

## **GUIDE ON CARING FOR JUNIOR MEMBERS (Issue 4.2)**

Responsibility for Junior Members resides solely with their legal parents/guardians. Dornoch Model Flying Club does not undertake to supervise Junior members other than for the actual act of model aircraft flying and associated pre and post flight procedures.

1. A Junior Member is defined as being under 18 years of age.
2. A Junior Member under the age of 14 must remain supervised at the flying field by their legal parents/guardians.
3. A Youth Group Member is defined as being under 18 years of age and attending a recognised youth group, and if under 14 years of age be supervised by the youth group's leader.
4. A responsible adult is defined as a Senior club member or parent/guardian who has the experience commensurate with the type and degree of supervision required.
5. Junior members must be supervised at all times by a responsible adult. The level of supervision is to be commensurate with the Junior member's age, maturity, capabilities and levels of experience.
6. Junior members under the age of 14 years shall not start an I/C engine or electric motor nor carry a model with the engine running unless they are supervised by a responsible adult or have satisfied the criteria of Paragraph 7.
7. No Junior member under the age of 14 years shall fly a model aircraft unless supervised by a responsible Senior Club Member or the Junior member holds the minimum of a BMFA Achievement Scheme "A" certificate, or has completed the DMFC Training Programme, and has been authorised to do so by the Club Committee.
8. Notwithstanding the requirements of Paragraph 2, no Senior Club Member is to be expected to assume responsibility for a Junior Member unless he/she has been specifically requested to do so by the Junior member's parent/guardian and has agreed to do so. If required to do so, he/she is to assume complete and total responsibility for the Junior Member whilst he/she is in their charge.
9. Notwithstanding the requirements of Paragraph 8, should a member discover that a Junior Member is unsupervised, he/she must assume responsibility for the Junior member's safety in the first instance. The situation should then be rectified as soon as possible by seeking out the Junior member's parent/guardian/nominated supervisor. Any instance of such an occurrence is to be reported to the Committee as soon as possible.
10. Whilst supervising Junior members, Senior members should be aware of the requirements of The Children Act (1989) and avoid placing themselves in a position that could be open to misinterpretation or question. A leaflet giving advice is available from the BMFA Leicester Office or from the Club Secretary.

*M.R.Hayes (May 2024)*