

Scottish Gliding Union Cadet Scheme

Cadet Scheme Guidelines

Cadet Scheme Instructor:

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Introduction

This paper is intended to give new and existing cadet scheme members a clear idea of the SGU cadet scheme. The paper describes the privileges of, and the obligations on, cadet scheme members.

Scheme overview

The purpose of the scheme is to give the opportunity for young people to take up gliding at a reduced cost and increased level of supervision.

The scheme is voluntary on both sides. Just as any cadet can elect to leave the scheme at any time the club can also withdraw the cash support for any individual. The club may also decline to offer new cadet membership to any individual. The reasons for doing so will be that the cadet has not or can not meet the guidelines.

Cadets who leave the scheme when they reach age 18 are encouraged to keep in touch with the cadet scheme. The British Gliding Association (BGA) have numerous schemes for encouraging young people in gliding and young people may continue to qualify up to age 25.

Entry Qualifications

Cadets must be between 14 and 18 years of age and show commitment to learning to glide and taking up gliding in the UK. Some cadets have indicated that they wish to learn to glide as a stepping-stone to other types of flying and this has not been a reason to disqualify anyone from entry. The scheme is limited in the number of places available and some people may be asked to wait for a place to become available.

Arrangements on leaving the scheme

As the scheme extends up to 18 years of age only, everyone has to leave the scheme eventually! Cadet members who leave the scheme may continue to fly at the SGU as a Student member but no membership additional charge is required until the next membership renewal. Should any cadet be asked to leave the scheme before their 18th birthday the same arrangement is available.

Cost of cadet membership and flying

Please check the tariff on the website for latest prices. The table below explains the structure of the charges.

Item	Cost
Annual membership	Fixed annual charge, see tariff.
Winch flights, in club aircraft	Fixed charge for winch launch and up to 30 minutes flying. Full club flying rates after 30 mins.
Aerotow flights, in club aircraft	Launch charged at full club rates but first 30 mins flying time free.
Flying with club professional instructor or on summer courses	All course and flying fees at full club rates, not at cadet rates.

Annual Cadet Week	Cadet rates for winch launch and flying time. No course fee.
Friends and family	Cadets are full SGC members and may bring friends and family to fly on a "day membership" basis, following the rules laid out in the tariff.

Note that cadet rates can only be offered in club aircraft. Different rates may apply in privately owned aircraft when flights in these are available.

As for all members, cadet's accounts must be kept in credit. On joining the scheme new cadets will be asked to add enough to their account to give an initial flying credit after deduction of membership fees – enough to cover five or six flights at least. Accounts can be monitored using the PC in the clubroom or in any web browser by visiting <https://sgcaccounts.co.uk/>.

From time to time the BGA and other organisations announce bursary schemes to help young people with the cost of learning to fly. In the past several SGU cadets have benefited from such schemes so it is worth looking out for them. The Junior Gliding page at <http://www.juniorgliding.co.uk/> is a good place to start.

Thanks to the generosity of various fund-raisers and donors, we have a modest **Cadet Fund** that is used to subsidise flying that cannot be done under the normal rules of 30-minute flights from winch, such as badge flights or aerotow training. Current details are circulated from time to time by the cadet instructor or are available at any time on request.

What the club expects from cadets.

The key to cadet membership is commitment. If at any time a cadet appears to fall short in this respect the club will withdraw the cadet subsidy with immediate effect.

Cadets should be regular flyers, attending the club for at least one day every two weeks. If a cadet does not attend the club for two months without offering a good reason to the cadet director, then the club will assume that they have left the scheme.

Log books and training cards need to be up to date and available for all instructors who fly with cadets. Cadets who do not have training cards and log books available may find that instructors refuse to fly with them!

Cadets need to show that they are making progress toward going solo. There is no specific limit on the number of flights before going solo. However all cadets should make themselves available to fly or discuss their progress with the Cadet Scheme instructor from time to time.

Cadets should be of assistance around the launch point. In order to do this cadets should try to be at the gliding club before the start of flying (8.30-9am at weekends). Cadets, like all members, should make themselves useful around the launch point while waiting for their turn to fly: looking after log sheets, pushing gliders, attaching cables, signalling etc. Always ask to be shown how before attempting a task you haven't done before.

Cadets are not allowed to drive the club vehicles unless they have at least a provisional driving licence, **except** that they may drive the Kawasaki Mule if shown how by a competent member. Ask an instructor to sign the back of your log book if you are cleared to drive the Mule.

Cadet Week

A Cadet Week will be run each year at the beginning of the school summer holidays. This is an excellent chance to make progress with flying and has proved very popular. There is no fee for the course – just normal launching and flying charges – as the instructors involved donate their time for free. The club also gives up normal course income for the week in order to reserve an aircraft (or perhaps even two) for the cadets. We obviously need to make the most of the cadet week or the privilege will be withdrawn by the club.

Unlike events run by youth organisations and schools, only flying and launch point supervision is given. Otherwise cadets are left to their own devices. Parents should take this into account in making their arrangements.

The cadets are responsible for their own accommodation and food arrangements. Some cadets travel each day, some stay in the club's rooms, many bring tents. There is no charge for camping on the airfield. Cooked meals and snacks can be purchased in the club house throughout the week and a deal covering all meals may be arranged. Details for the current year will be announced by the Cadet instructor several months in advance.

Some general points

Cadets are full members of the Scottish Gliding Union (SGU) and those aged 16 or over have the right to vote at the AGM and any EGMs. Cadets have all of the rights privileges and responsibilities of SGU membership.

Usually cadets fly at weekends as instructors are generally available. Tuesday is also a "club flying" day when the flying is operated through a flying list, as at weekends. Fly on other weekdays is also possible however cadets need to make sure an instructor is available (which will not be the case unless a specific arrangement has been made with one). Cadets may book time with the club professional instructor but this is charged at full club rates as the service has to be funded largely by those who use it.

Cadets may fly with any instructor. Cadets will be encouraged to fly with a range of instructors. Although this tends to slow down early training, the end result is that each cadet is exposed to a number of different flying and teaching styles and can develop their own style from a wider base.

The cadet scheme is run on an open basis. Parents are welcome to attend any cadet activity. Why not join the club and learn to fly?

If at any time a cadet leaves the SGU, the credit balance outstanding in their SGU account will be refunded in full on request to the office manager.