

## CLUB RULES 2010

The club rules are in three sections: General, Administration and Flying

These Rules dated 30th December 2009 supersede all previous rules.

\* Please note updated rule, section 3-3a.

### Section 1 (General)

1. The Club will be affiliated to the “British Model Flying Association” as from the first day of January 1993. It is a condition of membership that all Members of this club are members of the British Model Flying Association.
2. The Committee of the Brighton Radio Flying Club shall consist of a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, an Honorary Secretary, an Honorary Treasurer and three Committee Members.
3. Applicants will be accepted from outside our area up to a limit of ninety members, ten memberships being held in reserve for Brighton and Hove residents. The Committee will give priority to applicants who do not hold membership of another club. Any member who leaves the area shall be entitled to retain and renew his/her membership.
4. All applicants for membership are required to attend, by arrangement, the monthly club Committee meeting before being formally accepted. The applicant will be given the opportunity to prove his/her competence to fly or to arrange tuition. The Committee reserves the right to refuse membership without explanation.
5. Vehicles are not permitted on the field at any time, unless carrying out club business, or with the permission of the Committee as a whole.
6. Members are expected to observe the rules of the countryside and avoid any damage to adjoining farmland. No debris shall be left on the flying site, adjoining farmland or car park.
7. Members can gain access to the flying field only by obtaining a set of keys requiring the payment of a non-returnable joining fee. The keys remain the property of the BRFC and should be returned on termination of membership. (Members who joined prior to 2006 remain entitled to the return of their £30 key deposit) The key is not transferable and is not to be copied. When entering or leaving the car park, members MUST lock the gate behind them at all times. No parking is permitted outside the gate. Members are welcome to bring along their families or friends, but are requested to use one car to avoid congestion. No pets are permitted on the flying site.
8. Members elected to the Committee will not hold office on any committee of any other model flying club.
9. The Club will not be used for the furtherance of commercial gain or any other commercial activities.

### Section 2. (Administration)

The Club annual subscription shall be determined and approved at the “Annual General Meeting” and shall include the rental of the flying field. New members will be levied a joining fee, also to be determined at the “Annual General Meeting”. Subscriptions shall fall due on the first day of December, and must be paid in full by the February club meeting of the following year. Failure to do so will forfeit membership and the ex-member will be required to re-apply to the Committee for re-election and will be levied the joining fee.

There are four categories of members within the Club. All members will pay the annual BMFA fee.

- Senior Members (65 years and over) will pay 70% of the Club annual subscription.
- Junior Members (Up to 18 years) will pay 50% of the Club annual subscription.
- Student Members (over 18 years but still in full time education) will pay 50% of the Club annual subscription.
- Full Members (18 – 65 years) will pay the full Club annual subscription. Those joining on or after July 1st shall be entitled to a 50% reduction on subscriptions. However, we require the full joining fee.

All categories of membership will have full voting rights at club meetings.

Children of club members, providing those children are under 10 years of age, are entitled to free membership. They will also be required to hold membership of the BMFA.

3. The “Club Annual General Meeting” will be held in November of each year.

4. An “Extraordinary General Meeting” may be called by the Committee, or not less than 25% of the members of the Club with voting rights. At least 28 days notice in writing shall be given to the Honorary Secretary, who in turn shall give members at least 14 days notice in writing of the meeting and the agenda. No other business will be transacted at the “EGM”.

5. The quorum for the Committee shall consist of six members. In the absence of a quorum, business may be dealt with, but any decisions taken shall only become valid after ratification at the next meeting at which a full quorum exists.

6. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt members to the Committee without recourse to a general club ballot.

7. The City Council of Brighton and Hove require at least three named trustees to sign the lease for the field. They shall be the current Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the Honorary Treasurer.

### Section 3 (Flying)

The following rules and conditions were formulated for the flying of powered model aircraft at the Saddlescombe Road flying site.

It is essential to flying site safety that the following rules are strictly adhered to.

1. All members are strictly forbidden from flying on any other land that is managed or owned by the City of Brighton and Hove.
2. Only members of the Brighton Radio Flying Club are permitted to fly at the site, subject to certain conditions (see flying rules No. 18 and 19).
3. No member shall fly from the site unless (a) he/she holds a Club competence certificate, known as a “Permit to Fly”

card or (b) he/she is accompanied by a competence certificate (Permit to Fly) holder. The permit holder must be 16 years of age or over and have held a permit to fly for a minimum of six months. All such certificates (cards) together with membership cards shall be displayed on the member's flight box. (See 3B special requirements for operation of Model Gas Turbines.

\*3A Junior and Vulnerable Adult members shall only participate in club activities if accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or responsible adult who has written permission from the parent or legal guardian to supervise them. The club member undertaking this responsibility must be in receipt of an enhanced CRB clearance, which will be obtained by the club through the BMFA. This rule applies whether the juvenile and vulnerable adult is a permit holder or not.

3B. Gas turbines are to be operated in accordance with BMFA Code of Practice for Safe Operation of Model Gas Turbines (a copy of which can be obtained from the BMFA or the Committee) together with the following rules, which are specific to the Saddlescombe flying site.

a) The operator must be the holder of a BMFA 'B' certificate.

b) Solo operation is not permitted i.e. At least two people must attend to operate, both of which must be competent flyers.

c) A Carbon Dioxide fire extinguisher must be on stand-by at all times.

d) Testing or starting up shall take place only in the designated area where models must be pointed into wind and mechanically restrained at all times.

e) Immediately prior to take off a range check should be made with the model being restrained by the helper.

f) All other aircraft present, whether I.C. or Gas Turbine will be grounded with radios off during any flight or flights.

g) UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL A TAKE OFF BE PERMITTED IN AN  
EASTERLEY DIRECTION i.e. TOWARDS SADDLESCOMBE ROAD.

Rules a) to g) above will be subject to periodic reassessment.

4. Recognisable frequency numbers or numbered coloured pennants must be displayed on transmitters at all times. Anyone without, will not be permitted to fly. Those using 2.4 KHz radio must display a black ribbon pennant.

5. Each member will be provided with a blank frequency tag (4"x 2 1/2" with 1/2" hole, top centre), which is to be marked with the member's frequency number and name. Each tag must ONLY BE USED FOR ONE frequency number. If the member uses more than one frequency, then a separate tag for each frequency must be used.

A member's current frequency tag must be placed on the frequency board before switching on their transmitter, and if sharing a frequency with others, the tag must be hung on their transmitter when not in use.

Members operating on 2.4 MHz will be provided with a white tag, on which they must display their name and attach it to the black board above the frequency board.

6. There is no flying beyond the eastern boundary fence or a line extended through that fence of the Club's Flying site. (see diagram)
7. All taking off and landing must take place within the designated area. (see diagram)
8. All engines must be effectively silenced down to 80 db. The readings to be taken from a distance of 7metres at four equally spaced points. (The average of the four readings will be accepted).
9. All I.C. engine powered and electric powered fixed wing aircraft, but excluding electric powered hand lunched planes, must be mechanically restrained and facing the strip whilst being started. When started they must be physically restrained at all times until over the safety line, and upon returning to the pits must not be taxied over this line.
10. The purpose of the lines will be adhered to at all times(i.e. Safety zone, Pilot area and pits as shown in the diagram)
11. All radio equipment will be type approved for use within the UK and will carry a CE mark or a BMFA Type Approval Certificate.
12. Priority will be given to helicopter flyers up to 10.00 am seven days a week At other times helicopter permit holders are permitted to fly circuits alongside fixed wing aircraft, provided all flyers present at the time agree.
13. Flying at the site is only permitted during daylight hours.
14. No more than eight aircraft will be permitted to fly at any one time.
15. The Committee member or Committee members, when present at the field will be responsible for the safety of the site. Anyone flying after the Committee member(s) have, for any reason closed the field, will be banned for one calendar month. This penalty will also cover any other infringement of the Clubs rules.
16. Members shall not climb over the barbed wire perimeter fences under any circumstances. To gain access to models landing outside the flying field, members must use the folding steps provided adjacent to the toilet area at the western edge of the flying field. If the model is beyond the next fence the steps can be unhooked from the fence post and carried across.
17. Should a serious incident occur involving people, property or animals, the member involved in the incident must IMMEDIATELY inform a Committee member and give details.
18. The Committee may from time to time invite another club to the field to fly in an event. The Committee must be satisfied that the other club are affiliated to the BMFA and carry BMFA insurance. Any such event shall be run strictly in accordance with BRFC rules. The Committee may invite on June, July or August club nights a guest or guest fliers for demonstrations or entertainment purposes.
19. At the Committee's discretion a member is occasionally entitled to bring a guest to fly at the field for the day, subject to the following conditions:- a) A Committee member's approval must be obtained beforehand. b) The guest flyer must be accompanied by the host member. c) The host member will be held responsible for the guest flyer's conduct to ensure compliance with BRFC rules. d) The guest will be required to produce proof of BMFA insurance with a minimum of an "A" certificate.
20. Club BMFA Examiners and BMFA registered Instructors are authorised to conduct the Club "Permit to Fly" test in addition to Club Committee members. An examining group will consist of :-

EITHER            One committee member and two examiner/instructors

OR Two committee members and one examiner/instructor

21. Due to frequency clashes, and some reported accidents at the Sussex Model Club flying site at Coombes, no radio controlled model flying, by any member, is to be undertaken at Steyning Bowl.

22. All mobile telephones inside the flying area, that area bounded by the rabbit proof fence, must be switched off at all times. Any mobile phones that need to remain switched on must be placed in the rack provided beside the entrance gate to the pits and flying area.

23. To minimise the risk of fire, smoking and the use of naked flames is not permitted within the pits area. (Smoking is permitted in the seating area behind the pits)

24. Any infringement of these rules and conditions shall bear serious consequences and disciplinary action will be taken against any member flying in an irresponsible manner. The alleged offender shall in all cases be given a fair hearing. In all cases the Committee's decision will be final.