



## **BMAC Safety Policy – February 2025**

The BMAC Committee has a policy of promoting safe operation of model aircraft within our Club and for the overall safety of members, and visitors. As such, we aim to enforce the relevant CAA Regulations, and we maintain in-force Club Rules aimed at achieving a safe environment. These Rules are based on the BMFA Guidelines and on local experience.

It is also our policy to arrange a site layout that provides the maximum safety margins within the parameters of the site. Whenever changes are made, such as for a special event, safety will always be considered before a layout is agreed upon and implemented.

In addition to this, we have a policy of ensuring that training is given to newcomers and that no person shall fly unsupervised until they have demonstrated adequate competence by passing the relevant BMFA - A certificate (or equivalent).

Having defined the precautionary measures above, it is our policy to ensure that Members are aware of the Rules and Regulations mentioned above because these constitute our Safety Plan. Also, we aim to ensure that all users of the Club's site are aware that it is their duty to behave in a manner that safeguards the wellbeing and safety of themselves and others. Note: See Annex 1 for the clubs safeguarding policy.

Each member of the Committee will have an equal duty to monitor behaviour at the site and advise site users of any non-adherence to Club policy. In cases of concern and for repeat transgressions, incidents will be reported to the Safety Officer.

In each of the above areas, the Committee will monitor developments and consider the need for updates to the Rules and practices in the light of experience and evolving circumstances.

Operational Safety will be an agenda item for each Committee Meeting.

-End-

Approved at January Committee meeting.

Bob McAlpine, BMAC Chairman

Mark Hemsley, BMAC Safety Officer

- **Annex 1: BMAC Safeguarding Policy**

### **Part 1: Children and Young People (under age 18)**

The Club has a long history of welcoming Children and Young people as members and guests, both at our flying venues and at other Club meetings. It is the Club's policy to continue with this approach and, on a basis of best



endeavour and recognising that we are not experts in this field, to keep in place certain provisions to ensure their safety and well-being whilst engaged with Club activities. These provisions are set out below:

Note – The following text refers to 'Child' or 'Children' but this is taken to include 'Young Person(s)' who are under 18. Similarly, 'Parent' is taken to include 'Guardian'.

### 1.1 Parental Supervision

It is Club policy and a Club Rule that Children are accompanied and supervised at all times by their Parent or Guardian. When joining the Club, parents are required to confirm in writing that they understand and will comply with this requirement. Parents may choose to constantly stand with the Child or they may judge it sufficient to supervise from a short distance, but they are required to maintain effective contact with the Child at all times.

### 1.2 Other Club Members

Upon joining the Club and from time to time thereafter, Members will be advised of good practice when interacting with Children. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Ensuring that the Member has made contact with the Parent at each visit and prior to interacting with the Child during that visit
- Avoiding any situation where effective supervision of the Child is compromised.
- Ensuring that any language or topic of discussion (with the Child or within the Child's earshot) is appropriate at all times.

In addition, all Members are expected to be alert to the physical safety of the Child and to intervene in the event of a hazard (e.g. exposure to injury from a propeller) or in the event of a potentially hazardous situation developing.

### 1.3 Notification of Concerns

Parents and Members will be informed that they should notify the Club Chairman or Secretary of any concerns regarding the safety or vulnerability of a Child. This should be done immediately upon the concern arising.

Written records of any notification of concern, together with records of the follow-up and outcome, shall be held by the Club and shall be open to inspection by the person raising the concern.

## Part 2: Vulnerable Adults

**Note:** - Vulnerable adults are defined as an individual age 18 or older who has the functional, mental, or physical inability to care for themselves. It can also refer to one who is unable to protect themselves against significant harm or exploitation.

### 2.1 Background

Unlike the situation with Children, the Club has little or no experience of accommodating Vulnerable Adults. However, the Club recognises that the needs of vulnerable adults and the nature of vulnerabilities are very varied and wide-ranging. The policy stated below is intended to address this diversity.

### 2.2 Assessment – New Applicants

In the event of a Membership application from a Vulnerable adult, the following procedure will apply:

- The applicant will be placed on the waiting list (if any) in the same manner as any other Adult applicant.
- Once on the waiting list, they will be contacted to understand the nature and extent of their vulnerability.
- Once this is done, the Committee will consider whether the Club can accommodate the applicant in a practical and safe manner.
- Consideration will be given to the means by which the new Member would ensure compliance with CAA registration and operation.



- In the event of a positive assessment, and when the applicant rises to the top of the waiting list, the measures needed to be taken by the applicant and by the Club will be devised in consultation with the applicant. These measures, which must be within the reasonable scope of the Club, will be those necessary to ensure that this particular applicant will be safe and have a reasonable prospect of accessing and enjoying their membership.
- At that point an offer of Membership will be made, subject to any of the conditions identified in the measures above. Such conditions will include matters relating to mental issues as well as physical safety and any practical measures required to ensure that membership can be accommodated in a manner beneficial to the applicant.
- In the event of a negative assessment, the applicant will be informed. This may occur for reasons not foreseen at the time of preparing this policy, but may include: Concerns about safe operation of aircraft; general safety of the applicant and/or other persons at the site or; the need to make provisions which are beyond the reasonable scope of the Club.

### 2.3 Assessment - Existing Members

In the event that an existing Member becomes 'Vulnerable', the Committee will consult with that Member and conclude what measures (if any) can reasonably be taken by the Committee and/or the Member to accommodate that vulnerability.

### 2.4 Awareness

In the event that a new 'vulnerable' Member is admitted to the Club or that an existing Member becomes 'Vulnerable' the following actions will be taken:

- The Committee will hold a register of Vulnerable Adult Members (VAMs)
- The Committee will monitor the use of the Club facilities by each VAM (and carer, if appropriate) and will consider any steps that may be practicable or required in response to any practical issues that arise.
- Monitoring will include assessment of the possible risks to the safety of all users of the Club facilities, including the VAM.
- The Membership will be informed of the specific needs of the Vulnerable Adult Member and of any behaviours that they should adopt to assist with that VAM's use of the Club facilities. (e.g., a deaf person will need to be assisted with flightline discipline.)

- End -

### o Annex 2: **Safety Equipment biannual check recording.**

As part of our policies for the safety of our members and visitors during site activities, the club purchased a selection of safety equipment for their use. It is the duty of the committee safety officer to check the condition of the equipment listed in the safety equipment check record on a biannual basis. The annual check to be signed off in conjunction with the club's safety policy, and it is recommended that the second check be carried out prior to the summer events.

- End -



Annex 1: Safety Equipment Check Record.

Equipment	Date of check 1	Date of check 2	Condition	Action
<b>First Aid kit (wood store)</b> Qty 1 – Full & in date.				
<b>Fire extinguisher (wood store)</b> Qty 1 - weight and pressure				
<b>Fire bucket (wood store)</b> Qty 1 - Full				
<b>PPE Kit (container)</b> Visor Helmet with Ear Defenders - Qty 1 Ear defenders - Qty 2 HD Gloves - Qty 2 Pairs Over-specs - Qty 2 Vinyl Gloves 1 box Wipes antiseptic 1 pack				
<b>Fire Extinguisher (Container)</b> Qty 1- weight and pressure				

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