



Hedgehoppers

Model Flying Club
Rulebook

September 2017

CLUB RULES



HEDGEHOPPERS
MODEL FLYING CLUB
BMFA Club 686 *Founded 1995*
www.hedgehoppers.org.uk

Table of Contents

<i>INTRODUCTION</i> _____	4
<i>NAME AND OBJECT</i> _____	4
<i>MEMBERSHIP</i> _____	4
General _____	4
Subscriptions _____	4
Bank Account - Club Funds _____	5
Membership Level _____	5
Disclaimer _____	5
Committee Members _____	5
Annual General Meeting _____	6
Extraordinary General Meeting _____	6
Dissolution clause _____	6
<i>CHILD AND VULNERABLE ADULT PROTECTION</i> _____	6
Introduction _____	6
Child and Vulnerable adult Protection Policy _____	6
Supervision of Junior Members _____	6
Responsibility of Senior Members _____	7
<i>COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE LANDOWNER</i> _____	7
<i>ACHIEVEMENT SCHEME</i> _____	7
<i>TYPES OF MODEL AND POWER SOURCE</i> _____	7
<i>FAILSAFE SYSTEMS</i> _____	8
<i>LEGAL CONTROLS OVER MODEL FLYING</i> _____	8
<i>ON BOARD FLIGHT ASSIST/ STABILIZATION SYSTEMS</i> _____	8
<i>AT THE CLUB FLYING SITE</i> _____	8
General _____	8

CLUB RULES



HEDGEHOPPERS
MODEL FLYING CLUB
BMFA Club 686 *Founded 1995*
www.hedgehoppers.org.uk

Frequency Control - General	9
Frequency Control – Peg Board System	9
Safety Aspects	10
Noise Control	11
Pre-flight Preparations	11
Guest Model Flyers	11
Hours of Operation	12
Permitted Flying Zone	12
General Procedures (on the flying Strip)	13
Lost / Abandoned Models	13
Competition Flying	13
Relationships with other Land Users	14
<i>FLYING DEMONSTRATIONS / DISPLAYS</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>APPENDIX A - GENERAL INFORMATION</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>APPENDIX B – DESIGNATED FLYING ZONE</i>	<i>16</i>

CLUB RULES



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Hedgehoppers Model Flying Club. Please study these Club Rules, which you should read thoroughly in conjunction with your BMFA handbook. The HMFC and BMFA Club rules must be adhered to at all times.

Above all, the aim of the Club is to have fun, but please ensure this is done safely and quietly.

NAME AND OBJECT

The name of the club is HEDGEHOPPERS MODEL FLYING CLUB.

The object for which the club is formed is to promote the Building and Flying of model aircraft.

MEMBERSHIP

General

Membership is open to all persons residing within the Braintree and district locality, subject to acceptance by the club's committee.

Members over the age of 18 will be defined as seniors.

Members under the age of 18 will be defined as juniors.

All paid up members will have a vote in matters relating to the club.

Every member on joining the club undertakes to comply with the rules of the club. Any refusal or any conduct, which in the opinion of the committee is either unworthy of a member or otherwise detrimental to the interest of the club, will be expelled.

Subscriptions

BMFA , HMFC membership fees and Site fees fall due for payment in December each year. The Treasurer will advise the exact date at least fourteen days prior to the due date. Failure to pay subscriptions by the deadline will put a member's position in the club at risk and may result in their position being allocated to a potential member on the waiting list.

CLUB RULES



A prepayment scheme is operational all year.

A prompt payment discount scheme shall be operated for both HMFC membership and flying site fees. The Treasurer will forward details of the discount available to members when payment requests are issued.

Bank Account - Club Funds

The Club Bank account will be run on a dual signature basis. The authorised signatures are the Chairman and the Treasurer. A copy of the annual club financial status will be made available to any current HMFC member upon receipt of a written request to the Treasurer.

Membership Level

The membership level of the club is limited by the conditions imposed by Braintree District Council as part of the planning approval. Therefore the number of members affiliated is restricted to thirty, of which a minimum of ten memberships will be reserved for junior members.

In the event that the club membership is full, any applications will be put on a waiting list.

Disclaimer

The Club shall not be liable for any injury to persons or loss or damage to property sustained whilst on the Club's premises in pursuit of normal club activities and/or business other than that covered in the Club's public liability insurance.

Committee Members

A committee consisting of four elected club members manages hedgehoppers Model Flying Club. The committee positions are as follows: -

- Chairman
- Vice Chairman /Treasurer
- Membership secretary
- Safety Officer

The current committee members are listed in appendix A.

If at the discretion of the committee additional committee members are required to perform a specific task then club members will be co-opted without consulting the general membership.

CLUB RULES



HEDGEHOPPERS
MODEL FLYING CLUB
BMFA Club 686 *Founded 1995*
www.hedgehoppers.org.uk

Annual General Meeting

To keep Club bureaucracy to a minimum Annual General Meetings (AGM) will not be held on a regular scheduled basis. AGMs are replaced by an Extraordinary General Meetings.

Extraordinary General Meeting

The membership, consisting of four or more fully paid up members, may at any time request an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM). This request must sent to the club committee in writing. The Club Committee will then arrange the required EGM within fourteen days of receiving this request.

Dissolution clause

If upon winding-up or dissolution of the club there remains, after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, any property or money, this shall not be distributed among members but shall be applied to approved sporting or charitable purposes i.e. given or transferred to another CASC, a registered charity or sports governing body.

CHILD AND VULNERABLE ADULT PROTECTION

Introduction

It is important that all Club Members, Examiners, Trainers, Trainees, Parents and Spectators are aware of Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection issues. It is the responsibility of every member of Hedgehoppers Model Flying Club to ensure that no child or vulnerable Adult suffers from any type of abuse.

Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy

Hedgehoppers Model Flying Club implements a Child and vulnerable Adult Protection Policy in accordance with its Protection Policy Document. This document will be periodically reviewed and revised when deemed necessary by the Committee.

Supervision of Junior Members/ Visiting children

A parent, guardian, or someone who has written authority to bring the junior to the site and supervise them must accompany junior members at all times. A copy of the written authority

CLUB RULES



HEDGEHOPPERS
MODEL FLYING CLUB
BMFA Club 686 *Founded 1995*
www.hedgehoppers.org.uk

must be lodged with the Hedgehoppers Model Flying Club Chairman and will be retained for future record.

Whilst visiting children are encouraged it must be remembered at all times that the flying site is an active flying field and potentially hazardous. Children must remain in the pits area at all times and remain clear of the flight line and all areas of the flying site.

Responsibility of Senior Members

All Senior Members should read the Hedgehoppers Model Flying Club Child and Vulnerable adult Protection Policy Document and must sign and return the confirmation slip confirming that they have read understood and will comply with this Child Protection Policy. This confirmation will be held in the clubs records.

COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE LANDOWNER

The club Chairman will conduct all formal communications between the club and the landowner.

ACHIEVEMENT SCHEME

The club will follow the achievement scheme as set by the BMFA. The "A" Certificate will serve as the "Permit to Fly Solo". Any member not holding an "A" Certificate must only fly when accompanied by a Club instructor. The Basic Proficiency Certificate is not recognised by the club as a permit to fly solo. The clubs BMFA examiners will carry out BMFA tests. Appendix A details the Club examiners.

TYPES OF MODEL AND POWER SOURCE

The type of model to be flown within the club will depend upon the suitability of the flying site. In the case of the club's own site the model types that can be flown will always include: -

- Gliders, mainly powered but some bungee launched.
- Scale
- Sport
- Fun Fly's
- Vintage
- Helicopters

Either internal combustion engines (not petrol) or electric motors may be used to provide aircraft power. Due to club flying site limitations, the maximum internal combustion engine size allowed fitted to aircraft will be: -

CLUB RULES



-
- Two strokes 0.90 Cubic inches.
 - Four strokes 1.20 Cubic inches.

The flying of Gas Turbine powered aircraft at the Shalford site are not permitted under any circumstances.

FAILSAFE SYSTEMS

As mandated in CAP 658 any powered model aircraft fitted with a receiver capable of operating in failsafe mode MUST have the failsafe set, as a minimum, to reduce the engine(s) speed to idle on loss or corruption of signal.

LEGAL CONTROLS OVER MODEL FLYING

The sport of model flying is subject to various legal controls which should be carefully considered at all times. The person flying the model is responsible at all times for any flights he/she makes and knowledge of his/her legal responsibilities are essential. Please refer to CAP 393 Article 94 which states the person in charge of a small unmanned aircraft may only fly the aircraft if reasonably satisfied that the flight can be safely made.

Drone flying must be carried out in full accordance with CAP 722.

ON BOARD FLIGHT ASSIST/ STABILIZATION SYSTEMS

It is the philosophy of the club that all members must be able to fly their aircraft without any form of automated flight augmentation systems. The club is therefore unable to offer instruction to a member with a model fitted with any type of on board flight assist system.

AT THE CLUB FLYING SITE

General

A speed limit of 10 mph is in operation on the chase/bridle track between the main road (B1053) and the car park.

On entering and leaving the site all members are required to enter their name, time of arrival and departure time and any other relevant details in the site log book.

CLUB RULES



HEDGEHOPPERS
MODEL FLYING CLUB
BMFA Club 686 *Founded 1995*
www.hedgehoppers.org.uk

Frequency Control - General

Only radio control equipment operating in the 35 MHz and 2.4 GHz band will be operated.

Frequency control is by the individual peg board system.

Adjacent frequency operation is NOT permitted.

Frequency Control – Peg Board System

Each R/C member must be equipped with a frequency control board as per the design illustrated below, together with a clothes peg. The board shown below is a 35MHz board. 2.4GHz users should have an identical Black Background Peg Board with 2.4 GHz in the inner white circle

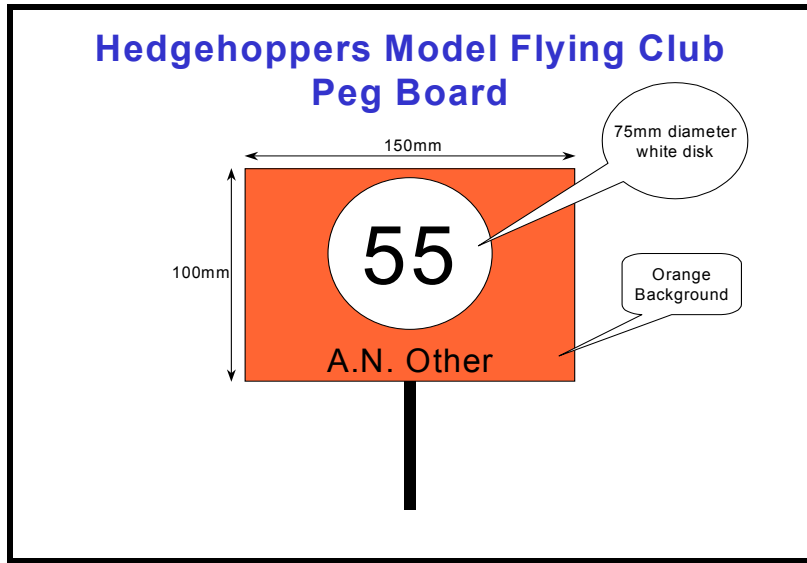
The boards will be placed in the ground in numerical order at a practical distance between the pit area and the flight line. The boards shall be orientated so that they are clearly readable from the pit area. Where there is more than one board on the same frequency they will be placed one behind the other. All boards must meet the club specification.

The pegboard must be placed with all the others as described above, with the peg clipped to the top of the board so as to be clearly visible. The peg is removed only when the frequency is to be used and clipped to the transmitter aerial. The peg is replaced back on the board immediately after use. To summarise if the peg is on the board the frequency is free, if the peg is removed the frequency is in use.

CLUB RULES



HEDGEHOPPERS
MODEL FLYING CLUB
BMFA Club 686 *Founded 1995*
www.hedgehoppers.org.uk



Safety Aspects

No flying is allowed at the site unaccompanied. When at the flying strip a member is assigned as flying safety officer and it is the duty of the officer to keep a lookout for walkers on the footpaths, and for riders on the bridle track. If this member is flying then this responsibility is delegated to another member. All fliers must abide by instructions and warnings given by this officer. Every precaution must be taken to avoid any possibility of frightening horses by model aircraft. If a horse is on the bridle track any aircraft in the air must be landed, or flown out over the open fields and taken to a safe height. The aircraft should then be throttled back. **Remember walkers and riders have priority.**

Any spectators must be placed in a suitably safe area depending on the flight direction at that time.

Smoking is not allowed other than in the immediate area of the car park, from the 1st May until 1st September each year. All members must always take every precaution to avoid the possibility of fire.

CLUB RULES



HEDGEHOPPERS
MODEL FLYING CLUB
BMFA Club 686 *Founded 1995*
www.hedgehoppers.org.uk

For safety reasons the carrying of mobile telephones is encouraged. Because of the possible effect of mobile telephones on Radio Control equipment, the use of Mobile Phones should be kept to the bare minimum.

Noise Control

The car park is in close proximity to houses hence the general noise level must be kept to a minimum at all times. The running of model internal combustion engines is only permitted on the actual flying site; under no circumstances must an engine be run in the car park. Before any aircraft is flown from the site it must be tested to demonstrate compliance with the Department of the Environment code of practice for noise emission as detailed in the latest BMFA handbook. It is each member's responsibility to request a committee member to perform this noise test. The test will then be arranged at a mutually convenient time. The noise test will be conducted in accordance with the procedure defined in the latest BMFA handbook, the club's own noise meter shall be used. If a model does not comply with Department of the Environment code of practice then it shall not be flown. Once a model has been tested and passed if changes to any part of the aircraft are carried out e. g. propeller size/type, engine type etc. then the aircraft must be re-tested prior to being flown. All models demonstrated to comply with the Department of the Environment code of practice must be entered in to the club log for future reference. To minimise the possibility of noise nuisance a maximum of four models are allowed in the air at one time.

Pre-flight Preparations

Engine run-ups and adjustment will be done with due regard to the safety and consideration of the other operators. Prolonged engine running on the flight line is disrupting to others and therefore must be avoided. The running of model internal combustion engines is only permitted on the actual flying site; under no circumstances must an engine be run in the car park. Radio equipment should only be switched on once at the flying strip and only then in accordance with the conditions described herein regarding the frequency control system (pegboard). Under no circumstances should radio equipment be switched on in the car park.

Guest Model Flyers

Members are not allowed to bring guest flyers unless the committee grants specific permission. Any guest flyer must be covered by the appropriate insurance and provide proof of cover.

Guest flyers may use Hedgehoppers flying facilities up to a maximum of three times in any one calendar year, after which they will be requested to join the club.

CLUB RULES



HEDGEHOPPERS
MODEL FLYING CLUB
BMFA Club 686 *Founded 1995*
www.hedgehoppers.org.uk

Hours of Operation

The hours of operation for the club are tabulated below: -

Hours of Operation		
Day of the Week	Engine Powered Aircraft	Gliders (bungee launched)
Sunday	11.00 hrs to 14.00 hrs	Unrestricted
Monday	No flying	
Tuesday	10.00 hrs to 20.30 hrs	
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Bank Holidays	No flying	

The committee depending on site conditions can revise the hours of operation at any time, subject to the restrictions imposed by Braintree District Council within the planning approval.

Permitted Flying Zone

Aircraft can only be flown in the designated flying area as shown on the site layout drawing contained in appendix B. The designated flying zone has been designed to maximise the distance between aircraft and local housing and thus minimise noise nuisance and any possible damage to property in the event of an accident. Any member flying near the houses will be subject to disciplinary action and possible expulsion from the club.

CLUB RULES



HEDGEHOPPERS
MODEL FLYING CLUB
BMFA Club 686 *Founded 1995*
www.hedgehoppers.org.uk

General Procedures (on the flying Strip)

Models, tool boxes etc. must be placed in such a way so that the "strip" is clear and no interference is caused to other operators taking into consideration adequate room for wingspan, direction of prop-wash, transmitter aerials etc.

Before walking out onto the take-off area operators must make sure it is safe to do so.

Landing aircraft always have the right of way.

Flying must be done with due regard to the Farmland and any local dwellings. Low flying over the flightline is strictly forbidden. When there are a number of aircraft flying together (fixed wing, helicopter or a mixture of both) a direction of flight should be established. Whilst flying all operators should stand together so as to be able to communicate with each other and also minimise the chances of any co-channel interference. Any operator wishing to land should make his intention firmly known by shouting "RUNWAY". The landing area must then be immediately cleared. In the event of an aircraft's engine stopping the operator must shout "DEADSTICK". A deadstick model, either fixed wing or helicopter has priority over any powered landing model.

When flying helicopters with fixed wing aircraft, it may be deemed necessary to select an area of the flying site for helicopter operation. If necessary this area should be established by agreement with all present.

When flying helicopters with fixed wing aircraft, it is the responsibility of all present to act in a responsible and co-operative manner with regard to take-off and landing of the models.

Lost / Abandoned Models

A lost / abandoned model, either in the surrounding crop or a flyaway, must be reported to a committee member immediately.

Competition Flying

No competition flying or open flights days, other than internal fun competitions shall be held at the Shalford flying site.

During an internal club fun competition the events officer or judge's decision is final.

CLUB RULES



HEDGEHOPPERS
MODEL FLYING CLUB
BMFA Club 686 *Founded 1995*
www.hedgehoppers.org.uk

Relationships with other Land Users

As the club is using Farmland this must be respected as such. Farm machinery and personnel have priority at all times. If requested by Farm personnel to stop flying for any reason you must STOP.

NO cars at any time must be driven along the bridle track linking the car park to the flying site.

In the event of any accident causing injury or damage, this must be reported to the committee as soon as possible. NO liability should ever be admitted.

Each member is responsible for any litter they may create and must make sure the area is left clean, remember, at all times, we are guests on the land.

When arriving / departing the flying site all club members must keep to the bridle track; short cuts across the farmers fields are forbidden.

A membership card must be produced if requested by the Farmer, a member of the farm staff, the farmers land agent or any other club member.

FLYING DEMONSTRATIONS / DISPLAYS

When HMFC is operating at a site other than the clubs own site e.g. Shalford Village Hall, all safety regulations detailed by the club rules shall apply. In addition the regulations contained in the BMFA handbook shall apply, i.e. only B certificate holders shall be permitted to fly etc. All safety aspects at the display will be co-ordinated by the clubs safety officer if present; in the absence of the club safety officer the committee will appoint a deputy.

CLUB RULES



HEDGEHOPPERS
MODEL FLYING CLUB
BMFA Club 686 *Founded 1995*
www.hedgehoppers.org.uk

APPENDIX A – GENERAL INFORMATION

Hedgehoppers Model Flying Club Committee	Chairman	Mike Yeulett
	Membership Secretary	Peter Merifield
	Vice Chairman/Treasurer	Malcolm Keen
	Safety officer	John Foster
Hedgehoppers Model Flying Club Founder Members	Mike Yeulett, Malcolm Keen, Trevor Catling	
BMFA Approved Club Examiners	Mike Yeulett & Steve Barker	
Contact Details	Mr. M. B. Yeulett (Chairman), telephone: 01376-342094 e-mail: myeulett@yahoo.com	
	Mr. M. J. Keen (Vice chairman/ Treasurer), telephone: 01376-515712 e-mail: mjk103@talktalk.net	
	Mr. J Foster (Safety Officer), telephone: 07960 940396 e-mail: jonfly115@gmail.com	
	Mr P. Merifield (Membership Secretary), telephone: 01371 856527 e-mail: pmerifield@aol.com ,	
Website	www.hedgehoppers.org.uk	

CLUB RULES



HEDGEHOPPERS
MODEL FLYING CLUB
BMFA Club 686 *Founded 1995*
www.hedgehoppers.org.uk

APPENDIX B – DESIGNATED FLYING ZONE

