

GREAT BRITAIN RADIO CONTROL AEROBATIC ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

RULES

1. The name of the Association is the 'GREAT BRITAIN RADIO CONTROL AEROBATIC ASSOCIATION' and its address shall be that of the Chairman unless otherwise agreed by the Committee.
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 and in class F3P in accordance with the contest rules laid down by the British Model Flying Association 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 in other classes.
 - (c) To hold team selection competitions in accordance with approved procedures for the selection of a class F3A and class F3P British Team to participate at international events and to recommend the name of appropriate Team Managers. To report this to the GBRCAA AGM and submit those names to the appropriate BMFA Committee.
 - (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 and F3P events.
3. Any person may become a member of the Association, provided they are 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 the interests of its members. Before a member is expelled, their conduct will be investigated by the Committee and they shall be given full opportunity to defend themselves and to justify or explain their 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 they do not do so, shall expel them. 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 byelaws 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 & Membership Secretary
 - (e) Competition Secretary
 - (f) Chief Judge
 - (g) Public Relations Officer
 - (h) Specialist Body Representative
 - (i) News 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 email addressed to the member at the last email address notified to the Membership Secretary or by notice on the website forum.

BYELAWS

I. GENERAL MEETINGS

1. The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held every year on a day to be agreed 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 (via the GBR/CAA Members Only section of the website forum) specifying the business to be transacted. A copy of the accounts and any members' proposals received in accordance with byelaw 5 below will be made available to members via the GBR/CAA Members Only Forum by the Secretary prior to the AGM.

3. The AGM Agenda shall include the following topics
 - (a) Apologies for absence
 - (b) Approval of the previous year's AGM Minutes
 - (c) Matters arising
 - (d) Reports from the Chairman and Committee members for the past year.
 - (e) Approval of Accounts
 - (f) Election of Committee members for the ensuing year
 - (g) Subscriptions and competition entry fees for the ensuing year
 - (h) Committee proposals
 - (i) Member's proposals received under byelaw 5
 - (j) Discuss the competition calendar for the ensuing year.
 - (k) Any other business
4. 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 notice for convening a special general meeting, and the notice shall be sent to the members not less than 14 days before the agreed date of the meeting.
5. If any member has a proposal for discussion and possible adoption at the Annual General Meeting, they shall send such proposal in writing to the Secretary 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
6. 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.
7. Voting at general meetings shall be by a show of hands or otherwise as the Chairman may direct.
8. The Chairman of the Committee (or Vice Chairman in their absence) 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.
9. Resolutions shall be passed by a simple majority of votes cast except resolutions to alter or amend the rules and byelaws of the Association which 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.
10. The Secretary shall keep Minutes of the proceedings of Annual General Meetings and Special General Meetings.
11. The Chairman's decision as to the result of the voting on any question shall be final and be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. The approved minutes shall be conclusive of the terms of any resolution and of it having been passed.

II. ACCOUNTS

1. The Financial Year will run from 1st November to 31st October.
2. The Treasurer shall prepare an annual account of the income and expenditure of the Association which will be made available to the members prior to the AGM pursuant to byelaw 2.

III. COMMITTEE

1. 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 by email.
2. 3 Committee Members shall be a quorum.
3. Every member of the Committee shall have one vote on every proposal and in case of equality the Chairman or other member presiding at the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.
4. Minutes shall be kept of each meeting which shall be circulated to the committee within 10 days of the meeting and approved at the next meeting.
5. 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.
6. 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 them by the Committee.
7. 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, and Public Relations Officer shall retire in odd numbered years and the Vice-chairman, Treasurer & Membership Secretary, Chief Judge, News Editor, & Specialist Body Representative shall retire in even numbered years.

IV. RELATIONS WITH THE BMFA

1. The GBR/CAA operates as a Specialist Body under the BMFA and is required to maintain a close liaison with its Technical Council and the BMFA Full Council. The Committee will ensure that all commitments specified in the BMFA Specialist Body Requirements and Guidelines document are fulfilled.
2. The Competition Secretary shall be responsible for reporting all BMFA contest results to the BMFA in accordance with the prevailing BMFA requirements.

V. TEAM SELECTION PROCEDURE

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

VI. MEMBERSHIP AND ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

1. The Membership Year will run from 1st April to 31st March.
2. Annual subscriptions, together with any supplement are due on the first day of the Membership Year.
3. Membership will automatically lapse if not renewed by 1st April.
4. Subscriptions paid at the BMFA British National Championships or later will expire at the end of the following Membership Year.
5. Committee members, none flying Contest Directors and Full Time Judges (non-flying judge approved by the Chief Judge or the committee) will be exempt from annual subscription payments.
6. Membership applications and renewals should be submitted using the 'On Line' membership application form which is accessed from the GBR/CAA home page. Subscription payment options will be provided on the membership application form.
7. Potential new members are allowed to fly at one competition before they become a member, however their scores will not be added to the league tables until after their subscriptions are paid in full.
8. Upon request to a member of the Web Team, fully paid up members will be given permission to access the GBR/CAA 'Members Only' forum provided they use their real name as their username. Permission to access the 'Members Only' forum may be withdrawn when a membership lapses or if it is considered that the member is in breach of the forum Registration Agreement.

VII. LIABILITY

1. 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.

VIII. DISSOLUTION OF THE GBR/CAA

1. Should it be considered necessary or desirable to dissolve the GBR/CAA, the Committee will call an Extraordinary General Meeting. Should a quorum fail to appear, the meeting will be adjourned and a further EGM must be called. The second meeting will proceed even if a quorum is not present and the motion will then be carried by a simple majority vote.
2. On dissolution and after the sale of assets, settlement of all outstanding debts and the refund of subscriptions for the remaining part of the year to the paid up members, the funds remaining will be donated to the B.M.F.A. (British Model Flying Association) in equal shares between the F3-A Team Travel Fund, F3-P Team Travel Fund and the general Team Travel fund.
3. If the final accounts are less than required to refund full subscriptions to the members, any total monies remaining will be distributed equally between members. All members will receive a final statement of accounts.