



Southampton & District Beekeepers' Association

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Out Apiary Rules, Regulations & Conditions of Use as of **October 2009**

The purpose of the apiary site is:

- An area where members can meet to practice various beekeeping techniques and exchange ideas.
- New or intending members can experience practical beekeeping and handle bees prior to commencing beekeeping.
- To provide education.
- Location for the Association club hive(s) to be maintained for education and honey production.
- Area provided for members to locate their hives



1. Only paid up members of Southampton & District Beekeepers' Association are permitted to keep bees on the apiary sites. The Association's financial year runs from 1st October to 30th September.
2. A rent per **bay** is to be paid in advance, renewal with membership. Site rent to be reviewed annually by the Committee. **Rent** is to fund the running of association hive(s) and site management.
3. **Members are permitted to rent two bays, which must be sited at different apiary sites.**
4. **All members must be mindful of maintaining apiary hygiene particularly when managing hives at multiple sites, including association out apiaries, private apiaries or gardens. The purpose of good apiary hygiene is to prevent the spread of disease between honey bee colonies. Disposable gloves are recommended and should be changed between apiaries. Hive tools should be cleaned regularly and prior to use at each apiary.**
5. Hives will only be allowed on site with the permission of Southampton & District Beekeepers' Association. Each site member will be allocated an identification number which must be clearly displayed on that member's hive(s) at all times.
6. Hives must be sited where indicated by the Apiary Manager.
7. Hives left on the site without permission, unpaid for or where the owner fails to comply with the rules and regulations will be removed and disposed of after due warning. Any proceeds to go to the Association.
 - a. Due warning - the amount of time for warning being decided by the Committee or sub-committee on a case by case basis.
8. All movement of bees/hives is to be notified to the Apiary Manager.
9. Members are responsible for maintaining their hives in good order and to do their utmost to prevent disease ensuring that current guidelines from the bee inspectorate are adhered to.
 - a. Varroa must be kept under control by using integrated pest management (IPM) and /or any chemical treatment recommended by the Bee Inspector.

- b. Members are to inform the Apiary Manager of the control measures for varroa being used as and when they are used in light of pyrethroid resistant mites now being widespread.
 - c. Should no information be received from members it will be assumed that IPM is not being practiced and members will be asked to remove their hives from the apiary after due warning. (See Rule 5)
 - d. Pyrethroid based varroacides, e.g. Bayvirol and Apistan, are no longer allowed to be used on Association apiary sites until further notice.
 - e. Monitoring of varroa levels in all hives is to be carried out. The Association recommends using varroa mesh floors on all hives. Monitoring days to be incorporated into meetings on site and should be carried out monthly (April to September) with all results notified to the Apiary Manager.
10. Swarm control methods are to be practiced and bad tempered bees re-queened if requested by the Apiary Manager.
11. Diseased colonies will be dealt with in accordance with the instructions of the appointed Bee Inspector (including standstill or destruction) whether or not the owner can be contacted.
12. The Apiary Manager reserves the right to inspect a member's hive(s) at any time to ensure that the rules and regulations are being complied with.
13. The maximum number of colonies to be kept on site is to be decided by the Committee **after taking the size of the apiary and surrounding forage into account.** A maximum number of hives per bay will be allowed per member depending on demand. This number will initially be two **for the over winter period.**
14. A waiting list is to be maintained by the Apiary Manager once the site is full.
15. The maximum number may increase for a limited period for emergencies: e.g. artificial swarming purposes. A maximum of double the number of colonies.
16. Hive stands are to be unobtrusive in colour and in keeping with the area; i.e. no bright colours or milk crates.
17. No open fires are permitted. Smokers must be carefully controlled and must not be emptied on site.
18. All equipment and debris from hives (e.g. hive staples, nails and scrap wax) are to be removed from the site taking into account any standstill notices in force at the time and the area is to be kept clean and tidy at all times.
19. Vehicles are to be parked in the designated parking area.
20. Vehicles are only allowed up the track nearer to the hives for the purpose of loading/unloading.
21. The Apiary Manager is responsible on behalf of the committee for overseeing site maintenance.
22. Members are to behave responsibly when on site and respect other members' hives and property.
23. Members use and visit the site at their own risk.
24. Members using this site must supply the following to Apiary Manager
 - Name
 - Telephone Number / Mobile Number
 - Car registration number / make / model / colour
25. The Apiary Manager is responsible for the day-to-day organisation of the beekeeping activities. All matters concerning maintenance and security are to be dealt with primarily by the Association's Apiary Manager.
26. The Apiary Manager is not responsible for individual member's hives or beekeeping duties and will not under normal circumstances do a member's beekeeping for them.