



BYLAWS

ARTICLE I - PURPOSE

To teach and promote the safe construction and flying techniques of radio controlled model airplanes and create a better public understanding of the sport.

ARTICLE II – GOVERNING BODY

The governing body shall consist of a Board of Directors. The Board shall be comprised of the elected positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Additional board members will be the appointed positions of Field Marshall, Program Director, Safety Officers, Web Administrator, and the clubs previous President.

- A. There shall be a Governing Body of this organization consisting of:
- President
 - Vice President/Program Chairman
 - Treasurer
 - Corresponding & Recording Secretary/Newsletter Editor
 - Program Director (Appointed)
 - Field Marshall & alternate ~ if applicable (Appointed)
 - Safety Officers, Weekday and Weekend if necessary (Appointed)
 - WEB Administrator (Appointed)
- B. Officers shall be elected at the December general membership meeting for a term of two years commencing the following January 1st. Annual confidence votes will be taken at the off election year December general membership meeting to reaffirm the elected governing body members. If any Governing Officer misses three (3) consecutive meetings or resigns from his/her position, that office will be immediately vacated and a vote will be taken at the next general membership meeting to fill the vacant position. In the event of a vacancy, should the next club meeting be a board meeting, that meeting shall become a general membership meeting with an election to fill the vacancy.
- C. Nominations shall be made during the November meeting prior to a new election cycle.
- D. Voting for the officers will be in the sequence listed above. Additional nominations may be made at the December election meeting.
- E. Nominees must have been active club members for at least six (6) months.
- F. Voting may be by secret ballot and will be conducted under the supervision of the Governing Body.
- G. Any expenditure for the club up to the amount of \$200.00 must be approved by the President.
- H. Any expenditure exceeding an amount of \$200.00 must be approved by a majority of the

Governing Body at a regular club Board of Directors meeting, with a note on expenditures included in the treasurer's report included in the monthly newsletter.

ARTICLE III – COMMITTEES

- A. All committees shall be appointed by the president and shall serve at his/her pleasure for each elected year.
- B. All committees shall present their reports to the club at the regular meetings.
- C. There shall be a permanent Safety Committee headed by the Safety Officers consisting of all club members. This committee shall be responsible for the enforcement of all ground and flying rules as established by the club Bylaws.

ARTICLE IV – MEETINGS

- A. Board of Director meetings will be held monthly, at a time and place agreed to by the Board of Directors when not concurrent with a General Membership meeting.
- B. General Membership meetings shall take place quarterly at a time and place selected by the Program Director. A Governing Body meeting will be held prior to all general membership programs.
- C. Robert's Rules of Order can be used as guidelines for all Board of Director meetings.
- D. Meeting order:
 - President shall call the meeting to order
 - Reading of the minutes of the last meeting
 - Reading of the minutes of the executive board meeting (if applicable)
 - Treasurer's report
 - Committee reports
 - Program Director's report (when programs are scheduled)
 - Old business
 - New business
 - Program (for quarterly meetings)

Article V – MEMBERSHIP

- A. All new and current members must have a valid AMA card (and six (6) meter license if applicable).
- B. Annual club dues shall be due by January 1st of each year, with a 15 day grace period, and are (subject to change by majority vote) as follows:
 - Regular Membership Plan: Club dues shall be \$50.00 per year. (See NOTES 1 thru 6)
 - Junior Membership Plan: Club dues shall be \$10.00 per year. (See NOTES 1, 3, & 6)

Anyone engaging in the flight of radio controlled aircraft must also possess a current, valid "OPEN" AMA membership! Please visit their website, which is www.modelaircraft.org, or call (800) 435-9262 for further details.

Note 1: The club's fiscal year shall be January 1st to December 31st.

Note 2: The Regular Membership Plan price applies to all adults and junior members residing in the same household. Regardless of the number of individuals included in a Regular Membership Plan, a Regular Membership Plan shall count as a single membership towards the membership cap. All family members utilizing the Regular Membership Plan must be listed in the club roster under the name of the Regular Membership Plan owner and given a "Student" or "Pilot" designation. For voting purposes, each Regular Membership Plan is entitled to one vote.

Note 3: Junior members are individuals under the age of nineteen (19) as of July 1st during the assessed year of membership. A junior member does not have a vote and will not be assessed an initiation fee.

Note 4: Individuals residing within the same household and utilizing the Regular Membership Plan to join the club as new members shall be assessed a single, \$100.00 initiation fee for the entire household.

Note 5: Any renewing member who fails to pay their annual dues by January 15th of the membership year and fails to inform a club officer of a financial hardship (see note 5d) shall be subject to the following:

- a) Be automatically dropped from the membership roster.
- b) Anyone who desires to rejoin the club between January 15th and February 15th of the membership year shall be assessed a \$20.00 late fee in addition to their annual dues. This does not constitute an automatic reinstatement into the club. If the limit of the membership cap has been reached, the request to renew the membership will be placed at the end of the waiting list, if one exists. All collected late fees will be dedicated to Billy Presley Youth Fund.
- c) Anyone who desires to rejoin the club after February 15th shall be treated as requesting a new membership into the club and shall be required to pay the applicable "new member" initiation fee as well as the applicable annual dues. No late fee will be assessed in addition to the initiation fee and annual dues. The request for membership will be placed at the end of the waiting list, if one exists.
- d) Anyone who has suffered a hardship and needs to discuss alternate arrangements for the renewal of their membership needs to contact the President or Treasurer prior to the February 15th deadline. No exceptions will be made for anyone that has not made alternate arrangements prior to February 15th!

Note 6: Annual membership fees will be prorated quarterly at the start of the quarter, accordingly for all new members.

C. The Rockwall Sport Flyers club membership is capped at seventy (70) members.

D. Probationary Member: A probationary member is a new member within the first three (3) months of membership.

E. Before joining the Club, new members should be introduced in person by their sponsor (a non-probationary club member). Non-probationary club members must approve any application for membership by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at a regular club meeting. A special case exception to the above is provided to accommodate new members who have a work schedule that consistently conflicts with the scheduled club meeting. These rare case events regarding a prospective member can be addressed by proxy representation of the prospective new member. The proxy representation shall consist of two regular club members and one officer, all three of whom has met face to face with the prospective new member and are in agreement that he or she meets all other pertinent criteria for membership. The prospective new member's application will be furnished to one of the sponsoring individuals then presented to the general membership at the next scheduled club meeting as if the new member were in attendance. The new member will be responsible to furnish the fees as directed on the application to the treasurer at which time independent access to the club field will be granted. The applicant shall be on probation for three (6) months subsequent to the approval of his or her application for membership. Following such probationary period and barring objection from any non-probationary member, the individual will be automatically placed in non-probationary status.

F. Probationary members may vote on club issues with exception to issues involving club Bylaws or resolutions.

- G. Any member in good standing may resign his/her membership by giving written notice to the club.
- H. If any member ceases to have the qualification necessary for membership in the AMA, his/her membership in the Club shall thereby terminate, subject to reinstatement upon restoration of eligibility.
- I. This section provides for enforcement of the Safety Rules that are related to flying activities or any other unacceptable behavior by an individual member or members. Any individual may be expelled from membership from the Club by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership if in the officers' determination, such individual willfully commits any act or omission which is a violation of any of the terms of these Bylaws, or the Rules of the AMA, or which is detrimental to the Club, the AMA or to model aviation.
- J. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership is required for reinstatement into the club.

ARTICLE VI – PILOT CERTIFICATION

- A. The members shall be classified under the following ratings:
 - Student Pilot
 - Pilot
 - Instructor Trainee
 - Instructor
 - Senior Pilot
- B. The Flying Proficiency Committee shall consist of all Instructor Pilots. The concurrence of at least two (2) Instructor Pilots will be required to establish the initial classification of all new members, as set forth in the Flying Proficiency Regulations.
- C. The guidelines for the classification of all members will be drawn up by the Flying Proficiency Committee and approved by a majority of the club members present at the regular club meeting.

ARTICLE VII – FLYING REGULATIONS

- A. An effective muffler or exhaust system, meeting AMA guidelines for noise level, is required on all engines. The criteria required for noise measurement, method and noise meter will be located in the field strong box. Senior Pilots, Instructors, and club officers will have responsibility and authority to prohibit flying of aircraft, which do not meet acceptable standards.
- B. Emergencies have priority, but must be declared so that others may be aware and clear the landing field. Loss of power is an emergency and any pattern is acceptable for landing.
- C. Flying is not permitted over roadways, houses/fixed structures, pits, and parking areas. Flights shall not be conducted closer than four hundred (400) feet to any residence.
- D. Non-AMA members are not permitted to fly or be on the flight line when aircraft are operating.
- E. Student pilots may not fly without a pilot or instructor at any time.
- F. Test flight or radio check flights are to be performed by a proficient/experienced pilot only.

- G. Acrobatics are not permitted such that a misplaced maneuver will endanger life or property.
- H. Frequency control shall be the responsibility of all radio operators at all times utilizing the Frequency Control Board (see ARTICLE IX).
- I. Flying over the pit area will result in revocation of flying privileges.
- J. Unsafe, dangerous, or any erratic flying that could be mistaken for out of control operation is prohibited and may result in revocation of all flying privileges.
- K. All gasoline-fueled aircraft shall be so designated by using an approved fuel container. No smoking is permitted within ten feet of the model. A fire extinguisher shall be present in the pit area when gasoline fuel is used.
- L. All new aircraft must be safety inspected by a safety officer or instructor to ensure they meet or exceed AMA safety standards.
- M. DELETED
- N. OMITTED
- O. All flying will be done from the designated area. Voice contact must be maintained between all flying pilots. Spotters will be utilized to assist deaf pilots, and by all pilots during heavy traffic days.
- P. Junior members under the age of eighteen (18) are not permitted to use the facilities unless accompanied by an active member, supervised by a parent, and/or a qualified instructor.
- Q. Intentional flying in such a manner that could cause the aircraft to exceed its structural limitations are not allowed. Any aircraft exhibiting flutter or erratic response shall be landed immediately for correction.
- R. No more than four planes will be allowed in the air at anyone time, except for club sponsored special events.
- S. Upon landing, aircraft shall be taxied past the flight line.
- T. No alcoholic beverages are allowed on the field at any time.
- U. No Smoking is allowed in the pit or flight line area. Cigarette butts must be placed in the designated "butt cans."
- V. Any violation of the club flying regulations or AMA rules shall constitute grounds for disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the club.
- W. Any member receiving a safety violation involving the Club Flying Regulations and/or AMA rules, or who by his or her actions appears detrimental to the club as a whole, will be disciplined by the governing body up to and including placement on a probationary status and/or be voted out of the club by a two thirds (2/3) majority vote at a regular club meeting. Failure to comply with a disciplinary action will also result in automatic expulsion from the club. At the Governing Body's discretion, a member can be placed on probation for one (1) year - or voted on for dismissal, regardless of his or her tenure.

ARTICLE VIII – USE OF THE CLUB FLYING FIELD

- A. Use of the field is restricted to members and guests (Guests must be accompanied by an active member). Rockwall club members and all flying guests must be current AMA members and execute a "Rockwall Release Form" prior to flying. Spectators must stay in the designated area, and are not permitted on the flight line. Spectators and guests must abide by the direction of the Club Safety Officer and/or any club member.
- B. Hours of flying at the club field are from eight a.m. (0800) to dusk seven days a week, weather permitting.
- C. All members are required to participate in the maintenance of the field as agreed to and/or scheduled by the Governing Body. This may include mowing, area policing, and other general maintenance.
- D. Automobiles will not be permitted on the runway or in the pit area except during field emergencies or maintenance.
- E. Automobiles may be driven to the proximity of the pit area - ONLY IF THE SURFACE OF THE GROUND IS FIRM ENOUGH TO PROHIBIT RUTS.

ARTICLE IX – BYLAW CHANGES

Changes to the club bylaws shall be made as follows:

- 1. A proposed change shall be presented and voted upon at a regular meeting.
- 2. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote is required for tentative approval of a proposed change.
- 3. At the next meeting, a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote is required to certify the change and to incorporate the proposal into the Bylaws.

ARTICLE X – CLUB DISOLUTION

The duration of the club shall be perpetual. The club may be dissolved with the approval of two-thirds vote of the membership. If the club is dissolved, the assets of the club will be sold for fair market value. All outstanding debts will be paid, and leftover money will be divided among the remaining active members.

ARTICLE XI – GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE (FLIGHT AND SAFETY RULES)

The grievance procedure provides a mechanism to enforce existing safety rules by providing a progressive disciplinary system when needed. Although most complaints can be resolved informally, if a complaint is serious or cannot be resolved informally, the matter should be referred to the Safety Committee for its consideration by means of a Grievance Form to be filled out and turned into the Safety Committee Chairman. At least one witness is required to sign the Grievance Form.

The safety officer/committee shall use its judgment in carrying out action on the following:

- A. A grievance form will be filled out and turned into the Safety Officer/Committee Chairman. At least one witness is required.

B. FIRST VIOLATION

Viewpoints of both complainants and accused will be considered. Complainant's name will be disclosed. A verbal reprimand will be given to the accused by the Safety Officer/Committee, and this will be recorded in the Club records.

C. SECOND VIOLATION

Complainant's name will be disclosed. The accused has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the Club Safety Officer/Committee. If the Committee so decides, the flying privileges of the accused will be suspended for thirty (30) days. Written notice of this shall be issued and a copy published in the Club newsletter.

D. THIRD VIOLATION

Safety Officer/Committee will notify the accused in writing and the Club members via the Club newsletter that the Club will vote on the expulsion of the accused at the next meeting. Said expulsion will last for a one-year minimum. A member may be expelled from the Club only upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership present at the meeting. Voting will be by secret ballot at a regular monthly meeting. The expelled member may reapply for membership after the expiration of the expulsion time period.

E. The three actions will not be enforced unless they are accumulated within a two-year period of time.

F. Any member receiving a Grievance, who directs any retaliation action against the person filing said grievance, will be subject to immediate expulsion from the Club. This is to include threats, intimidation, physical harm, intentional equipment damage, or any other action deemed to be retaliatory by the Club Officers.

ARTICLE XII – club resolutions

When required, there shall be a list of club resolutions included as part of the Bylaws. These resolutions are for items of a temporary nature, and shall only require the majority vote of members attending any meeting in which a resolution is proposed.