

# FEDERATION AERONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE

## NOMINATION FORM

### CIAM AEROMODELLING SCHOLARSHIP

(for applicants from the age of 16 up to the age of 21 in the year of nomination)

From NAC : British Model Flying Association (BMFA) \_\_\_\_\_ Date : 13 November 2024 \_

Address : Buckminster Lodge \_\_\_\_\_ Country : United Kingdom \_\_\_\_\_

Sewstern \_\_\_\_\_

Grantham \_\_\_\_\_

NG33 5RW \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_ admin@bmfa.org \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominee : Edward Melville \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: 29<sup>th</sup> October 2008 \_

Address : 10 Ashes Road \_\_\_\_\_

Shoeburyness \_\_\_\_\_

Essex, SS3 9RB \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: mevlilleted@hotmail.com \_\_\_\_\_

**Scholastic Accomplishments and Educational Plans** (please list & continue on a separate sheet if necessary):

Education Plans – Degree in Aerospace engineering from a top university e.g. MIT, UCL, Caltech,

Edward has just turned 16. He is due to take his GCSE examination this summer (May / June 2024). His predicted grades are 10 x Grade 9s including in Physics & Maths (Top grade) and 2 x Grade 8s. Edward passed the 11+ and attends a grammar school.

**Aeromodelling Achievements up to the age of 21** (for example World or Continental Championships, National Championships, World Cups, Records, Technical Innovations. In the case of competitions, include the name, date, and location of each competition, the class and the position achieved.) (Please list & continue on a separate sheet if necessary.)

World Space Modelling Championships, Texas, July 2023 – S2P – Team Gold Medal Winner and Individual Silver Medal

Please see additional sheet.

**Personal Statement: What role did Aeromodelling play in your life and what are your aspirations for the future?** (One page to be written in the Nominee's own hand and attached to this form. If written in a language other than English, then please attach a typed translation as well as the hand-written original.)

NAC Signature :



Mark Benns BMFA sporting Director

President or Secretary General of nominating FAI National Airsport Control



## Aeromodelling Achievements up to the age of 21

World Space Modelling Championships, Texas, July 2023 – S2P – Team Gold Medal Winner and Individual Silver Medal

Classes also flown: S1, S3, S4, S6 and S9.

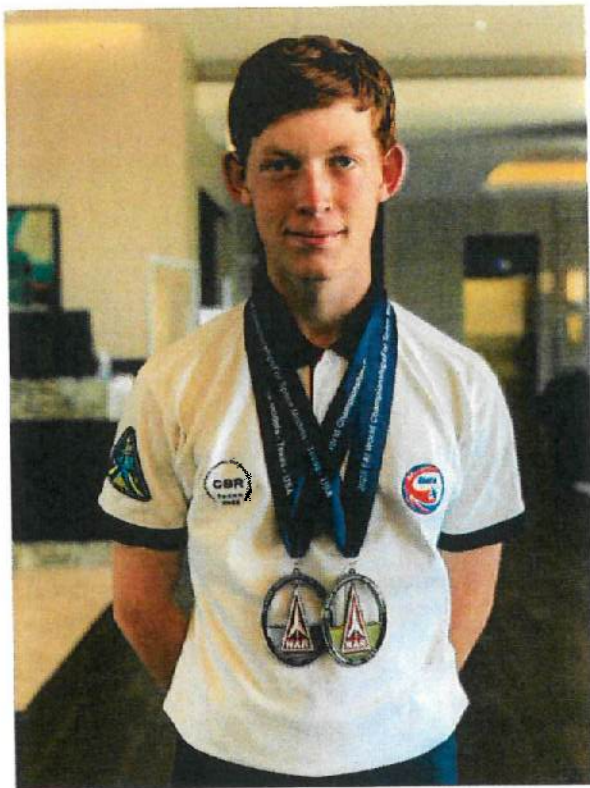
### UK Nationals

(No junior category, all classes flown against senior competitors with exception of Junior recognition award)

- May 2024: Space Junior Champion – Silver Medal
- May 2024: S2P Payload – Silver Medal
- May 2024: S1B Altitude – Bronze Medal
- May 2023: S1B Altitude – Silver Medal
- May 2023: S2P Payload – Bronze Medal
- May 2023: S6 Streamer – Bronze Medal
- May 2022: S2P Payload – Bronze Medal

Qualified for Team GB and competed in European Space Modelling Championship, Serbia, August 2024 – Classes flown S3, S4, S6, S9

Competed in the Sirmium World Cup, Zrenjanin, Serbia, August 2024 – Classes flown – S4, S6, S9





## Edward Melville. Personal Statement.

What role did aeromodelling play in your life and what are your aspirations for the future?

Aeromodelling has played a pivotal role in my life. Since designing my own rockets at a very young age, I have been totally absorbed in Model rocketry, developing my skills to a level where I gained gold and silver medals at an international competition.

At the age of eight, I began building designs of mine and flying these, and other kits, at a local club of mine. Here, I met people who directed me to further opportunities such as the UKRoC - United Kingdom Rocketry Challenge. At the time, my primary school had no rocketry club so I set one up with funding approved by the head teacher.

As I moved to secondary school, I set up another rocketry club and mentored other pupils in rocket building, helping with the design, launch, and building of model rockets. I personally led this team into the National Final placing 9<sup>th</sup> nationally in the first year of entering, while more recently placing 5<sup>th</sup>. Beyond this, I also helped mentor a younger group of students who reached the national final a year later.

At my local club, aged 12, I was recognised for having an aptitude and strong commitment to rocketry, so I was introduced to a whole new sub-discipline of model rocketry; aeromodelling's Space modelling. My club and various mentors encouraged me to compete at the UK National team selection



event. With limited resources or knowledge, I prepared 3 models; one of which was made out of an A4 sheet of printing paper with a parachute made from a very thin plastic bag from my local supermarket. My mum and I drove hours and stayed overnight to enter the nationals and in my first ever year I achieved a bronze medal, competing against experienced seniors, and went on in following years to achieve many more bronze and silver medals, while also qualifying for the British National Team. I began learning new skills, exploring new materials including mylar, kevlar, and fibreglass, honing in new techniques of aerofairing and 3D Printing. Furthermore, I tested and used glues of different properties in preparation for international competition.

My first competition was the World Space Modelling Championships, in Texas, USA, in July 2023. It was very expensive for our team to travel and stay in the USA so I began a fundraising campaign which generated over £1000 for us to help afford various materials and travel costs. We did this by attaining coverage on BBC news, websites, radio programs and podcasts. The experience was nothing less than incredible. We met other junior competitors from around the world and made connections and friendships that I am still in regular contact with, as we're collaborating and are growing in excitement for the Serbian World Championships of 2025. I learnt so much from my first championship and on the final day of competing I came away with a team gold medal in S2/p - precision payload, and an individual silver medal.



In August, 2024, I competed in the European Championships, Zrenjanin-Serbia. I also competed in the Jimini world cup. Throughout both events, I learnt so many new skills including how to more effectively trim S4 glider wings and understand the properties of wing hinges. This resulted in me scoring maximum points twice in this category. I also discovered a new S4 design for the blades to become much more effective. I also gained further knowledge about the impact of air thermal on an aeromodel's performance.

My plans for the immediate future are twofold. I would love to continue attending international competitions as these have been transformational for me and given me even more drive and enthusiasm to continue to build on my engineering skills to become more competitive in space modelling. I would like to broaden my space modelling skills to disciplines or scale such as S5/7 or even remote control i.e. S8 which are currently too expensive for me to include on top of the classes I already fly. A scholarship would really help me achieve this.

In the longer term, I am planning to pursue a career in aerospace engineering. I am working very hard at school to attain the highest grades I can to get into a top university so I can continue with my passion for aerospace and work in the very exciting space industry, which is seeing a huge revival.