

Fins Over Gwent (BMFA Club 2746) Drone Policy

Applicability: This policy applies to all fliers at FOG, including visitors.

Review: This policy will be reviewed by the committee every December or in response to regulatory changes, whichever comes first.

Background

Drone & Model Aircraft Registration and Education Scheme (DMARES) came into effect on 30th November 2019. While DMARES is targeted at drones and radio-controlled aircraft, the club believes that some types of rocket-powered vehicle could fall within the scope of DMARES. The FOG committee has therefore issued this document to advise members how we will apply DMARES at the club.

Club Policy

Any air vehicle which includes elements of drone technology will be regarded as a drone. Anyone wishing to fly such an air vehicle at FOG should note the following:

1. Any air vehicle which uses active control surfaces, non-rocket propulsion, radio control or flight control systems will be regarded as falling under DMARES. This includes air vehicles which transition from rockets into some other type of air vehicle, for example:
 - a. Radio controlled rocket gliders
 - b. Vehicles with steerable parachutes
 - c. Vehicles which transition from rockets into drones
 - d. Drones used as launch platforms for rockets
2. Anyone wishing to fly such a vehicle must:
 - a. Comply with the altitude and range restrictions appropriate to drones and model aircraft.
 - b. Present proof that they have registered with the CAA and completed the CAA competence test
 - c. Hold 'A' or 'B' certification from the BMFA for the appropriate type of air vehicle OR complete the BMFA Competence test.
 - d. Present a current BMFA membership card as proof of insurance.
3. Anyone flying such a vehicle must display operator ID in an easily accessible place on the air vehicle.
4. The flight must be approved by the duty Range Safety Officer.
5. Video or images captured during the flight may not include images of young or vulnerable persons with the consent of their parent or guardian. Videos and images will be subject to inspection by club officers.