



RULES OF THE AIR REGULATIONS 2007

CHOICE OF VFR OR IFR

Exemption 06/2020

- 1.** The Department for Enterprise (“the Department”), in exercise of its powers under Article 156 of the Air Navigation (Isle of Man) Order 2015¹, exempts any aircraft from the requirement to be flown in accordance with Section 4, Rule 20(2) of the Rules of the Air Regulations 2007² applied under the Civil Aviation (Subordinate Legislation) (Application) Order 2006 and Civil Aviation (Subordinate Legislation) (Application) Order 2008, that provides for flight at night to be conducted under the Instrument Flight Rules (IFR).
- 2.** VFR flight at night is permitted in the Isle of Man subject to the conditions specified in paragraph 3.
- 3.** Permission is granted subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) if leaving the vicinity of an aerodrome, a flight plan shall be submitted;
 - (b) flights shall establish and maintain two-way radio communication on the appropriate ATS communication channel, when available;
 - (c) the VMC visibility and distance from cloud minima as specified in Exemption 05/2018 shall apply except that:
 - (i) the ceiling shall not be less than 1,500 ft;
 - (ii) except as specified in paragraph (v), the specified reduced flight visibility in Exemption 12/2016 at (b)(1)(c)(ii) shall not apply;
 - (iii) in airspace classes C, D, E, and G, at and below 3,000 ft amsl or 1,000 ft above terrain, whichever is the higher, the pilot shall maintain continuous sight of the surface;
 - (iv) for helicopters in airspace class G at and below 3000 ft amsl or 1000 ft above terrain, whichever is the higher, flight visibility shall not be less than 3 km, provided that the pilot maintains continuous sight of the surface and if manoeuvred at a speed that will give adequate opportunity to observe other traffic or obstacles in time to avoid collision; and
 - (v) ceiling, visibility and distance from cloud minima lower than those specified above may be permitted by the Department for helicopters in special cases such as police and medical flights, search and rescue operations and fire-fighting.

¹ SI 2015/870 as amended by SI 2016/155

² SI 2007/734 as amended by SI 2007/1371

- (d) Except when necessary for take-off or landing, a VFR flight shall be flown at a level which is at least 1 000 ft above the highest obstacle located within 5 nm unless:
- (i) at an altitude not exceeding 3,000 ft amsl; and
 - (ii) clear of cloud and with the surface in sight; and
 - (iii) at a height of more than 500 ft above the ground or water, or 500 ft above the highest obstacle within a radius of 500 ft from the aircraft; unless
 - (iv) when over the congested areas of cities, towns or settlements or over an open air assembly of persons, at a height of not less than 1,000 ft above the highest obstacle within a radius of 600 m from the aircraft.

3. This exemption shall have effect from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2021, unless previously revoked, suspended or varied.

Signed:  

Date: 16 December 2019

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