

AYLESBURY AND DISTRICT MODEL FLYING CLUB CONSTITUTION AND RULES 2012

1. NAME

- a) The name of the club shall be the Aylesbury and District Model Flying Club.
- b) The address of the club shall be c/o the Honorary Secretary.

2. OBJECTS

The aims of the club shall be:

- a) To provide facilities for the sport of model aircraft construction and flying.
- b) To assist members to improve their standards of building and flying and to require strict observance of all rules in the interests of safety.
- c) To encourage Club social activities.
- d) To abide by and promote the national policies and rules of the governing body for the sport by affiliation to the British Model Flying Association/Society of Model Aeronautical Engineers Ltd. (BMFA/SMAE).

3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to suitable applicants subject to the approval of the Committee and/or the body of the club as follows:

- a) **SENIOR MEMBERS** shall be 18 years of age or over.
- b) **JUNIOR MEMBERS** shall be under 18 years of age and will have no voting rights. Those under the age of 18 on the date of application will become Senior Members on their birthday without paying the difference in membership fees.
- c) **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS** shall be non-flying members aged 18 years or over who have no voting rights and who do not need to be members of the BMFA.
- d) **HONORARY MEMBERSHIP** shall be conferred at the discretion of the Committee. Honorary membership of the club will not confer flying status on the honorary member unless the said honorary member is a member of the BMFA. Honorary memberships shall be recorded by the issue of a Certificate.
- e) **GUESTS** are only permitted to fly by arrangement with a Committee Member. They will only be allowed to fly on the following basis: -
 - i) They produce proof of adequate third party insurance cover, which is equal to the BMFA cover or better.
 - ii) They produce proof that they hold an A or B Certificate and satisfy that Committee Member that their standard of flying is in keeping with their certification.
 - iii) They use the Guest Peg held by the Committee Member.
 - iv) They are accompanied by the host member at all times and abide by Club Rules.
 - v) The host member shall be **TOTALLY** responsible for his guest's conduct.
 - vi) If the guest appears on a regular basis, he/she will be asked to join the Club.
- f) In the event that it be necessary to limit the number of members admitted to the club for whatever reason the membership limits shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting.
- g) New members who are not existing members of the BMFA will be required to join the BMFA as a condition of membership of the Club. Should a member relinquish BMFA membership then their membership of the Club will be deemed to have lapsed.
- h) 1 Applications for membership of the Club shall be submitted in writing with the appropriate (joining and other) fees.

- 2 New members are subject to a 3-month probationary period after which their membership will be confirmed by the Committee.
- 3 Members will be expected to sign to say that they have read the Club's Constitution and Rules, understood them and are prepared to be bound by them.

4. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- a) The amount of any initial "joining fee" and the amount of annual subscriptions shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting.
- b) The annual club subscription shall be payable by December 31st and shall cover membership for the forthcoming calendar year. All persons joining the club pay the full membership fee. New members joining after 1st January 2012 will pay £100 which includes a joining fee. However, new members joining on or after July 1st will receive a credit of 50% of the current year's club fee in the following membership year, providing they re-join. This does not apply to lapsed members.
- c) Existing members, who do not renew their membership by making the appropriate cleared funds available to the Secretary on or before 31st December, will be deemed to be lapsed members. Lapsed members will be required to pay £100 to re-join the club, if they wish to renew their membership of the club for the current year.
- d) New members who are not existing members of the BMFA will be required to join the BMFA as a condition of membership of the Club and shall pay the BMFA subscription in addition to that of the Club. On payment of the BMFA subscription, the Club will issue the requisite BMFA Certificate of Insurance, which is required by all members flying under Club rules.

5. OFFICE BEARERS

- a) The Office Bearers shall be the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, PRO/Newsletter Editor, Safety Officer, Training Officer and one other. All Office Bearers shall retire annually, but shall be eligible for re-election.
- b) The Office Bearers will be exempted from paying Club subscriptions during their period of office but they must continue to pay their BMFA subscription.

6. COMMITTEE

- a) The day to day business of the Club shall be managed by a Committee of 7, including the Office Bearers.
- b) The Committee shall have the authority to co-opt up to a further 2 Committee members at their discretion.
- c) The Committee shall be responsible for the production and maintenance of the Club's Flying Rules which shall be binding on all members operating on any site being used officially by the Club.
- d) **BYE-LAWS** - The Committee, during their term of office, may vary the Flying Rules at their discretion and may also pass Bye-Laws relating to other aspects of the Club's activities; such variations and Bye-Laws are to be ratified at the next AGM.
- e) **QUORUM** - A quorum of any Committee meeting shall consist of a majority of Committee members including co-opted members.
- f) All Committee members shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election.
- g) 1 **INDEMNITY** - If a Committee member engages or becomes involved in Court Proceedings, whether criminal or civil, in his representative capacity on behalf of the Club, as opposed to in his capacity as a private individual notwithstanding that he is taking part in club activities but in circumstances where it would be unreasonable for the Club as a whole to ratify his actions, then in the former instance, i.e. in his representative capacity, the Club will indemnify him, the Committee member, in respect of any fines or damages or costs awarded against the Committee member. In the event of a Committee member being awarded damages or costs in the course of proceedings taken by him in a representative capacity of the Club such damages or costs will belong to the club and not the Committee member personally and forthwith upon receipt by the Committee member that Committee member will pay such damages or costs to the Club Treasurer.

- 2 In the event of a claim from a third party being made against the club no Committee Member

or other member will be held more responsible than any other member of the Club.

7. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- a) An Annual General Meeting shall be held on the first suitable date after November 1st and should generally be the first meeting in November and for which at least 14 days notice shall be given. The meeting shall consider the reports of the Chairman and Treasurer for the ensuing year. A Temporary Chairman will be elected to conduct the election of the new Committee.
- b) A quorum of the AGM shall consist of 19 paid up Senior Members. Failing a quorum an Extraordinary General meeting will be called within 1 month of the date of the AGM.
- c) Nominations for positions on the Committee will be proposed from the floor and seconded from the floor by members present. The nominations will be put to the vote, a majority being decided by a show of hands. Each senior member shall be entitled to 1 vote. The temporary Chairman will have a casting vote in the event of a tie. Only senior members will be eligible for posts on the Committee.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS

- d) An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called for by a request from not less than 20% of the senior members, or by the Committee by a majority vote. A quorum of 50% of the persons requesting the EGM shall be present or the meeting is cancelled. The business shall be confined to the items contained in the written request for the EGM. Voting shall be by show of hands. Each senior member shall be entitled to 1 vote. The date of effect of resolutions shall be decided by a majority vote of the meeting.

IN THE EVENT OF A TIE

- e) In the event of a tie the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote at all General Meetings. The Chairman of the Club shall, ex-officio, be the Chairman at all General Meetings and, in his absence, a Chairman shall be elected from the members present at the commencement of the meeting.

ALTERATIONS TO THE RULES

- f) No alteration to these rules will be made except at a General Meeting of Club members and only after all members have been notified in writing of the intention to propose alterations to the rules at that meeting. Such alterations and additions must be agreed by a two-thirds majority of the members present. Postal votes will be counted if they are in the Secretary's hands by the day of the meeting.

8. FINANCE

- a) **AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS** - A financial statement, duly signed by the Auditor, shall be submitted to the membership at the AGM.
- b) **BANKING** - The funds of the Club shall be lodged in a bank account approved by the Committee.
- c) **WITHDRAWAL OF FUNDS** - Money may be drawn from the Club's accounts on any two signatures of the Chairman, the Secretary or the Treasurer.
- d) **CLUB PROPERTY**- The Committee shall be responsible for all property belonging to the Club, maintaining a current inventory, which will be available to the Club's Auditor as requested.

9. FLYING RULES

- a) 1 The Flying Rules shall apply to all Club members whilst operating on any site officially approved and recognised by the Club for Club flying.
2 The Flying Rules shall be subject to review.
- b) The official Club site is at Folly Farm, Hardwick. Overflying of housing, schools, etc. is not permitted and flying should be in accordance with the general rules governing model flying laid down in the latest edition of the BMFA Member's Handbook.
- c) 1 Members joining after 1st June 2000 who do not have certification shall NOT fly on club fields except under the supervision of an instructor approved by the Committee.
2 Members joining after 1st June 2000 who have certification will not be allowed to fly on

club fields until they have satisfied the Training Officer of their ability to fly the appropriate schedule of manoeuvres. Regardless of certification, they will be required to join the club's training scheme if the Training Officer is not satisfied with their flying ability.

- 3 Members joining after 1st June 2000 with certification in Fixed Wing Power, Helicopter, or Glider/Electric, may only fly solo (subject to 9 c) 1 & 2 above) in the discipline for which they have certification.
- 4 Lapsed members who do not have certification shall NOT fly on club fields except under the supervision of an instructor approved by the Committee.

d) **INSURANCE**

BMFA/SMAE insurance is mandatory for all Club flying members.

e) **R/C FREQUENCIES**

Club members are required to meet any statutory requirements and BMFA/SMAE requirements regarding the use of radio for the remote control of models.

- f)
- 1
 - i. The control of the allocation of all frequencies for radio control transmission shall be by means of coded pegs. Only those pegs supplied to members by the Club shall be used. **IF YOU FORGET TO BRING YOUR CLUB PEG WITH YOU TO THE FLYING SITE YOU ARE PROHIBITED FROM FLYING**
 - ii. UNCERTIFICATED NOVICE pilots will have RED pegs,
"A" CERTIFICATE pilots will have SILVER pegs,
"B" CERTIFICATE pilots will have GOLD pegs and
GUEST pilots will use RED pegs marked with the word 'guest'.
 - iii. FIXED WING pegs will have no additional marking,
HELICOPTER pegs will be marked with a letter 'H',
GLIDER/ELECTRIC pegs will be marked with the letters 'G/E'.
 - 2 No member shall switch on a radio control transmitter or receiver without having the appropriate peg attached to the Club peg board in the space allocated to the frequency the member intends to use. When the member switches off his transmitter then his frequency peg **MUST BE REMOVED** from the pegboard.
 - 3 A member is required to indicate the frequency he is using by displaying the appropriate pennant on his transmitter. Those using 35MHz should show the channel number of the installed crystal in white letters or in black letters on a white background.
 - 4
 - i 27 MHz frequencies can be used on the Club flying fields but normally only the 6 standard colours are permitted i.e. Brown, Red, Orange, Yellow, Green and Blue. Split frequencies are forbidden.
 - ii a) 35MHz. Normally all the available numbered frequencies may be used on the Club flying fields i.e. 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89 & 90.

b) However, you may not use adjacent frequencies for normal flying activities. Adjacent frequencies may be used at Competitions at the discretion of the Competition Director.
 - iii 459 MHz. All frequencies, 1 to 39, are permitted.
 - iv The use of 2.4GHz is permitted, but members will still be required to display an official 2.4GHz peg on the pegboard.
 - 5 ALL transmitters on site must have their aerials retracted, unless the operator has claimed the use of a frequency by putting his personal peg issued to him by the Club onto the Club pegboard, when the said transmitters are not being used to fly an aircraft.
 - 6 PCM radios should have their default settings checked to ensure that the Failsafe is set to

close the throttle to tick-over. If transmitters normally used with PPM receivers change to PCM by a change of receiver then failsafe is automatically selected even though no other transmitter settings are altered and **THERE IS NO WARNING GIVEN** by the equipment to the pilot of the change. In this situation the default should be set to close the throttle to tick-over as above.

g) **TYPES OF MODELS**

Operation is restricted to the following types of models:

- 1
 - i Models powered by internal combustion engines shall only be flown at Folly Farm during the days and times set out in the table below.
 - ii Models powered by I/C engines must comply with the Code of Practice on Noise from Model Aircraft 1982 insofar as the maximum sound pressure level shall be no greater than 82dB(A) with the model at 7 metres from the noise meter and being held 1 metre above ground level. The method of test shall be as detailed in the Code of Practice and the BMFA Member's Handbook.
 - iii Should the model pass the above test but still appears objectionable when flying the Committee reserves the right to prohibit further flying of the model.
- 2 Electric, rubber powered models and gliders may be flown at any time.
- 3 Helicopters.
 - i Helicopter pilots will not be allowed to fly at Folly Farm until they have passed the BMFA "A" Certificate (Helicopter) examination.
 - ii When flying at Folly Farm helicopters will fly in the circuit with the fixed wing aircraft. There will be no extended hovering over one spot on or adjacent to the landing strip.
- 4 Large Models.
 - i A large model is defined as one which weighs between 7Kg and 20Kg without its fuel but including any article or equipment attached to the aircraft at the commencement of its flight. No models, which weigh over 20Kg, will be flown on Club fields.
 - ii Large models may only be flown at Folly Farm:
 - a) When the weather is suitable.
 - b) Within sight of the operator at all times.
 - c) At least 50 metres clear of persons, vessels or structures. (This may be reduced to 30 metres for take-off and landing)
 - d) With a serviceable fail-safe mechanism incorporated.
 - e) With any payload secured.
 - f) When the operator of the aircraft has satisfied himself/herself that the flight can safely be made.
 - g) To the North side of the patch.
 - iii Large models may only be flown by members holding an appropriate BMFA 'B' Certificate.
 - iv The Committee reserve the right to examine all models to check their weight, construction, airworthiness, compliance with regulations/rules and to refuse permission for a model to be flown if it does not meet with their satisfaction.
 - v Members operating large models with petrol engines shall provide themselves with a suitable fire extinguisher.

h) **FLYING AT FOLLY FARM**

Flying days and times for I/C powered models - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and

Saturday - 10am to 8pm
Sunday and Bank Holidays - 9.30am to 5pm

j) **FLYING ON ALL CLUB SITES**

Use of the mown strip:

- 1 Members will position themselves and their equipment in the mown pits area adjacent to the timber benches. The pits area shall be at least 30m from the active runway.
No I.C. engines or electric motors are to be started or run in the pits area. A designated area has been provided away from the pits where I.C. and electric motors may be test-run, with the propeller facing the hedge. Users of 27 and 35MHz radio **must** keep their transmitter aerials retracted when using this area.
- 2 No more than 3 radio controlled I/C fixed wing OR 2 fixed wing aircraft plus 1 helicopter to be airborne at any one time.
- 3
 - i Under no circumstances shall models land over or towards or take off from the pits area.
 - ii After landing models shall not be taxied from the active runway toward the pits.
- 4
 - i There must be an area of dead air space containing the pits area, the car park and a safe pedestrian approach between the two. The dead airspace should be a segment of at least 90 degrees containing the above and ALL flying should take place outside of the dead airspace. Nobody should fly within the area of dead airspace.
 - ii Members must not fly in such a manner that is likely to endanger other members or visitors to the site.
- 5 Any flying over the active runway **MUST** be in the designated landing direction. This avoids conflicting flight patterns over the active runway but does not prohibit other styles of flying away from it.
- 6 Pilots involved in "dead stick landings" as a result of an engine cut shall have priority for landing over all other R/C models. "Dead stick" is to be called clearly by the pilot.
- 7 Pilots shall call "Landing" when they want to land and they will have priority runway use overall except pilots landing "dead stick".
- 8 Faulty models must be landed immediately.

k) **FIELD MAINTENANCE**

- 1 The take off area on the Club flying site is to be mown by a contractor employed by the Club.
- 2 Members are required to assist with working parties from time to time when their help is requested.

l) **RESPONSIBILITY AND DISCIPLINE**

- 1 EVERY member is responsible to the Club to ensure that by his or her behaviour he or she does not jeopardise the use of our flying site(s) for other members.
- 2 Any member has the power to act should he or she think that any other member is breaking the rules. Any subsequent action taken should be reported to the Committee as soon as possible.
- 3 We have the use of our flying site while good relations are maintained with our landlord and other neighbours in the surrounding villages. In order to keep our flying site we expect everyone who uses it to do so sensibly, quietly and safely.
- 4
 - i The Committee shall have the right to expel or suspend any member of the Club in cases of misconduct or intentional breach of the Club Constitution or Flying Rules. Such a decision will be communicated in writing to the person or persons concerned.

ii Any member expelled or resigning from the Club shall forfeit all subscriptions paid.

m) **CAR PARKING AND ACCESS TO THE STRIP**

- 1 The sketch maps at the end of these rules are self-explanatory.
- 2 Park in such a way as not to obstruct the access roads and adjacent gateways with the front of your vehicle facing Hardwick village, not the farm.
- 3 When off public roads approach our flying sites at low speed.
- 4 When a hay crop is being grown members should restrict themselves to one access path to the flying strip.
- 5 While a hay crop is growing the use of bungees or towlines will not be allowed.
- 6 While a hay crop is growing members are asked not to spread themselves, their models and equipment in the surrounding long grass but to restrict their presence to the designated pits area.