

Unite Branch LE 1/737 easyJet Workplace Reps Committee Details

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Your Union at easyJet Newsletter



Branch LE/737 – July 2016

Entitlement to register as affiliated supporters

Have you been following the recent leadership challenges of the Tories and of Labour? Did you know that as well as looking after your employment rights, your membership of Unite the Union could allow you to vote for the new leader of the Labour party!

If you are interested, you can fill in a form on Unite's website before 8 August 2016 and you will be allowed to vote – it's simple and it's free.

As a Unite member you must:

- Have been a member of the union since 12 January 2016.
- Pay the political levy, which is a small portion of your subs so will be the case unless you have consciously opted out.

On the form, you just need to confirm:

- Your date of birth and email address.
- That you are on the electoral register at the address given to the union and on the form.
- And that you agree to the statement on the form:

"I support the aims and values of the Labour Party, am not a supporter of any organisation opposed to it and pay a political subscription to my trade union from which affiliation fees are paid on my behalf".

And that's it! Simple. You are NOT becoming part of the Labour Party, you are only affiliated with it but this still entitles you to vote in the Labour leadership election. Go to the page on the link below and fill in the form!

<https://www.unitetheunion.org/campaigning/unitepolitics/your-party-your-voice/>

Our aim is to strengthen our trade union membership within easyJet, by ensuring our workplace is a fair place to work, protecting the rights of our workers by negotiating better working conditions

Health & Safety

Clinton Shortman is the newly elected H&S rep on your Union committee and he has recently attended his first meeting with easyJet H&S teams. If you have any issues regarding H&S that you would like to report, please contact either your base rep who will pass it to Clinton, or email him directly.

Clinton will be regularly updating information on the H&S page on the ezyunite website, which can be accessed on www.ezyunite.co.uk or via the ezyunite facebook page.

EASA booklets

Thank you for your feedback on the EASA booklet put together by your reps committee. You have told us that you find the information in there useful and relevant, having been left rather high and dry by easyJet. Despite the fact presented to easyJet by Unite that from our recent survey, 78% of respondents don't feel they have had sufficient initial or recurrent training on fatigue management, easyJet still feel they are compliant with the requirement to train you and so are ignoring any efforts to force them to provide more and better training to you.

If you have not had an EASA booklet, please contact your rep who will arrange to get one to you.

Rest breaks update

As you know, your union committee conducted a survey with members around rest breaks. Unite presented the results to easyJet, and received very little interest in the issue from easyJet as a response. So Unite did not let the matter rest there, so instead wrote directly to the CAA.

We can now tell you that Unite has received a response from the CAA, who state that their initial feeling is that there is a case to answer. They have identified Nikky Jones as the lead to investigate this for the CAA, and we will keep you informed of progress.

Unite understand that this may take some time, so your union committee is still not happy to let the company off in the meantime, and are planning a series of events and campaigns which we hope you will take part in to keep up the momentum.

Pay survey

Thanks to all those who took part in the pay survey, you will have seen by now that the pay claim has been submitted to easyJet.

As a response, easyJet have stated they will not start the negotiations until September. This is a massive blow and disappointment to our hopes – and goes against the comments that many members made on the survey – that we could get the pay talks completed by the pay date anniversary of 1 Jan 2017.

If they believe that by delaying, it will give you time to forget how they have led us into a crew shortage this summer, limitless roster changes, countless flights cancelled, multiple times working into discretion or into days off, plus the buy back days fiasco which just smacks of desperate measures, then Unite believe they are already seriously under-estimating their crew.

Finally on pay, please could you take a few minutes to confirm your details with your rep. We need to ensure your home address, email address and phone numbers are correct so that we know you are receiving all the surveys and ballot papers.

CSR/fatigue reports

We are seeing an increase in the number of CSR's and fatigue reports that are being submitted. This is fantastic news and we encourage you to continue these high levels of reporting. In addition to the usual disruptive passenger and roster fatigue, please report anything from long pairings rostered that put you close to discretion, or late pairings that are rostered within 20 minutes or so of your off duty time before your days off.

CSR or fatigue incidents when you are called off an early sby to do a later duty, pushing you over 14+ hours for a duty day.

If easyJet are not prepared to start listening to their crew through the CSR/fatigue reports, then maybe it is going to take more direct action such as reporting easyJet to the CAA as with crew rest break, in order to make them listen.

Also, you may have seen the video or read the report by Geoff Want regarding his independent review of fatigue. We are slightly disappointed that within the report Geoff states that only 10% of the flying community were spoken to, and that 80% of that was from pilots, meaning only a paltry 2% were crew. In addition, the report states that crew were merely 'randomly approached', which we do not believe was the best strategy to really work out crew issues with fatigue. We are further disappointed that Geoff did not engage formally with Unite, nor were we given a chance to present our survey which you completed regarding rest breaks which would also have been helpful to him. We have arranged a meeting with him to discuss our response to his report, and as always, if you want use to present any further comments, please pass these on through your base rep.

Crewing issues

As you know by now, after months and months of being told by Unite, easyJet have finally admitted that there are not enough crew to operate the flying schedule this summer and have been employing desperate measures such as buying back days off and increasing DDO/IDO payments. We have a commitment from them to review the process in September, and in order to get your views we will be conducting a survey closer to the time.

In the meantime, we are hearing of crew feeling they have been pressured to work into days off or discretion under threat of the flight being cancelled if they don't. Under no circumstances should this be happening, as you have to be allowed to make the decision based purely on whether you personally are fit to operate that flight. If you have come across this, please inform your base rep, if possible get the name of the crewing officer, or if you don't know it, let your rep know as near to the time of the call as you can remember so that the tape of your conversation can be pulled.

Website & Facebook

In order to keep you better informed, your union committee have created and launched a new website and facebook page. You might have seen the postcards with the web address on it, please do pop over to www.ezyunite.co.uk and let you know what you think of this brand new website, and if you have any ideas of what else you would like to see on the website, we want to hear from you.

We also have a new facebook page where we will let you know about any new information which has been published on the website – find us on facebook and give us a like!



New rep positions

We would like to take this opportunity to announce that Kris Eagling in our SEN base and Louise Boswell from BRS are stepping down as union reps. We would like to thank them for their hard work while they have been on the committee and we wish them well in the future.

This leaves us in the great position of looking for some new and enthusiastic members to take up the positions in these bases. A nomination form will be going up in your crew rooms, we hope that you do consider applying for this challenging roles.