

Bicester Gliding Centre 'Affordable gliding scheme' application form

The Bicester Gliding Centre Affordable Gliding Scheme

Club members on low or modest incomes are invited to apply for preferential combined membership and participation rates under the Club's 'affordable gliding' scheme. The scheme will provide members with the opportunity to take part in club gliding activities, including flying in club aircraft, on a weekly basis (of 1 winch launch & circuit in a ASK-13 or K-8 glider) for no more than £520 per membership year, or pro-rated part thereof.

Applicants will need to satisfy the following scheme criteria:

- That they are an existing club member or intend to become one
- That the usual club rates for membership and participation raise concerns about affordability

Scheme notes

1. The Club Committee is aware that the relationship between 'income' and 'affordability' is defined by each individual's commitments and dependents, therefore the decision making process will take into account each applicant's discretionary income.
2. The scheme is based on a weekly winch launch and use of a ASK-13 or K-8 glider (or similar). Participants should use the lowest cost option available.
3. Receiving benefits from the affordable gliding scheme will not affect the usual rights or obligations of Club membership.
4. The Club is a volunteer run club and therefore the Club Committee encourages all members to take part in the full range of gliding activities, including the very many voluntary tasks involved with running the gliding club. However, the Club Committee will not ask recipients of any agreed preferential rates to do anything specifically in return for receiving those preferential rates.
5. It is up to each individual to ensure they can afford £520pa; the club is not obliged to come to any lower agreement.

Application and Assessment Procedures

- Completed applications should be sent to club Secretary.
- The club has an assessment panel which considers applications from club members.
- The panel is made up of three people (Management Committee Members or Directors) not related to the applicant. This panel is decided by the Club Committee following each AGM and includes a prioritised reserve list to cover the eventuality of a member's involvement with an applicant.
- The applications will be considered against the Scheme criteria (above); the onus is on the applicant to show that they cannot afford the Club's usual rates.
- The panel has the discretion to consider each application individually and in isolation from other applications, as appropriate.
- The outcome will be communicated in writing to the applicant.
- The panel has discretion to tailor solutions to accommodate individual need and will agree terms individually with successful applicants.
- Individual applications and agreements will be kept confidential within the Club's administration & Committee panel. Any personal financial information provided by you will be returned to you after the panel has made its decision. Copies will not be kept on file.
- Applicants unhappy with any decision made by the panel have the right to appeal. Details of the Appeals process are set out in the Club's Appeals Policy.
- There is no limit on the number of members on this scheme.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Preferred method of contact: _____

Best time of day: _____

Please explain why the club's fees for membership and flying are not affordable for you. (Either use the space here and on the other side of the page, or if you prefer, use an additional sheet of paper)

Please note that it will help us to understand your situation if you can supply evidence to back up any statements that you make.

*Please be assured that any personal financial information you supply will be treated confidentially and returned to you after the application process is concluded.
Copies will not be held on file.*

When you have completed this form please submit it, together with any attachments, to the **Club Secretary, Bicester Gliding Centre.**