

# THE SCOTTISH AERO CLUB (SAC)

## SAFETY CASE RELATING TO THE PARTICIPATION BY YOUNG PEOPLE IN CLUB EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

(This document should be read in conjunction with the Scottish Aero Club's Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy and Procedures).

### 1. Introduction:

The Scottish Aero Club aims to encourage the next generation of SAC members and pilots and to promote the sport and career prospects of aviation among young people. To these ends, the Club has created a junior membership category and welcomes the participation by young people, who are not Club members, in certain specific Club events and activities.

Being mindful of its duty of care to young persons taking part in Club events and activities, or visiting Club premises, the Club has adopted a Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy and Procedures, which is binding on all members. The Club also has in place Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), which govern the conduct of members and the safe operation of aircraft.

This document additionally outlines the measures that the Club will undertake to mitigate any potential hazard, or risk, to any young person under the age of eighteen, while on Club premises, or taking part in Club events or activities. It also is binding on all members.

### 2. Junior members:

Junior members of the SAC enjoy the same services, facilities and concessions as Associate Members, provided that they are not allowed to invite guests into the Club's premises, except members of their immediate family, and are not allowed airside, or in the Club's hangars, unless accompanied by a full member of the Club. They are able to attend Club functions, feel a sense of belonging with the aviation community, receive mentoring from and have the opportunity to fly with Club members, subject to the specific approval of a parent or guardian and within the terms of the Club's Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy and Procedures. Parents or guardians are required to acknowledge that junior members will be bound by the SAC's policies and procedures.

This category of membership is open to 14-18 year-olds. However, young persons who are qualified pilots, or who are undergoing flying training, with the exception of 'Take-off' students (see below), are required to be full, or first-year student members.

### 3. 'Take-off' flying scholars

The 'Take-off' charity offers flying scholarships to selected young persons under the age of 18. Ground school and flight training is undertaken by the Scottish Microlight Flight Centre (SMFC), operating out of the SAC's premises at Perth (Scone) Airport, using the SAC's Evektor Eurostar three-axis, fixed-wing microlight aircraft.

These students are not required to become members of the Club but, for the duration of their training, they are allowed the use of Club premises. Subject to the specific approval of a parent or guardian and within the terms of the Club's Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy and Procedures, they may also receive mentoring from and have the opportunity to fly with Club members.

'Take-off' scholars are not allowed to invite guests into the Club's premises, except members of their immediate family, and are not allowed airside, or in the Club's hangars, unless accompanied by a full member of the Club. The parents or guardians of 'Take-off' scholars are required to acknowledge that their son/daughter/ward will be bound by the SAC's policies and procedures.

While undertaking flying training under this scheme, young persons are required to comply with any health and safety conditions imposed by the SMFC and the SAC - a condition that must be acknowledged also by parents or guardians.

#### 4. Under 18-year-old visitors:

Club members are entitled to invite friends and family, including young people under the age of 18, to the SAC's premises for various events and activities. From time to time, the Club also invites individual young persons, or groups of young persons, who are not connected with the Club or its members, to visit its premises, or to attend specific functions, events, or activities. Subject to the specific approval of a parent or guardian and within the terms of the Club's Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy and Procedures, these members' junior guests and junior visitors may also have the opportunity to fly with Club members.

In these cases the host member, or appointed SAC Committee member, will have responsibility for ensuring the safety of the junior visitors and their compliance with the Club's rules and procedures.

#### 5. Hazards, Risks and Mitigating Factors:

As mentioned above, the Club's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) are designed to ensure the safety of members and visitors and the safe operation of aircraft. They are binding on all members. Pilot members must sign the SOPs' register annually to confirm that they have read and understood the terms and conditions of the SOPs. From time to time, as necessary, the SAC Committee will also issue mandatory operating safety directives, which are communicated directly to members.

In addition, the following hazards and risks (categorised as low, medium, or high), pertaining particularly to under 18-year-olds, have been identified, together with mitigating factors to reduce or eliminate the risk to them.

It is recognised that an airfield will be an unfamiliar environment for young people, with a number of potential hazards. Particular emphasis is therefore placed upon competent supervision and instruction.

Failure to comply with the Club's health and safety instructions will result in a junior member, 'Take-off' scholar, or junior visitor being excluded from the Club's premises and from Club events and activities.

Hazard	Risk	Mitigation
<p><b>i) . Aircraft ground movements.</b></p>	<p>High</p> <p>Aircraft movements on the ground are potentially lethal. There is the potential for collision with a moving aircraft. Propellers rotating at high revolutions have the capacity to maim or kill.</p> <p>Within the hangar, stationary aircraft pose a risk of trips, bumps and falls.</p>	<p>The Club's Standard Operating Procedures dictate the precautions that must be undertaken by pilots in command to ensure safe operations.</p> <p>No young person will be allowed in the hangars, or airside unless accompanied by a qualified pilot who is an SAC member. They will be supervised by a qualified pilot who is also a member of the SAC at all times when in the hangar or airside and will be required to wear a high visibility vest whenever in the hangars or airside.</p> <p>Young persons will receive a safety briefing by a qualified pilot, who is an SAC member, before being allowed airside, or in the hangars.</p>

<p><b>ii). Hazardous substances</b></p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Certain hazardous substances are commonplace in the SAC hangar, These include cleaning materials, aviation oils, hydraulic fluids and petrol. These pose a risk of burns, inflammation of the skin and possible breathing difficulties, or allergic reaction.</p>	<p>Young persons will receive a briefing on potentially hazardous substances before being allowed in the Club's hangars, or airside.</p> <p>Young persons will not be allowed to handle hazardous substances and will not be allowed to be involved in refuelling aircraft.</p>
<p><b>iii). Air accident</b></p>	<p>Low</p> <p>Sport aviation is a relatively safe pursuit. Nevertheless, there is the potential for injury or death in the event of a malfunction of an aircraft or other mishap.</p>	<p>Junior members will be flown only by suitably qualified pilots in aircraft that are properly insured and legally sanctioned for flight.</p> <p>Junior members will be briefed, before every flight, by an instructor, or qualified pilot who is a Club member, on the emergency procedures and contingency actions pertaining to the flight.</p>