

FLYING HILLBILLIES RADIO CONTROL CLUB

Constitution and Bylaws

CONSTITUTION (JULY 1, 1968)

BYLAWS (AUGUST 2, 1968)

Amended (JANUARY 26, 2002)

Amended (MAY 2005)

Amended (November 2007)

Amended (February 2016)

The Flying Hillbillies R/C Club Constitution and Bylaws

ARTICLE I Name

This organization shall be known as the Flying Hillbillies Radio Control Club, herein referred to as the Club.

ARTICLE II Objective

- A. The objective of the Club shall be to further the sport of radio control model aircraft activity in the Kanawha Valley.
- B. The objective will be achieved by providing facilities for and assistance to those persons interested in the sport of R/C.

ARTICLE III Government

- A. Board of Directors: The management of the affairs of the Club shall be vested in the Board of Directors who shall have the authority to establish and administer its policies. Official decisions may be made by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) majority mail-in vote or by a quorum at a Board of Directors meeting. A quorum shall consist of at least 50% of the current Board members. Official decisions shall be consistent with the stated purposes and objectives of the AMA as set forth in its Bylaws and as set forth in this Constitution and Bylaws. Where those Bylaws are not specified, vested in the sound discretion of the Board of Directors.
- B. The Board of Directors will be made up of the following elected officers:
 - a. President: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and shall act as a spokesperson in all matters pertaining to it.
 - b. Vice-President: The Vice-President shall act for the President when he/she is unable to serve, and is to maintain an accurate record (including place of storage) of all Club assets.
 - c. Secretary: The Secretary shall record minutes of each Club meeting and handle all correspondence pertaining to Club activities. He/she shall also pen the club newsletter. The Secretary can at his or her discretion appoint a newsletter publisher to help with creation and distribution of the newsletter.
 - d. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall collect all moneys due and shall keep a record of moneys disbursed by the Club. He/she will also be the Club's contact person with AMA in case of questions, problems or situations.
 - e. Safety Committee Chairman/Safety Officer: The Safety Committee Chairman/Safety Officer shall be responsible for chairing the safety

committee and ensuring existing safety rules are enforced. This includes processing the grievance forms and following the existing grievance procedure documented in the by-laws.

- f. The elected Board of Directors shall have the authority to appoint up to two (2) additional directors to represent interests and outside organizations.

ARTICLE IV Terms of Office

- A. All elected officers of the Club shall serve for one (1) year from their date of election. Officers are to be elected by a vote of simple majority of those present at the regular meeting in the month of December. Mail-in ballots will be made available for those members who have voting rights but cannot attend the meeting. Those ballots, returned by mail prior to the December meeting, will be counted as if those persons were present at the meeting. New officers will take office on January 1. Personnel will be appointed by the elected officers and confirmed by a simple majority vote of those members present during a regular meeting: i.e. Contest Director, etc.
- B. Nomination of Club officers shall be made at the general membership meeting during the month of November. Nominations for office may be made by any active Club member holding voting rights, either in person or by submitting a proxy nomination to an existing officer. All known nominations for office will be published in the newsletter prior to the election.
- C. A secret ballot is required for elections, for removal of a Club officer, for removal of a member of the Board of Directors, and for expulsion of a member from the Club unless waived by a simple majority vote of the members present at the meeting.

ARTICLE V Resignation, Termination, Disciplinary Action, Expulsion and Reinstatement of Membership

- A. Any member in good standing may resign his/her membership by giving written notice to the Club.
- B. 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.
- C. This section provides for enforcement of the Safety Rules that are related to flying activities and any other unacceptable behavior by an individual member or members, as defined by the Board of Directors. Said enforcement of the Safety Rules becomes the responsibility of the Board of Directors. Any individual may be expelled from membership from the Club by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) majority vote of the Board of Directors if, in the Board of Director's determination, such individual willfully commits any act or omission which is a violation of any of the terms of Constitution and Bylaws, or the Rules of the AMA, or which is detrimental to the Club, the AMA, or to model aviation.

- D. Any member who is expelled from membership may be reinstated to membership only by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) majority vote of the Board of Directors.
- E. The Board of Directors shall have the discretionary authority to provide for and to impose disciplinary action for such acts or omissions, which do not justify expulsion from membership.

ARTICLE VI Impeachment of Officers

Any club officer may be impeached by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) majority vote of the Full Members present at an official club meeting providing that at least one-third ($\frac{1}{3}$) of the Full Members registered are present.

ARTICLE VII Amendments

This Constitution and Bylaws, ratified on 2/19/02 may be changed by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) majority vote of the Full Members present at an official club meeting, provided that at least one-third ($\frac{1}{3}$) of the total Full Membership is present. Proposed changes must be read to the membership at two consecutive club meetings before being submitted for a vote of approval.

ARTICLE VIII AMA Charter

- A. The Club shall maintain a charter issued by The Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA).
- B. The Treasurer shall be responsible for submitting the proper application for AMA Charter renewal along with the required charter fee each year to the AMA.
- C. The Charter Fee for each club member on record at the time the charter is renewed shall be paid from the Club treasury.
- D. The Club hereby adopts the official "AMA Safety Code" as its safety code. Said safety code is published by the AMA in the "Official Model Aircraft Regulations" given to each club member with his AMA license.

ARTICLE IX Membership Requirements and Limitations

- A. Club membership shall be unlimited in number.
- B. Membership shall not be restricted as to age, race, religion, color, or sex.
- C. All flying club members must possess and maintain a current and active AMA license.
- D. Failure to maintain the required license shall result in immediate suspension of flying privileges.
- E. Potential members must submit a completed membership application along with appropriate dues and proof of an AMA license.

ARTICLE X Membership Classifications

- A. Full Membership (19 years or older) must have AMA license
 - 1. Flying privileges (unlimited use of club facilities)
 - 2. Voting privileges (voting rights at all club meetings)
 - 3. Dues beginning January 1 for the 2017 calendar year will be \$65.00.
Dues beginning for the 2018 calendar year and thereafter will be \$75.00.
 - 4. Membership dues, if not received by the club treasurer by March 1st will be an additional \$20.00 for the remainder of the membership year. This section will not apply to new members.

- B. Junior Membership (under 19 years of age) must have AMA license
 - 1. Flying privileges (unlimited use of club facilities)
 - 2. Voting privileges (none)
 - 3. Dues for a one-year period starting each January: \$20.00

- C. Senior Membership (65 years or older) must have AMA license
 - 1. Flying privileges (unlimited use of club facilities)
 - 2. Voting privileges (voting rights at all club meetings)
 - 3. Dues beginning January 1 for the 2017 calendar year will be \$50.00.
Dues beginning for the 2018 calendar year and thereafter will be \$60.00.
 - 4. Membership dues, if not received by the club treasurer by March 1st will be an additional \$20.00 for the remainder of the membership year. This section will not apply to new members.

- D. Affiliate Membership
 - 1. Flying privileges (must have Full Member present during flying activities).
 - 2. Voting privileges (none)
 - 3. Applicants for Affiliate Membership must be a member of the AMA and must be a member of another AMA Chartered Club.
 - 4. Dues for a one-year period starting January: \$30.00

- E. Associate Membership
 - 1. Flying privileges (none)
 - 2. Voting privileges (none)
 - 3. Applicants for Associate Membership are not required to have an AMA license.
 - 4. Dues for a one year period starting each January will be a contribution of not less than \$25.00.

- F. Guest
 - 1. Flying privileges (must have a current AMA license and a Full Member must be present during flying activities)

ARTICLE XI Membership Obligations

Full members shall be expected to meet the obligations incurred with Club Membership. Senior members may elect and volunteer to participate in membership obligations. These obligations are outlined below:

- A. Maintenance of Club Facilities: Maintenance of club facilities which require a periodic effort by the club body or parts thereof shall be detailed by the roster method. Each member will be expected to see that his portion of any such required work is adequately performed.
- B. Each and every member and/or guest shall be and is considered to be knowledgeable of said "Official AMA Safety Code" and Field Safety Rules and shall at all times observe said rules in the operation of all aircraft and/or associated equipment and which is covered by the AMA safety code.
- C. Each member shall be expected to enforce the appropriate safety rules.
- D. Each Full member (Senior Members optional) are requested to participate in mowing and cutting of the field at minimum of one (1) session per flying season. If full members cannot participate (i.e. work schedule) they may elect to contract with another member to satisfy this requirement. Members who are handicapped, have health issues, or disability are exempt upon request.

ARTICLE XII Audit

- A. The President or his appointees shall make a periodic audit of the Treasurer's books. Minimally one (1) year.

ARTICLE XIII Special Funds

- A. The Treasurer of the Club is authorized to receive contributions or specially obtained funds from any individual or institution, to be applied to the operating expenses of the Club.
- B. The Board of Directors will have discretionary spending of these funds, up to \$500.00 without requiring Club approval.

ARTICLE XIV DISSOLUTION

- A. The Club may be dissolved with the approval of a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) majority vote of the total membership.

- B. Upon the dissolution of the Club, the Board shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Club, dispose of all the assets of the Club exclusively for the purposes of the Club in such manner, to the Academy of Model Aeronautics, Inc., or to such other organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or to such other organization with purposes similar to the purposes of this Club, as the Board shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas (or similar court) of the county in which the principal office of this Club is then located, exclusively for such purposes and to such organization or organizations, as said court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

ARTICLE XV Grievance Procedure (Flight and Ground Safety Rules)

A. Purpose

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.

B. Safety Committee

The Safety Committee shall use its judgment in carrying out action on the following:

1. A grievance form will be filled out and turned into the Safety Committee Chairman. At least one witness is required.
2. First Violation
 - a. Viewpoints of both complainants and accused will be considered.
 - b. Complainant's name will be disclosed.
 - c. A verbal reprimand will be given to the accused by the Safety Committee, and this will be recorded in the Committee files.
3. Second Violation
 - a. Complainant's name will be disclosed.
 - b. The accused has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the Committee.
 - c. 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.

4. Third Violation
 - a. 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.
 - b. Said expulsion will last for a one-year minimum (longer if deemed necessary by the Board of Directors).
 - c. A member may be expelled from the Club only upon a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) majority vote of the membership present at the meeting.
 - d. Voting will be by secret ballot at a regular monthly meeting.
 - e. The expelled member may reapply for membership after the expiration of the expulsion time period.
5. The three actions will not be enforced unless they are accumulated within a two-year period of time.
6. 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 Board of Directors.