

Constitution & By Laws of the R/C Eagles

AMA Chartered Club # 2874
Revised January 19th, 2011

ARTICLE I NAME

Section 1 The name of the organization shall be *The R/C Eagles*.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

Section 1 The R/C Eagles are an AMA (Academy of Model Aeronautics) chartered organization. The organization was formed to promote the hobby of radio-controlled aircraft flying through safety (conformity to AMA rules); a controlled flying atmosphere through a club flying field; competition (inner club and area); novice instruction; public awareness of our hobby, and an exchange of modeling and flying knowledge and ideas.

ARTICLE III ORGANIZATION

Section 1 The organization's Officers shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Safety Officer, Field Manager, and Newsletter Editor. An Executive Committee shall be formed, consisting of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Safety Officer, and Field Manager. The President will create and appoint whatever standing and special committees he deems necessary to conduct the business of the club. The Safety Committee shall be a permanent standing committee whose membership is appointed from club members in good standing by the President. The Safety Officer shall Chair the Safety Committee.

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Application for membership is open to any person regardless of race, sex, creed or national origin who meets the club qualifications.

Section 2 He/She must pay an annual membership fee (dues) and be voted upon by the membership at any regular meeting. Upon acceptance by the membership and payment of dues he/she will receive a club membership card validated by the current Secretary, Treasurer, President or Vice President. Identification cards must be carried at all club events. When flying at the club field, you must have both your identification card and current AMA membership card. Memberships are valid for one year (January 1 through December 31).

Section 3 The club reserves the right to reject or revoke membership to any individual it deems detrimental to the club's best interests. All disciplinary actions will follow procedures outlined in section 3 of Article IX

Section 4 Use of the club field is limited to members of the Eagles R/C Club or their guest(s), regardless of age. Membership is offered according to the following classifications:

General Membership: Annual dues are forty dollars (\$40). Member must have current AMA membership. Membership includes a single vote.

Family Membership: Family membership includes one general membership and flying privileges (providing they are AMA members) for spouses, and children under 18 years old or under 21 and enrolled in an accredited College or University. Annual dues are Forty dollars plus (\$5) per additional flying family member. All flying members of a family must have a valid AMA membership. A family membership includes a single vote.

Youth Membership: Youth membership (under 16) is ten dollars (\$10) per year. Member must have current AMA membership. Youth memberships include one vote. Youth members must have adult family member or legal guardian sign limit of responsibility form.

Honorary Lifetime Membership: This is a designation bestowed upon a living person who has distinguished him/herself in the hobby of radio control aeronautics and/or has gone above and beyond normal duties in the promotion of the Eagles R/C Club. No more than 2 honorary memberships shall be bestowed per year. Members may recommend a person to the officers of the club for consideration. Honorary membership will then be voted upon by the membership at a regular meeting with a 51% majority required for granting Life Membership. Any recommendation should be done in writing, stating the reason for consideration. Honorary members will have flying privileges only if he/she is a current AMA member. Honorary members include a single vote.

Membership is limited to eighty (80) General Members; afterwards the names will be placed on a waiting list in the order club officers receive the applications. This list will be posted and updated monthly and will be available to all members and prospective members at any time.

Section 5 Dues shall be required to support the financial operation(s) of the Eagles R/C Club. Any balance or excess may be used in any manner deemed necessary by the club and is subject to a simple majority vote. Current dues are Forty dollars (\$40) per year.

There is a one-time initiation fee of twenty (\$15) per General Membership; there is no extra charge for family memberships and no member shall be assessed an initiation fee once he has paid the initiation fee once, unless he has not been a member for at least four years.

Payment of dues is required for membership that extends for one year, January 1 through December 31.

Dues for new members who join after September 30 will also cover to the following year's dues. This does not apply to past members or to current members who fail to meet the regular December 31 payment deadline.

Failure to pay dues by December 31 will result in a five dollar (\$5) late fee. If dues are not paid by March 31, membership will be dropped and their memberships may be filled from the waiting list.

ARTICLE V
CLUB FIELD

Section 1 The Clubs Field is a regulated and controlled area operated by the Eagles R/C Club in Stark County, Ohio, and in accordance with AMA rules, and regulations and insurance. It is for the use of radio-controlled aircraft and other models the officers may allow for special events. In cases of an apparent difference of regulations, the regulations stated in the Eagles R/C Club's by-laws will take precedence over AMA rules except in situations that pertain to the safety code and insurance.

ARTICLE VI
MEETINGS

Section 1 Scheduled Meetings for The Eagles R/C club will be held monthly during the year. Location and time of meetings will be announced on the website and in the newsletter.

Section 2 Special Meetings may be called for when a situation arises that requires the attention of the club members. Any member may make a request to the officers that a special meeting be called. If the officers deem the request reasonable and necessary, notification to the membership may be by phone, special mailing or the club newsletter.

Section 3 Order of Business at a regular meeting shall be as follows:
Call the meeting to order.
Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting by the Secretary.
Treasurer's report.
Introduction of visitors
Introduction of new members.
Announcements and/or Communications
Committee Reports.
Old Business.
New Business.
Program.
Adjournment.

Section 4 Unless special and important needs arise, the December meeting shall be held at the Club Christmas party.

Section 5 Order of business at a special meeting is open.

ARTICLE VII
ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1 Election of officers will be conducted annually at the November meeting.

Section 2 Nominations for officers must be made by other (eligible voting) members and seconded on the floor during the October or November meeting.

Section 3 All nominees must be current club members in good standing.

Section 4 After nominations are closed, the majority of members at a regular club meeting will vote by secret ballot or by acclamation if only one nomination is received for a given office.

Section 5 In the event of a tie, another vote will be taken. If the tie remains, the office will be determined by the toss of a coin by the current President.

ARTICLE VIII

OFFICERS

Section 1 **President:** The president shall chair all meetings and functions of the club and maintain parliamentary procedure. He will act as mediator in all disputes within the club with complete fairness to all parties concerned. He will appoint or organize committees and appoint committee chairpersons to handle specific club functions or business as necessary. The President shall only vote on club matters in case of a tie.

Section 2 **Vice-President:** The vice-president will co-chair all meetings and functions of the club with the President. He will chair any club function in the absence of the President. He will assume the office of President and fulfill the remainder of the President's term should the elected President become unable to fulfill his duties. He shall perform any other duties as assigned by the President.

Section 3 **Secretary:** The secretary will maintain accurate minutes of club meetings. He will keep the club by-laws up to date. He shall keep an accurate roster of club members and their vital statistics. He shall be the point of contact between the club and the AMA. He will report the minutes of the last meeting at all meetings and record any changes to the minutes. He shall perform any other duties as assigned by the President.

Section 4 **Treasurer:** To collect any moneys due the club and to keep a general ledger showing all the financial transactions. The financial status of the club will be reported at all regular club meetings. Bills for club or field expenses up to one hundred dollars (\$100.00) can be paid without club or officer approval. Such expenses cannot exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per month. Expenses beyond that amount must have approval of the club President and Vice-President to the amount of \$500.00.

Section 5 **Safety Officer:** The Safety Officer is appointed by the President. The responsibilities of the Safety Officer are to enforce all club and AMA safety regulations. He has the right to prevent individual fliers from flying if their conduct or aircraft are not suitable (per AMA and club rules). He exercises supervision of spectator areas. He should know address and shortest route to hospital, police and fire departments. He should know the location of field fire extinguisher and first aid kit. He should know the names of persons qualified in first aid, CPR, etc. He should discuss safety issues at regular club meetings. The Safety Office will gather information of any major incident/accident involving injury or property damage. Will relay any information requested by the AMA. The Safety Officer is the chairman of the Safety Committee.

Section 6 **Field Manager:** The Field Manager is appointed by the President. The responsibilities of the Field Manager will be to supervise the flight line and frequency control. Supervise the clubs field, parking, flight line, etc. Know location of nearest hospital and police department; know location of field fire extinguisher and first aid kit Supervision over the field maintenance crew/volunteers. He should have knowledge of first aid, supervise erection of temporary signs during contests, picnics or other club functions, monitor field cleanup (litter, etc.), discuss with club at open meetings any problems related with the field. He may appoint up to two (2) field maintenance workers per year. Field maintenance workers, including the Field Manager, (maximum of three) will not be charged dues for the year of service, and may receive a stipend to cover their personal expenditures while maintaining the field.

Section 7 **Newsletter Editor:** The Newsletter Editor will send a newsletter to each member's household via email or US postal Service, approximately one week before each monthly club meeting. An address and telephone list of all members in good standing will be printed and made available to the membership at least (1) time each year during the month of May. Any changes to the membership roster thereafter should be reported in the newsletter or posted on the website.

ARTICLE IX *REGULATIONS*

Section 1 **Field Privileges:**

Only members or guests of members will be permitted to operate radio-controlled aircraft on or in the vicinity of the club field except during sanctioned club events.

Guest flying privileges are limited to three (3) visits per guest per year.

Members should limit their guest privileges to a maximum of two guests at any one time

Any and all persons operating model aircraft must have a current valid AMA membership.

Abuse of guest privileges will be subject to club discipline as outlined in section 3 of this article.

The inviting member will be responsible for informing guests of club regulations regarding the flying filed.

The inviting member is responsible for any damages caused by his or her guests.

Section 2 **Field Safety Rules:**

The field operational and safety rules are contained in the Rules portion of the By-Laws. The rules may be amended by a simple majority of the club members present at any regular meeting after being published in the newsletter.

Section 3 **Disciplinary Action:**

Club rules, AMA safety code rules and other violations will be enforced in the following manor:

On the first occasion, any officer or member of the safety committee will inform the party of the rule violation. A written notice must follow this to the President, of the exact violation, who was involved, witness names, time and date of the warning.

On the second occasion of the same rule violation any officer or member of the safety committee will notify the President in writing of the exact violation including, who was involved, witness names, time and date of the violation. Upon receiving this information, the president will send a registered letter to the offender informing him/her that repetition of this offence will mean loss of club membership and/or flying privileges.

On the third occasion of the same rule violation any officer or member of the safety committee will notify the President in writing of the exact violation, who was involved, witness names, time and date of the violation. Upon receiving this information, the president will send a registered letter to the offending member, informing him/her that their flying privileges have been suspended and a vote to expel the member will be taken at the next regular meeting. A yea vote of at least 2/3rds of the attending members will be needed to revoke membership. If a member does not repeat an offence or garner another warning during the course of one year from the date of the first offence, the member's record shall be cleared.

ARTICLE X
AMENDMENTS

Section 1 **Amending the By Laws:**

Items in these by laws may be amended or repealed at any regular meeting of the membership by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at the meeting, providing that the proposed amendment or repeal has been either published at least once in the newsletter preceding the meeting for adoption or presented to the membership at a prior regular meeting.

Amending Field Safety and Operational Rules:

Safety and Operational rules may be amended by a majority vote at any regular meeting providing they have been published in the newsletter and/or discussed at a prior regular meeting.

In an emergency situation and subject to later vote at the next regular club meeting, the President, and Safety Officer may impose any restrictions or rules they feel are necessary to insure a safe environment at the field.

Article XI
DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB AND ASSETS

Section 1 **Disposal of assets:**

Should it be necessary to dissolve the club and/or dispose of its assets, the following procedure will take place:

Real assets will be sold as close to market value as reasonable if possible by open auction.

All outstanding debts and encumbrances will be paid.

An independent audit of the books will be done.

The remaining treasury monies will be distributed in accordance with any IRS rules and regulations pertaining to a not-for-profit organization.

Field Rules and Safety Regulations

The Official AMA safety code is to be followed at all times. A valid AMA card should be used in the Frequency Control Board.

No alcoholic beverages are permitted at the RC Eagles field. No pilot may fly at the RC Eagles field while under the influence of alcohol or any performance inhibiting drug.

No firearms are permitted at the RC Eagles field. This rule may be subject to interpretation and modification by Ohio State Laws which shall take precedence.

No explosive devices or fireworks are permitted at the RC Eagles Flying Field.

No one should be on the landfill site after dark. (One hour after sunset)

Retrieval of downed aircraft should be done in cooperation with or by landfill personnel

Do NOT fly over landfill personnel or equipment.

No takeoff, landing or approach will be made towards spectators, pit or parking areas regardless of wind or other conditions.

No more than three (3) aircraft will be airborne or operated at the same time except during special club events or unless the pilots are conducting coordinated flight operations.

Pilots must use the designated flight stations; standing on the field is prohibited unless an emergency situation exists.

A club frequency pin must be affixed to a pilot's transmitter before it can be operated or for 2.4 GHz equipment, before it can be flown. The club will maintain four (4) 2.4 GHz pins for field control only.

Transmitters not in use must be placed in the clubs impound box. This rule does not apply to TX's operating on 2.4 GHz. However 2.4 GHz flyers must have the club frequency pin in order to fly. Ground testing of 2.4 GHz equipment is permitted without the frequency pin.

All pilots and guests are financially responsible for damages to another pilot's equipment and property caused by violation of the rules. This includes accidentally "shooting down" another aircraft which has the correct club frequency pin attached to the Transmitter. A member's flying privileges will be suspended until all obligations are met or until a mutually acceptable alternative to both parties is made. (Payment plan, equipment swap etc.)

No pilot will be allowed to make successive flights or, on 72 MHz equipment, to use their transmitter when other pilots are waiting their turn to fly or operate their transmitters.

Prior to flight, all aircraft should be thoroughly checked to ensure proper attachment of all controls and that they are operating correctly.

No pilot will purposely make a maneuver that may endanger any other person or property.

A frequency flag/card will be affixed to the antenna of all transmitters operating on the 72 MHz frequencies.

Flight operations should not be made more than five hundred (500) feet above the ground. Pilots should avoid prolonged operation above that altitude limit.

The only items that are permitted to the east of the fence line are pilots, spotters, transmitters, airplanes, and any special equipment required for the pilots use (wheelchair or chair for disabled persons). Children under the age of ten must remain behind the fence line unless they are a pilot or are receiving instruction from an instructor.

Anyone flying a liquid fuel powered R/C aircraft at the R/C Eagles flying field should have a spotter.

No aircraft which fails to meet the minimum safety standards of the AMA will be permitted to operate on the club field.

Pilots and spectators are responsible for cleaning up after themselves. Deposit trash in the trash bin or take it home.

Engine run-ups should be done pointing away from other people and aircraft. Use common sense.

The tables are for assembly, disassembly, and servicing of aircraft only. Do not leave your equipment on the tables.

Turbine aircraft are allowed provided the pilot has a current AMA turbine waiver.

Any flyer not complying with the above rules will lose his/her privileges to fly at the club site.