



# LONG EATON & DISTRICT MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB

## ARTICLES OF THE CONSTITUTION

### 1. Name

The name of the association shall be "Long Eaton and District Model Aircraft Club", also known as "LEMAC", hereinafter referred to as "the Club".

### 2. Address

The Club premises shall consist of: –

- a) A meeting room located at All Saints Church Hall, Sawley, Long Eaton, Nottingham
- b) A flying field located as determined by 'the Club'

### 3. Status

The Club shall be an unincorporated, members' association affiliated to the British Model Flying Association.

### 4. Object

The main object of the Club shall be: -

"To support the long-term survival and growth of aeromodelling for the mutual benefit of the Long Eaton and surrounding communities", by: –

- a) Providing a meeting room for members to meet and work on a regular basis
- b) Providing a site or sites suitable for members to fly any type of model subject to the suitability of the flying site
- c) Representing and furthering the interests of local aeromodellers at any appropriate level and opportunity.

### 5. Conduct

The Club shall be conducted in accordance with this Constitution, any Licensing Agreements, Club Rules and the Club Policy for the Welfare and Care of Children and Vulnerable Adults that are in force and shall be amended from time-to-time. Changes to the Constitution, Licensing Agreement, Club Rules and the Club Policy for the Welfare and Care of Children and Vulnerable Adults shall only be made at an Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting.

### 6. Membership

Membership of the Club shall be open to any person who: –

- a) Promises to abide by the Constitution, Licensing Agreement, Club Rules and the Club Policy for the Welfare and Care of Children and Vulnerable Adults that shall be in force and shall be amended from time-to-time
- b) Submits an application in writing, signed by himself. If the applicant is under 18 years of age or is a vulnerable adult, the application form must be countersigned by the applicant's parent / guardian / carer as appropriate.
- c) Pays the appropriate subscription and joining fee
- d) Does not use the facilities of the Club to further their own commercial modelling interests
- e) Is a current member of the British Model Flying Association (BMFA) or the British Drone Flyers (BDF)
- f) Election to membership shall be at the discretion of the Committee.
- g) Honorary Life Members shall be proposed by the Committee and voted on at the Annual General Meeting

### 7. Disciplinary Procedure

- a) Any complaint concerning any member must be made in writing and signed by the complainant(s). The written complaint must be forwarded to the Secretary so that the matter can be addressed at the next Committee meeting.
- b) The Committee may impose a flying suspension not exceeding 30 days upon any member in the event of misconduct. Any suspension must be accompanied by a verbal and/or written warning as deemed appropriate in accordance with Article 7.c.
- c) The Committee may consider removal from the role of members any member whose conduct on the field or elsewhere is considered to be prejudicial to the Club. Dismissal will be in accordance with the following procedure in order to comply with the laws of natural justice:
  - i) The member is to be given a verbal warning by an authorised Committee Member in which the member is made aware of his misdemeanour and what he is reasonably required to do to make amends.
  - ii) If the member does not respond, he is to be given a written warning by an authorised Committee Member to advise him of his misdemeanour and what he is reasonably required to do to make amends.
  - iii) If he still fails to respond, the Committee should invite him in writing to meet with them at a previously agreed date and time to discuss the situation, advising they are considering withdrawal of his membership.
  - iv) If he still fails to respond to reasoning or fails to attend without reasonable cause, the Committee can advise him in writing that his membership is withdrawn, stating the reasons why this decision was reached.
  - v) When the member is advised of withdrawal of his membership, he must be given the right of appeal. If he opts to appeal, this will be to the Club membership at an EGM which the Committee would call on his behalf at a previously agreed date and time. The motion to uphold the membership withdrawal or reverse it must be in accordance with the voting procedures set out in the Club Constitution.
- d) In the event of gross misconduct, immediate dismissal without warnings may be considered but the member must still be accorded his rights to present his case to the Committee and be given a right of appeal in accordance with sub-paragraphs iii), iv) and v) above.
- e) In the event of dismissal, the Committee will arrange for the Member's current membership fee to be reimbursed for the remaining part of the year and excluding the joining fee.

## **8. Committee**

A Committee whose officers shall be proposed, seconded and elected by ballot at the appropriate Annual General Meeting shall direct the business of the Club. Members nominated for a Committee position must have been a Club member for a minimum of 1 year to be eligible for election. Any vacancy occurring by resignation or otherwise may be filled by the Committee. Retiring officers of the Committee shall be eligible for immediate re-election.

The Committee shall consist of:

### **Executive Officers:**

- a) Honorary Chairman, who shall be elected in odd years
- b) Honorary Secretary, who shall be elected in even years
- c) Honorary Treasurer, who shall be elected in odd years

Executive officers shall remain in office until their successors are elected at the next-but-one Annual General Meeting.

### **Non-Executive Officers:**

- d) Any other officers that the members deem necessary, but normally six others.
- e) Any other co-opted officers deemed necessary and co-opted at the Committee's own discretion. Co-opted officers shall have no voting rights

Non-executive officers shall remain in office until their successors are elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

A BMFA Representative and a Junior Representative shall be appointed each year by the Committee from one of the Committee Officers.

Committee meetings shall be held not less than once a month and the quorum of Committee meetings shall be two executive officers and four non-executive officers.

## **9. Subscriptions and Joining Fees**

- a) The Membership year shall be from the 1<sup>st</sup> January to the following 31<sup>st</sup> December inclusive
- b) The annual subscription plus joining fee shall be due on joining the Club and thereafter the annual subscription shall be due on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January each year
- c) The members at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting shall determine the amounts payable
- d) The following rates of membership shall apply: –
  - i) Adult Member, paying full adult subscription plus full joining fee
  - ii) Junior Member, less than 18 years of age before 1<sup>st</sup> January, paying full junior subscription and no joining fee
  - iii) Honorary Life Member, paying no subscription
- e) 'Membership fees shall be reduced on the same date that the BMFA reduce BMFA membership fees and that the amount of the reduction shall be 25% rounded to the nearest pound'

## **10. Resignation**

- a) A member shall cease to be a member if he gives written notice to the Secretary of his resignation
- b) A member whose subscription is more than one month in arrears shall be deemed to have resigned
- c) Any Club property held by the resigning member must be returned to the Secretary

## **11. Annual General Meeting**

- a) The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held each year normally during December. The venue, date and time of the Annual General Meeting shall be notified in writing to each member prior to the event.
- b) A quorum of twenty percent of the members shall be present in order to conduct an Annual General Meeting. In the event of no quorum, the meeting shall be abandoned and the Committee shall issue a second notification.
- c) Executive Officers shall present their reports on the activities of the Club during the year up to the Annual General Meeting. Non-Executive Officers shall present their reports for the same period where deemed necessary.
- d) There shall be an election of Committee Officers in accordance with Article 8.
- e) Notice of any resolution proposed to be moved at the Annual General Meeting shall be given to the Secretary not less than 14 days before the meeting.
- f) Only those proposals described in the notice to all members shall be moved or voted on at the Annual General Meeting by those members present.
- g) Any resolved changes (for example: to the Constitution, Club Rules, Licensing Agreement, Policy for the Welfare and Care of Children and Vulnerable Adults, Membership Rates, Joining Fees, etc.) shall become effective from a date agreed by the Annual General Meeting.

## **12. Special General Meeting**

- a) A Special General Meeting may be called at any time by the Committee and shall be called within one calendar month of receipt by the next Committee Meeting of a requisition in writing signed by not less than ten members stating the purposes for which the meeting is required and the resolutions proposed.
- b) The Committee shall notify the members individually, in writing, of the intention to call a Special General Meeting stating the purposes for which the meeting is required and the resolutions proposed.
- c) No business, other than that specified in the notification, shall be conducted at the Special General Meeting.
- d) Any proposals noted in the notification of the meeting shall be voted on by those members present.
- e) A quorum of twenty percent of the members shall be present in order to conduct a Special General Meeting. In the event of no quorum, the meeting shall be abandoned and the Committee shall issue a second notification in accordance with Article 11), paragraphs b) and c).
- f) Any resolved changes shall become effective from a date agreed by the Special General Meeting.

### **13. Rule Changes**

- a) Rule changes may only be agreed to or rejected at the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting as stated in Paragraphs 11 and 12. The exception is where changes are required for safety reasons.
- b) Where rule changes are required on safety grounds the Committee will agree on the wording of any proposal and introduce the said rule with immediate effect subject to informing the membership. The rule will then be in force until the AGM (or Special General Meeting) where it will be put to the membership for ratification as stated in Paragraph 11 or 12.

### **14. Finance**

- a) All moneys payable to the Club shall be received by the Treasurer and deposited in a bank account in the name of the Club. No sum shall be drawn from that account except by cheque signed by two of the three signatories who shall be the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Any moneys not required for immediate use may be invested in accordance with article 13) b) as the Committee in their discretion thinks fit.
- b) The income and property of the Club shall be applied only in the furtherance of the objects of the Club and no part thereof shall be paid by way of bonus, dividend or profit to any members of the Club, save as set out in Article 16) c).
- c) The Committee shall have the power to authorise payment of expenses to any officer or member of the Club and to any other person or persons for services rendered to the Club.
- d) The financial transactions of the Club shall be recorded by the Treasurer in such manner as the Committee think fit.

### **15. Auditor**

- a) The Club may appoint any suitable, responsible, adult person to audit the annual accounts that are presented to the AGM.

### **16. Dissolution**

- a) A resolution to dissolve the Club shall only be proposed at a Special General Meeting and shall be carried by a majority of at least three-quarters of the members present.
- b) The dissolution shall take effect from the date of the resolution and the officers of the Committee shall be responsible for the winding-up of the assets and liabilities of the Club.
- c) Any property remaining after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the Club shall be divided rateably in proportion to the length of continuous membership of each member, among the members of the Club at the date of the dissolution.

### **17. Indemnity of members**

- a) If a Club member engages or becomes involved in court proceedings whether criminal or civil, in his representative capacity on behalf of the Club as opposed to his capacity as a private individual, notwithstanding that he is taking part in Club activities, but in circumstances where it would be unreasonable for the Club as a whole to ratify his actions, then in the former instance, i.e. in his representative capacity, the Club will indemnify the member in respect of any fines, damages or costs awarded against that member.
- b) In the event of a member being awarded damages or costs in the course of proceedings taken by him in his representative capacity, such damages or costs will belong to the Club and not the member personally and forthwith, upon receipt by the member, that member will pay them to the Honorary Treasurer.
- c) The Officers of the Committee shall be entitled to an indemnity out of the assets of the Club for all expenses and other liabilities properly incurred by them in the management of the affairs of the Club.

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The Committee of the Long Eaton & District Model Aircraft Club - 2025