

LIGHT AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION

HIGHLAND AND ISLANDS STRUT

CONSTITUTION

1. Title and Affiliation

1.1 The Club shall be called The Light Aircraft Association, Highland and Islands Strut, hereafter to be referred to as 'the Strut'.

1.2 The Strut shall be affiliated to The Light Aircraft Association (LAA) and to no other body without written approval from the LAA Board.

2. Objects

2.1 To organise a range of activities on a regular basis for Strut members and others, providing:-
· a local focus for recreational light aviation activities
· enjoyable flying and social activities
· improved safety knowledge and understanding
· opportunities to acquire/enhance aircraft building and maintenance skills

2.2 To promote the aims and ideals of the LAA.

2.3 To encourage, without insistence, non-members to join LAA.

2.4 To advance the cause of recreational light aviation through publicity, community activities, and education activities for young people.

2.5 To attract through appropriate publicity both LAA members and non-members.

2.6 To maintain awareness concerning local threats or potential restrictions on light aviation activity (e.g. strips/airfields facing opposition or needing planning support) and report such information to the LAA.

3. Membership

3.1 Any person who wishes to be a member must apply on the Membership Application Form and deliver it to the Strut. Election to membership will be considered by the Strut Committee at its next meeting and shall be at the sole discretion of the Strut Committee. Membership fees shall be payable on election to membership. Membership will become effective upon an applicant's name being entered into the Membership Register.

3.2 The Members of the Strut from time to time shall be those persons listed in the Membership Register (which shall be maintained by the Strut Co-ordinator or Secretary). Membership of the Strut is available in the following categories:

3.2.1. Full Member

3.2.2. Associate Member (are not Full or Full Plus members of the LAA)

3.2.3. Junior Member (under 16 years of age)

3.3 Annual Membership Fees. An annual fee payable by each member shall be determined from time to time by the Strut Committee. The Strut Committee may set different fees for different membership categories. The Strut membership fee is in addition to any LAA membership fees. Any fees shall be payable on a successful application for membership and annually by each member. Fees shall not be repayable.

3.4 Resignation of Members. A member shall cease to be a member of the Strut if, and from the date of which, he/she gives notice to the Strut Committee of their resignation. A member whose annual membership fee is more than three months in arrears shall be deemed to have resigned.

3.5 Misconduct and Expulsion. Any Member or Officer deemed guilty of misconduct may be cautioned or expelled from the Strut by majority decision of the Strut Committee; any person expelled shall have the right of appeal to the Strut Committee within twenty-eight days and the LAA shall be informed.

3.6 No member shall purport to speak or act on behalf of a Strut or the LAA without specific authority to do so.

4. Officers of the Strut

The Officers of the Strut shall be the

- . Chairman/Chairperson
- . Membership Secretary
- . Treasurer
- . LAA National Council (NC) Representative
- . Strut Safety Officer
- . Children and Vulnerable Adults Officer

5. Election of Officers

5.1 All Officers, who must be LAA members, shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Strut from, and by, the Full Members of the Strut.

5.2 All Officers are elected for a period of one year, but may be re-elected to the same office or another office the following year.

6. The Strut Committee

6.1 The affairs of the Strut shall be controlled by a Strut Committee comprising the Strut Officers and other members elected by the Annual General Meeting. The Strut Committee shall meet at agreed intervals and not less than four times per year. The committee shall consist of a minimum of four and a maximum of eight members. All members of the committee shall be full members of the strut and shall serve until the conclusion of the next following annual general meeting.

6.2 The duties of the Strut Committee shall be:-

6.2.1 To control the affairs of the Strut on behalf of the Members and in accordance with the LAA Rules & Regulations.

6.2.2 To keep accurate accounts of the finances of the Strut through the Treasurer. These should be available for reasonable inspection by Strut Members. The Strut shall maintain a bank current account. Any withdrawal against Strut funds should be approved by the Treasurer and by one other Officer.

6.2.3 To co-opt additional members of the Committee as the Committee feels necessary. Co-opted members shall not be entitled to vote on the Committee.

6.2.4 To appoint Sub-Committees as necessary to fulfil the Strut's business.

6.2.5 To appoint Officers of the Strut to act with the authority of the Strut Committee in the organisation and control of events.

6.3 The Strut Committee shall make decisions on the basis of a simple majority vote. In the case of equal votes, the Chairman shall be entitled to a second and casting vote. The quorum for all meetings of the committee shall be four members attending and entitled to vote.

7. General Meetings

7.1 The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than the end of September each year. Twenty-one days written notice shall be given to members of the Annual General Meeting by either circulating a copy of the notice to every member at their home address, by email or by posting the notice on the Strut Notice Board or webpage. Members must advise the Secretary in writing of any business to be considered at the Annual General Meeting at least fourteen days before a meeting. The Strut Co-ordinator/Secretary shall circulate or give notice of the agenda for the meeting to Members not less than seven days before the meeting.

7.2 The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to:-

7.2.1 Confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and any General Meetings held since the last Annual General Meeting.

7.2.2 Receive the accounts for the year from the Treasurer.

7.2.3 Receive the annual report of the Committee.

7.2.4 Elect the Officers of the Strut

7.2.5 Elect members of the committee

7.2.6 Transact such other business received in writing by the Strut Co-ordinator/Secretary from Members fourteen days prior to the meeting and included on the agenda.

7.3 Special General Meetings may be convened by the Strut Committee or on receipt by the Secretary of a request in writing from not less than five Full Members of the Strut. At least twenty-one days notice of the meeting shall be given.

7.4 Nomination of candidates for election of Officers shall be made in writing to the Strut Co-

ordinator/Secretary at least fourteen days in advance of the Annual General Meeting date.

7.5 At all General Meetings, the Chair will be taken by the Chairman or, in their absence, by a deputy appointed by the Full Members attending the meeting.

7.6 Decisions made at a General Meeting shall be by a simple majority of votes from those Full Members attending the meeting. In the event of equal votes, the Chairman shall be entitled to a second and additional casting vote.

7.7 A quorum for a General Meeting shall be 25% of the Full Membership of the Strut or 30 Full Members, whichever is the lesser.

7.8 Each Full Member shall be entitled to one vote at General Meetings. Other classes of membership may attend the meeting as observers and may speak by invitation of the Chairman but may not vote.

8. Alterations to the Strut Constitution

Any proposed alterations to the Strut's Constitution may only be considered at an Annual or Special General Meeting convened with the required written notice of the proposal. Any alteration or amendment must be duly proposed and seconded by Full Members. Such alterations shall be passed if supported by not less than two-thirds of the Full Members present at the meeting, assuming that a quorum has been achieved. Details of approved alterations and amendments shall be appended to the master copy of the constitution.

9. Indemnity Clause

If a member has been authorised to undertake duties on behalf of the Strut and in so doing, they incur costs, expenses or liabilities in the proper execution of these duties, the member shall be entitled to be indemnified out of Strut funds, except in any case where the actions arise from negligence, default or breach of duty or trust.

10. Dissolution

10.1 If, at any General Meeting of the Strut, a resolution be passed calling for the dissolution of the Strut, the Secretary shall immediately convene a Special general Meeting to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.

10.2 If, at that Special General Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two-thirds of the Full Members present, the Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the assets of the Strut and discharge all debts and liabilities of the Strut.

10.3 After discharging all debts and liabilities of the Strut, the remaining assets shall not be paid or distributed amongst the Members of the Strut, but shall be given or transferred to some other voluntary organisation having similar objects.

Signed:.....
..... Chair

Date:.....
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Signed:.....
..... Officer of the Strut

Date:.....
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