

GUIDE ON CARING FOR JUNIOR MEMBERS (Issue 3):-

Responsibility for junior members resides with the parents/guardians. This Club does not undertake to supervise junior members other than for the actual act of model aircraft flying and associated preflight and post flight procedures, unless specifically arranged. Our activities at the flying sites do not finish at a regular time and it is therefore the parents'/guardians' responsibility to ensure the well being of their child over and above arranging a predetermined collection time.

Should parents/guardians wish to leave their child at the flying site, it is their responsibility to arrange for one of the senior members to supervise him/her during their absence.

1. A Junior Member is defined as being under 18 years of age.
2. A Youth Group Member is defined as being under 18 years of age and attending a recognised youth group.
3. A responsible adult is defined as a senior member or parent/guardian who has the experience commensurate with the type and degree of supervision required.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. No junior member under the age of 14 years shall fly a model aircraft unless supervised by a responsible adult 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.
7. No senior 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. 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.
8. Notwithstanding the requirements of Paragraph 7, 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.
9. 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.