

Cotswold Gliding Club

Affordable Membership Policy



1. Introduction

Gliding is one of the most affordable aviation sports. However, Cotswold Gliding Club (CGC) recognises that the costs involved may prove a barrier for some who wish to participate in the sport. The aim of this affordable membership policy is to provide a mechanism for people on low or modest incomes to take part in the club activities at preferential rates.

CGC is a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) and this policy aims to meet the scheme's requirements for affordable participation.

2. The scheme

The scheme offers eligible applicants on a modest income a package of annual membership and launches at substantially reduced rates. Applicants must be over the age of 26 (other discounted rates are available for young people under 26) and will be expected to contribute £520 per annum to support their flying.

3. Application

Existing or prospective members who find the standard fees challenging are invited to apply to the scheme by completing the attached form and submitting it to the Club Secretary. Applicants should bear in mind the onus is on them to demonstrate they cannot afford the club's standard rates.

Applicants may wish to include:

- Details of their employment situation and income.
- Their personal budget
- Information on any dependents or other special circumstances.

4. Assessment

4.1 Panel

Applications for the scheme will be assessed by a panel of three management Committee members, normally comprising the Secretary and two Committee members appointed by the Secretary. No member of the panel should be related to, or have a close personal relationship with the applicant.

4.2 Criteria

The panel is responsible for assessing/confirming the following:

- 1) The club's standard fees pose a genuine and significant affordability challenge for the applicant. This should be based on an assessment of the applicant's discretionary income.

- 2) The applicant is committed to becoming or remaining a member of the club.
- 3) The applicant is able afford around £520.00 per annum to support their gliding.

4.3 Interview

The panel may choose to invite the applicant to attend for interview.

5. Decision and offer

If the panel is satisfied the applicant meets the criteria listed in para 4.2, they will compile a package offer of membership and a reasonable amount of flying at preferential rates. In general, the package will be based on an annual cost to the applicant of no more than £520.00. For illustrative purposes only, a package might comprise:

Annual membership	£100.00
Up to 6 winch launch flights per month at £5.83 per flight	£420.00
Total annual cost	£520.00
Monthly Instalments	£43.33

The Panel's decision and any offer will be communicated to the applicant in writing.

6. Confidentiality

Applications and awards will be kept confidential within the club's management and administration function. Any supporting documents supplied by the applicant will be returned at the end of the assessment process with no copies retained on file.

7. Appeals

Applicants who disagree with the Panel's decision have a right of appeal through the club's Appeals Policy.

8. Review

Individual arrangements will be reviewed on annual basis to determine if the member's circumstances have changed and whether participation in the scheme remains appropriate.

9. Conditions

Volunteering

CGC is a volunteer based club, and all members are encouraged to take part in the full range of gliding activities and the many voluntary tasks involved in running the club. The club does not ask members benefiting from this scheme to undertake any specific volunteering in exchange for the preferential rates.

Membership

Individuals benefiting from this scheme have full membership rights and may attend and vote at Club General Meetings

Approved by the Committee Oct 2022

CONFIDENTIAL**Cotswold Gliding Club**
Application for Affordable Membership

Name		Address	
Email			
Phone No.			

Please tell us about your circumstances and why our standard membership is a challenge for you
(It's not compulsory, but you may wish to tell us about whether you are employed or in education, your income and outgoings and any dependents. You may also include supporting documents)

Please send/email your completed form and any supporting documentation to: The Club Secretary, Cotswold Gliding Club, The Control Tower, Aston Down Airfield, Cowcombe Lane, Chalford, Stroud GL6 8HR
Email: secretary@cotswoldgliding.co.uk