



Club Number 448

GATESHEAD MODEL FLYING CLUB RULES



1. INSURANCE.

- a) Before operating a model on any club site, the member must have a valid Certificate of BMFA Insurance.
- b) Any damage caused by a member's model must be reported to a committee member as soon as possible.

2. FREQUENCIES.

- a) A frequency pennant shall be displayed on every transmitter in use and a frequency peg shall be provided by each member, clearly showing frequency number.
- b) This peg must be attached to a designated pegboard before the respective transmitter is switched on.
- c) No adjacent frequencies are to be used simultaneously.
- d) It is the responsibility of whoever is in control of a transmitter to ascertain that their specific frequency is free to use before switching on.
- e) When using 2.4Ghz radios, your peg should be placed in the appropriate section on the pegboard, however the need to display a frequency pennant is withdrawn.
- f) No more than 4 (FOUR) models may be flown at any one time, irrespective of the radio band being used.

3. NOISE.

Model engines must have an acceptable system of silencing and the noise level must not exceed 82db. The reading to be carried out within BMFA guidelines. Engines that exceed this level must not be flown until the member has achieved the required level. If an engine is considered too noisy and the level is in dispute, then the matter shall be resolved by the use of the Club noise level meter.

4. PARKING

- a) Vehicles must be parked within the confines of the flying site and in the appropriate place.
- b) Access to the flying site shall only be by the appropriate gate. All gates must be closed and secured after use. Climbing of fences is unacceptable.
- c) Access to the parking area shall be via the perimeter track only.
- d) No vehicles are to be driven over land between the perimeter track and the take off/landing area, except for grass cutting and by authorised disabled members.
- e) No vehicles, of any type, are to be taken into the field in muddy conditions.

5. FLYING:

Models up to 7kg can be flown by a G.M.F.C. Member who has passed the Solo Flying Certificate or the B.M.F.A. 'A' Certificate.

Models over 7kg can only be flown by 'B' Certificate holders.

YOU MUST NOT

- a) Fly over any adjacent highway.
- b) Fly before 10.00am and after dusk.
- c) Operate a model in a casual or dangerous manner in such a way to cause alarm or concern to other members.
- d) Retrieve any model from outside the confines of the flying site without the prior approval of the relevant landowner.
- e) Leave any litter or debris (e.g. Broken propeller blades, rubber bands etc.,) on the flying site.
- f) Fly any Control Line, helicopters or gas turbine powered aircraft.
- g) Allow children to roam about the field.
- h) Bring animals to the flying site

6. NEW MEMBERS

- a) Any new member must have their model checked by a competent flyer to determine that it is sound and airworthy before its maiden flight from the club flying site.
- b) Any prospective new member may fly as an accompanied guest (of an existing member) for a maximum of three days in any one year.

7. CLUB POLICY FOR CARING FOR CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS.

- All members, parents, guardians and carers are to comply with BMFA and club policies and guidelines for the promotion of welfare and care of children, copies of which are available from the British Model Flying Association on request.
- A junior member is defined as being under 18 years of age.
- A vulnerable adult is defined as a person of 18 years of age or over but through mental or physical attributes requires a higher level of supervision than would be normally commensurate with an adult member.
- A responsible adult is defined as a senior member or parent/guardian who has the clearance, experience, knowledge and training commensurate with the type and degree of supervision required.
- Junior members must be supervised at all times by a responsible adult. The level of supervision is to be commensurate with the junior member's age, maturity, capabilities and levels of experience.
- Junior members under the age of 14 years shall not start an engine or carry a model with the engine running unless they are supervised by a responsible adult.
- No child or vulnerable adult shall undertake any activity which might place him or her at risk. In any event prior consultation with their parent, guardian or carer must take place if there is any doubt on the member's abilities to undertake a specific activity.
- No senior member is to be expected to assume responsibility for a child or a vulnerable adult unless he/she has been specifically requested to do so by the parent, guardian or carer. If required to do so, he/she is to assume complete and total responsibility for the child or vulnerable adult whilst he/she is in their charge.
- Notwithstanding the requirements of the previous paragraph, should a member discover a child or vulnerable adult that is unsupervised then he/she must assume responsibility for that person's safety in the first instance. The situation should then be rectified as soon as possible by seeking out the parent, guardian, carer or nominated supervisor. Any instance of such an occurrence is to be reported to the club committee as soon as possible and a record made of the occurrence.
- Whilst supervising children or vulnerable adults, members should avoid placing themselves in a position that could be open to misinterpretation or question in accordance with BMFA policy. Remember, the policy is there to protect you as well as children and vulnerable adults.
- Should any member, parent, guardian, carer or the person themselves have concerns about the welfare of children or vulnerable adults then he or she is to contact *the Chairman* or any of the help lines which are available on request from the British Model Flying Association.
- All members are required to respect the rights and dignity of children and vulnerable adults and to promote their welfare. Caring is largely a matter of common sense provided everyone is clear on what is expected of them and a few simple principles are adhered to. It is not a responsibility to be feared but is, nevertheless, essential if we are to ensure that we are to be a club that offers opportunities for all.

8. FEES

All fees must be paid to the Treasurer by December 31st preceding the year of membership or a £20 joining fee will apply.

14th October 2009