



By Laws of Lakeland R/C Club

Revised October 1997

Article 1

Purpose

The name of this organization shall be "**Lakeland R/C Club**" and has been formed for the purpose of:

- Promoting radio-controlled model aviation.
- Promoting friendships between persons with similar interests.
- Providing a place to pursue these interests.

Article 2

Membership

Membership Classifications

Memberships shall be divided into four categories: Active Members, Probationary Members, Associate Members and Junior Members.

Active Membership

Active Members are persons who have passed their 18th birthday, meet the membership requirements of the Lakeland R/C Club, and are also members in good standing of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA).

Active Members shall have voting rights and are eligible to hold office.

Probationary Membership

Probationary Membership is the first stage of membership for persons who have passed their 18th birthday and wish to become active members. The Probationary period shall be 12 months from date of acceptance of application.

Upon completing an application for membership, showing proof of membership in the Academy of Model Aeronautics, and submitting full payment for dues, the Prospective Member will be issued a Probationary Membership Card with an expiration date commensurate with the appropriate date for the length of his probationary period. The Probationary Member will be granted unlimited use of the field and receive a news letter. The Prospective Member is required to attend at least three meetings during the probationary period and is welcome to participate in any Club sponsored events.

Probationary members shall not have voting rights, nor shall they be eligible to hold office.

At the completion of the 12 month probationary period, approval for Active Membership will be voted on by the Active Members at a regularly scheduled meeting by secret ballot.

Probationary Membership (Continued)

If the Probationary Member receives “No” votes from $\frac{1}{3}$ or more of the voting members present, Active Membership will be denied. In addition, the Probationary Membership will be terminated, and all privileges, including using the field as a Guest will be revoked.

A probationary member who was denied Active Membership, will not be eligible to reapply for membership for a period of 12 months from the date of the meeting at which the vote was taken.

Associate Membership

Associate Members are The spouses and children (under 18 years of age) of Active Members. Associate Members are not required to pay dues; they shall not have voting rights but will be eligible to hold office. Associate members are welcome to attend meeting and participate in any Club sponsored events.

Associate members may apply for flying privileges by filling out a membership application and showing proof of membership in the Academy of Model Aeronautics. (AMA) The Associate Member will be issued a Membership Card to be used for frequency control at the field Flying privileges will be granted upon request at no cost.

The children of Active Members, who wish to become an Active Member, must first apply for Probationary Membership upon reaching their 18th birthday and complete a 12 month probationary period.

Junior Membership

Junior Membership is available to persons who have not passed their 18th birthday, and are not family members of an Active Member in good standing.

The requirements and privileges for a Junior Member are the same as those of the Associate Member with the exception of dues. Junior Members shall pay \$15 annually and will receive a newsletter which will keep them informed of notices and Club Activities.

To become an active member, Junior members must first apply for Probationary Membership upon reaching their 18th birthday and complete a 12 month probationary period.

Membership Requirements

All categories of membership (except *non-flying* Associate and *non-flying* Junior Members) are required to be a member of good standing with the Academy of Model Aeronautics.

Past members who have not renewed membership for more than one year must reapply as a Probationary Member.

Members paid and voted in as new members between October 1st and December 31st, will be exempt from dues in the upcoming year.

Grievance Procedure

Any member who feels a fellow member repeatedly acts in a discourteous manner, or repeatedly engages in unsafe practices at the flying field may suggest to the Club President that said member or members membership privileges be revoked.

The Club President shall present the facts to the membership present at a regular meeting for a vote. A simple majority (over 50%) of votes from members present at the meeting shall be necessary to remove a member from the club roster.

The member in question will be notified in writing that disciplinary action is being taken against him and could result in his expulsion from the Club. He will be offered the opportunity to appear before the membership at the next scheduled meeting and present his side of the incident.

The general membership will be notified in the monthly newsletter of the grievance and advised that a vote will be taken at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

General Rules

All active members shall be equally responsible for hosting a club meeting. Each month, two members will be chosen by the Club Secretary from records showing who has not hosted a meeting and the longest time since last hosting a meeting. The hosts for the meeting are responsible for bringing refreshments as well as cleaning the hall after the meeting. The hall should be in the same condition as it was before the start of the meeting.

All active members are responsible for maintenance of the club flying facilities and are encouraged to participate in organized Club activities.

Acquiring the key to the meeting room shall be the responsibility of the Secretary-Treasurer. This function may be delegated to another Club member at the discretion of the Secretary-Treasurer.

Active membership in the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) is mandatory for members and guests

Any member or guest operating on the "Amateur Band" must have all radio equipment covered by a FCC license issued in his name. No license is required for the 72-75 MHz band.

All radio equipment shall conform to the AMA recommended operating rules such as 72 MHz frequencies for aircraft and 75 MHz frequencies for surface vehicles.

All aircraft must have "Gold Sticker" transmitters and receivers to fly at the field. This certifies compliance with narrow band specifications per AMA guidelines.

Because of local radio interference, Channel 20 may not be used at any time.

Members shall be current on dues payments and assessments (if required). Dues will be voted on by members present at the January meeting based on a Budget presented by new officers. Membership dues are due on or before March 31st. Anyone renewing their membership after that date will be assessed a \$10 late fee.

Should the Club membership exceed the current club facilities i.e. flying field, meeting room, etc., the Club Officers may establish a maximum membership limit upon majority approval of the members present at a regular scheduled meeting.

Article 3

Officers and Duties

President

The President shall conduct club meetings a minimum of once a month, as well as officers meetings as required. He shall also negotiate for use of the flying field by contacting the controlling agent of the flying field on yearly basis.

Vice President

The Vice President shall substitute for the President as required. His responsibilities shall include safety at flying field (this is a duty shared by all club members), field maintenance and the scheduling of programs for the monthly meeting.. In addition, the Vice President will care for and maintain the Club Library of tapes or delegate this responsibility to a member.

Secretary-Treasurer

The Secretary-Treasurer shall collect dues, schedule meetings, schedule hosts for meetings, maintain AMA and Club membership roster. The Secretary-Treasurer will also manage club's funds.

Newsletter Editor

The Newsletter Editor shall be responsible for issuing monthly meeting notices and newsletters.

Election and Terms of Office

Election of the officers shall be held once a year at the December meeting. Nominations shall be made by active members only. Voting will be by written ballot and offices filled by those receiving the majority of the ballots returned. Nominations shall appear in the Newsletter prior to the election date. Absentee ballots received prior to the election are acceptable.

Article 4

Club Funds

Single expenditures of up to \$75 can be authorized by the club officers; amounts of more than \$75 require a majority vote of the members present at a scheduled meeting.

Should the Club be disbanded for any reason, any moneys in the treasury shall be divided as follows:

- a) Members with less than two years of continuous dues payments shall receive a refund of the last year's dues or an equal share of the treasury whichever is less.
- b) Members with more than two years of continuous membership shall share equally in the balance of the treasury disbursements.

Article 5

Field Rules

General

The Lakeland R/C Club flying field is a private facility. The use of the flying field is limited to Active Members, Probationary Members Associate and Junior Members (who have applied for flying privileges) and guests. All of the rules enumerated below apply to any person or persons using the facility. Failure to comply with all field rules will result in expulsion from facility, loss of membership and/or action under the laws of illegal trespass on private property laws.

Frequency Control

All transmitters must display a streamer or pennant color-coded per the AMA regulations as well as the latest channel identification.

Whenever operating a radio on the field, the operator must have the proper number frequency pin from the club frequency stand *clipped to the antenna*. Club members are to exchange their club membership card for their appropriate frequency clip before turning on their transmitter. Guests are to use their AMA card and must be accompanied by a current club member.

Mufflers

All engines shall have an effective silencer (muffler) required to meet a sound level of less than 96 dB at 3 meters (10 ft.).

Flying Restrictions

For the safety of spectators and other flyers, flying directly over the R/C flight line or pit area is prohibited.

No more than four aircraft are allowed in the air at one time.

If a member desires to test fly a new aircraft or other equipment, he may request that no other aircraft be in the air during that flight.

All members are expected to comply with the current AMA National Model Aircraft Safety Code

Automobile Parking

Cars shall be parked just North of the driveway behind the pit area.

Full-Scale Traffic

All persons should watch for full size aircraft and alert all flyers as to the full-scale aircraft's position. Full scale aircraft have priority at all time.

Field Sanitation

Everyone is responsible to see that all litter is removed from the flying field.

Safety and Conduct

It is the responsibility of all members to conduct themselves in a courteous manner and to maintain safe flying conditions at the field. All members shall also be responsible for exercising control over spectators to ensure their safety.

Violation of this mandate may be considered as grounds for dismissal by majority vote of the membership present at a scheduled meeting.

When two or more flyers are using the same frequency it is expected that when a flyer completes a flight, that he offer the frequency pin to the other flyers or return it to the flight line box as soon as his aircraft is parked and the transmitter is turned off.

Field Use Restrictions

All persons using the flying facilities shall be current members of AMA.

Guests

Non-members may be permitted to use the flying facilities as a guest only when accompanied by an active member, provided the guest is a current member of AMA or has made application for membership in the AMA. The active member assumes all responsibility to assure that the guest and his aircraft comply with all the above field rules.

A guest is limited to three flying sessions in any 12 month period unless they are participating in an Organized Club Activity.