

Indoor Scale Nationals News



Keeping you informed with the planning and progress for the 2026 BMFA Scale Indoor Nationals

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Hot off the Press.....

This is the final newsletter before the Scale Indoor Nationals take place over the weekend of the 25th and 26th April 2026.

With the entry form now closed , our final number of entries taking part over the weekend are:

Scale Indoor RC entries – Flying Only – 15, Kit Scale – 13, Open Scale – 6 – total entries for scale Indoor RC – 34.

Scale Indoor FF – Open Rubber – 13, Open CO2/Elec – 8, Intermediate – 18, Kit scale – 30, Peanut – 21, Pistachio – 9, No-Cal – 13 – total entries for Scale FF – 112.

That is a total of 146 entries for 2026 , a Scale Indoor Nationals record!

With more competitors entering this year, (including a few modellers who are competing for the first time), the weekend is shaping up to be a fantastic event.

Vintage Model Company (VMC) Kit Scale Trophies and Prize Money

As well as providing a trade presence over the weekend of the Indoor Nationals, VMC have generously donated the following trophies to be awarded to the winners of the Scale Indoor RC and Scale FF Kit Scale classes for the 2026 Scale Indoor Nationals.



As well as the trophies, which the respective winners get to keep in perpetuity, VMC have also generously donated £200, (£100 each for both RC and FF kit scale) to be awarded to the competitors who find themselves on the podium, the first three places. The prize money will be split as follows:

- 1st - £60
- 2nd - £30
- 3rd - £10

The addition of both the trophies and prize money add an exciting dimension to what are always popular and keenly fought classes at the Scale Indoor Nationals.

The Organising team would like to thank Hadi and the VMC Team for again sponsoring our Kit Scale classes so generously.



News from the flightline and more

By Paul Rich

Live streaming of the 2026 BMFA Scale Indoor Nationals.....

An exciting development for 2026 involves Andy Symons and Graham Kennedy from the BMFA attending the Scale Indoor Nationals to live stream the event! As well as all the action, the event will include interviews with competitors and members of the Organising committee. The stream will be available to view on the BMFA Website at scale.bmfa.org

Midland Indoor Flyers

If you are new to scale or duration indoor aeromodelling or simply looking for somewhere to fly indoors and live in the West Midlands, Shropshire or Staffordshire you will be interested to hear there is a new indoor model flying club in the area.

Holding month events at venues in Whitchurch and Chasetown, Staffordshire the next meetings are taking place on:

- 17th May at Whitchurch from 12:00 - 15:30hrs
- 23rd May at Erasmus Darwin Academy, Chasetown, Staffordshire between 13:00 to 16:00

For further details please contact: Andy Beere at: andybeere@yahoo.co.uk



Car Parking at the Scale Indoor Nationals

The team at Wolverhampton have informed us of the following information that we would like to bring to your attention.

"Please note that the University is currently undergoing energy and sustainability works on-site. As a result, the barriered car park next to the Sports Centre and the gravel overflow car park by the 3G football pitches are currently being used as work compounds for the next couple of months, meaning we have temporarily lost some parking spaces. Just as a heads-up, normal football bookings will be running from 8:30am on both Saturday and Sunday, so the car park is likely to become busy just after 8:00am".

There is a large over-spill car park situated near to the entrance of the university which is a short walk from the Sports Hall building.



Video(s) of the Month for April

Something a little different this month. A series of videos have been posted on YouTube which provide histories of the following companies that played an important and pivotal role in the "golden age of Aeromodelling" in the 50's, 60's and 70's, namely Keil Kraft, Veron and Frog.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X_txxQeZ_HY&pp=ygUKa2VpbCBrcmFmdA%3D%3D

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lBrC7jUcxSc&list=PLZK7iYQIIC3sTOD63ZaGarbov1uKQi pbe&index=1&pp=iAQB>

https://youtu.be/CNG33dOp1-0?si=EUM1bWwCU71u_7X7

Trading Places.....

Since SAMs Models ceased trading a few years ago one constant request we have received from visitors to the Scale Indoor Nationals has been "I wish you could encourage some traders to attend the event.

For 2026 we have the following traders in attendance:

The Vintage Model Company

VMC will be in attendance over the weekend with a standing selling kits and accessories, along with special deals and clearance items only available at the Scale Indoor Nationals to avoid disappointment, if you wish to purchase a specific item from the VMC catalogue please contact Hadi on 01629 258240 or by email at:

sales@vintagemodelcompany.com

Roger "Dusty" Gibbs

Roger is attending with a selection of his competition grade balsa, which he selects and cuts himself, to order. Roger is committed to provide a service to the discerning aeromodeller by providing a selection of the type of quality balsa wood that is not ordinarily available in high street model shops.

FlightScale Plans

Richard Crossley needs no introduction to the indoor FF Scale community. [Flight Scale | Competition winning model aircraft plans](#) sells copies of plans of many of Richard's competition winning models.

Richard will be selling a selection of his plans at the Scale Indoor Nationals.

If you would like Richard to bring along a specific plan for you to purchase from his range of designs, please contact him directly at: richardcrossley1967@gmail.com





BMFA Scale Indoor Nationals Glider Event 2026.

This fun event to take place over lunchtime at the Scale Indoor Free Flight Nationals on Sunday 26th April 2026. The event is based upon the format devised by Bernard Bruins for the International Indoor Fly-In at Wijchen in the Netherlands.

Note: depending on time, we may have to adjust the rules below by running one flight each option rather than 2, or either option A or B only.

1. General characteristics:

Maximum wingspan.....80 cm / 31.5"
Motive Power.....hand launch from balcony

2. Model characteristics:

2.1 All models need to be based on a real airplane, proof of the real plane needs to be given via photos or written documentation. For early pioneer planes (like DaVinci style planes) a copy of a rendering or design sketch is also allowed.

2.2 Only one model can be used for the event.

2.3 Models may be of traditional balsa and tissue construction or constructed from foam. Carbon fibre is only allowed to strengthen the model at critical points. Carbon tubes for attaching winds etc, are also allowed. Full carbon (tube) spars, training edge, leading edge etc. are not allowed.

3. Number of flights

Two flights allowed per flight task. So four flights in total (time permitting).

4. Motive power

All launching will be done by hand from public gallery.

5. Flight tasks

For the BMFA trial event, two of the IIFI flight tasks have been selected. There will be a flight referee to check if the model used looks like a real airplane (markings, shape etc.). For each task there are two attempts per flyer.

A. Flight time and static judging

- On the public gallery there will be a starting area. Within that area the flyer has to launch his model. This will be done by hand. Using chairs is not allowed for safety.
- The flight time will be recorded by the referee. Models stay on the floor until everybody has flown.
- Two rounds will be flown.
- Each round will have points assigned - 1 for longest time up to "number of competitors" for the shortest time. Points are recorded on scoresheet.
- Static judging is done by referee, with an assistant if he can find one. The concept is that all the models are put on a table and ranked from 1 to ... (insert number of flyers). The criterion for the ranking is up to the judges. The best static gets one point, second two, etc.

B. Target landing

- On the public gallery there will be a starting area. Within that area the flyer has to launch his model. This will be done by hand. Using chairs is not allowed for safety.
- The model must fly and land as close as possible to a marked target.
- When the model lands it will stay where it sits until all the flyers had their attempt.
- Closest to the target gets one point, next closest 2 etc.
- Two rounds to be flown – each round scored separately.

Final result

Totals are added together for both the duration rounds and both target rounds, plus the static score, so five scores in total. Lowest score wins.