 150!
Please note that the requirement to hold a valid RCC is an on-going, annual requirement.
- Importantly, to date, there have only been a relatively small number of examiners 'retiring' as a result of not holding a valid RCC, and there have been a number of associated requests for the issue of the retirement 'Certificate of Appreciation'.
- The really positive outcome from all of the above is that there has been a significant increase in requests from Clubs for the appointment of new Club Examiners.
- With the exception of London Area, all Areas have completed their ACE re-ratifications and removals for 2022. There are now 83 ACEs nationally, which is approximately 10 less than last year. Several Areas, notably London, Western and Devon would probably benefit from appointing a few more ACEs. Please contact myself or the ASRC if we can be of any assistance with this.

Duncan R McClure

Scheme Controller and ASRC representative to Council, January 2022