

# **GREAT BRITAIN RADIO CONTROL AEROBATIC ASSOCIATION** **CONSTITUTION**

Revised January 2005

## **RULES**

1. The name of the Association is the 'GREAT BRITAIN radio controlled AEROBATIC ASSOCIATION' and Its address shall be that of the Chairman from time to time.
2. The objects of the Association shall be as follows:-
  - (a) To promote and encourage the building and safe flying of aerobatic radio controlled power model aircraft.
  - (b) To organise and run competitions for radio controlled aerobatic model power aircraft in class F3A in accordance with the contest rules from time to time laid down by the Society of Model Aeronautical Engineers and if the Committee of the GBRCAA thinks fit in the light of Interest expressed by members, competitions for radio controlled aerobatic model power aircraft other than class F3A models.
  - (c) To hold team selection competitions in accordance with approved procedures for the selection of a class F3A British Team to participate at international events and to recommend the name of a Team Manager, appointed by the committee and approved by the membership at the AGM, to the appropriate Technical Committee of the BMFA.
  - (d) When requested by the BMFA, to organise and run the class F3A event each year at the BMFA National Championships
  - (e) When necessary, to recommend to the BMFA changes to the Contest Rules governing F3A events.
3. Any person may become a member of the Association, provided he is also a member of the BMFA or the Scottish or Irish equivalent organisation. Every member of the Association unconditionally agrees to be bound by these Rules and Byelaws.
4. The annual subscription, classes of membership, competition entry fees and any supplementary sum payable for the establishment of any special fund shall be decided each year by the Annual General Meeting.
5. The Committee may expel from the Association any member whose conduct is in its opinion injurious to the character of the Association or its Interests of the members. Before a member is expelled, his conduct will be investigated by the Committee and he shall be given full opportunity to defend himself and to justify or explain his conduct. If a majority of the Committee present when the matter is Investigated is of the opinion that the member has been guilty of such conduct and has failed to justify or explain it satisfactorily, the Committee shall call upon the member to resign and if he or she does not do so, shall expel him. A member expelled shall forfeit all the privileges of membership and all rights against the Association.
6. An Annual General Meeting shall be held once every year for the election of members to serve on the Committee and of officers of the Association and for such other business as may be appointed in accordance with the rules and byelaws.
7. Every member shall be entitled to receive notice and be present at all General Meetings. Every member aged 16 or over may give one vote and no more on every question. In case of equality of votes, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.
8. The Committee shall exercise the powers given to it by the Rules and such other powers of management as the affairs of the Association may from time to time require. It shall consist of:-
  - (a) Chairman
  - (b) Vice Chairman
  - (c) Secretary
  - (d) Treasurer
  - (e) Competition Secretary
  - (f) Chief Judge
  - (g) Public Relations Officer
  - (h) Technical Secretary
  - (i) Newsletter Editor

A member of the Committee may hold more than one office.
9. All notices given to members of the Association under these rules and byelaws shall be sent by prepaid letter addressed to the member at the last address he has notified to the Secretary and shall be deemed to have been given on the day when such letter would have arrived in the ordinary course of post.

## **BYELAWS**

### **I. GENERAL MEETINGS**

1. The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held in every year on a day to be appointed by the Committee and at such a place and time as it shall be designated.
2. A minimum 28 days' notice of the meeting shall be given to every member of the Association specifying the business to be transacted. A copy of the accounts and any members' proposals received by the Secretary in accordance with byelaw 4 below will be made available to members attending the AGM.

The Agenda shall read as follows:-

- (a) Apologies for absence
  - (b) Minutes of previous year's AGM to be approved
  - (c) Matters arising
  - (d) Reports from the Chairman and Committee members for the past year.
  - (e) Approval of Accounts
  - (f) Election of Chairman and Committee members for the ensuing year
  - (g) Subscriptions and competition entry fees for the ensuing year
  - (h) Member's proposals received under byelaw 4
  - (i) Any other business
3. A special general meeting may be convened at any time by the Committee and shall be convened within 28 days from the receipt of a requisition in writing signed by not less than 10% of the members specifying the object of the meeting. No business other than that specified in the notice shall be transacted at a special general meeting. The notice convening a special general meeting shall be sent to the members not less than 14 days before the meeting.
  4. If any member has any proposal for discussion and possible adoption at the Annual General Meeting, he shall send such proposal in writing to the Secretary and it must be in his hands not less than 14 days before the date of the AGM. No proposals which are intended to alter or amend the fundamental character, aims or objectives of the Association as defined in rule (2) shall be put to an Annual General Meeting and in this respect, the decision of the Committee shall be final and binding
  5. The **Quorum** at the Annual General Meeting and at special general meetings shall be 10% of the members entitled to vote excluding the Chairman and Committee members of the Association.
  6. Voting at general meetings shall be by show of hands or otherwise as the Chairman may direct.
  7. The Chairman of the Committee shall preside at all general meetings. If the Chairman of the Committee is not present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the meeting shall choose its own Chairman.
  8. Resolutions shall be passed by a simple majority of votes cast except that resolutions to alter or amend the rules and byelaws of the Association may only be passed at the Annual General Meeting and shall require a majority of three quarters of the votes of the members attending the meeting.
  9. The Secretary shall keep Minutes of the proceedings of general meetings.
  10. The Chairman's decision as to the result of the voting on any question shall be final and an entry in the Minute Book signed by the Chairman of the meeting within 6 weeks of the holding of the meeting shall be conclusive of the terms of any resolution and of its having been passed.

## **II. ACCOUNTS**

11. The Treasurer shall prepare an annual account of the income and expenditure of the Association which will be made available to the members attending the AGM pursuant to byelaw 2. Copies of the Accounts will be circulated to all members after the AGM.

## **III. COMMITTEE**

12. The Committee shall regulate its own procedure and shall meet at least three times a year at the instigation of the Chairman who may convene meetings verbally or in writing.
13. 3 Members shall be a quorum.
14. Every member of the Committee shall have one vote on every question and in case of equality the Chairman or other member presiding at the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.
15. Minutes shall be kept of each meeting which shall be read and confirmed at the next meeting.
16. The Committee may appoint Sub-Committees and delegate to them any of its powers except those relating to the expulsion of members. Membership of any such Sub-Committee shall consist of members of the Committee. Sub-Committees shall conform to any directions made by the Committee with regard to quorum, votes and the keeping of minutes and other records deemed necessary or advisable.
17. The Committee may co-opt any member of the Association for any particular purpose. A co-opted member of the Committee shall strictly adhere to any instruction given to him by the Committee.
18. The Chairman and members of the Committee of the Association shall take office at the Annual General Meeting at which they are elected and shall hold office for a minimum period of two years. The Chairman, Secretary, Competition Secretary, & Public Relations Officer shall retire in odd numbered years and the Vice-chairman Treasurer, Chief Judge, Newsletter Editor, & Technical Secretary shall retire in even numbered years.

## **IV. RELATIONS WITH THE BMFA**

19. Copies of the minutes of all general meetings and meetings of the Committee and any Sub-Committees will be sent by the Secretary to the BMFA.
20. The Competition Secretary shall be responsible for reporting contest results to the Records Officer of the BMFA in accordance with the General Section of the contest rules of the BMFA (Rule 2.1.2). In all other respects, the views of the Association and proposals for rule changes shall be represented and conducted by the Technical Secretary of the Association.

## **V. TEAM SELECTION PROCEDURE**

21. The team selection process shall be decided by any interested parties at a team selection meeting to be held before the end of November each year before the team selection process starts.  
N.B. (i) Changes to team selection procedures resulting from the meeting will be implemented at the start of the following year. (ii). The requirement to hold team selection events 2.(c). is a rule under the constitution , but the process and method of team selection is separate.

## **VI. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION**

22. Annual subscriptions, together with any supplement, shall be payable as follows:-
  - (a) for existing member, within 28 days of receiving the Membership Renewal Notice. Membership will automatically lapse if payment is not made within the period indicated but any lapsed member may be reinstated upon payment of his outstanding subscription and supplement, if any.

- (b) For new members, the appropriate annual subscription and supplement, if any, shall accompany the membership application. Members joining between the 1st January and the 30th September shall pay the full subscription and supplement, if any; members joining between the 1st October and the 31st December shall pay one third of the total of the annual subscription and any supplement for their first part year of membership.

**VII. COMPETITION REGULATIONS**

- 23.
  - (a) GBRCAA COMPETITIONS. All competitions run by the Association shall be under the control of a Contest Director nominated by the Association. Pre-entry accompanied by the appropriate entry form is required for all contests. Pre-entries shall be sent to the Contest Director 14 days prior to the contest. However, the Contest Director may in his discretion accept entries for contests at the time and place of the contest on payment of double the entry fee. Entrants shall accept as final and binding any decision made by the Contest Director pertaining to the running and results of the competition.
  - (b) BMFA CENTRALISED AND TEAM TRIAL EVENTS. These shall be run by the Association to FAI rules on behalf of the BMFA under the control of a Contest Director approved by the BMFA. Pre-entry accompanied by the appropriate fee is required which shall be sent 21 days prior to the event to the Competition Secretary of the Association. (NB. NOT THE CONTEST DIRECTORS).

**LIABILITY**

- 24. Neither the GBRCAA nor any of its officers, helpers, proxies, assistants or guests nor the owners of any flying site where contests are held shall be held responsible for damage or injury of any kind done to or by models and/or their operators. Competitors by entering a contest thereby agree to indemnify the GBRCAA and its officers, helpers, proxies, assistants or guests from any legal liability arising from their actions or omissions whilst participating in any such contest.

from 01/01/99: Nationals included in 11 .(e) above. from 01/01/00 : SMAE now BMFA from 01/01/02 : Team selected in calendar year prior to WC/EC from 01/06/02 : notice of rearranged date given to BMFA also. .. : Vice Chairman added to committee from 01/01/03 : Delete from 8. "Aerobatic Technical Advisor from Jan 2005 : Team selection from separate team trials
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