

Statement of Policy.

Affordable Gliding under CASC rules.

Bath, Wilts and North Dorset Gliding Club ('the Club') believes that cost should not be a barrier to taking an active part in gliding.

Therefore, using the Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) regulations for reference and considering each case on its individual merits, the Club Committee will give consideration to applications from club members who find the club's standard tariff to be challenging.

The Bath, Wilts and North Dorset Gliding Club Affordable Gliding Scheme

Prospective and existing club members on low or modest incomes are invited to apply for preferential combined membership and participation rates under the Club's 'affordable gliding' scheme. The scheme will provide members with the opportunity to take part in club gliding activities, including flying in club aircraft, on a weekly basis for £520 (2016//17 charges) per membership year, or pro-rated part thereof where membership starts during the membership year.

Applicants will need to satisfy the following scheme criteria:

- That they are an existing club member or intend to become one
- That the usual club rates for membership and participation raise significant concerns about affordability

Scheme notes

1. The Club Committee is aware that the relationship between 'income' and 'affordability' is defined by each individual's commitments and dependents, therefore the decision making process will take into account each applicant's discretionary income.
2. Attendance for participation will be limited to 50% of the available operating opportunities spread evenly over the full membership year. Should a member be unable to attend on one weekend they cannot retain an entitlement in lieu of this absence.
3. Members on this class of membership will be expected to have due regard for the club's costs, and normally to select the lowest cost form of launching applicable to the requirements of the flight
4. Receiving benefits from the affordable gliding scheme will not affect the usual rights or obligations of Club membership.
5. The Club is a volunteer run club and therefore the Club Committee encourages all members to take part in the full range of gliding activities, including the very many voluntary tasks involved with running the gliding club. However, the Club Committee will not ask recipients of any agreed preferential rates to do anything specifically that other club members would not be expected to do, in return for receiving those preferential rates.
6. It is up to each individual to ensure they can afford £520pa; the club is not obliged to come to any lower agreement.

7. Membership will be reviewed each year to ascertain whether the member's circumstances have changed and whether participation in this class of membership remains appropriate.

Application and Assessment Procedures

- Potential applicants should contact the Membership Secretary who will explain the scheme, answer any questions and supply an application form.
- Completed applications will be sent to the Membership Secretary
- The club shall appoint an assessment panel to consider applications from club members in a timely manner.
- The panel shall be made up of three people (Management Committee Members or Directors) not related to the applicant. This panel will be decided by the Club Committee following each AGM and will include a prioritised reserve list to cover the eventuality of a panel member's involvement with an applicant.
- The applications will be considered against the Club's published Scheme criteria and notes (above); the onus is on the applicant to show that they cannot afford the Club's usual rates.
- The panel will have discretion to consider each application individually and in isolation from other applications, as appropriate.
- The outcome will be communicated in writing to the applicant.
- The panel has discretion to tailor solutions to accommodate individual need and will agree terms individually with successful applicants.
- Individual applications and agreements will be kept confidential within the Club's administration operation. Any personal financial information provided by the applicant will be returned after the panel has made its decision. Copies will not be kept on file.
- Applicants disagreeing with any decision made by the panel have the right to appeal. Details of the Appeals process are set out in the Club's Appeals Policy.
- The availability and contact details for the 'affordable gliding scheme' will be put on the Club's tariff information, wherever this is displayed.
- There is no limit on the number of members on this scheme.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Bath Wilts and North Dorset Gliding Club held on 19th March 2015

Signed on behalf of the Management Committee M A Thorne

Role of signatory Chairman

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