



# Flying Aces Pilots Association

Charlotte/Huntersville North Carolina

## Club Bylaws & Grievance Form

Approved: November 3, 2018

### ARTICLE 1: PURPOSE

A. To further the hobby of model aviation, specifically radio control aviation of all types in the Charlotte North Carolina region. To help people both new to the hobby and those who are experienced. To disseminate information about current laws, rules, and best practices, to provide camaraderie and help provide a fun and safe environment to enjoy model aviation activities.

### ARTICLE 2: MEMBERSHIP

#### A. QUALIFICATIONS

Membership is open to all people. All flying members must maintain Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) Membership and a Waymer Aeromodeler Chapter of AMA (WACAMA) Park Pass.

#### B. DUES and TYPES of MEMBERSHIP

The current annual dues are as follows;

Full members (19 years or older): \$20 per year.

Honorary Lifetime Full members: \$0 per year.

Junior members (younger than 19 years old): \$0 per year.

Club Officers will have their annual dues waived for their term of office.

Any individual may be considered for Honorary Lifetime Full membership. Nominations can be made and voted upon at any monthly membership meeting. A simple majority of 50% of the attending Full members is needed for passage. Qualification could be holding Club office for a high number of years, exemplary Club service, a distinguished community leader, etc.

While new members can apply at any time, renewals are to be paid no later than the January Club meeting.

#### C. RESIGNATION

Any member in good standing may resign membership by giving notice to any Club Officer, written notice is preferred.

#### D. TERMINATION

A member shall be in arrears and shall not be considered active if his/her dues have not been paid. Any member who allows their membership to lapse beyond March 1 of any year shall be considered a new member when renewing their membership and will not be given preference over any other application should a membership waiting list be in existence.

Any member not maintaining AMA and/or WACAMA Park Pass will have their membership suspended until their AMA and/or WACAMA are reinstated.

Dues are non-refundable, except under extraordinary circumstances, which will be determined by the Club Officers on a case by-case basis.

No special assessment shall be levied upon the Club membership, unless it is approved by a simple majority of all active Full members (not simply meeting attendance).

Please see Article E for Expulsion.

#### E. EXPULSION

Any member may be expelled from the Club. While the most common reason would be repeated, or a singular major, safety violation there may be other reasons.

Any member receiving a safety grievance as stated in Article 11, or who is involved in non-flying violations, or who has key information of a non-flying violation and withholds it from Club Officers, may at the Club Officers discretion be placed on probation for one (1) year regardless of his or her tenure in the Club. Any individual may be expelled from membership by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Club Officers when an individual willfully commits any act or omission which is a violation of any of the terms of these Bylaws, or the Rules of the AMA, WACAMA, or which is detrimental to the Club, the AMA, WACAMA or to model aviation.

Expulsions will be determined by the Club Officers and brought before the Club membership and voted upon as described above. The expulsion of a member from the Club will be by a secret ballot.

#### F. REINSTATEMENT

Reinstatement may be considered when recommended by the Club Officers and brought before the Club membership and voted upon. This shall be by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Club Officers

### ARTICLE 3: OFFICERS

A. The Club shall maintain the following Officers. A single individual may hold multiple positions as long as they are capable of performing the duties of each.

President: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and shall act as spokesperson in all matters pertaining to it. They will appoint special or standing committees as needed. They will cast the tie breaking vote if needed.

Vice-President: The Vice-President shall act for the President when unable to serve, and is to maintain an accurate record (including place of storage) of all Club assets.

Secretary: The Secretary shall record minutes of all meetings (Officers, monthly membership and any special meetings). The Secretary will handle all correspondence pertaining to Club activities. They will also be the Club's contact person with the AMA in case of questions, problems or situations. Any and all records shall be passed to subsequent Club secretaries.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall collect all moneys due and shall keep a record of moneys disbursed by the Club. They will also maintain a list of current members.

Safety Officer: The Safety Officer shall be responsible for ensuring existing safety regulations are enforced. While all members are responsible for safety, the Safety Officer will provide guidance and assistance as needed. This includes processing the grievance forms and following the existing grievance procedure documented in the by-laws. They will also coordinate with the AMA, Mecklenburg Parks and Recreation and WACAMA (as applicable) for any safety related concerns and be the contact person for field maintenance issues.

Waymer Aeromodeler Chapter of AMA (WACAMA) Board of Directors: the Club will elect two representatives for the Waymer Aeromodelers Board of Directors. These may be primary Club Officers or any Full member at large.

B. Standing or Committee appointments;

Additional appointments may be made at the discretion of the Club Officers. These are not considered to be additional Club Officers. These may be appointments such as Instructor, Newsletter Editor, Contest Director, Raffle Coordinator, Webmaster, etc.

C. Terms of office;

All elected Club Officers shall normally serve for one (1) year from the October meeting to the next election. Officers are to be elected by a vote of simple majority of active Full members present at the regular meeting in the month of October. Mail-in ballots will be made available for those members who have voting rights and notify a Club Officer of their inability to attend the October meeting. Those ballots, returned before the next meeting, will be counted as if those persons were present at the meeting. New members within the first calendar year of membership are not eligible for elected office; however they may serve the Club in appointed positions. New Officers will take office immediately after the October meeting.

D. Nomination of Club Officers;

Nomination of Club Officers shall be made at the general membership meeting during the month of September. Nominations for Officers may be made by any active Full 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 announced at the October meeting prior to the election. New members within the first calendar year of membership are not eligible for elected office; however they may serve the Club in an appointed positions.

E. Vacancies

Vacancies in any office shall be filled by appointment by the remaining Officers; such appointee will serve until the end of the term for which the predecessor was elected.

#### ARTICLE 4: MEETINGS

A. The Club President will preside over all Club meetings. The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President.

B. Regular membership meetings shall be held at a time and place to be determined by the Club President and notice shall be made on the Club web page. Notice will be made available to those without internet access upon request.

C. Club Officers may call special membership meetings with no less than five days prior written notice on the Club web page of the special meeting. The purpose of the special meeting shall be stated in the written notice.

D. Club Officers may call Officer meetings at any time. A minimum of 50% of the Officers must be present for an official vote.

E. At any Club meeting a simple majority of 50% of the attending Full members (attending Club Officers for Officer meetings) is needed for the passage of motions. Abstentions will not be counted.

#### ARTICLE 5: AUDIT

A. The President and two at large members shall make an annual audit of the Treasurer's books. This audit will occur in the month of September with the results presented at the October meeting.

#### ARTICLE 6: AMENDMENTS

A. Amendments may be made to the bylaws at any general meeting of the Club membership, provided the members shall have been notified of the proposed amendments by placement on the Club web site at least five (5) days in advance of the amendments consideration. Copies of the proposed amendments shall be provided to all members without internet access upon request. Amendments shall be approved by no less than a two-third (2/3) majority vote of the Full members present, at the regular monthly meeting. Mail-in ballots will be made available for those Full members who cannot attend the meeting. Those ballots, returned before the next meeting, will be counted as if those persons were present at the meeting.

#### ARTICLE 7: 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 President will have discretionary spending, up to \$100.00 without requiring Club approval. Multiple discretionary expenditures totaling in excess of \$300 in a one month period requires approval by at least one other Officer.

#### ARTICLE 8: DURATION

A. The duration of this Club shall be perpetual

#### ARTICLE 9: DISSOLUTION

A. The Club may be dissolved with the approval of a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the total membership.

B. Upon dissolution of the Club, the Club Officers shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Club, dispose of all assets of the Club in a manner that benefits model aviation, for example donation to the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) 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 purpose similar to the purposes of this Club. Any 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 purposed and to such organization or organizations, as said court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

#### ARTICLE 10: LOGO

A. The official Club logo shall be:



#### ARTICLE 11: 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 Officer for consideration. This shall be by means of a Grievance Form. At least one witness is required to sign the Grievance Form.

B. The Safety Officer, with assistance of other Club Officers if needed, shall use their judgment in carrying out action on the following:

1. A grievance form (see attached) will be filled out and turned into the Safety Officer. At least one witness is required

##### 2. FIRST VIOLATION

i. Viewpoints of both complainants and the accused will be considered.

ii. Complainant's name will be disclosed

iii. If the complaint is found to be valid a verbal reprimand will be given to the guilty party by the Club President, and this will be recorded by the Club Secretary.

##### 3. SECOND VIOLATION

- i. Viewpoints of both complainants and the accused will be considered.
- ii. Complainant's name will be disclosed.
- iii. If found guilty the guilty party has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the Club Officers.
- iv. A letter will be sent to WACAMA recommending that the flying privileges of the guilty party be suspended for thirty (30) days. Written notice via email of this shall be issued to the guilty party.

#### 4. THIRD VIOLATION

- i. Viewpoints of both complainants and the accused will be considered.
- ii. Complainant's name will be disclosed.
- iii. The Club Officers will notify the accused and the Club members via email that the attending Full Club will vote on the expulsion of the accused at the next meeting. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote is needed to expulse a member. Voting will be by secret ballot.
- iv. If found guilty the person will be expulsed. Said expulsion will last for one-year minimum. (Longer if deemed necessary by the Club Officers). Written notice of this shall be issued to the guilty party.
- v. A letter will be sent to WACAMA recommending that the flying privileges of the guilty party be suspended. Written notice of this shall be issued to the guilty party.
- vi. The expulsed member may reapply for membership after the expiration of the expulsion time period.
- vii. The actions will not be enforced unless the three violations are accumulated within a two-year period of time.

5. Any member receiving a Grievance, who directs any retaliation against the person filing the Grievance, will be subject to 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 Club Officers.



FLYING ACES PILOTS ASSOCIATION

GRIEVANCE FORM

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Violation:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Witnesses (optional):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_