

**As a BMFA member you should be familiar with the following message that was sent out on Monday 11th May 2020 following the Prime Ministers address to the nation the previous evening.**

**Please note that at the present time, this ‘relaxation’ applies only to England.** The advice for Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales remains ‘stay home’.

This change in government advice will permit the resumption of some model flying activity in England subject to compliance with certain guidelines and social distancing. Points to note include:

1. We remain in the midst of a pandemic. The updated government advice must not be regarded as meaning a ‘return to normal’. The situation is dynamic and current government advice must be followed.
2. The effects of the COVID-19 virus are most serious in men over the age of 60, especially those with other underlying health problems. As many of our members fall into this group, we would urge careful consideration before venturing out and risking any potential exposure to the virus, however small the risk may be.
3. At no point during the lockdown has model flying been prohibited. It is mainly the government’s blanket restrictions on non-essential travel which has precluded our activity (which remains the case in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales), although some landlords have imposed their own restrictions on activity on their land. Therefore, regardless of any changes to the government’s advice, any such local restrictions must also be considered.
4. Should Clubs/members in England decide to resume model flying then they must follow government advice. Some simple measures to consider may include:
  - Social distancing in accordance with government guidelines **ensuring the minimum 2 metre (and preferably greater) separation** from other people (unless from the same household) is always maintained (including in the carpark, pits & pilot box). Clubs need to consider measures to ensure compliance with this requirement, which in some instances is likely to require limitations on the number of members on site at any one time.

- Latex/Nitrile/Vinyl gloves to be worn or hand sanitiser used immediately before and immediately after opening/unlocking and closing/locking access gates and padlocks. Latex/Nitrile/Vinyl gloves to be worn or hand sanitiser used immediately before and immediately after using any club site maintenance equipment.
- No sharing of model flying equipment and aircraft (apart from by those sharing a household).
- Unless both instructor and pupil share the same household, if an individual has not yet reached a “safe solo” competence and still requires supervision, a buddy system **must** be employed, preferably wireless and with the instructor and student using their own equipment. If a wired system is used it must allow the instructor to maintain a minimum 2m separation from the student and appropriate sanitation measures should be taken when handling the buddy lead.
- Clubhouses and any shared facilities (e.g. toilets) to remain closed.
- Hand sanitiser should be considered an essential item in every model aircraft flyer’s flight box.
- Anyone displaying symptoms of COVID-19, or who shares a household with any individual displaying symptoms, must not fly and should stay at home to maintain social isolation in accordance with government advice.

Ultimately, it has to be the individual’s decision whether to go flying or not and to take responsibility for their own safety.

The BMFA will issue further guidance as details become available.

**The health and wellbeing of our members remains our first priority, so please stay safe. If you have been advised by the NHS / Govt. to shelter, please do not hesitate to follow this advice**

*This additional message has been added by the BMFA on Tuesday 11th May 2020.*

Further to yesterdays update which you can read at <http://tempURL> we would like to add the following:

Whilst a return to model flying is now possible for some (in England only) it cannot be considered as being business as usual. A trip to the flying site to socialise with more than one other member is not permitted under the current government advice and you should not be making arrangements to meet a group of others to go flying.

Model flying within the current restrictions should be considered as a solo activity (unless with other members of your household or one person from outside your household – for safety purposes). This does not mean that if anyone else is present at the flying site you must go home (the same would be true in your local park), but gatherings must be avoided, and social distancing maintained. Some clubs have introduced a booking system to limit the number allowed on the field at any one time and to minimise wasted journeys. We would also re-iterate that where land-owners have closed their sites (such as the MOD and National Trust) you must not fly there until they re-open.

Do remember that when you go flying you are not there to meet up with others, you are there to fly your aircraft and nothing else. Do not mingle with other people and respect social distancing guidance to ensure you maintain a safe distance. If in any doubt, please stay at home.

**Turn up, fly, go home!!**

### **How does all this affect King's Lynn Aero Model Club Members?**

After a visit to the field on Tuesday afternoon by Chairman Brian Ball & Gerry Betts, they were delighted to find that it was looking in very good shape due to some TLC by Robert Melton. We have restricted the start-up tables for IC models to two only. The electric table has been moved back in line with the Club hut. Once ready to fly, electric models may be brought to the pilot box for launch.

**It is intended to trial a limited model flying programme at Station Meadow over the weekend from 10.00am Friday 15th May 2020 to 5.00 pm Sunday 17th May 2020 - All 2 hour flying slots must be booked by the pilot in advance. Do not drive down to the field and expect to fly! Only two persons may fly at any one time! Bookings must be made in advance to help maintain social distancing. See below for more details.**

**Unfortunately the Club Hut will remain locked and out of bounds.**

**You may find this check list helpful before leaving home:**

- 1. These three current credentials will be required just in case you are challenged and acting legally:**
  - a. CAA Registration number displayed in / on all models brought to the flying field.**
  - b. BMFA membership card.**
  - c. KLAMC membership card.**
  
- 4. Be very conscious that your model is air and flight worthy and that you have checked thoroughly the:**
  - a. Appropriate model is selected on transmitter.**
  - b. Binding between the transmitter to receiver.**
  - c. Fail-safe is active.**
  - d. Throttle cut is operational.**
  - e. Check all the linkages and servo mounts.**
  - f. Check the direction of movement - rudder, elevator & ailerons.**
  - g. Flight battery sufficiently charged.**
  
- 5. Make sure that the Model is range checked and does not exceed 82db. It is possible to get an App for your mobile that will give an approximate reading.**
  
- 7. Check that you have brought all items to fly successfully before leaving home. Essentially these may be: fuel, electric starter, spares, tools, plugs, etc.**

**This will prevent you having to request additional support from other club member. If support is requested, make sure that all rules for contamination and social distancing are observed.**

- 8. Suitable Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) must be supplied and carried by all members ready for use at all times until further notice. It could be carried as a standard set of items in your car along with the First Aid kit ready for use.**

9. **Fly a model that you are familiar with and have flown successfully on many occasions previously. A model that will not require you to request support from an additional member of club.**
10. **Unfortunately there will not be any training offered or given at this stage.**
11. **At this stage: Please do not bring models to fly that will require an additional club member to physically correct.**
12. **If you require prepared food or beverages you will need to bring these with you. No cooking or brewing-up on site!**
13. **Please take all your rubbish home and dispose of safely!**
14. **Committee members may be present at times to take onboard any problems with these arrangements and to help resolve them to gain a safe and satisfactory outcome within the set guidelines.**
15. **Please remember that this is not a social occasion at this stage and that every members health and safety requires your consideration!**

**Enjoy your flying hobby and your life! Turn up, fly, go home!!**

It has been very difficult for all of us over the past seven months. Many of us have not had a decent days flying since the end of last October and those were walk-ups, carrying models and equipment. The coming months are also going to be a very big challenge but as sensible aero model flyers we will do our very best to get those models in the air without putting ourselves and all our fellow members at risk in any way!

These adapted rules are not perfect and may be adjusted by the committee as we progress along the path to regaining some normality and less strenuous conditions. None of us have all the answers but at least we can work as a team and pull together. The future is bright and these past few months have allowed us to catch-up and also adapt to the many appalling changes that we have witnessed!

Please read and digest the BMFA advice above. Do be patient and understanding. As many people have reminded me on many occasions, Aero

Model building and flying is only a Hobby but as we all know, once hooked it's very difficult to get a divorce from it! The committee are trying to do their best during these difficult times!

**Remember it is intended to offer this for a trial period initially.**

**If all goes well and this is considered to be a workable practical solution that all members will abide to, then we may be able to extend our flying in time!**

**These arrangements are only available to King's Lynn Aero Model Club Members.**

To maintain social distancing It will be possible for two individual flyers to book during per 2 hour time period.

Book by messaging Brian Ball on the **KLAMC Station Meadow**, Facebook page, stating your name & KLAMC membership number, requesting the Day & Time that you would like to book. Flyers from the same household may use the same slot booked or they may book as 2 separate flyers within that 2 hour time slot.

e.g. Please book Gerry Betts 40 / 12.00 to 2.00pm. Thank you!

A booking will be confirmed and allocated to you by your membership number.

e.g. Member 40 - Zone 1 Booked 12.00 to 2.00pm.

If any slot remains vacant due to a 'no-show' then this booking will not be available for use by any other flyers.

Flyers that book will be allocated as Flyer 1 or Flyer 2.

Flyer 1 will park-up to the west of the club hut and use start-up Table 1 and fly from westerly side of the pilot box.

Flyer 2 will park-up to the east of the club hut and use start-up Table 2 and fly from the easterly side of the pilot box.

These areas as indicated on the rough sketch map and will be clearly marked divided into two Zones by a line marked on the grass.

If you have booked in as a pilot:

Turn up on time and wait if you are early in your car in the Short Term Car Park.

When your Zone has become vacant proceed to the allocated Parking Zone.

Unload, set-up, start-up on the allocated table and fly from your Zone only.

All pilots must keep within their allocated time and be packed-up and departed from the Flying Field for home within the two hour period to avoid collecting penalty points! No! Penalty points do not mean prizes!

## Turn up, fly, go home!!

Unfortunately flyers will be limited to 1 x 2 hour flying slot throughout this introductory arrangement.

Once you have managed to have a flight within this 1st period, then you will need to go back to the end of the queue until the next sessions are arranged!

Friday 2 x 2 hour time slots will be available in each time period:

10.00am to 6.00pm Friday 15th May 2020 = 4 x slots of 2 flyers available = 8 bookings.

Friday 2 x 2 hour time slots will be available in each time period:

10.00 to 12.00

12.00 to 2.00

2.00 to 4.00

4.00 to 6.00

10.00am to 6.00pm Saturday 16th May 2020 = 4 x slots of 2 flyers available = 8 bookings.

Saturday 2 x 2 hour time slots will be available in each time period:

10.00 to 12.00

12.00 to 2.00

2.00 to 4.00

4.00 to 6.00

11.00am to 5.00pm Sunday 17th May 2020 = 3 x slots of 2 flyers available = 6 bookings.

Sunday 2 x hour time slots will be:

11.00 to 1.00

1.00 to 3.00

3.00 to 5.00

I will try to set up a page on Facebook that will offer you the opportunity to book in a time / slot when you would like go flying. It is envisaged that a two hour maximum slot will be for you to fly a single model only observing the amended club rules outlined here. **ONLY** - If you are not a member of **KLAMC Station Meadow** Facebook page then it may be possible to ring Chairman Brian on (01945 772032) or Secretary Gerry (01945 582023) to see if they can book you in.

Turn up, fly, go home!!



THIS IS NOT A SCALE DRAWING BUT MAY BE REFERRED TO AS SPORTY!