

SUNCOAST MODEL FLYERS INCORPORATED

BY-LAWS AND SAFETY RULES

14th May 2007

THESE BY-LAWS ARE TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CLUB CONSTITUTION

COLOURS.

The colours of the Club shall be as determined, from time to time, at a General Meeting of the members.

At the present time the colours are Maroon and Gold, with Gold predominant

QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

To be eligible for membership to the club, a person must be:

- a. Interested in constructing and/or flying Radio Controlled model aero planes;
- b. Of good repute and character, and compatible with other members;
- c. Free from indebtedness to any other aero modeling club or flying organization with which he/she may have previously been a member;
- d. Not a full member of another aero modeling club but may be an Associate member of other clubs.

Associate Membership:

An Associate member may be any person who wishes to use the club facilities or otherwise associate with the Club; provided that such person is a fully paid up member of the MAAA. The Management Committee may, at its discretion, enquire into the validity of such evidence.

Associate membership is limited to 30% of the total number of full Club members

It is a condition of membership that all General and Safety Rules are understood; and that members agree to be bound by these rules and the provisions of the Constitution

FEEES

The membership fee consists of two parts; the Club fee, which is determined, from time to time, by the Management Committee and recommended for adoption at a General Meeting; and the MAAQ Inc. fee, which includes an affiliation fee and insurance. The Club is affiliated to the MAAQ (Model Aeronautical Association of Queensland Incorporated), which is the Governing body for Incorporated Model Aeronautical Association for Queensland.

A one time Joining Fee is payable by first time applicants for membership. The fee shall be determined, from time to time, by the Management Committee and recommended for adoption at a General meeting.

DUTIES:

EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR.

Shall be an elected member of the Management Committee charged with the responsibility for all Club events and competitions.

To plan, organize, and supervise, the running of such events and competitions.

To see that the rules of the competition are adhered to; and that such competitions are held in an

equitable and fair manner.

To report to the Management Committee and/or General Meeting when required, on any matter relating to his/her office;

The Rules of competition adopted from time to time by the Queensland body shall be the Rules in force in all club events, except when otherwise provided for by the Management Committee and/or General Meeting.

All prizes presented to or offered by the club for competitions shall be competed for under such regulations as the management committee may from time to time determine.

PUBLICITY OFFICER (When appointed)

Be responsible for all club publicity. He/she shall submit any suggestions and ideas to the Management Committee for the furtherance of aeromodeling and/or the Club.

FIELD OFFICER

Shall be an elected member of the Management Committee charged with the responsibility of ensuring that the club field and grounds are maintained in proper order, the toilets and other facilities are kept in an acceptable condition; and present a report at meetings of the Management Committee.

Have the authority to recruit and direct any volunteer member for such duty as is necessary to maintain the field and Club grounds in good order.

SAFETY OFFICER

Shall be an elected member of the Management Committee charged with the responsibility of ensuring all Safety Rules are observed while in attendance at the Club's flying field.

MEMBERS IN GENERAL

Every member has agreed to be bound by the Club's rules as a condition of membership. It is every member's responsibility to assume the role of Safety Officer in the absence of the elected Safety Officer; and undertakes to observe, each and every Rule, as well as every By-Law, Management Committee and/or General Meeting decision; and at all times conduct him/herself with propriety. This requirement includes supervision of junior members and visitors to the Club's field.

Every member shall keep the Secretary informed of his/her correct address and any other changes which affect the Secretary's ability to communicate.

VISITORS

Friends and relatives are welcome to the flying field to enjoy the Club's facilities, attend Club meetings and participate in Club social activities, but are not allowed to compete in Club competitions, take part in any business conducted, nor have any voting rights at Club meetings.

No visitor is allowed in the Pit area or within 30 metres of the pilot pound unless actively engaged in the operation of a radio controlled model aircraft as a caller for aerobatic flying, or a judge of skills, or any other similar activity where their presence is required.

A visitor to the field for the purpose of receiving instruction in the operation of a model aircraft is covered for insurance by the MAAA Third Party Public Liability Policy provided they are:-

- a) Properly signed in by a Club member in a permanent Club Visitors book entering their

Name, Address and Date and the name of the Club member being responsible for ensuring that they are aware of, and monitor their compliance with, MAAA and Club rules.

b) Abide by MAAA and Government regulations, and

c) Only sign in on a maximum of four (4) occasions, if during any visit they fly a model either independently, or under instruction.

Note:-

Former members of the Suncoast Model Flyers cannot be signed in as a visitor covered by the MAAA Insurance Policy if their membership has lapsed for no less than 5 years.

Visiting Association pilots are welcome to fly on an occasional basis and must be able to produce a current MAAA license upon request. Visitors not known to the club must have their first flight accompanied by a qualified or approved Club instructor. When there is no qualified or approved instructor available, a senior member with Gold Wing rating may supervise the flight.

Visiting MAAA members will be required to join the club as an Associate member if they have made more than three visits to the field

If in the opinion of the Management Committee, any visitor is found abusing the club privileges, the Management Committee shall have the power to remove the visitor(s) from the flying field and/or premises.

Children must be under parental control at all times.

Animals must not be allowed to roam free and must be effectively constrained at all times. Any fouling by animals must be cleaned up by the owner

PILOT QUALIFICATIONS

Three levels of pilot qualification currently apply; Bronze, Gold and Instructor

Wings and a Certificate are awarded to pilots who have successfully demonstrated their ability to control a model through a series of prescribed manoeuvres set down by the MAAA in MOP027 (Manual of Procedures No 27), or in the case of Bronze Wings, the manoeuvres set out in the Club's procedures.

Bronze Wings* with Certificate are awarded free to pilots who successfully demonstrate to a Club Instructor/Examiner their ability to fly a model to the standard set out in the Bronze Wings procedures.

* No member may fly a model unsupervised until they have been tested for Bronze Wings by an MAAA qualified Instructor /Examiner.

Gold Wings with Certificate are awarded to any pilot who successfully demonstrates to a Club Instructor/Examiner their ability to fly a model to the Gold Wing standard. A \$10 fee, payable to the MAAQ, applies to the issue of Gold Wings.

Instructor/Examiner Wings with Certificate are awarded to members who complete the Instructor's course under the auspices of the MAAQ Chief Flying Instructor. A \$15 fee is payable to the MAAQ, for Instructor /Examiner status.

A Club Approved Instructor is allowed to instruct a novice pilot to Bronze Wing standard but not allowed to examine their student for the purpose of issuing Bronze Wings

The "Buddy Box" system is the Club's preferred method of instruction.

GENERAL.

1. No engines are to be run before 7.00am Monday to Saturday or before 8.00am Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday and Anzac Day.

2. The height limit set by CASA (Civil Aviation Safety Authority) is 400ft. Flying above this limit is a cause for official complaint by CASA and/or Air Traffic Controllers in the Maroochydore Airport control tower. Full size aircraft are permitted to fly over the field at 500ft. Airspace must be cleared for any full size aircraft seen to be flying, or suspected to be flying, below an altitude of 500ft in the vicinity of the field.
3. Non-members are not allowed to operate a radio controlled model aircraft of any description at the field, unless they are a visitor to the field for the purpose of receiving instruction
4. Mobile Phones, whether switched on or not, are banned from the flight line, transmitter pound and pit area.

SAFETY RULES

The flying of Radio Controlled models is dangerous and these rules are formulated to afford the maximum safety of members and non-members alike; they must be observed at all times.

1. Procedure on Arrival

Transmitters must be placed in the pound on arrival, and when removed for flying, the correct frequency key must be inserted in the appropriate keyboard slot.

Radios must be returned to the pound and key removed when not in use.

Each radio at the field must have a current bandwidth test label and a frequency key (50mm) displaying name and frequency.* Frequency keys must have a colour coded label attached to indicate that the member is financial for the current year.

* 2.4Ghz transmitters or any other equipment capable of synthetic frequency generation must be used in conjunction with the frequency control procedures in place.

2. No aircraft to be fuelled or started behind the Pit fence.

3. **Models must be effectively restrained using suitable personal restraints or those provided by the Club. Throttling to full power and fine-tuning of the engine must be done away from the pit area and facing into the main area of the field. (not facing towards any body)**

Heavy models and gas turbine powered models must be started on the starting pads situated on the taxiways leading to the main runway and using the restraints provided. These restraints are stored in the transmitter pound.

4. Pilots must **carry** or **wheel** their aircraft directly from the Pit area to the main taxiway. Taxiing to the flight line must be on taxiway only, at walking pace, with the pilot as close as practical to the aircraft,.

**No taxiing from main taxiway into the pits
No taxiing in the Pits.**

5. All Pilots must be positioned inside the Pilot Pound when flying a fixed wing model aircraft or helicopter not being flown in the area allotted for hovering practice.

No more than 5 aircraft are to be in the air at any one time on main flight line.

No more than Two helicopters are to be in the air at any one time in each of the allocated Helicopter / 3D areas. Or as determined by Committee from time to time.

Rotary wing aircraft (autogyros), which rely on forward motion generated by a propeller to sustain flight, are regarded as fixed wing aircraft for the purpose of these rules

6. Take off and landing must be made from the runway, except in the case of an emergency landing

Aircraft under no power have right of way.

In crosswind situations, take off will be permitted into wind, but must have permission of pilots in the pilot pound.

Take off is allowed 3 metres out from the upwind end of the pilot pound

Low flying towards the flight line, pits, sheds or car park is forbidden at any time and all aerobatics, including those involving 3D style manoeuvres and low level propeller "hanging", must be executed on the south side of the runway and not less than **20 metres** from the pilot pound.

- 7 Pilots must clearly communicate their flight manoeuvres and be acknowledged by all pilots at the flight line.

Pilots must announce their intentions to land prior to turning onto base leg.
- 8 Any model considered to be unsafe by the Safety Officer, or the majority of members present shall be grounded.
- 9 Large models and models powered by gas turbine(s) are regulated by MOP015 and MOP030 respectively, of the MAAA Manual of Procedures. It is the responsibility of the owner of a model covered by these procedures to be aware of the provisions contained within them.
- 10 High speed pylon racing models must be flown on Southern side of general flying area in an east/west circuit direction only and no closer than 50 metres to the flight line.
- 11 Helicopters are to practice hovering manoeuvres in the allotted area.
- 12 Sailplanes, (including aero towed) are to be launched from a designated spot, with launching devices positioned clear of taxiways and the main runway. Verbal advice of impending sailplane launches must be given to power fliers prior to launching and must be acknowledged.
- 13 Lightweight models, usually electric powered and primarily designed and built for 3D aerobatics must be flown in the area allocated to helicopters

BREACHING OF RULES

Members in breach of any General or Safety Rule, will be advised of the rule without penalty. Blatant and/or persistent disregard of the rules will result in the member being disciplined under Section 8.4.- Disciplinary Procedure, of the Rules of Incorporated Association.

AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

Amendments to, making of, and repealing of By-laws is covered by Section 20 of the Rules of Incorporated Association.