

MAIDENHEAD RADIO MODELLERS

HANDBOOK 2006

6. CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS POLICY

All members are required to respect the rights and dignity of children and vulnerable adults and to promote their welfare. Caring is largely a matter of common sense provided everyone is clear on what is expected of them and a few simple principles are adhered to. It is not a responsibility to be feared but is, nevertheless, essential if we are to ensure that we are to be a club that offers opportunities for all.

- All members, parents, guardians and carers are to comply with BMFA and club policies and guidelines for the promotion of welfare and care of children.
- A junior member is defined as being under 18 years of age.
- A vulnerable adult is defined as a person of 18 years of age or over but through mental or physical attributes requires a higher level of supervision than would be normally commensurate with an adult member.
- A responsible adult is defined as a senior member or parent/guardian who has the clearance, experience, knowledge and training commensurate with the type and degree of supervision required.
- Junior members must be supervised at all times by a parent/guardian, or by a responsible adult nominated by the parent/guardian and accepted by the Club. The level of supervision is to be commensurate with the junior member's age, maturity, capabilities and levels of experience.
- Junior members under the age of 14 years shall not start an engine or carry a model with the engine running unless they are supervised by a parent/guardian.
- No child or vulnerable adult shall undertake any activity that might place him or her at risk. In any event prior consultation with their parent, guardian or carer must take place if there is any doubt on the member's abilities to undertake a specific activity.
- No senior member is to be expected to assume responsibility for a child or a vulnerable adult.
- Notwithstanding the requirements of the previous paragraph, should a member discover a child or vulnerable adult that is unsupervised then he/she must assume responsibility for that person's safety in the first instance. The situation should then be rectified as soon as possible by seeking out the parent, guardian or carer. Any instance of such an occurrence is to be reported to the club committee as soon as possible and a record made of the occurrence.
- Whilst supervising children or vulnerable adults, members should avoid placing themselves in a position that could be open to misinterpretation or question in accordance with BMFA policy. Remember, the policy is there to protect you as well as children and vulnerable adults.
- Should any member, parent, guardian, carer or the person themselves have concerns about the welfare of children or vulnerable adults then he or she is to contact the Club Welfare Officer or Chairman or any of the help lines on Page 6 of the BMFA Policy, Procedures and Guidelines for the promotion of welfare and care of children and vulnerable adults in model flying.