BMAC FLYING SITE RULES

1. All members must observe field discipline and comply with the Air Navigation Order, all relevant BMFA safety codes as contained within the BMFA Members' Handbook and Civil Aviation publication (CAP) 658.

2. On matters of field safety needing an immediate decision, the responsibility lies with instructors or a member of the committee in that order. Any instructions must be accepted without dissent. However, should a member believe the instructions to be wrong, then he should bring this to the attention of the Committee.

3. Any pilot who is not a competent flyer must not fly without an instructor present. If no instructors are present at the site, any member holding the BMFA 'B' Certificate may act as an appointed deputy until an instructor arrives.

4. Due consideration must be given at all times to trainee or novice pilots in the circuit. In the event that the pleasure or concentration of a pilot is affected by the flying style of another, precedence will be given to the pilot who was airborne first. Intimidating flying of any sort is not permitted.

5. No more than four (4) aircraft shall be airborne at any one time.

6. All flying is to be done in the designated areas only. Over-flying of the pitting area is not permitted.

7. All pilots must observe the established flight line and stand in the designated area whilst flying. Any variation to suit daily conditions may be made by the Club's safety officers. Any spectators must remain in the spectators' area whilst flying is in progress.

8. Any person wishing to enter or cross the runway area must seek clearance from any pilots flying at the time before doing so.

9. All vehicles must be parked in the designated area only.

10. The frequency allocation system in use is the peg on system.

11. Before switching on, the pilot must ensure that he is operating on the frequency he believes he is on and must display the appropriate frequency pennant on his transmitter.

12. 35 MHz frequency numbers must be called out before the transmitter in question is switched on.

13. All 35MHz transmitter aerials must remain retracted unless the model is being flown. The flight is defined from the point of release to when the engine is stopped or the model is restrained.

14. Transmitters should not be taken away from the flight line when retrieving an aircraft, unless to do so would aid retrieval of the model. In this instance the matter should be brought to the attention of the safety officers so that this may be carried out without the risk of over-flying the transmitter.

15. Should an aircraft go out of control, the first priority must be the safety of persons with the second being avoidance of damage to property. A warning is to be should by the pilot which is to be taken up by other members.

16. Before starting an engine the model must be suitably restrained either by a tether or by an assistant.

17. In the interest of safety, assistance should be sought when running up engines and taking models to the runway for take-off. All helpers must have BMFA membership.

18. Appropriate use should be made of all available pit area, and under no circumstances should engines be set up in the immediate vicinity of the pilots who are flying at that time. Where practical, models should face outward from the pit area.

19. Under no circumstances must an engine be run unless all persons are behind the line of the propeller with the exception of the person starting the engine. When carrying out power checks all persons including the pilot are to be behind the line of the propeller.

20. All new or repaired models should be checked out by an instructor or their appointed deputy before being allowed to fly. All models are subject to random safety spot checks which will be carried out by an instructor. If in his opinion a model is unsafe to fly or does not conform to Club rules, it will be grounded until rectified.

21. Members must ensure that they comply with the D of E Noise Code for the Minimisation of Noise from Model Aircraft. "Add on" silencers and "quiet" propellers should be fitted unless the model emits below 82 decibels at 7 metres without them. Notwithstanding if in the opinion of the Committee a model is excessively noisy in the air, then it is to be grounded until rectified.

22. All operational failsafes in use on powered models operated from our Club site must set the throttle to tick-over, not hold, (stopped in the case of electric power) regardless of the other control operations governed by the failsafe. Failsafes are to be checked prior to flight by switching the transmitter off whilst the model is restrained.

23. No smoking is permitted in the vicinity of inflammable fuels and materials.

24. Children must be closely supervised at all times and must not be allowed to run around the pit area or runways.

25. Any incident involving a third party or another member must be reported to the Committee as soon as possible.

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