



Civil Aviation Authority of Botswana

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INTRODUCTION OF REGISTERED AIRFIELDS

1. Background

The Civil Aviation (Aerodromes) Regulations, 2012 classifies aerodromes in Botswana, into two groups, being Certified Aerodromes and Licensed Aerodromes.

Technical and safety standards applicable to certified aerodromes are contained in the Botswana Manual of Implementing Aerodromes Standards (BMIAS). Standards and technical specifications for Licensed aerodromes are as prescribed by the Authority in accordance with safety and regulatory requirements as may be published by CAAB from time to time.

It has been found necessary to establish a third class of aerodromes which shall be exempt from most requirements of the Civil Aviation (Aerodromes) Regulations and existing CAAB published requirements. This group shall be referred to as Registered Airfields and shall comprise of temporary airfields, airfields open to owner authorised traffic only and emergency landing grounds.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this circular is to notify Aerodrome Operators that Civil Aviation Authority of Botswana has created the following categories of aerodromes;

1. Category F Aerodromes.

Category F aerodromes shall comprise of private aerodromes available for use by aircraft of maximum take-off mass not exceeding 5700 kilograms and only available for use by domestic, non-commercial owner air traffic and non-commercial owner authorised air traffic

2. Category X - Emergency Landing Grounds

Category X airfields shall comprise of emergency landing grounds as listed in the Botswana AIP on page AD 1.4 – 25. Additional emergency landing grounds shall be as notified through AICs that shall be issued by CAAB from time to time. Emergency landing grounds are only available for use during emergencies. Some of these are located on public roads requiring extreme caution before use.

3. Category G – Temporary Airfields

Category G shall consist of airfields temporarily available for use for a period as shall be authorised by the Authority. Such airfields shall be subject to such conditions and standards as shall be prescribed by the Authority in consideration of the specific requirements of the operations to be carried out at the aerodrome.

The above three Categories shall be listed in a register to be maintained by CAAB as "Registered Aerodromes".

3. Applicability

(a) All places of departure not incorporated by the requirement of Civil Aviation (Aerodromes) regulations 2012,(3), and which are not licensed in terms of Civil Aviation (Aerodromes) regulations 2012, Part IV(B), shall be registered with the Chief Executive Officer for Civil Aviation Authority of Botswana as Category F Aerodromes, Category X or Category G aerodromes.

4. Current Applicable Regulations for Registered Aerodromes

Section 55 of the Civil Aviation Act, 2011 stipulates that no person shall establish an aerodrome without a certificate issued by the Authority. For compliance with this section of the Act, an applicant for Category F, Category G and Category X aerodromes shall before establishment of such an aerodrome apply for an establishment Certificate. The applicant shall provide CAAB with information in respect of the site coordinates, terrain and obstacle information and any information as may be required by the Authority.

5. Registration:

1 Upon the operator of an aerodrome providing the Authority with information in respect of its location, use and operation the Authority shall enter such information pertaining to an aerodrome in a register to be maintained by CAAB.

2 An application form for registration of an aerodrome as a Category F aerodrome can be attained from CAAB. Application for registration as a Category G aerodrome, are submitted through a letter detailing the requirements for such an aerodrome and providing full details on the equipment to be used and envisaged aviation activities, including the duration for such activities, shall be submitted to the Authority. Applications for registration shall be made to the Authority 60 days before start of operations for all registered aerodromes.

3 The Authority may register a Category X aerodrome upon initiation by the Authority itself, the agency responsible for public roads, Local Authorities or by any public agency. Information pertaining to Category X aerodromes shall be published in the AIP or as an AIP supplement as applicable.

4 Where it is in public interest to do so, the Authority may register a temporary aerodrome (Category G) as an emergency landing ground (Category X aerodrome) without the concurrence of the owner. The Owner shall not be held liable for its use as a Category X aerodrome.

5 The Authority may refuse to register an aerodrome where using the aerodrome is likely to be hazardous to aviation safety.

6 Validity of the registration certificate for Category F aerodromes and Category X aerodromes is indefinite and will be terminated upon the Aerodrome owner supplying

information to CAAB about its intended closure. Validity of the registration certificate for Category G aerodromes shall be limited to the planned duration of the activities to be carried out at the aerodrome.

6. Responsibilities Of Registered Aerodrome Owners

I. Operations at Registered airfields shall be entirely at the aerodrome operator and aircraft operator, risk. The risk of operating at such aerodromes shall be the subject to the any insurance policies in place with regards to the use of such an aerodrome.

II. Where low-flying or taxiing aircraft at or in the vicinity of an aerodrome are likely to be hazardous to pedestrian or vehicular traffic, the operator of the aerodrome shall immediately post notices warning of the hazard on any public way that is adjacent to the manoeuvring area; or

III. Notwithstanding (I), above, design and construction of registered aerodromes shall as far as is practicable be in line with the requirements of the most demanding aircraft that is intended to use the airfield. The authority shall be consulted with respect to any Category X aerodrome located in a public road.

7. Ownership of Category G Aerodromes (Temporary Aerodromes)

a) Category G aerodromes located on public roads shall be treated as part of the road infrastructure and shall as such be under the authority of the Government Agency responsible for such a road.

b) Category G aerodromes located in other areas such as salt pans and other suitable areas shall be under the ownership of the applicant.

8. Ownership of Category X Aerodromes (Emergency Landing Grounds)

a) Category X aerodromes located on public roads shall be treated as part of the road infrastructure and shall as such be under the authority of the Government Agency responsible for such a road.

b) Category X aerodromes located in other areas such as salt pans shall be under the ownership of the Authority.

9. Applicable Fees.

No fees shall be levied for registration of category F, category X and Category G aerodromes. This Aeronautical Information Circular becomes effective immediately upon publication

This AIC becomes effective immediately and supersedes AIC 06/2017

