

# **CONSTITUTION OF GUISBOROUGH MODEL FLYING CLUB LIMITED**



## **1. TITLE**

The name of the Club is **Guisborough Model Flying Club Limited**

## **2. OBJECTIVES**

To assist members in improving their flying standards and to ensure strict observance of Club Rules with regard to safety.

To provide facilities for the sport, education, construction and flying of model aircraft for the benefit of the members and the wider community and to encourage social activities related to flying within the Club.

The Club will affiliate to the national governing body; the Society of Model Aeronautical Engineers (SMAE) trading as the British Model Flying Association (BMFA), promoting their policies, guidelines, and rules.

## **3. MEMBERSHIP**

Persons wishing to join the Club will be Probationary Members for the first twelve months.

Approvals for new memberships and changes from Probationary Members to Full Members will require review by the committee either at a meeting or via some other means.

The Club membership period is from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December (inclusive). Any Member, who has not paid the subscriptions for the ensuing year prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> January will not be permitted to fly until they have done so. BMFA membership, CAA registration and all other legal requirements must be in place before flying.

Ordinary Membership. There shall be two classes of Ordinary Membership, viz., Senior and Junior. Persons over eighteen years of age seeking membership shall be required to seek Senior Membership. Persons aged eighteen years or under at the time of joining, or who are undergoing full-time education, will be classed as Junior Members for the remainder of the Club year.

Honorary Membership. Honorary Membership may be awarded at the discretion of the Committee and will be announced at the AGM.

Social Membership shall be offered to non-flying persons who may wish to attend social events organised by the Club but do not wish to participate in either model flying or organisation of the Club.

Members who gain BMFA membership through another club or directly from the BMFA will be required to provide proof of same before Club subscriptions will be accepted and shall be deemed Country Members. Country Membership is a sub classification of any of the previously noted Probationary, Ordinary or Honorary Memberships rather than alternative membership type.

Persons joining the Club will agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of the Club Constitution, Club Rules, Club Privacy Policy and Safeguarding guidelines.

Club membership will be limited to maintain satisfactory arrangements at the flying field. The limit will nominally be set at 65 members but can be increased at the committee's discretion based on the number of active flying members.

In the event that the membership is capped, a list will be maintained and when available, membership offered to approved persons on the list.

Members who do not subscribe to the Club prior to the end of February will be deemed to be lapsed members. Lapsed members who wish to re-join the Club may be added to the list if membership has been capped due to high numbers.

The committee will favour new members who have previously lapsed due to illness or who are local.

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## **4. SUBSCRIPTIONS AND MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS**

The annual subscription shall be determined at the AGM.

The annual subscription shall constitute the annual Club fee plus the BMFA membership fee. A reduced Club fee of 50% of the annual fee is applicable for 'first time' members when joining after July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Junior members will not be required to pay a club subscription but they will be required to have BMFA junior membership.

As a condition of membership, all members must ensure they are registered on the BMFA portal and, irrespective of other Club memberships, or a Country membership, must select to join GMFC either as their primary or other club membership.

Membership Payments to the Club may be by direct bank transfer or cheque.

All members will be expected to pay additional fees in order to legally conduct model flying activities, including BMFA membership and CAA registration, directly to the relevant authority, in a timely manner so as not to lapse such a requirement.

## **5. CLUB OFFICIALS**

Ideally the Committee will consist of a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary and three other Members. Members eligible for Committee posts are adult Ordinary, Probationary or Honorary Members.

All experienced and willing committee members may assume the role of Safety Representative when at the flying site, the responsibilities of which will be set out in the Club Rules and Risk Assessment. The committee may also request Club instructors, examiners or senior members to assist as Safety Representatives if so willing and able.

## **6. PROCEDURE FOR DISMISSAL OF MEMBERS**

The Committee shall be responsible for the running of the Club, and in particular shall have the power to either refuse membership to any applicant or to initiate action that may lead to the suspension or termination of membership of any Member who, in the opinion of the Committee, could in any way jeopardise the safe and/or harmonious operation of the Club and its activities or relationships between individual members thereof.

Probationary Members may have their membership terminated at the discretion of the Committee at any time for unsatisfactory conduct. Depending on the severity of the offence, a warning may be issued in the first instance.

The following procedure applies to the dismissal of Ordinary, Honorary and Social Members.

- A. The Member will be given a verbal warning by an authorised Committee Member in which the Member is made aware of their misdemeanour and what the Member is reasonably required to do to make amends.
- B. If the Member does not respond, the Member will be given a written warning by an authorised Member of the Committee to advise them of their misdemeanour and what the Member is reasonably required to do to make amends.
- C. If the Member still fails to respond, the Committee will invite the Member in writing to meet with them at a previously agreed date and time to discuss the situation, advising they are considering withdrawal of their membership.
- D. If the Member still fails to respond to reasoning or fails to attend without reasonable cause, the Committee may advise the Member in writing that membership has been withdrawn, stating the reasons why this decision has been reached. The Member's Club membership fee will be returned.
- E. When the Member is advised of withdrawal of Membership, the Member will be given the right to appeal. If the Member opts to appeal, this will be to the Club Membership at an EGM, which the Committee will call on the Member's behalf at a previously agreed date and time.

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In the case of gross misconduct, elements "A" or "A" and "B" may be omitted, but this will only be for exceptional circumstances and advice will be sought from the BMFA in these instances.

## **7. COMMITTEE**

**Business.** The elected Committee shall manage the business of the Club.

**Flying sites.** The Club Committee and Members shall be responsible for implementing and maintaining "Flying Site Rules", which shall be binding on all Members operating on any site under the control of the Club.

**Quorum.** A quorum of any meeting shall consist of a majority of the Committee Members including co-opted Members. The Chairman shall have the casting vote in any unresolved business.

**Frequency of Meetings.** The Committee shall endeavour to meet each month.

## **8. DIRECTORS**

The Club is a registered company and to fulfil its legal requirements will require two (2) Directors who shall be appointed from time to time as necessary by the Committee. The Directors shall be Committee Members, preferably the Chairman and Secretary.

The Directors shall in all respects act in accordance with the lawful directions of the Committee (which shall be duly recorded in the Minutes of the Committee meeting).

## **9. INDEMNITY**

The Club will ensure that appropriate third party public and civil liability indemnity cover is maintained to provide indemnity to Committee Members who become engaged in activities on behalf of the Club, which could include being involved in court proceedings: The Club will take advice and follow the recommendations of the BMFA in this respect, as that organisation provides committee liability indemnity cover as a feature of its club affiliation process.

In the event of the Committee Member being awarded damages or costs in the course of the proceedings taken by him in their representative capacity, then such damages or costs will become the property of the Club and not the Committee Member personally, and forthwith, upon receipt by the Committee Member, that Member will pay them to the Club Treasurer.

## **10. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

An Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall take place in November each year, for which fourteen days' notice will be given. The AGM shall consider the reports of the Elected Officers, receive the annual accounts and elect or re-elect Officers for the ensuing year. The Committee shall retire each year at the AGM. The Club shall endeavour to replace Committee Members after a 4 year period of continuous service (regardless of position held or changes between positions) to bring fresh ideas into the running of the Club. The new Committee shall be elected either by a show of hands or by written vote.

**Voting.** Each Ordinary and Honorary Member shall be entitled to one vote. Proposals will be passed by a majority of the Ordinary and Honorary Members present at the meeting. The Chairman shall have the casting vote in any unresolved business.

**Quorum.** A quorum shall be one third of the total number of Ordinary and Honorary Members within the Club.

## **11. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING**

An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be called by the Committee. The Chairman or Secretary shall publish a date, with a list of items to be discussed, at least fourteen days before the date of the meeting.

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An EGM may be called by not less than 10% of the Members by way of a written request to the Committee signed by the said 10% with a list of items to be discussed at least twenty-eight days before the date of the meeting.

If a request for a meeting is made in accordance with the above paragraph and this meeting is not called within twenty eight days of the request, the requesters may themselves convene an EGM by giving twenty eight days written notice to all Members, setting out a list of all items to be discussed. Any resolutions passed at this meeting shall in effect be as though passed by the Committee.

**Voting.** Each Ordinary and Honorary Member shall be entitled to one vote. Proposals will be passed by a majority of the Ordinary and Honorary Members present at the meeting. The Chairman shall have the casting vote in any unresolved business.

**Quorum.** A quorum shall be one third of the total number of Ordinary and Honorary Members within the Club.

## 12. DISSOLUTION AND WINDING-UP OF THE CLUB

In the event that circumstances arise which would cause the Club to cease its activities then an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called. Six weeks' notice of this meeting shall be given in writing to all Members.

The meeting shall consider the situation and if more than 75% of the Ordinary or Honorary Members present at the meeting vote in favour of the motion then the Club will immediately cease its activities.

After all outstanding liabilities have been settled the balance of the funds remaining will be offered to a named charity or charities. The chosen charities are to be reviewed annually and agreed by the Membership at the Annual General Meeting.

## 13. CHANGE OF CONSTITUTION

The Constitution can only be changed at an Extraordinary General Meeting or an Annual General Meeting. The proposed changes will be made if more than two thirds of the Ordinary and Honorary Members present at the meeting vote in favour of the changes. The revised Constitution will come into effect from that point forward.

This Constitution was approved by Members of the Guisborough Model Flying Club on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairman)

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(Secretary)

Document amended November 2024