

# **The Bedfordshire Area Group**

## **Club Layouts - Ridgmont and Eaton Downs**

### **Rules of Operation for Club Members and Visitor**

#### **Club Meetings**

As members of the BAGs Group they pay an annual subscription (currently £30) which covers the monthly hire of the Hall and Insurance; it also covers the cost of our affiliation to the Southern Federation of Model Engineers and the Chiltern Model Railway Club. The Subscription year runs from September to August the following year. The group meets on the first Sunday of the month at Eaton Bray Village Hall. We don't hold a meeting during August leaving it free for members to organise garden meetings. We hold our annual exhibition "Steam in Beds" on the first Saturday in December.

#### **Operating Guidelines**

Our club meetings start at 11:30am and close at 5:00pm. The first task of the day is to get Ridgmont and Eaton Downs out of storage and built for the days running session. Every able bodied member is expected to play their part with this task, it is understood that not everyone can make the 11:30. They would however be expected to help with the breakdown at the end of the day. It's unfair on the vast majority of members who do their fair share when other members arrive late book themselves a running slot and leave without helping to clear up at the end of the day. We do understand that there will be some members who for personal reasons are unable to help.

1. If you wish to run on Ridgmont or Eaton Downs you must book a running slot on the running roster noting your Radio Frequency if appropriate, only one slot can be booked at a time. You must be a 16mm Association Member and you are responsible for the safe operation of your engine. The 16mm Association rules concerning testing of boilers and gas tanks will apply.
2. Every effort should be made to be ready in time for your slot. Steaming tables with metal trays are provided for the initial preparation of engines, once ready the engine should be transferred to the Steaming Bays. Please ensure no other engine is nearby before turning on the gas and lighting the burner. During your run any routine maintenance such as Boiler Top Up can be performed on the running tracks. In the event that you need to Re-Gas your Engine it should be removed from the Layout, Re-Gassing of an Engine should only be performed on the Steaming tables using the metal trays, great care should be taken to minimise the risk to yourself and others. Under no circumstances should you attempt to Re-Gas your engine on the Layout.
3. Only members operating a Loco or Preparing for their run should be within the Layout. If you are not running or prepping a Loco you should not be inside the layout, you'll just get in the way and cause congestion and interfere with the smooth running of the layout. Where a member is having difficulties with a Loco and needs assistance another member can be inside to offer help.
4. All Tool and Storage boxes should be neatly stored under the layout or tables to avoid making them a trip hazard for others.
5. At the end of your run the Loco should be moved to another part of the Layout so as not to interfere with the next persons run. Any rolling stock left on the layout should be removed to allow others a chance to marshal their train for their run.
6. No member should have a Loco on the tracks during somebody else's run slot without their agreement.