

15.10.2023

## Terms of Use Astronomical facilities

All previous versions of the Terms of Use hereby lose their validity

### The use of the astronomical facilities at the Kiripotib Astrofarm is bound to the acceptance of the terms of use and rental regulations.

#### Astro facilities at Kiripotib Astrofarm are:

- The observatory with the Fornax55 mount and all the controls and components used for its operation
- The telescopes and their accessories
- The platforms, mounts and their accessories
- The guiding units and their accessories
- All other optical and mechanical accessories

#### As a general rule:

The equipment is to be treated with the same care and responsibility as your own property.

#### The following is strictly prohibited:

- The adjustment or readjustment of the mount set-up in pole height and azimuth by the lessee.
- Reprogramming of the telescope controls.
- Loading the mounts with more than 30 kg (Fornax 55), 24 kg (Fornax 51), 20 kg (EQ6-R) and 12 kg (Takahashi EM-200).
- Any adjustments to the optics by the renter. This applies especially to the Newtonian optics!

#### The following points should be noted & adhered to: Mounts:

- Every automatic GoTo positioning and every manual panning must be closely observed. If there is a risk that the telescope or mount parts move against obstacles, the positioning has to be interrupted immediately.
- In general, also in case of temporary absence of the renter (e.g., for the purpose of staying in the Astrovilla) it must be ensured that the running motoric tracking does not cause any damage to parts of the equipment.
- For the autoguiding control of the mounts exclusively commercially available cameras with ST4 interface may be connected (please bring cables along).
- At the end of the observation, the front and rear openings of the telescopes must be covered with dust covers. For the Dobsonian, the primary mirror has to be closed against dust by the protective lid, the secondary mirror by the protective cap. Additionally the telescopes and mounts have to be protected with the dust covers. The retractable roof must be closed and secured with the safety bolts against unintentional opening by wind. The power supply is to be interrupted at the fuse box. All plugs must be disconnected!
- The installation of additional counterweights and/or cameras on the counterweight rod is prohibited.
- During the day, the mount, possibly with telescope, must be covered with the dust cover to protect it from dust. The cover must be tied tightly and dustproof around the column. Then position the protective box to protect it from the sun and moisture and anchor it to the ground with the tensioning straps.
- To connect and disconnect all control cables (telescopic control, motor cable, hand control box, ST4 guiding-

cable, RS 232 cable to the PC and 30V power cable), the power switch on the telescope control must be in position "0"! The same applies for switching on and off the power supply unit.

- Before connecting the RS 232 cable to the PC (no matter whether directly to a RS 323 port or via USB converter), equipotential bonding must be achieved by touching the PC and the telescope controller at the same time!

#### Mobile telescopes and accessories:

- The Dobsonian must be covered with the protective cover during the day.
- **For the 24" Dobsonian and the 150 Fujinon additional Terms of use/Disclaimer are applicable.**
- The Miauchi binocular must be stored in its case in the equipment safe during the day.
- Optical accessories are to be stored dust-protected in their appropriate cases after use.
- The attachment of accessories (mounts, ball heads, guide tubes, etc.) may only be mounted on the pipe clamps after approval and in the presence of the supervisor.
- It is the responsibility of the guest to make sure that own accessories (cameras, guiding units) are installed safely.

#### Guests' own instruments:

- Guests who operate their own optics on the farm's mounts must mount and dismount them themselves under the supervision of the supervisor. The renter is solely responsible for improper mounting of his own optics.

#### Adapters, special accessories and tools:

- On Kiripotib Astrofarm a wide range of adapters, accessories and tools is available. The handing out takes place against receipt. The parts must be returned intact and complete before departure.

#### General:

- Occurring malfunctions and/or damage to the telescopes, mounts, accessories and the warm-up hut are to be reported immediately to Mr. von Hase or his deputy.
- **For damage to telescopes and accessories caused by an improper or negligent handling, the renter is liable without limitation.**
- In the event of intentional or grossly negligent improper handling, the renter can be excluded from the use of the instruments with immediate effect.
- The renter is fully liable for health damages caused by improper handling of the telescopes and the accessories - e.g., during sun observations.
- Cancellation of rental and accommodation costs in the event of bad weather conditions is not possible.

**I have read the terms and conditions of use and accept them in all points.**

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Date and signature