



# BAeA Club Membership



The British Aerobatic Association represents the interests of all those concerned with aerobatic flying whether in a powered aircraft or in gliders. We aim to provide an effective means of communication between aerobatic pilots and other enthusiasts and a focus for the efforts of all those interested in aerobatics.

The BAeA organises competition aerobatics in the UK and runs an extensive programme of contests each year.

Our aim is to promote progressive aerobatic training from the ab initio stage onwards and the sport of competition aerobatics.

## Why aerobatics?

Briefly, aerobatic training develops a pilot's flying skills to the ultimate. It demands a high level of dedication and investment in time and, at higher levels, money.

In return it provides not only pleasure but also a real mastery of the art of flying in every attitude of flight that can be encountered in an Aeroplane.

Perfecting one's aerobatic skills will inevitably lead to increased self-assurance in handling the machine and greater safety in the air.

## What is Club Membership?

The BAeA has introduced a new class of membership for flying clubs that provide aerobatic training.

Club membership allows club members to enter Beginners competitions free of charge, without the need to become individual members of the Association.

The aim of club membership is to encourage progression from initial club aerobatic training into competition aerobatics by providing a simple, low cost way for clubs to enter their pilots into Beginners level competitions.

## What does Club Membership give your members?

- Free entry to beginners competitions
- Free membership of BAeA (for Beginners level competitions)

## What are the benefits to the Club?

BAeA Club membership will encourage your members to enter competitions. This will drive higher utilisation of club aircraft and instructors.

- More encouragement for club pilots to continue with aerobatic training
- Greater use of aircraft for training flights and competitions
- Greater demand for dual instruction
- Training referrals from BAeA contacts
- Link from BAeA website to your club website
- BAeA Presentation about competition aerobatics made to your club by an experienced aerobatic pilot, tailored to suit the interests of your members

The BAeA is keen to form partnerships with flying clubs because we believe this offers clear benefits to both parties and promotes the sport of aerobatics.

## What experience is needed to enter a Beginners competition?

Beginners competitions are ideal for pilots with basic aerobatic experience, for example on their club Cessna Aerobat. Pilots are not expected to fly figures perfectly, just safely.

We usually plan for Beginners to fly on a Friday afternoon. No time pressure is placed on pilots - the emphasis is on enabling new pilots to fly in a safe, supportive, non-pressured environment.

## What happens at a Beginners Competition?

The pilots arrive at the competition and have their paperwork checked – aircraft insurance and CofA / Permit to fly, licence, medical and certificate of experience or test.

They are then given a detailed briefing about what is expected of them during the competition. There is lots of opportunity for pilots to ask questions and more experienced pilots are usually available to help new competitors to prepare for their flight.

The most important thing about the flight is that it must be safe. All figures must be completed above 1500 feet altitude. The pilot may stop between figures for any reason, so the pilot can climb to gain more height if needed.

### Beginners Sequence 2012

A Known Compulsory sequence is published each year. All pilots in Beginners competitions fly this sequence once. The Beginners programme consists of five basic aerobatic figures put together into a sequence.

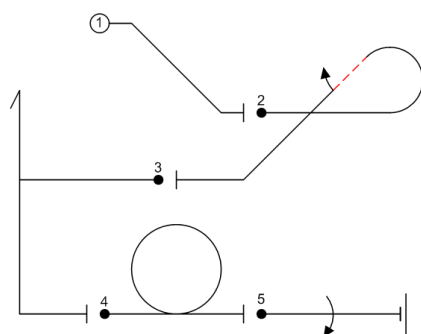


Figure	Description
1 45° down line	Fly level at the right height into wind and relatively slowly, pitch smoothly down to 45° of dive, maintain this angle for a couple of seconds and then smoothly pull back to level.
2 Half Cuban 8	Fly a 5/8ths loop to the 45° inverted down line, fly down the line with a half roll centred in the down line, pull to erect flight downwind.
3 Stall Turn	Pull to vertical. Wait until aeroplane almost stops travelling uphill and turn the nose using rudder, through 180 degrees to point vertically down, without pitching or rolling. Fly a vertical down-line. Pull out, erect into wind.
4 Loop.	Importantly your loop should be round; pull the nose smoothly up to the vertical, after which gently relax the pull so that over the top you are at just over stall speed and 'holding the nose up'. The 2 <sup>nd</sup> half requires an increasing pull, aiming to fly off at the same height as you started.
5 Aileron (slow) roll.	Roll the aeroplane through 360° of rotation on a horizontal line without climbing, descending or yawing off axis.



Once the flight is complete, the pilot will be given a critique sheet from each judge that gives a mark out of 10 for each figure and a summary of any errors seen.

The judges are happy to discuss the flight with each pilot. This gives pilots the chance to get direct feedback on their aerobatic flying from experienced judges and pilots.

Beginners competitions are very friendly, supportive and enjoyable events. New pilots learn a lot from the experience and the majority go on to become regular competitors at one of the four main levels of competition.

### Schedule of Beginners Events for 2012

14 <sup>th</sup> April	Brighton
12 <sup>th</sup> May	Sleaf
15 <sup>th</sup> June	Compton Abbas
29 <sup>th</sup> June	Fenland
4 <sup>th</sup> August	Sleaf (a Loop day)
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Little Gransden (a Loop day)
1 <sup>st</sup> Sept	Leicester

### More Information

If you would like to know more about Club Membership, please talk to:

#### Charlie Kimbell

Entry Level Training Co-ordinator, BAeA

Email: [charleskimbell@hotmail.com](mailto:charleskimbell@hotmail.com)

For more information about the BAeA visit our extensive information website at:

[www.aerobatics.org.uk](http://www.aerobatics.org.uk)

