Problems arising from Regulation

- Large regulatory burden on volunteer community to retain existing rights
- Regulation disproportionate to the activity/risk
- Inconsistent/incorrect interpretation and implementation in Members States
- Model flying community constantly battling with regulators to ensure any new requirements for drones are not imposed on them by default

➡ Regulation raises the threshold for participation = reduced participation

EMFU Regulatory Objectives

- Explore possibility for greater recognition/derogation for model flying when EU Basic Regulation is reviewed: not automatically treated as “drones” and having to fight for exemptions

- Propose amendments to existing regulations or supporting information (such as FAQ’s) to clarify the intent of Article 16 to reduce misinterpretation by NAAs (and perhaps introduce a separate category for Article 16)

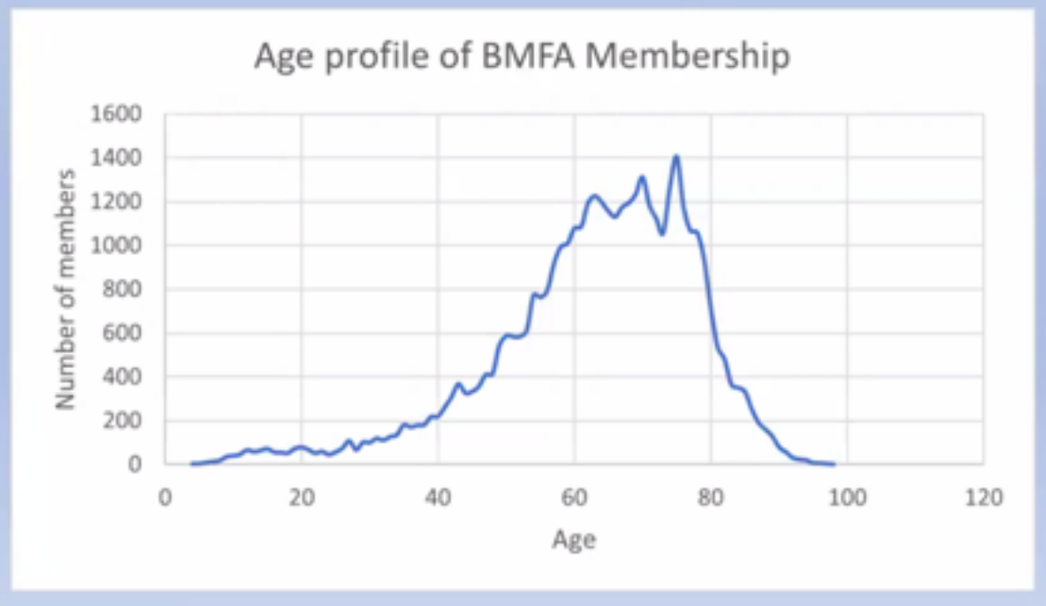
- EASA agreed with the EMFU position and previously stated that *“operation within a club should not be classified in the open category or specific category: We plan to propose a change in the regulation introducing a new category for operations within the framework of model club and associations, however we do not envisage additional changes required.”* This was promised and the EMFU will continue to hold EASA to this.

- Propose some detail amendments to clarify age requirements and requirements for sailplanes

Jürgen will cover this in more detail

Maintaining Participation

- Ageing membership – predominantly older men
- Regulation raises threshold for participation = reduced participation
- Even perception of increased difficulty/regulation = reduced participation
- Uncertainty also generates ‘unrest’ = reduced participation
- Perhaps more people operating ‘under the radar’ free from regulation
- Not enough younger/diverse members



Maintaining Participation - Challenges

- New members not always welcomed by clubs
- Other competing activities
- Less exposure to model flying – fewer model shops
- More restrictions = less places to fly for those outside clubs
- Cost of participation
- Less interest in aviation generally?