

Hunsdon Microlight Club - Constitution

1 NAME

The name of this organisation shall be the Hunsdon Microlight Club (hereinafter referred to as the Club), and it is affiliated to and bound by the rules of the British Microlight Aircraft Association (hereinafter referred to as the BMAA).

2 PURPOSE

a) To create and promote interest in, and to advance and encourage the understanding and enjoyment of, microlight aviation, especially in Hertfordshire & Essex.

b) To maintain & protect the facilities to enable participation in microlight aviation at the airfield at the Hunsdon Lodge Estate.

c) To encourage participation from all members of the community.

d) To exchange knowledge and ideas to foster and develop safety and airmanship.

e) To assist members in obtaining flying skills, knowledge, and experience and to encourage and maintain high flying standards.

e) The club is committed to encouraging the highest standards. All individuals involved in the Club should conduct themselves with integrity, transparency, accountability and in a fair and equitable manner.

3 MEMBERSHIP & FEES

a) Membership is open to all, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs, and the Club is committed to equal opportunities. However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non discriminatory "first come – first served" basis.

b) Membership dues are paid quarterly in advance by standing order or electronic transfer only and will be as determined by the committee, & agreed by the AGM, for the categories below. Current dues will be published on the noticeboard. Late payment may result in such penalties as decided by the committee. The membership year runs from the 1st October each year.

c) Membership categories are formed on a non-discriminatory and fair basis and the Club will endeavour to keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating. In addition to qualified pilots, all students under training need to be members & will pay the appropriate subscription in addition to fees charged by the flying instructor(s) for their training. Instruction fees are the responsibility of, & due to, the flying instructor(s) & are not part of the clubs revenue or remit.

Membership categories are as follows:

"No storage" member - Covers use of airfield and facilities and free landings, but no hangarage or storage.

"Derigged" member - Covers use of the airfield and facilities and free landings & storage of a flexwing aircraft with the wing fully derigged & stored in its bag in the container

provided for this use.

“Fully/Semi-rigged” member - Covers use of the airfield and facilities and free landings & storage/parking of EITHER a flexwing aircraft with the aircraft fully or semi-rigged OR storage/parking of a 3-axis aircraft in any condition.

“Flying Instructor” member - Covers use of the airfield and facilities and free landings & storage/parking of a flexwing aircraft with the aircraft fully or semi-rigged & storage/parking of a 3-axis aircraft.

d) Membership binds a member to observe:

- this constitution & any bye-laws of the club,
- the lease agreement with the owners of the Hunsdon Lodge Estate,
- the Certificate of Lawful Use granted by the local authority,
- the Letter of Agreement between NATS & the club,
- the rules & regulations of the BMAA,
- the laws governing civil sport aviation in the U.K.

e) Each member will be bound to further to the best of his or her ability the objects and interests of the Club, and will undertake not to bring or join in any action claim or other proceedings against the Club, its officers, or members on account of their bona fide actions, not contrary to the Constitution and carried out in the course of fulfilling the Club's objects.

f) The club committee may refuse membership, or remove it, but only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club into disrepute. Appeal against refusal or removal may be made to the committee.

g) All members of the club shall also be members of the BMAA.

4 MANAGEMENT

a) Management of the Club shall be conducted by a committee consisting of:

Chair – Robert Parker (named on the lease)
Vice-Chair – Barry Cook (named on the lease)
Treasurer – Paul Eastlake
Chief Flying Instructor

b) The committee shall be trustees ex officio of the Club, and will deal with all matters relating to the Club not reserved to a General Meeting, including making and enforcing such bye-laws as the committee feel necessary to govern the activities of the Club.

c) Due to the terms of the lease agreement with the owners of the Hunsdon Lodge Estate, the membership of the committee shall be fixed for the length of that agreement. However, in the event of a vacancy, an EGM for the purpose of election shall be called in accordance with rules 5(b) & 5(c) below, unless the vacancy falls within six weeks prior to the AGM, in which case elections shall be at the AGM. If contested, such elections will be by secret ballot.

d) If more than one instructor is active at the airfield, the CFI position on the committee shall be determined by the other committee members. Other members of the committee shall not be flying instructors.

5 GENERAL MEETINGS

a) The Annual General Meeting shall be held during September to:

- i. Receive the Chairman's Annual Report
- ii. Receive the Treasurer's Report and approve the Annual Accounts.
- iii. Elect committee members to any vacancies See 4(c) above.
- iv. Agree annual membership fees for the following year.
- vi. Consider changes to the Constitution.
- vii. Review and consider any bye-laws.
- Vii. Discuss any other relevant business.

b) An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called by the committee, on a decision of a majority of its members, or if an application has been received in writing by the Chairman, supported by at least 30% of the members of the Club. The business discussed at the EGM will be limited to that specified to members in the notice of the meeting.

c) For both AGM's and EGM's:

- At least 14 days notice of the meeting and Agenda shall be given to all members, all of whom will be entitled to attend and vote.
- The quorum at General Meetings shall be 20% of the members and the quorum for committee Meetings shall be three out of the four committee members.
- All resolutions, except those changing this constitution, shall be decided on a simple majority vote. The Chairman shall have a casting vote in the event of a tie.
- Resolutions to change this constitution shall require a 90% majority.

6 FINANCE

a) The financial year shall run from 1st October to 30th September each year, and the Treasurer shall be responsible for the preparation of the Club's Annual Accounts.

b) All cheques drawn against the Club's funds shall be signed by two committee members. All committee members shall be signatories.

c) All members of the Club shall be jointly and severally responsible for the financial liabilities of the Club.

e) The Club is non-profit making. All surplus income shall be re-invested in the Club. No surpluses or assets shall be distributed to members or third parties.

f) The Club can enter into agreements with members for the supply to the Club of goods or services, or employ staff who are also members of the Club providing the terms are approved by the Committee (without the member concerned being present) and are on an arm's length basis.

7 DISSOLUTION

If, upon winding up or dissolution of the Club, there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any remaining assets, these shall be donated to charity.