

FREDERICKSBURG AEROMASTERS MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS

Revised January 28, 2023

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FREDERICKSBURG AEROMASTERS MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

PREAMBLE

The aim of the organization is to unite those persons interested in model aviation, to facilitate the exchange of information and general cooperation between members, to promote and encourage participation in model aviation as a form of recreation, and to promote safety in the pursuit thereof.

ARTICLE I

MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to all persons of good moral character who agree with the aims and objectives of this organization. There shall be three (3) classes of membership: Active, Associate, and Honorary. The Active class shall have three (3) categories: Open, Family, and Junior. The preceding classes and categories are defined as follows:

ACTIVE

OPEN – Any non-student flyer of model aircraft over the age of eighteen (18).

JUNIOR – Individual flyer of model aircraft under the age of eighteen (18) years of age. The prospective junior member shall provide a letter of permission to join the organization. The letter of permission shall be signed and dated by a parent or legal guardian.

FAMILY – Head of household flyer of model aircraft and any junior flyers residing therein.

ASSOCIATE – Any individual who does not fly model aircraft but wishes to support the Aeromasters and the hobby of Radio Control Model Aircraft.

HONORARY – Any individual selected to membership through an interest in model aviation. An Honorary member shall not pay dues, have no voting privileges, and is not eligible to hold office.

ARTICLE II

OFFICERS

The officers of the club shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The offices of secretary and treasurer may be combined.

The officers shall be elected by ballot of members present at the annual meeting. They shall serve a term of one (1) year or until their successors have been duly installed. Officers shall be able serve consecutive terms. The term of office shall coincide with the calendar year.

ARTICLE III

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

President – The president shall preside at all meetings and conduct the same in accordance with the rules of the bylaws, appoint all committees with the approval of the executive committee, and serve as chairman of the executive committee.

Vice President – The vice president shall perform the duties of the president during periods of his or her absence or inability to serve.

Secretary – The secretary shall keep a record of proceedings of all meetings, carry on all correspondence, read communications at each meeting, and notify members of meetings. He or she shall maintain the constitution and bylaws and have access to the documents at all meetings. The secretary shall not be required to pay dues.

Treasurer – The treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all moneys received and expended and shall make payments for approved official business transactions. He or she shall report the club's financial status at each meeting as required. Treasurer shall keep a roll of members, verify AMA membership for each member and review applications for membership.

All officers shall, at the expiration of their terms, turn over to their successors, all club properties, materials and records in their possession.

ARTICLE IV

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two members-at-large who shall be elected for a term of one year.

ARTICLE V

DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall serve as the Governing Body of the club and shall transact such business as necessary between meetings. They may authorize expenditures of no more than two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) between regular meetings. The executive committee can appoint an Auditor to audit the treasurer's records annually or at the close of the club treasurer's term of office.

The Executive Committee shall meet upon the call of the President, Vice President or two members of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI

MEETINGS

The Aeromasters Model Airplane Club shall hold at least two regular business meetings each year. The officers and executive committee will be elected at the annual meeting to be held in the month of October.

The President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Executive Committee shall give an annual report at the October meeting upon request.

A quorum must be present to conduct club business.

Other meetings may be held at the discretion of the President with the approval of the Executive Committee.

THE BYLAWS OF THE FREDERICKSBURG AEROMASTERS MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB

ARTICLE I

QUORUM

Nine (9) voting members present at a meeting shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE II

MEMBERSHIP

Only Active and Associative members in good standing shall be eligible to vote and to hold office. All members who fly or otherwise operate model aircraft at any club flying site, or who are representatives of the club at any public or private demonstration or contest of model aircraft flight, are required to hold valid Academy of Model Aeronautics membership, an FAA number displayed outside each aircraft, be in the possession of a FAA TRUST certificate and if applicable, a current Federal Communications Commission (FCC) license.

ARTICLE III

DUES

Dues shall be payable on January 1st of each year. If a member's dues are not paid within thirty (30) days after the due date, that member will lose all membership privileges.

The dues structure is as follows:

- (a) Family Membership – Seventy Five dollars (\$75.00) per year.
- (b) Open Membership – Fifty dollars (\$50.00) per year.
- (c) Junior Membership – Twenty five dollars (\$25.00) per year for all persons who have not reached 18 years of age by January 1st of the membership year.

Dues will be pro-rated after June 30th to be 50% of the stated rates for new members and no dues will be charged if joining after September 30th.

New members will be provided with web links and other contact information by the club webmaster.

ARTICLE IV

COMMITTEES

The President, with the approval of the executive committee, will appoint all committees. They shall be appointed annually and serve at the pleasure of the President.

The following committees shall be appointed annually: (1) PROGRAM, (2) SAFETY, (3) TRAINING, and (4) FIELD. Special committees may be appointed, as the occasion requires. The Field Committee chair shall not be required to pay dues.

ARTICLE V

DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

The Program Committee shall be responsible for presenting demonstrations, displays, films, fun-flies, contests, etc. for the club at the discretion of the president or the executive committee.

The Safety Committee (or any member) shall be responsible for overseeing general field safety, inspection of new or repaired aircraft and shall have the authority to prohibit any aircraft from flying that they feel is unsafe. The committee, with club approval, may enact rules to enforce the safe operation of aircraft on the club's flying site(s). Any club member has the authority to prohibit a model aircraft from flying if said aircraft is believed to be unsafe or does not meet the current AMA safety standards.

The Training Committee shall assist new members in preflight inspection of aircraft, instruct club members in flying, and give aid and assistance to all members when called upon. Flight instructors, other than those on the training committee may be certified by the training committee as instructors for a one-year period, this permitting any qualified club member to be a certified flight instructor.

The Field Committee shall oversee the flying site(s) to see that they are properly maintained, cleaned, and trash removed. The Field Committee shall maintain a good working relationship with the owners or representatives in charge of the flying sites. Only members of this committee have the authority to handle any complaints about the flying site(s) with the owners or representatives. (President or Vice President)

ARTICLE VI

AWARDS

The club may establish awards to be given by appropriate resolution. Club awards will be presented at the club's annual dinner.

ARTICLE VII

AMENDMENTS

The Club Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the members present at a meeting. Proposals for amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Committee who in turn shall report the proposal at the next club meeting. The proposed amendment(s) will be subject to a general member vote at the next club meeting.

ARTICLE VIII

CLUB AFFILIATION

The club shall be an Academy of Model Aeronautics charter club.

ARTICLE IV

DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION

In the event this organization should dissolve and cease to exist and there are assets in existence belonging to this organization, the said assets shall be sold and the proceeds thereof turned over to a charitable organization, selected by the final Executive Committee. The priority organization shall be the AMA Museum Fund. In the event that this fund does not exist at the time of dissolution, the priority type of organization shall be one that will endeavor to promote interest and activities in model aircraft.

ARTICLE X

FLYING/FIELD REGULATIONS

All model aircraft flyer/operators are required to hold current Academy of Model Aeronautics membership (AMA), an FAA number displayed outside each aircraft, be in the possession of a FAA TRUST certificate and if applicable, a current Federal Communications Commission (FCC) license.

The following rules are required to ensure the safety of the flyers and spectators at the flying site(s). Any member in violation shall be warned by the safety committee and, in case of repeated violations, shall be subject to expulsion from the club forfeiting all privileges and dues paid.

1. AMA safety rules apply at all times. It is the responsibility of each member to know the safety rules.
2. No flyer shall intentionally operate over the pit area at any time.
3. The safety committee, or any member, shall supervise the frequency control at the flying site.
4. Each flyer shall range check his equipment prior to the first flight of a new or repaired aircraft.
5. The safety committee, or any member, shall have the authority to ground any aircraft until it is found to be safe for flying.
6. Spectators will remain in designated areas only, except upon invitation of a member to demonstrate the operation of model aircraft. One (1) spectator per member shall be allowed on the flight line.
7. An adult shall accompany children and pets at all times. Pets must be leashed or otherwise physically restrained at all times.
8. Full-scale aircraft shall have the right-of-way at all times. All models will descend to a minimum altitude until the full-scale aircraft has cleared the area.
9. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is not permitted in the pit area, parking area or on the flight line. No person shall operate a model aircraft while under the influence of intoxicants or drugs.
10. Each new member shall demonstrate to a designated Instructor, Club Officer or Check Pilot designated by the Executive Committee, their ability to fly proficiently before being permitted to fly unassisted.
11. Parking will be in designated areas only. The parking area is along the fence line.
12. The field hours are 8am to 10pm. Operation of power equipment for field maintenance and internal combustion engines on aircraft are prohibited before noon on Sunday.

ARTICLE XI

FLYING/FIELD GUIDELINES

Field will adhere to AMA guidelines for field and operations.

NEW PILOTS/GUESTS

New pilots or new members need to be evaluated by an Instructor, Club Officer or Check Pilot designated by the Executive Committee before being allowed to fly at the site. The Executive Committee will provide flight status of new members on the club website certifying the new member is allowed to fly unsupervised. The Executive Committee shall be notified by email when someone is qualified to fly. Additionally, the certification to fly will be noted in the minutes at the next conducted meeting that the new pilot was qualified to fly unsupervised.

The executive committee will decide by February 1st if the club will participate in the AMA Introductory Pilot program. Upon determination of participation, the Executive Committee will select the pilots to be submitted to the AMA. New pilots will be allowed to fly up to three times as participants in this program.

Guests will be allowed to fly up to three times before being required to join the club to continue to fly. A guest pilot is required to hold current Academy of Model Aeronautics membership (AMA), an FAA number displayed outside each aircraft, be in the possession of a FAA TRUST certificate and if applicable, a current Federal Communications Commission (FCC) license.