

Registration requirements for BMFA members flying model aircraft

Adults flying a model aircraft should be registered as an Operator with the CAA (usually via the BMFA) unless you fall into one of the 5 categories below -

- The aircraft weighs 250g or less and is not fitted with a camera
- The aircraft is a control line aircraft that weighs 7.5Kg or less
- The aircraft is a 'toy' as defined in the regulations
- You only operate model aircraft indoors
- You are a "Junior" under 18 where an adult must be the Operator – see section below

If you need to register, you are required to do 2 things -

1. **An online Registration Competency Test (RCC)** which is free and now lasts 5 years. The test is on a special BMFA website at <https://rcc.bmfa.org>
2. **Register to get an Operator ID** that you have to pay for and is renewable annually. Do this when you renew your BMFA membership each year at <https://bmfa.azolve.com>

You only get one "Operator ID" which goes on all your models – you don't have to register models individually!! If you do everything via the BMFA, you will also now be issued with a Flyer ID, but you don't do anything with this as it's the Operator ID that goes on your models!!

An alternative option is to register yourself via the CAA website <https://register-drones.caa.co.uk/> This will enable you to take the CAA test (which gets you a Flyer ID) and register as an operator (to get the Operator ID) and costs the same.

Juniors under 18 – A Junior must join the BMFA to get members benefits especially insurance and then needs to do the free online pilots registration competency test. An adult must pay the Operators fee and the adults Operator ID must be on the models. If the adult is not a BMFA member and doesn't fly, then the adult should register as the Juniors "Operator" using the CAA website above which avoids the adult having to pay to join the BMFA.

The difference between Flyers and Operators – In almost every case Adult members will be both the Flyer and the Operator (with a Flyer ID and the Operator ID). The Operator is the person responsible for what the Flyer does, so whilst it would be possible for one member to be an Operator for many Flyers, this is unlikely to happen as that Operator takes responsibility for all the Flyers!!

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