About Our Club

ESSA was formed in 1976 primarily to ensure continued availability of our sites for slope-soaring. We continue to work with the BMFA to protect local downland flying sites.

However, we also run local club events and competitions for slope flyers and flat field events. We also, when possible, host some of the six national competition two day BMFA F3F and 60" slope events.

Our club competitions consist of Aerobatics, F3F(speed), cross country and winch launch. These events count towards an annual points competition.

We also have a fun fly event in the Summer.

We also provide, informally, advice, guidance and tuition for new slope flyers as necessary.

We can help with getting you set up with your own model and giving you a start on the slope or we can offer basic training or taster sessions using a buddy box dual control arrangement.

Our Flying Sites

We fly on mainly two sites at the eastern end of the South Downs in East Sussex. Where we go obviously depends on prevailing wind direction.

For east and north winds we use slopes that are a short walk from the Butts Lane car park, which is at grid reference TQ580017. Be aware that this car park is Pay and Display. It is free for Eastbourne residents and others can pay for a £20 per year permit. Butts Lane starts in Willingdon village and climbs up the east face of the downs.

For winds from SSW to W, NW and North we use different slopes at the Long Man of Wilmington. There is a rough car park where the lane from Wilmington to Litlington crosses the South Downs Way at grid reference TQ532032.

There are other less used flying sites and it is probably best to take advice from the club about the use of these.

We also have a flat field site for tow launching. Details from the committee.

See web site for link to online weather station.

Safety Notes

Due to agreements between the SE area of BMFA and local landowners we can only accept BMFA insurance for our membership. If your club is not affiliated to the BMFA and you are not a BMFA member then you must pay full membership for ESSA/BMFA.

Fly sensibly and safely and be careful when and where you fly and land.

Check your line of flight is clear and keep away from livestock.

Be aware of horse riders as horses can be startled very easily by a model even if it is on the ground

Also watch out for walkers and mountain bike riders If you are not flying watch out on behalf of members who are flying.

Please do not try to land in the "pits"

Do be mindful of frequency control and use the peg boeard (if it is out).

Finally do not leave any wreckage etc on the hillside. Take everything home – in a bin bag if necessary!

Application for membership

Forenames
DOB
Address
Postcode
 Di
Phone
Email
If you belong to another club affiliated to the BMFA please enclose a photo copy of your BMFA card and provide name of BMFA affiliated club

See back page for contact particulars

Subscriptions 2013

Subscriptions including BMFA is £44 per annum. ESSA membership for those already BMFA members is £12. Junior membership (under 18) is £18 or £1 for ESSA only. Cheques may be made out to "ESSA".

Reduced subs are applicable for those who join after 31 July. Contact membership secretary for details

If you belong to another club affiliated to the BMFA please enclose a photo copy of your BMFA card and provide name of BMFA affiliated club

Contacts

John Phillips – Chairman
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Allen Elliott
Competitions Secretary
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East Sussex Soaring Association

If you want to try radio controlled slope soaring on some of the best sites in the south why not contact us. We are always looking to encourage new members with advice and hands on help.



Contact the membership secretary Ray Wells on 01323 483506 or look at our website www.eastsussexsa.co.uk