

# **THE BRISTOL & GLOUCESTERSHIRE GLIDING CLUB**

## **RULES**

**By General Meeting on 28th January 2017**

### **STRUCTURE & MANAGEMENT**

The proprietors of the Club are The Bristol Gliding Club (Proprietary) Ltd. (“the PROPRIETARY Company”) who shall procure the management of the Club by Bristol & Gloucestershire Gliding Club Ltd. (the “OPERATING” Company).

The Operating Company is a wholly owned subsidiary company of the Proprietary Company.

The Registered Office of both Companies is:

The Clubhouse, Nympsfield Airfield, Nr. Stonehouse, Glos. GL10 3TX

The objects of the Club are to promote, encourage, develop and provide facilities for the sport of gliding and soaring as defined in Class D by the Federation Aeronautique Internationale. To achieve this the Operating Company leases from the Proprietary Company the flying field, buildings and equipment as defined in the inter-company Lease dated 15th December 1977.

The Operating Company shall be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of premises and equipment provided by the Proprietary Company, together with a payment of a charge for wear and tear and field rental. It will also be responsible for the “day to day” expenses in running the Club.

The Board of Directors of the Proprietary Company comprises not less than two and not more than five directors and each shall hold at least one share in the company in accordance with the Company’s Articles of Association and the Companies Act.

The Board of Directors of the Operating Company consists of three directors who must be members of the committee but not directors of the Proprietary Company.

The Directors of both Companies shall be appointed by the Committee and must be full members of the Club.

Any Director may be removed from office by duly authorised notice in writing from the Committee addressed to the Director at the Registered Office.

The Committee may appoint another Director in his place.

### **1. THE CLUB COMMITTEE**

(a) The Officers of the Club shall consist of a Chairman, a Vice-chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer, and may also include a President and up to three Vice-Presidents

(b) Any Presidents and Vice-Presidents shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the club and shall serve for life or for such shorter time as the Club shall appoint or until their appointment shall be determined by the Club in General Meeting

(c) The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected by the Club at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Club and shall serve in accordance with Rule 4 unless determined otherwise by a General Meeting of the Club.

2. The affairs of the Club in all matters not reserved for the Club in general meeting or otherwise for the decision of the general body of members shall be managed by the Club Committee.

3. The committee shall consist of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Marketing Representative and Estates representative. Also the Chief Flying Instructor as an ex-officio non-voting member. A quorum of the committee shall be 5 voting members. The Chairman, or any other committee member chairing the meeting in the absence of the Chairman, shall be a voting member and in the event of a hung decision shall have a casting vote.

4. All members of the Committee shall be elected at the AGM and shall serve until conclusion of the next AGM and shall be eligible for re-election.

5. The Committee shall appoint a Chief Flying Instructor and such other officials as it may deem necessary for the control of the activities of the Club and members of the Club in connection with all flying activities and such officials shall have full authority over members of the Club in such matters.

6. The committee shall meet at such times as its members shall arrange, either face-to-face or by electronic communication, in which latter case voting shall be by email to the secretary.

7. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt non-voting members to fill vacancies in their body, provided that at no time there are more members than were elected at the AGM. Members so co-opted shall serve until the next AGM of the Club.

8. The committee may appoint or dismiss such sub-committees and officials as it may deem desirable and delegate to them such powers as it may think fit. The Chairman of the club, or in his absence the Vice-Chairman, shall be ex-officio members of each such sub-committee.

9. The members of the Committee shall endeavour to attend all meetings of the Committee. Any member who is absent from four consecutive meetings without giving satisfactory reason in writing shall, subject to decision by the remainder of the Committee, be deemed to have resigned from the Committee.

10. The Committee may from time to time make, vary and revoke rules consistent with the rules of the Club and those of the Operating Company and the Proprietary Company for the regulation of the internal affairs of the Club and the conduct of its members.

11. All out of pocket expenses of the Officers and Committee of the Club reasonably incurred on behalf of the Club for travelling, stationary, printing, postage and other things will be paid by the Club.

12. Any dispute or difference which may arise as to the meaning or interpretation of these rules or any regulations or as to the powers of the Officers or Committee shall be determined by the Board of Directors of the Proprietary Company, whose decision shall be final and binding on all members of the Club.

### **13. MEMBERSHIP OF THE CLUB**

Membership of the club shall be open to all persons irrespective of ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or beliefs; or of age, sex, or disability except as a necessary consequence of the requirements of gliding as a particular sport.

Members of the Club shall be either Flying Members (comprising Junior, Cadet, Retired, Student, Country, Family and Adult Members), Associate and Junior Associate Members, Honorary Life Members, Temporary Members or Group members. Flying, Associate and Honorary Life Members shall be known collectively as Full Members of the Club.

### **14. FLYING MEMBERS**

(a) Flying Members shall be entitled to use all the Operating Company facilities in common with other members of the Club, including the use of instructional and flying facilities, subject to all the Club rules in force at that time. Flying Members shall be either:

- (i) If under 26 years of age on 1st April – Junior Members
- (ii) If under 18 years of age on 1st April – Cadet Member
- (iii) If in receipt of a State Retirement Pension – Retired Member.
- (iv) If a Student in full time education - Student Member
- (v) If resident more than 50 nautical miles in radius from the Proprietary Company's flying ground at Nympsfield - Country Member
- (vi) If from the family and household of another Flying Member, a Family Member. There shall not be more than one Family Member so related to any Flying Member.
- (vii) Otherwise, Adult Member.

It shall be an expectation of membership that all Flying members join at least one Team or other equivalent work in the support of club operations.

(b) Associate Members, shall be entitled to the same privileges as Flying Members, under the same conditions except that their gliding activities shall be limited to a maximum of 6 flights per year with Flying Members. Associate Members shall be either:

- (i) If less than 16 years on 1st April - a Junior Associate
- (ii) Otherwise an Associate Member

(c) Honorary Life Membership, in any category may be granted by a General meeting. Honorary Life Members shall be entitled to the same privileges as the membership category to which they have been elected, but shall not be required to pay any subscription.

(d) Temporary Members, are members wishing to join the Club for a period not exceeding 91 days. Such members may be entitled to use all of the Club's facilities as granted to Flying Members whilst attending Gliding Courses or Competitions, having Trial Lessons, or as members of another BGA Affiliated Club joining as Reciprocal Members.

(f) Group Membership: the Committee may grant membership to a group, under one of the membership categories listed, at a rate to be determined by the Committee. The criteria for and privileges of such membership must be published and specify the entitlement to use of the club's facilities, including any flying.

15. Every applicant for membership shall state the category of membership to which they wish to be elected and provide such evidence of their qualification for such category of membership as the Committee shall require. The Committee shall have absolute discretion over the category of membership to which such applicant shall be elected.

16. Every member of the Club shall be subject to these rules and flying regulations in force, but shall not by reason of their membership be under any financial liability for loss or damage in excess of the amount currently set by the Committee.

17. Applications for membership shall be made on the form supplied by the Club for the purpose. All applications must be accompanied by the necessary subscription and entrance fee (if any) and the nomination form is to be displayed in the Proprietary Company premises for at least two days before the candidate can be elected to membership of the Club.

18. It is a condition of acceptance of any person as a member of the Club that they exonerate the Club, the Operating Company and the Proprietary Company from any liability which may arise in respect of any loss of property or any injury they may suffer while a member of the Club. Each member undertakes in membership to make no claim against the Club, its members, the Operating Company or the Proprietary Company in respect thereof whether such loss, damage or personal injury arise by reason of the negligence of any person or from any cause whatsoever.

19. All applications for Full membership shall be accepted subject to a majority vote at the next available Committee meeting. Temporary members may be accepted by any Full member.

20. Any member who objects to an applicant may make their objection in writing (stating the grounds thereof) addressed to the Secretary who shall communicate the same to the Committee but to no other persons.

21. The club may refuse membership only for good and sufficient cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the club into disrepute. Appeal against the decision may be made to the club members and decided by a majority vote.

22. The Committee may caution, suspend or expel a member for any of the following:

i Un-sportsmanlike conduct.

ii Offensive behaviour

iii Conduct prejudicial to the interests of the Club.

iv A breach of any of the Club rules.

Any member believed by the Committee to be guilty of any of the above shall be given written notice of an opportunity to explain themselves to a Committee meeting before disciplinary action is taken.

23. A member who has been expelled shall forfeit all privileges of membership and all rights against the Club and its members, the Operating Company or the Proprietary Company and may not be admitted to any of the Proprietary Company premises of any description at any time, unless re-accepted as a member by the Committee.

24. The acceptance of any person as a Flying member does not imply any liability on the part of the Club to provide instruction, aircraft for hire or launching facilities, the Committee reserving the right to refuse the same at any time to any member.

25. All annual subscriptions shall fall due on April 1st each year. The Committee may authorise payment of subscriptions by instalments and shall have the right to scale down the annual subscription for any member elected after April 1st in any membership year. Any member whose subscription or instalment of subscription is overdue by one calendar month shall not be entitled to attend or vote at any meeting or to fly any aircraft at the Proprietary Company airfield. Any member whose subscription or instalment of subscription is overdue by two calendar months shall cease to be a member.

## **26. GENERAL MEETINGS**

(a) The AGM of the Club shall be held in the month of December (if possible) in each year and in any event not later than fifteen months after the preceding AGM, at a place and at a time to be decided by the Committee. Not less than 14 days notice in writing shall be given to all members entitled to attend the AGM, such notice to be given either by e-mail sent to the member's e-mail address held on record at the BGGC office, or by post at their registered postal address if no such record is held. Only Full members of the Club, over the age of sixteen years shall be entitled to vote at AGMs.

(b) The business of the AGM shall include:

i The election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and other members of the Committee. Any Full member over the age of 16 years who has been a Full member for more than one year may, with their consent, be proposed and seconded by any two Full members for election to any of the above. Such nomination must be sent to the Secretary not less than one day before the AGM.

ii Presentation for approval of the audited annual accounts.

iii Approval of the subscription rates for Flying and Associate membership categories.

27. An Extra-ordinary General Meeting (EGM) must be convened within five weeks of the receipt by the Club Secretary of a written resolution of one-fifth of the Full members of the Club or thirty Full members, whichever is the less. Not less than fourteen days notice in writing shall be given to all members entitled to attend the EGM. Such resolution must state the purpose for which such meeting is required. The Secretary must notify all members at their registered e-mail address or if no such record is held, their registered postal address of the resolution and time and place for such an EGM. No business other than that specified in the notice calling the meeting shall be transacted at the EGM.

## **28. LIQUOR**

(a) The sale and supply of intoxicating liquors and tobacco to the Club and its members and all related rules and regulations relating thereto shall be under control of the Committee.

(b) Intoxicating liquors shall only be sold during those hours specified by the licensing authorities and displayed in the Bar of the Clubhouse.

(c) No intoxicating liquors shall be supplied except to members or their guests in the Proprietary Company's Clubhouse, nor sold to any person who is not a member of the Club.

## **29. GUESTS**

(a) Members may introduce guests to the Club premises and shall be responsible for the guests they introduce and for the charges incurred for their entertainment. The Committee has the right, which it may delegate, to exclude any guest who in their opinion is an undesirable visitor.

(b) All guests or visitors to the Club who wish to use the Bar must sign the Visitor's Book as must the member introducing them.

## **30. RULES**

The Rules of the Club may from time to time be revoked, altered or added to by a Resolution passed at a General Meeting of the Club by a majority of the members present who are entitled to vote. Written notice of such Resolution in full shall be given with the notice calling the General Meeting at which such Resolution is to be considered. The consent of the Proprietary Company shall be required for any proposed alterations of/or addition to the rules which would have the effect of altering the objects of the Club or the qualification for membership.

## **31. SMOKING**

Smoking is prohibited in all club buildings and in or within five metres of all club gliders, tugs and vehicles.

Signed on behalf of the Committee:    Dated:

Signed on behalf of the Proprietary Company:    Dated: