

Hi All

Another year is about to end soon. Hope you have a clear vision regarding your next choice of model when you write your letter to Santa.

### **Club what club ?**

I am writing to clarify a few points that have shown during the last few days.

#### **History:**

The Dirty Dozen club was formed during a search for fields for the MKMAA . We stumbled across a farmer that was willing to allow a group of people to fly but not a flying club. So we rounded up a group of 12 hardened fliers and nutcases and we decided to rent the field.

We then moved to the current field where the actual farmer (Bruce) has not expressed any views about the number of members but does not like to draw too much attention on the site.

Subsequently we decided to increase the number of members to 20 to achieve safety in numbers and reduce the membership cost.

We finally proceeded to register the club with the BMFA to increase the farmer's protection cover with the insurance.

Since the beginnings the politics in the club have been quite simple:

- Chairman Bernhart Dambacher
- Secretary: Bernhart Dambacher
- Safety officer: Bernhart Dambacher
- Newsletter editor: Bernhart Dambacher
- farmer's liaison officer: Bernhart Dambacher

Simple...but irregular. The fact is, we are quite a small group and we are running it in an informal way. But because of this we never laid out terms and conditions or club rules.

### **Rules ? what rules ?**

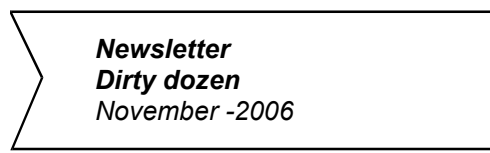
BMFA rules apply, coupled with common sense and above all, use your loaf to avoid situations that would lose us the field. Safety to you and to the others is paramount.

Again quite simple...

### **Terms and conditions:**

These were the grey areas that manifested themselves during these past few days so I will have a go at laying some:

- *BMFA fees*: No insurance, no fly! I trust we all know why, I can arrange to have you renew the BMFA insurance through the club (we need a minimum of 5 members to ensure a club status.
- *Membership fees*: must be paid in full at the joining date, unlike the BMFA way of doing things your year starts the day you joined. I will remind members, if needs be, that payment for next year is due
- *Refunds*: No refunds available if you decide to leave the club of your own accord: only expulsion, the cessation of the club's existence, or, changes in the club circumstances that will impede you from flying will get you a refund calculated on the amount of days left in your flying year.
- *New members*: prospective members must register their interest either with myself or via the club's website. There is a waiting list in existence and it works on a first come first serve basis. Prospective members will



have to go through a trial period before they are approved as permanent members. Membership is not transferable

- *Guest:* Only one guest per member per month. I think it is fair to the other members. Guests must be accompanied by their sponsor who will account for their actions. Family is ok but if the family member becomes a regular flier then first I will ask for BMFA membership, then we will have to discuss some additional fees
- *Accounts:* Cheques are payable to Bernhart Dambacher and will be deposited in a bank account under the name of Bernhart Dambacher. This account is a savings account opened exclusively for the club use. I keep an Excel spread sheet that tells me at all times the amount available in the bank and the amounts refundable to each member should there be the need for it. All I can ask is for you to trust me. Should you feel uneasy call me and I will try to explain the way I run the moneys. Money is used primarily to pay the farmer and maintain the mower. No other expense is foreseen.

#### **Website ? Did you say website?**

Yes, for those that did not know, the club's website is [WWW.Dirtydozen.org.uk](http://WWW.Dirtydozen.org.uk) . The website is courtesy of Bob Smith who has allowed the use of his web account and Mark Finn who has designed it. I am sure you will join me in extending my gratitude for such a good work.

As previously mentioned, the waiting list has been generated from entries available in the site.

#### **A bit full of himself innit?**

Yep, maybe... the fact is I cannot and should not run the club affairs by myself. Quite simply the club runs itself because we are all mates and none of us takes the proverbial p\*ss. I am not the local tyrant just the guy you use to coordinate things.

In a very informal way:

- Bob Smith has been my second in command (some referred to him as a secretary and he nearly ran a mile! ). Bob has been cutting the grass regularly and has a spare key to the mower. His cool head and advice has made me see what action to take for the good of the club. Thanks Bob, that grass looks so nice I could smoke it if it was not for the sheep sh\*t.
- Mark Finn has also been a really great help, his feedback and friendship to the farmer has smoothed the path ahead. Mark as you know has designed and maintains the website. He has also more or less taught the farmer to fly his plane. His ideas and enthusiasm injects life to the club.
- Frank Pedro...well...things would not be the same without Frank. His experience and good humor makes us look forward to a nice flying session (he is the equivalent to the events coordinator). By the way, where did I leave my Superglue?

This is my informal team, the truth is, we are all equal in this game, it is OUR field, OUR little paradise and escape from a grotty week at work. So PLEASE keep looking after it the way you have been.

#### **Newsletter or communiqués**

By e-mail, by website, not so often as I am lazy ☺ .From time to time I send an email regarding the matter in hand. So lookout for any e-mail coming from me (it is not spam !).

I hope I did not bore you stupid and I look forward to write a better one next time, Send me e-mails, call me with your comments or see me at the field. Thank you all for your help, trust and understanding.

Happy landings.

Bernhart Dambacher