

# LANSDOWN MODEL FLYING CLUB

## CONSTITUTION 2014

### OBJECTS

The aims of the Lansdown Model Flying Club, herein after referred to as 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 Limited), herein after referred to as the BMFA/SMAE.
- e) To promote youth involvement.

### MEMBERSHIP

- a) **ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP** – There shall be two classes of Ordinary Membership viz. SENIOR and JUNIOR. Persons seeking membership who are aged 18 or over on the date of application for membership shall be required to join as SENIOR. Those under the age of 18 on the date of application may join as junior members for the remainder of the current Club year.
- b) **ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP** – There shall be two classes of Associate Membership viz. SENIOR and JUNIOR. Persons seeking membership who are aged 18 or over on the date of application for membership shall be required to join as SENIOR. Those under the age of 18 on the date of application may join as junior members for the remainder of the current Club year. This class of membership is for existing members of the BMFA/SMAE.
- c) **AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP** – for persons who do not participate in the flying or construction of models but provide either administrative or social support for the Club.
- d) **HONORARY MEMBERSHIP** – Honorary membership shall be conferred at the discretion of the Committee, and shall be life time membership.
- e) **MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS**. In the event of it being necessary to change the total number of members admitted to the Club to be greater than 40 Ordinary and Associate Senior members (for lease considerations or other reasons) the membership limits shall be amended at the Annual General Meeting .
- f) **NEW MEMBERS**. Application for membership shall be proposed and seconded by existing Senior Ordinary, Affiliate or Associate members and approved for membership by the Committee.

- g) **BMFA MEMBERSHIP.** New members, excepting Affiliate Members, who are not existing members of the BMFA/SMAE will be required to join the BMFA/SMAE as a condition of membership of the Club.

### **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

- a) The amount of any initial 'joining' fee and the amount of the annual subscriptions shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting.
- b) The annual subscription shall be payable before **1 February each year** and shall cover membership for the forthcoming calendar year.
- c) Memberships not renewed by **1 February** shall be deemed to have lapsed. **The member whose membership has lapsed will be required to apply for membership again and pay any joining fee/first year subscription applicable to new members at that time.**
- d) New members, excepting Affiliate Members, who are not existing members of the BMFA/SMAE will be required to join the BMFA/SMAE as a condition of membership of the Club and pay the BMFA/SMAE fee together with the Club subscription **to the membership secretary**. On payment of the fee the Club will issue the requisite BMFA/SMAE Certificate of Insurance, which is required by all members flying under Club Rules.

### **OFFICE BEARERS**

The Office-Bearers shall be Chairman, **Vice Chairman**, Secretary, Treasurer/**Membership Secretary**, Safety Officer and Chief Flying Instructor. All Office-Bearers shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election.

### **COMMITTEE**

- a) The business of the Club shall be managed by a committee of 5 including the Office-Bearers.
- b) The Committee shall have the authority to co-opt up to a further 2 members at their discretion.
- c) The Committee shall be responsible for the production and maintenance of Club '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 Clubs activities.
- e) **QUORUM** – A quorum of any Committee meeting shall consist of a majority of Committee members including co-opted members.
- f) **FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS** – The Committee shall meet at **least 3 times per year**.
- g) All Committee members shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election. This shall be at the club AGM performed by a show of hands. No postal voting shall be permitted at the AGM.
- h) **INDEMNITY** – If a Club 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, ie

in his representative capacity the Club will indemnify 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 representative capacity 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 them to the Club.

- i) An Annual General Meeting shall be held in December each year for which 14 days notice shall be given. The Meeting shall consider the reports of the **Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer/Membership Secretary**, Safety Officer and Chief Flying Instructor and elect Committee members and Office-Bearers for the ensuing year.
- j) An Extraordinary General Meeting may be held in the event of more than half of the full membership placing written notice to the committee and shall be convened 14 days following the application.
- k) Each Senior Ordinary, Senior Associate and Affiliate member shall be entitled to one vote.

#### **FINANCE**

- a) **AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS** – One Auditor, not an Office-Bearer, shall be appointed for the ensuing year at the Annual General Meeting. A financial statement, duly signed by the Auditor, shall be submitted to **and approved by** the membership at the Annual General Meeting.
- b) **BANKING** – The Funds of the Club shall be lodged in **a Building Society or Bank** Account.
- c) **WITHDRAWAL OF FUNDS** – Money may be drawn from the Club's account only on the two signatures of the Secretary and Treasurer/**Membership Secretary**.
- d) **DISSOLUTION** – Any remaining funds within the Club's Accounts after any outstanding debts have been paid shall be donated to a charitable, philanthropic or benevolent organisation that has the same or similar purpose of the Club.