



Risk assessment

Club Name: Petersfield Aero Modellers

Assessment carried out by: Paul Bennett

Date of next review: 10.01.26

Date assessment was carried out: 10.01.25

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing to control the risks?	What further action do you need to take to control the risks?	Who needs to carry out the action?
General Activity	General Public, Club members	All pilots must observe field discipline and comply with the Air Navigation Order, all relevant BMFA safety codes as contained within the BMFA Members' Handbook and Civil Aviation publication (CAP) 722 and Article 16 Authorisation.	New members must join BMFA. All members over 18 must have Operators Registration and have RCC (or CAA test) certificate. Members under 18 must register as Remote Pilot (inc RCC/CAA test) and parents/guardians to be the registered operators.	
Public entering field during flying session, possible impact with models	General Public	Gate kept closed. Easy to warn public as large field and good visibility when approaching patch.		
Model control loss, resultant injury to persons	General Public, Club members	SHOUT A WARNING. Aircraft not operated close to individuals or behind flight line. Pilots should carry First Aid kits.	All members to remain vigilant and ensure flight line is parallel to wind and 4 metres from edge of patch. Flight line and pits area must be moved if prevailing wind direction changes.	All members



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Loss of control (pilot error - student / novice)		Student pilots supervised by instructors or NFC's. Members must attain BMFA A Certificate before flying unsupervised. Club trainer aircraft with dual operation available.		
Model fly away	General public or property	Models to have fail safe programmed	New models must be range checked and fail safe checked	All members
Model impact with vehicles	General Public, Club members	Pilots not to overfly adjacent roads (excluding South Downs Way). 50m exclusion zone around masts (parking area)	NA	
PAM model – model collision	General Public, Club members, Buildings	Circuit discipline maintained. Pilots announce landings, low passes, reverse direction etc. Limited number of aircraft flying at any one time.		
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<p>Sky Surf Club proximity.</p> <p>Collision/proximity with hang/paragliders</p>	<p>Glider pilot, general public</p>	<p>Permanent lookout maintained whenever model flying is taking place, either by individuals or by everyone present.</p> <p>All people on site encouraged to warn of low flying approaching hang/paraglider. Position, heading, altitude. Dynamic risk assessment of collision risk offered.</p> <p>Launch areas 250m North of PAM patch. SSC & MVSA operational/safety practice shared by all parties.</p>	<p>No PAM flying when they are operational.</p> <p>Unexpected conflict - If anything other than no/very low risk considered, models to immediately be flown away from conflict to 'safe area', descend to lowest possible safe height and, if needed, land at first opportunity.</p> <p>Frequent inter-club communications and updates</p>	<p>Warning from any/all members present, with updates to pilots.</p> <p>Briefings for new members</p>
<p>Meon Valley Soaring Association proximity</p>	<p>General Public, Club members, Buildings</p>	<p>MVSA launch & landing site approx 500m north. Club operational practice shared by all parties. All people on site encouraged to warn of low flying approaching aircraft. Position, heading, altitude. Dynamic risk assessment of collision risk offered.</p>	<p>If anything other than no/very low risk considered, models to immediately be flown away from conflict to 'safe area', descend to lowest possible safe height and, if needed, land at first opportunity.</p> <p>Frequent inter-club communications and updates</p>	<p>Warning from any/all members present, with updates to pilots.</p> <p>Briefings for new members</p>



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Collision/proximity with low flying full size aircraft (General Aviation & Military)	Aircraft occupants, general public	All people on site encouraged to warn of low flying approaching aircraft. Position, heading, altitude. Dynamic risk assessment of collision risk offered.	If anything other than no/very low risk considered, models to immediately be flown away from conflict to 'safe area', descend to lowest possible safe height and, if needed, land at first opportunity.	Warning from any/all members present, with updates to pilots.
Flying over South Downs Way (track)	General public, horse riders	All participants at field to keep a good lookout and warn flightline of any use of track	Models to be flown at suitable distance from uninvolved persons. See section below regarding 'spooking of horses'.	
Model impact with pilot on patch	Person entering 'live' flying area (line up and retrieval of models)	Note Field Safety Rules 7, 8, 9,10,11, 12 & 34. Any person entering live area must seek clearance.	All pilots flying must positively acknowledge request for clearance. GOOD FLIGHT LINE COMMUNICATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL TO SAFETY	
Spooking of horses	Riders, General Public	Models immediately landed or flown away from horses to a suitable distance	Non flying pilots remain vigilant and warn fliers of approaching horses.	
Cattle in Field	Club Members	No solo flying when cattle are present.		
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Solo Flying	Solo Pilot may not be able to call for assistance	Have mobile phone available. Pilots encouraged to leave details of times of attendance at patch with friends or family.	Give contact details of a committee member to friend/family.	
Climbing over fences (retrieval of models)	Club Members	Where possible use gates. Use barb wire cover if crossing fence.		
Lipo Battery Fire	Club Members, Damage to property	Fire extinguisher kept in box. Fire beaters near box.		
Operating Lawn Mowers	Club Members	Lawn mower operated as per manufactures instructions. Fuel kept in approved containers. No smoking while fuelling.	If two lawn mowers are operated simultaneously care must be taken to ensure a safe distance between the mowers.	
Manual Handling – Lifting Lawn Mower	Club Members	Two person lift when removing or placing mower into box.		

More information on managing risk: www.hse.gov.uk/simple-health-safety/risk/