



RULES OF THE LIGHT AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION LIMITED

AMENDMENT RECORD

Issue	Amendment Record	Dated
V1.0	Initial Issue	01 Sep 2012
V2.0	Shareholder rule updated	27 Sep 2013
V2.1	Life and Honorary Membership updated	22 Oct 2014
V2.2	2a. Directors Code of conduct added. 2c. Presidents/VPs updated	10 Oct 2015
V2.3(1)	Section 5 National Council deleted. 6d Membership-other deleted 12c Senior Members revised. 14c Corporate Members added.	09 Aug 2021

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RULES OF THE LIGHT AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION LIMITED

PREAMBLE

These Rules, together with the Light Aircraft Association Limited (hereinafter called LAA) Articles and the Regulations, constitute the governance of the LAA, its members, officers and member clubs. These rules apply to all members of the LAA, who may or may not be shareholders of the company.

1 NAME

Light Aircraft Association is the operating name of Light Aircraft Association Limited (LAA).

2 CONSTITUTION

The LAA is a Company Limited by Shares. The Memorandum and Articles of the LAA (the Articles) are authoritative in all matters of constitution. In addition, the Rules of the LAA (this document) are promulgated as required, for its proper governance and conduct. Where there is any conflict between these Rules and the Articles, the latter shall take precedence. Regulations are also published from time to time, covering operational requirements of the LAA (ref Article 27a).

2a The Board of Directors

The LAA is governed by a Board of Directors, whose election, appointment, activities and terms of office are provided for in the Articles (ref. Articles 22-25). Directors on first appointment and on re-election shall sign the Light Aircraft Association Directors Code of Conduct. Should a director refuse to sign the code of conduct then they will be deemed to have resigned as a director.

2b Patron and Vice-Patrons

A Patron and one or more Vice-Patrons, who need not be members of the LAA, may be appointed by the Board, subject to confirmation by the shareholders at the next Annual General Meeting. The Patron and Vice-Patrons may attend Board meetings if they wish but shall have no voting rights at such meetings, unless they are also directors.

2c President and Vice-Presidents

A President and one or more Vice-Presidents may be appointed by the Board, subject to confirmation by the shareholders at the next Annual General Meeting. The President and Vice-Presidents must be shareholders of the LAA, and shall hold office for three years. They shall normally be eligible for re-appointment no more than twice. The President and Vice-Presidents may attend Board meetings if they wish but shall have no voting rights at such meetings, unless they are also directors.

3 AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD

3.a Board Responsibility

The Board has sole responsibility for all Company policy decisions as provided for in the Articles (ref Article 27b and 27c)

3.b Compliance with Board Instructions

Members shall comply with the Rules & Regulations of the LAA and the lawful instructions of the Board. Refer to Article 27a and 27b regarding Rules covering Company governance and Regulations covering Company operations. Beneficial shareholders may bring motions for changes at General Meetings.

4 COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD & WORKING GROUPS

4a Appointment

The Board may appoint committees and working groups and may delegate to them such powers as it may think fit. Such committees and working groups may include persons who are not members of the Board or the LAA (ref Article 28). Working groups will normally be set up for a specific purpose, or task.

4b Reporting

Committees and working groups shall report to the Board and their decisions shall be subject to confirmation by the Board. The Board may, at its discretion, allow certain working groups to report to a specific committee.

4c Chairmen of Committees

The Board shall appoint chairmen of committees and working groups. The appointed chairmen will select appropriate members of their committees and submit names to the Board for confirmation.

4d Ex-Officio Members

The Chairman and CEO of the LAA shall be ex-officio members of every committee and working group (WG) and shall receive prior notice of all committee / WG meetings.

4e Co-option

The Board may additionally appoint additional members to, or fill vacancies on, any committee / WG.

5 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

5a Membership Classes and Categories

The LAA shall have two primary classes of individual membership: 'Full' and 'Full Plus'. Additionally within this structure there may be several sub-categories of membership to allow for different membership requirements. The sub-categories of membership are set out in the 'Definitions' section at the end of this document.

5b Owners and Builders of LAA Aircraft

All co-owners of jointly-owned aircraft administered by the LAA, whether in build, completed or undergoing restoration, shall be Full Members of the LAA, except that all sole owners and at least one co-owner shall be a Full Plus Member. In exceptional circumstances, the Board may at its sole discretion waive these requirements.

6 LAA MEMBER CLUBS AND AFFILIATES

6a Member Clubs

LAA Member Clubs are organisations which are members of the LAA. Their purpose is to support and further the LAA's objectives. Clubs represent a specific geographical or functional area of LAA activity, e.g. type club, geographical club, youth activities Club. Their activities are governed by the LAA Member Club Regulations.

6b Commercial Membership

Commercial organisations independent of the LAA with an interest in recreational, sport or commercial aviation seeking membership of the LAA are invited to apply to the Board for Commercial Membership which shall be upon such terms and conditions as the Board shall decide.

6c Affiliate Membership

Other organisations, independent of the LAA, not classified as commercial, that have an affinity or complementary objectives to the LAA may apply to the Board for Affiliate membership. Affiliation is at the discretion of the Board upon such terms and conditions as the Board shall decide.

6d Commercial and Affiliate - Other

6d(i) LAA bears no responsibility for the actions of Affiliates, or Commercial organisations. Neither Commercial nor Affiliate organisations shall be protected by any LAA insurance policy, or support services, except as required to comply with LAA's statutory obligations.

7 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

7a Admission and Re-admission

On first application, applicants for membership for all categories except temporary and youth, will be invited to become shareholders of the Light Aircraft Association Limited, having beneficial ownership of a single share to be held by a nominee shareholder as provided for in the Articles. Subject to Rules **7b** and **7d**, members shall normally be automatically re-admitted annually on receipt of the appropriate subscription.

7b Board's Discretion

The admission or re-admission of members shall be at the absolute discretion of the Board. Any appeal against refused membership is to be made in accordance with the appeals procedure.

7c Participation and Privileges of Membership

No member shall participate in or receive any of the privileges or advantages of membership until the appropriate subscription has been paid.

7d Resignation and Lapsed Membership

Members who allow their membership to lapse for more than one month shall be deemed to have resigned and the Board shall require them to have authorised completion and registration of the transfer of their beneficial shareholding to another person as a beneficial shareholder. Any subsequent application for renewal of membership may be considered as a new membership, or may be back-dated at the discretion of the Board.

7e Special Circumstances

The Board may elect honorary and life members under such special circumstances as it may determine, who will have privileges as specified in the Definitions section, or as the Board may determine.

8 MEMBERS' CONDUCT PREJUDICIAL TO THE LAA

8a Individual Membership

In the event of any member being charged with conduct which the Board may consider prejudicial to the LAA, the member may be called before the Board and failing an explanation satisfactory to the Board, may be cautioned, suspended, required to resign, or be expelled as the Board, in their absolute discretion, may determine. The member has the right to appeal the decision, and should do so to the LAA President or Vice President, in writing, setting out their reasons for appeal, within one month. The President or Vice President will advise the LAA Board of their findings and the LAA Board may reconsider its decision.

8a Member Club

In the event of any Member Club being charged with conduct which the Board may consider prejudicial to the LAA, the Chairman of the club may be called before the Board and, failing an explanation satisfactory to the Board, the club may be cautioned, suspended, required to resign or be expelled as the Board, in their absolute discretion, may determine.

Any Member Club that has left or been expelled from the LAA will immediately cease to enjoy the rights and privileges of membership, including coverage by the LAA insurance policies. The club has the right to appeal the decision, and should do so to the LAA President or Vice President in writing, setting out its reasons for appeal within one month. The President or Vice President will advise the LAA Board of their findings and the LAA Board may reconsider its decision.

8b Representing the LAA

No individual member or member club shall purport to speak or act on behalf of the LAA, or use the name or insignia of the LAA or the Company, without the specific authority of the Board (ref Article 9 of the Articles of Association).

9 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

9a Subscription Rates

Subscription rates for the various categories of membership shall be determined by the Board.

9b When Payable

All subscriptions shall be payable in full on application for admission to membership and annually thereafter at the end of the month preceding the anniversary of the initial admission to membership. If admission or re-admission is refused, the subscription will be refunded.

9c Conditions of Membership

A member, on paying the appropriate subscription, thereby agrees to be governed by the provisions of the Articles, and by the Rules and Regulations of the LAA for the time being in force and on these conditions is enrolled to enjoy the advantages and privileges of membership of the LAA.

9d Leaving the LAA

Any member leaving the LAA part way through the year, for whatever reason, will forfeit any prepaid subscription.

10 MINUTES

Minutes shall be taken of all meetings of the Board, committees and working groups. Such minutes shall be properly recorded and subsequently confirmed at a meeting of the Board, or the relevant committee. Minutes are to be forwarded to the LAA Office Manager for distribution to the Board (see also Article 21).

11 FUNDS

The LAA may set up funds, separate from those operated by the Company, for specific purposes. Such funds shall have written statements of their terms of reference which are authorised by the Board. Funds shall be administered by trustees who are acting as committees in accordance with Section 4 of these Rules. Reports on the accounts and activities of funds shall be presented annually to the Board.

12 DEFINITIONS (Classes and Categories of Membership, rights and privileges)

12a Full Members

Full Members shall have all the rights and privileges that the Board shall grant, which will include a free copy of the house magazine, but no access to the services of the engineering department.

12b Full Plus Members

Full Plus Members shall have all the rights and privileges that the Board shall grant, which will include a free copy of the house magazine and the services of the engineering department.

12c Joint Members

A Joint Member is a member who is the partner of a Full, or Full Plus Members and/or any child under the age of 18 and living at the same address. Where a Full Member (or Full Plus Member) pays a single additional Joint Membership fee, their partner shall be issued with a membership card and enjoy the privileges of a Full Member except those rights accorded to a beneficial shareholder. Any person under the age of 30 and living at the same address may on request (and for no extra charge) be issued with membership cards and enjoy the privileges of a Youth Member. Only one copy of the house magazine will be issued to each address.

12d Overseas Members

Overseas members are Full, or Full Plus Members whose place of residence is outside the British Isles and the Channel Isles.

12e Life Members

Life members are specially elected by the Board under Rule 7e to have Full Plus membership for life and who pay no subscription. The award will normally be given to those who have given long, distinguished and/or outstanding service to the Association.

12f Senior Members

A small number of Full Members in the past were deemed eligible to be Senior Members. This category was removed in 2015, but a legacy number of members remain. They have a lower membership fee but enjoy the same rights and privileges as other Full Members. Full Plus members did not qualify for Senior membership.

13 BENEFICIAL SHAREHOLDERS

All individual members of the above categories – Full, Full Plus, Joint, Overseas, Life and Senior – can become beneficial shareholders of the LAA upon acceptance of their assigned beneficial share. There is no charge and beneficial shareholders are entitled to vote at General Meetings. Renewing members in these categories will become beneficial shareholders unless they choose to opt out at renewal.

14 OTHER

14a Youth Members

Persons under 30 years of age may apply to be Youth Members. They enjoy the same rights and privileges as other Full Members, except rights to beneficial shareholding. Full Plus members do not qualify for Youth membership.

14b Honorary Members

Honorary members, who may not have been members at the time of election, are, or will become when appointed, Full or Full Plus Members. They are members elected by the Board who pay no subscription. They enjoy the same rights and privileges as other Full or Full Plus Members, except rights to beneficial shareholding. This distinction will normally be given to those who have done the Association some significant service and will normally be awarded for a specific time period.

14c Corporate Members

Corporate Membership was initially a special membership category created for BGA Gliding Clubs, RAF GSA clubs and certain educational establishments who own an LAA aircraft or who are building an LAA project, for example a Build A Plane project or for use as a glider tug. This membership is now extended to any CAA Declared Training Organisation (DTO), CAA Approved Training Organisation (ATO) or similar, renting or utilising an LAA Permit aircraft for remunerated training or hire, who are required to become an LAA Corporate Member. Other commercial organisations may also apply for Corporate Membership and will be considered on merit at the Association's discretion. Clubs or Training Organisations holding Corporate membership can nominate up to 3 people to be the contacts to LAA Engineering on behalf of the club. They effectively have Full Plus membership privileges.

ENDS