



Flying Cadet Scheme Notes for Applicants

1. Objectives

At the Cotswold Gliding Club we want to encourage young people to learn to glide. Our Cadet scheme offers a small number of youngsters the chance to learn to fly at the club at substantially reduced rates.

2. The Cadet Scheme

This year we are offering up to 3 cadet places. For each cadet, the scheme provides the following benefits until they are aged 18:

- Club membership at £25 per year (normal price £75).
- Half price launch fees - £3.20 per launch, normal price £6.40. Typically, each time you come to the club you will have 3-6 flights and it takes between 60 and 80 flights to go solo.

These fees include all instructional costs. It means you can learn to fly, go solo and even fly cross-country. The sky really is the limit.

In return, you are expected to attend the club regularly, help out with maintenance tasks and commit to helping for a week during summer competitions.

3. Eligibility

To be eligible for a Cadet place you must be from the local area (Stroud, Nailsworth, Tetbury, Cirencester), aged 15 - 17 and in good health. There is a maximum weight limit of 15 stone. No special skills or qualifications are needed and we welcome applications from both boys and girls.

4. How to apply

- To apply you need to complete and return an application form by 31st October. Application forms are available on our website: www.cotswoldgliding.co.uk.
- From the applications we receive, we will select those we wish to interview. The main things we are looking for are enthusiasm, self-motivation, tenacity and a genuine interest in flying.
- If you are shortlisted, we will invite you to come to the club for an interview.
- If you are unsuccessful we will let you know as soon as possible. If you still want to learn to fly, you can join the club and fly at our standard Junior rates – see paragraph 7.
- After the interviews we will make our final decision on who we want to award the cadet places to. You will be notified by post.



5. Conditions – please read carefully

In return for a cadet place we expect certain things from you – please read this section carefully and make you sure you would be prepared abide by these conditions.

Commitment

As a cadet you will be expected to commit a certain amount of time to learning to fly and helping out at the club. This includes:

- attending regularly, 2-3 times per month (Saturdays or Sundays);
- spending at least half a day at the club each time you come;
- either coming to the club early enough to help get the equipment out (9 am) or staying late enough to help put the kit away (4-5pm).
- helping out with cleaning and maintenance tasks around the club.

Summer Week

The club normally holds a gliding competition during the summer months. Providing it does not clash with school, you will be expected to come to the club during the whole week of the competition and help out with the organisation. This involves quite a lot of work, but is very enjoyable.

Transport

You must be able to get to and from the club under your own steam, preferably by being dropped off and picked up by your parents.

Flying account

You will be given a flying account for your fees. You must keep this in credit, i.e. you must pay for your flying as soon as you have had it.

Cadets under the age of 16

If you are under the age of 16 you must be accompanied by a parent or guardian whenever you come to the club. The club will award a free Associate Membership to one of your parents to enable him/her to accompany you.

Behaviour

You will be part of the team on an operational airfield. It is very important that you behave responsibly and follow the rules of the club at all time.

What the Cadetship does not cover

There are certain costs the cadet scheme does not cover, these include:

- Aerotows – this is where you are launched by a tow plane. This is expensive and if you use an aerotow you will have to pay for it at the club rates.
- Motorgliders – if after you go solo you want to fly cross country, you need to pass a test in a motor glider. This is quite expensive and is not covered by the scheme.
- Badge claims – when you go solo or gain another qualification you have to pay a small administrative fee to the BGA. These are not covered by the scheme.
- Medical checks – before you fly solo you must be over 16 and have a medical certificate from your doctor. He/she may charge for this.



Termination of the Scheme

We reserve the right to terminate your cadet place at any time. Things that might make us terminate your cadet place are:

- if you fail to attend the club regularly;
- if you don't comply with the club rules;
- if you behave in an unruly, undisciplined or irresponsible way.

6. At the end of the scheme

The cadet place lasts until you are 18. After that you can join the club as a student member.

7. If you are unsuccessful

Unfortunately, we can only award cadet places to three applicants. If you are not chosen and you would still like to learn to fly, you are welcome to join the club as a Junior Member (£75) and pay the Junior rate for launches (£5.40). To help with these fees you can also apply to the Caroline Trust, a charity that provides financial support to young people between the ages of 16-18 who want to learn to fly. Their address is

Chairman,
Caroline Trust,
Old Bulls head
Tideswell
Derbyshire,
SK17 8NU.
Tel: 01298 872496
email carolinetrust@tideswell.net

8. Information for Parents or Guardians

Please make sure your parents read this.

Benefits

Gliding is an exciting adventure activity that offers a range of benefits to children aged 15 and over. These include:

- acquiring a mix of practical skills and theoretical knowledge related to flying;
- gaining plenty of exercise in the open air;
- fostering a sense of responsibility;
- developing team working and social skills in an adult environment.

Children who have started gliding at around 15 years old have gone on to become gliding instructors, win national and international gliding competitions and enjoy successful careers in aviation.

Parental Consent

If your child is awarded the cadet place it will be necessary for a parental consent form to be completed.

Transport

Parents are always responsible for their children's travel to and from the airfield, and for ensuring the children are collected at the appropriate time (this may be affected by weather).



Children under 16 years

Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied at all times by a parent while at the club. If your child is under 16 and is awarded a cadet place, we will issue a free Associate Membership to one parent to allow him/her to accompany the child.

Safety and risks

Gliding is an adventure sport that offers great challenge, enjoyment and exhilaration. However, you should be aware that, like other adventure sports, such as mountaineering, skiing or potholing, gliding involves an element of risk. For example, gliding is not as safe as flying in a commercial airliner. However, we believe that the balance of risk and reward is one that we can live with.

Statistical comparisons indicate that regular participants are less likely to suffer a serious injury gliding than playing rugby. For a further comparison, the figures indicate that you are slightly more likely to have a fatal accident scuba diving than gliding.

Within the club we place the very highest priority on safety and work hard to minimise the risks in our sport. All our instructors are qualified by the British Gliding Association and are subject to regular re-qualification checks. Our aircraft are checked each day before flying and are subject to thorough annual inspections. Should you have any concerns about the risks involved in gliding, or want more information, we would be pleased to discuss it with you. Please contact the office and ask to be put in touch with an instructor.

Child Protection Policy

The club's policy on Child Protection is as follows:

- The club places the highest priority on the safety of children.
- All children have the right to protection from abuse.
- We will treat all children and young people with care and respect.
- We will respond to concerns and allegations swiftly and appropriately.
- The nominated Child Protection Officer is responsible for promoting awareness within the club, monitoring and recording concerns, and liaison with other agencies, as required.
- All adult members are required to pay particular attention to the safety of children and must report any concerns about the welfare of any child/young person to the Child Protection Officer. Any allegation of criminal abuse will be referred to the police.
- The Committee will review this policy and the club's child protection arrangements on an annual basis.

For more details of our child protection arrangements please contact the club (Tel 01285 760415).