



To All club members

From Club Secretary

14th Oct 2022

Proposed indoor model flying changes from Jan 2023

As you know, we have historically had a free indoor flying meeting for 2½ hours every Thursday evening in the winter. These Thursday evening sessions in the gym are not ideal as the room isn't really big enough and this has led to reduced attendance. More recently we have also had 3 hour meetings every Saturday in the big sports hall for which we charge £5 per session, although very few people stay longer than 2 hours.

We also agreed a strategy to subsidise events to reduce the clubs bank balance from the current £8,000 to about £5,000 to keep as a "war chest" for future eventualities. Sadly the costs of Thursdays and Saturdays is reducing the balance faster than planned and we are running at an annual loss of about £1,000.

The committee recommends the following change from January 2023.

1. The Thursday evening meetings in the gym will cease.
2. There will be 28 new regular winter Saturday afternoon indoor flying meetings in the big sports hall from 1pm to 5pm. This will be Radio from 1 to 3pm and Free Flight from 3 to 5pm.
3. This split will ensure that everyone knows when RC and FF are flying, and will allow RC and FF flyers to socialise around the mid point changeover.

The financial impacts of the change are below

1. The standard club subs will remain at £28pa and this will cover flying at Girton plus Friday evenings at IVC in the summer and the annual "birthday bash" BBQ.
2. A new Indoor flyer "season ticket" of £30 will be added to the membership subs for those members who wish to fly indoors on Saturdays. Members who wish to come for a chat but not to fly, will not have to pay the £30.
3. Guest flyers on Saturdays would be asked to pay £5 per session.
4. Junior membership for indoor and outdoor flying will remain free.
5. The changes will reduce the annual deficit from £1,000 to about £350 which will mean another 8 years before we are down to the proposed war chest £5,000 bank balance.
6. Regular indoor flyers will save money compared to paying £5 per session on Saturdays. Those who don't fly indoors will not be affected.
7. As we get a huge discount at the sports centre, it is possible that they may increase prices at some point. We have allowed for a 10% increase in our plans but if they really jack up prices, the indoor season ticket price would have to be adjusted.

Next steps

Please vote on the proposal by replying to the e-mail you have been sent indicating your support, or suggesting alternatives. Please note that we cannot carry on with the status quo!

Feel free to discuss this with the club secretary or any committee member as we have time to make the right decision.