



Somerset Model Airplane Club Bylaws AMA #3388

ARTICLE 1: DUTIES

1. *Board of Directors:* The management of the affairs of the Club shall be vested in the Board of Directors, who shall have the authority to establish and administer its policies. A landowner representative may occupy one seat of said Board. Official decisions may be made by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board, or by a quorum, at a Board of Director meeting, where by reasonable notice of said meeting was given to all Board members. A quorum shall consist of at least 50% of the current Board members. Official decisions shall be consistent with the stated purposes and objectives of the AMA as set forth in its Bylaws, and where those Bylaws are not specified, shall be vested in the sound discretion of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers of the club.
2. *President:* The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and shall act as the spokesperson in all matters pertaining to it. Is an authorized signer on the Club's checking account.
3. *Vice-President:* The Vice-President shall act for the President when he/she is unable to serve, and is to maintain an accurate record (including place of storage) of all Club assets. Is an authorized signer on the Club's checking account.
4. *Secretary:* The Secretary shall record minutes of each Club meeting and handle all correspondence pertaining to Club activities. He/she will also be the Club contact person with AMA in case of questions, problems or situations. Is an authorized signer on the Club's checking account.
5. *Treasurer:* The Treasurer shall collect all moneys due and shall keep a record of moneys disbursed by the Club. Is an authorized signer on the Club's checking account.

a. *Assistant Treasurer:* shall assist in collection of special moneys. Example: Field Assessment Fees.

Note: The same person who has the position as Secretary can also hold the Treasurer position.

6. *Field Marshall:* The Field Marshall shall have the following duties:
 - a. Supervision of field layout, parking, flight line, etc.
 - b. Greeting of new faces at the field and explanation of the sport and how to become involved.
 - c. Location of nearest hospital and police department.
 - d. Location of field fire extinguisher.
 - e. Supervision of transmitter impound area.
 - f. Field maintenance crew supervision.
 - g. Knowledge of first aid and location of first aid kit.
 - h. Erection of temporary signs during flying sessions.
 - i. Field clean up (litter, etc.).
 - j. Presentations to club at open meetings on problems.
 - k. Ability to handle non-fliers who may disrupt operations.
 - l. Personal knowledge of public officials to contact if needed (if field is a public property) to handle problems.
7. *Safety Committee Chairman/Safety Officer:* The Safety Committee Chairman/Safety Officer shall have the following duties:
 - a. Pre-flight inspection of new aircraft.
 - b. Pre-flight inspection of repaired aircraft.
 - c. Analysis of causes for any crash, pilot error included.
 - d. Preparation of Club field rules.
 - e. Enforcement of AMA Safety Code.
 - f. Right to prevent individual fliers from flying if their conduct or aircraft is not suitable.
 - g. Supervision of spectator areas.

Dated 02/04/2018 These Bylaws supersede any pre-existing Bylaws for the Somerset Model Airplane Club.

- h. Supervision of flight line and frequency control.
- i. Know the address and shortest route to hospital, police, and fire department.
- j. Location of field fire extinguisher.
- k. Names of persons qualified in first aid, CPR, etc.
- l. Conduct safety classes as part of regular club meetings.

The same person who has the position as Field Marshall can also hold the Safety Officer position.

These positions are optional:

8. *Contest/Event Committee Chairman (CD):* The Contest/Event Committee Chairman shall be responsible for coordinating and establishing, in conjunction with all the Club's Contest Directors, a schedule for the next contest/event season. The schedule will be decided by the Contest Directors, and approved by the members.
9. *Meeting Activity Coordinators':* The Meeting Activity Coordinator/s shall be responsible for coordinating model-related activities, immediately following the business portion of the meeting.

ARTICLE 2: AUDIT

The President or his appointees will make a periodic audit of the Treasurer's books.

ARTICLE 3: TERMS OF OFFICE

1. Nomination of Club officers shall be made at the general membership meeting during the month of November. Any active Club member holding voting rights may make nominations for office.
2. All elected officers of the Club, shall serve a term of one (1) year. Officers are to be elected by a vote of simple majority of those present at the regular meeting in the month of December. New officers will take office on January 1st. Personnel will be appointed by the elected officers, and confirmed by a simple majority vote of those members present during a regular meeting. i.e. Newsletter Editor, Contest Director, etc.
3. A secret ballot is required for removal of a Club officer, or other member of the Board of Directors from their seat, requires a 2/3 majority vote of the members present at a regular meeting.

ARTICLE 4: VACANCIES

Vacancies in any office shall be filled by appointment by the remaining officers, such appointee to serve until the end of the term for which its predecessor was elected.

ARTICLE 5: COMMITTEE

Any and all committees of the Club shall be appointed by the President to serve throughout the term, or less, of his tenure of office. Standing Committees are the Safety Committee and the Field Maintenance Committee.

ARTICLE 6: MEETINGS

1. Regular meetings shall be held at a time and place designated by the Club officers and published in the Club Correspondence.
2. Club officers may call special meetings with no less than five days prior notice of a special meeting. The purpose of the special meeting shall be stated when notified.
3. At any Club meeting, a simple majority shall be over 50% of the members voting at the meeting.
4. Any member, or probationary member of the Club, may initiate a formal request for action by the Board of Directors, by submitting a written proposal to the President. The proposal shall include, a written description of the nature, type, and extent of the action recommended. The President of the Board shall forward copies of the proposal to other members of the Board of Directors for their consideration. Either the President, or any other Board member, may have the matter placed upon the working agenda of the next Club meeting.
5. Meetings will be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Conduct, except where the Somerset Model Airplane Club Bylaws differ, At that time, the SMAC Bylaws will take precedence over the Robert's Rules of Conduct.

ARTICLE 7: DUES AND MEMBERSHIP

1. The annual Club dues shall be determined by the Club Officers with the approval of a simple majority vote by the membership. Dues are non-refundable, except under extraordinary circumstances, which will be determined by the Board of Directors on a case-by-case basis.

- a. Any new membership dues paid on, or after November 15th, will be rolled over and include membership for the following year.
 - b. The annual dues are due January 1st, but members have until the January Club meeting to pay their dues. A membership will be considered lapsed if not renewed (paid) on or after the January club meeting. After a one (1) calendar year period, any lapsed membership will be removed from the roster. All past members will have to re-apply to renew membership. Any member considered lapsed, shall not fly until dues are paid.
2. No special assessment shall be levied upon the Club membership, unless it is approved by a vote of two thirds (2/3) majority of the members present at the regular monthly meeting and the members have been given five (5) days prior notice along with an explanation of the assessment.
 3. A member shall be in arrears and shall not be considered active if his/her dues have not been paid as provided in Article 7, Section 1. Any member who allows their membership to lapse beyond the first meeting of January of the following year, shall be considered a new member when renewing their membership and will not be given preference over any other applicant should a membership waiting list be in existence. Any member considered in the arrears, shall not fly until dues are paid.
 4. Non special assessment fee's, such as late fee's, may be determined on an annual basis by the club officers with the approval of a simple majority vote by the membership. Such fee's will not be carried over from year to year and must be added or removed from the club membership application accordingly.
 5. Types of membership and limits on the total number of members shall be determined by the Club officers and approved by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members present at the meeting.

ARTICLE 8: MEMBER STANDING

1. All persons shall be eligible for membership and shall agree to abide by the Club's bylaws, and those of the AMA.
2. The membership shall be divided into the following categories:

Full Member:

- Has full access to all club amenities
- Attends monthly club meetings
- Has full voting rights
- Is not required to serve (see serving member definition)
- Must be a current AMA holder
- Must comply with any Federal, State and Local regulations pertaining to model aircraft.
- Must have completed the annual By-Laws and Safety/Operational Rules Sign off
- Annual dues must be current
- Pays full dues.

Serving Full Member:

- Has full access to all club amenities
- Attends monthly club meetings
- Has full voting rights
- Serves the club, Example: (Mows, maintains club assets, serves as an Officer, organize, coordinate and provide concessions for the club house and events, or maintains web site. Services can be added or removed with 2/3rds majority vote and approval of the board of directors)
- Must be a current AMA holder
- Must comply with any Federal, State and Local regulations pertaining to model aircraft.
- Must have completed the annual By-Laws and Safety/Operational Rules Sign off
- Annual dues must be current
- Pays serving member rate on dues.

Non Flying Member:

- Has access to the club house / pavilion
- Attends monthly club meetings
- No voting rights (except for the General election) unless, the non-flying member pays the full membership fee's
- Is not required to serve (see serving member definition)
- Pays the same rate as the Junior/Youth Member
- Cannot be an Officer
- Not required to be an AMA holder
- Must have completed the annual By-Laws and Safety/Operational Rules Sign off

Junior/Youth Member:

- Has full access to all club amenities
- Attends monthly club meetings
- Has no voting rights
- Is not required to serve (see serving member definition)
- Must be a current AMA holder
- Must comply with any Federal, State and Local regulations pertaining to model aircraft.
- Must have completed the annual By-Laws and Safety/Operational Rules Sign off
- Annual dues must be current
- Pays Junior/Youth dues rate (Through age 19) aligned with AMA Youth program
- Cannot serve as an Officer
- May opt out at age 18

Non Local Member:

- Must live more than 40 miles away from Club Field
- Has full access to all club amenities
- Is not required to serve (see serving member definition)
- May attend monthly club meetings
- No voting rights (Except for the general election, must be present)
- Must be a current AMA holder
- Must comply with any Federal, State and Local regulations pertaining to model aircraft.
- Must have completed the annual By-Laws and Safety/Operational Rules Sign off
- Annual dues must be current
- Pays the same rate as the Serving Full Member
- Cannot serve as an Officer

Probationary Member:

- A new member within the first calendar year of membership
- This member is not eligible for elected office, however they may serve the club in an appointed position
- Attends club meetings
- Voting rights correlate with type of membership
- Rate of dues correlate with type of membership
- AMA requirement correlates with type of membership
- Must comply with any Federal, State and Local regulations pertaining to model aircraft.
- Must have completed the annual By-Laws and Safety/Operational Rules Sign off

The Somerset Model Airplane Club reserves the right to change the membership classification of any current member due to inactivity, or failure to meet the criteria of said membership. A 2/3rds majority vote, and the approval of the executive committee at any regular monthly club meeting will be required. Any club member may request His/her classification be changed due to hardship or status change at any time, also requiring a 2/3rds majority vote and approval of the executive committee at any regular monthly club meeting. Failure to pay club dues, renew AMA membership, maintain FAA UAS registry compliance, or complete the annual By-Laws and Safety/Operational Rules Sign off will result in suspension of privileges and said member will be moved to non-flying member status until resolved or made inactive.

3. Flying members will be required to:

- Be a current member of AMA. 72MHz pilot's AMA card must be on the frequency board, on the frequency they are using during flight. All 2.4GHz pilots must have their AMA cards visibly on their person, Radio or Frequency board. NO CARD, NO FLY. All first-time flying member applicants, as well as present flying members seeking membership renewal must show proof of membership in the AMA. Non-flying Members do not require AMA membership.
- Must comply with any Federal, State and Local regulations pertaining to model aircraft.
- Must have completed the annual By-Laws and Safety/Operational Rules Sign off
- New membership requires 2 separate votes at 2 regular meetings. New member applications will be voted on at the first regular business meeting after the receipt of application and payment of membership dues. No application will be accepted without payment. New member applicants will be allowed flying privileges (AMA required), during the waiting period until the application is voted on. Club membership requires a 2/3 majority vote of the members present at the meeting. Voting may be by open or secret ballot at the discretion of the president or presiding officer at the meeting. Applicant(s) may be asked to leave the voting area to allow open discussion by the members before voting. In the event an applicant is denied membership, his/her money will be refunded. Upon acceptance of membership, the new member will be considered a probationary member (as defined in Article 8 definitions) for a period of 12 months beginning the day of membership. All other provisions of these By-Laws apply.

Dated 02/04/2018 These Bylaws supersede any pre-existing Bylaws for the Somerset Model Airplane Club.

- e. Any member receiving a safety Grievance as stated in Article 15, who is involved in non-flying violations, or who has key information of a non-flying violation and withholds it from the Board of Directors, may at the Board of Directors' discretion be placed on probation for one (1) year regardless of his or her tenure in the Club.
- f. Probationary members can be expelled at the discretion of the board of directors.

ARTICLE 9: RESIGNATION, TERMINATION, DISCIPLINARY ACTION, EXPULSION AND REIN-STATEMENT OF MEMBERSHIP

1. Any member in good standing may resign his/her membership by giving written notice to the club. (**Dues will be forfeited**)
2. If any member ceases to have the qualification necessary for membership in the AMA, or maintain FAA UAS registry compliance, his/her membership in the Club shall change to a Non Flyer Status, subject to reinstatement of their original status upon restoration of eligibility.
3. This section provides for enforcement of the Safety Rules that are related to flying activities. Any other unacceptable behavior by an individual member or members, as defined by the Board of Directors becomes the responsibility of the Board of Directors as stated in Article 1, Duties, section 1, of these Bylaws. Any individual may be expelled from membership of the club with a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Directors if, in the Board of Directors determination, such individual willfully commits any act or omission which is a violation of any of the terms of these Bylaws, the Rules of the AMA, the Flying Site Safety and Operational Rules of the club, or which is detrimental to the club, the AMA, or to model aviation.
4. Any member who is expelled from membership, may reapply as a new member after 12 months with approval of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have discretionary authority to provide for and to impose disciplinary action for such acts or omissions which do not justify expulsion from membership.

ARTICLE 10: AMENDMENTS

Amendments may be made to the Constitution, Rules, and these Bylaws, at any monthly business meeting of the club membership, provided the members have been notified in writing, at least five (5) days in advance that the amendments are to be considered. Access of the proposed amendments shall be made available to all members as part of the notification. Amendments require at least, two readings, at two separate monthly business meetings of the club membership. Changes made by the membership to the proposed amendments being considered during these readings shall run concurrent. At minimum, a vote on the proposed amendments shall not take place prior to completion of the second reading. Proposed amendments shall be approved by no less than a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members present at the monthly business meeting.

ARTICLE 11: SPECIAL FUNDS

1. 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.
2. The President will have discretionary spending of up to \$100.00 without requiring Club approval.
3. Runway fund will have \$500 added annually with no cap.
4. Lawn Mower fund will have \$500 added annually with a cap of \$5,000
5. Flowers may be purchased at the discretion of the Board of Directors for the purpose of club condolences for its members and their immediate families.

ARTICLE 12: DURATION

The duration of the Club shall be perpetual.

ARTICLE 13: DISSOLUTION

1. The Club may be dissolved with the approval of a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the total membership.
2. Upon the dissolution of the Club, the Board shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Club, dispose of all the assets of the Club exclusively for the purposes of the Club in such manner, 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 purposes similar to the purposes of this Club, as the Board shall determine. Any of such 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 located, exclusively for such purposes and to such, organization or organizations, as said court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

ARTICLE 14: LOGO and Club Slogan

1. The official Blue on White club logo is attached to this document and the application. For printing purposes, it may appear in Black and White.
2. Modification of the Club Logo will not be made without the approval of the Board of Directors.
3. The Club Slogan is: *Bringing Modelers together*

ARTICLE 15: GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE (FLIGHT AND GROUND SAFETY RULES)

1. *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 Committee for its consideration by means of a Grievance Form to be filled out and turned into the Safety Committee Chairman. At least one witness is required to sign the Grievance Form.
2. *Safety Committee:* The Safety Committee shall use its judgment in carrying out action on the following:
 - a. A grievance form (see page 8) will be filled out and turned into the Safety Committee Chairman. At least one witness is required.
 - b. FIRST VIOLATION
 - i. Viewpoints of both complainants and accused will be considered.
 - ii. Complainant's name will be disclosed.
 - iii. The Safety Committee will give a verbal reprimand to the accused, and this will be recorded in the Committee files.
 - c. SECOND VIOLATION
 - i. Complainant's name will be disclosed.
 - ii. The accused has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the Committee.
 - iii. If the Committee so decides, the flying privileges of the accused will be suspended for thirty (30) days. Written notice of this shall be issued and a copy published in the Club correspondence.
 - d. THIRD VIOLATION
 - i. Committee will notify the accused in writing, and the Club members via the Club correspondence, that the Club will vote on the expulsion of the accused at the next meeting.
 - ii. Said expulsion, will last for a one-year minimum. (Longer if deemed necessary by the Board of Directors).
 - iii. Non Probationary members may be expelled from the Club only upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership present at the meeting.
 - iv. Voting will be by secret ballot at the clubs monthly business meeting.
 - v. The expelled member may reapply for membership after the expiration of the expulsion time period.
 - e. The third action against the accused will not be enforced, unless all three violations are accumulated within a two-year period of time.
 - f. Any member receiving a Grievance, who directs any retaliation action against the person filing said Grievance, will be subject to immediate 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 Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 16: FORMAL CLUB SAFETY PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Formal Club Safety Program Guidelines Sign Off and Acceptance: When you pay your dues each year, you will be provided with access to an updated Somerset Model Airplane Club Bylaws and SMAC Flying Site Safety and Operational Rules. All members are required to sign off annually that they have received copies of both, either on the acceptance sheet provided to them, or electronically by replying to an email containing attachments of both.

ARTICLE 17: Lease Agreement with East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc

In the event that any language in these Club By Laws, Club Safety Rules, Club Operational Rules, or any other Club literature, or AMA Safety Code, whether direct conflict or by omission it is agreed that the Lease agreement is binding and its requirements are included in these Club By Laws by reference.

ARTICLE 18: Club Checking Account

1. The Club's checking account will require two signatures and this requirement will be maintained on the bank account with each change of Club Officers.
2. Each order for new checks will require checks with two signature lines.
3. Bank Debit Cards are not authorized as they defeat the two authorized check signer requirement.
 - a. Consideration for one Debit card held by the Treasurer to facilitate and limited to on-line transactions can be permitted. The Board must make the case that there is no practical way to conduct the on-line business with a check. This will require a 2/3rds Board approval and a 2/3rds member vote at a regular monthly Club meeting where there are at least 10 members present and preceded by a 10 day notice of said vote.
4. The Treasurer will faithfully record a receipt for all monies received without exception.

SOMERSET MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB FLYING SITE SAFETY AND OPERATIONAL RULES

Anyone flying at the SMAC field must hold a valid Academy of Model Aeronautics membership card. All pilots must adhere to current AMA safety code in addition to SMAC rules.

Flying Rules

1. Spotters are strongly recommended for each pilot, when more than one aircraft is being operated. Also, "all clear" announcement must follow any declared activity on the runway. Take offs and landings should be announced to others.
2. Flight stands are to be positioned close to fence. No taxiing into the pit area will be allowed. Taxiing out of the pit area will be allowed so long as there are no pilots present at the pilot stations. In that instance you may Taxi out of the pit area thru the side openings in the fence or at the end of the fence. End of fence concludes the pit area, unless cars are parked past the fence, then the pit area is extended to include the area to the end of the cars.
3. No running of engines inside the pavilion. Electric aircraft may be worked on including armed, so long as the propeller is removed.
4. All flying Pilots must be a AMA member, must comply with any Federal, State and Local regulations pertaining to model aircraft.
5. All new pilots must be on a buddy cord until the Safety Officer or a member of the safety committee signs off that they have soloed.
6. Flying behind the road (Dam) is not allowed.
7. Flight over pit area or deliberate flying behind the FLIGHT line is not allowed.
8. Take offs are only allowed in front of the FLIGHT line, defined by the edge of the paved runway nearest the fence barrier.
9. The established club frequency control plan will be in force at all times.
10. Run up blast must be directed away from others.
11. It is strongly recommended that members do not fly alone.
12. Students have right of way when they are flying.
13. Low or fast fly bys are not allowed over paved runway (grass runway only).
14. Aircraft with problems or loss of power have the right of way (one is no more important than the other).
15. All 72 MHZ pilots with active transmitters must have their AMA cards posted on the frequency board, on the appropriate frequency pin prior to turning on transmitters. 2.4 GHZ users may display their AMA card on their person or transmitter in plain visible site. If your card is on the frequency board pin, the frequency is yours until it is removed.
16. If you shoot down (turn on your radio) someone who is flying and they have their card on the board it's your fault. If their plane is damaged, then you are liable for damage.
17. Mid-air collisions happen. No one is allowed to claim damages. If you are flying and hit someone or their property (cars, etc.) you are liable (doesn't matter if you claim radio interference or not).
18. If a pilot asks you to fly his or her aircraft and you damage it you are not responsible for crashing it. However, if you are flying their aircraft and hit someone or something, you are responsible for damage.
19. If you ask someone to fly their aircraft and you crash it (again; it doesn't do any good to claim radio trouble) you are responsible for damages. You asked them, they didn't ask you!
20. Instructors are not responsible for a student's airplane.
21. All aircraft must be airworthy before they may be flown and must be inspected prior to initial flight or after a crash.
22. Club officers have the right to scrub flights of un-airworthy aircraft. (It just keeps you out of trouble.)
23. Number of pilots allowed in the air is equal to the number of flight stations.
24. Flights stations must be used. (AMA safety)
25. Sailplane high start lines are to run parallel to active runway.
26. Direction of flight is determined by wind direction.
27. Flight operations will stop during electrical storms.
28. Models will fly only in predesignated areas, and will yield right of way to full size aircraft.
29. Testing and running of engines in the pits is permitted so long as the aircraft is secured by a mechanical device or by another person. Engines shall not be operated in the area between the side of the pavilion and the first electrical post on either side. Prop blast shall not endanger other aircraft or create a nuisance for bystanders.
30. Be aware of the no fly zone sign to the right end of the runway. If unsure of no fly zone area, ask one of the other members.
31. Pilots must be in direct contact with their transmitter at all times during flight.

FPV Rules

1. If flying at the Heli pads, Aircraft should stay within that general area. Aircraft should not go past the Zero line (imaginary line running along the fence) especially when the main flight line is in use. This includes all aircraft being flown line of sight or FPV.
2. Flight of any aircraft is restricted to the main flight line, or the Heli Pads.
3. If you are flying FPV on the main flight line and in the pattern area, you should fly the pattern and not against it. You may fly outside the main pattern in any direction so long as you do not exceed an altitude of 75 feet.
4. For your safety, if you are flying FPV on the main flight line sitting or standing, you must be at a flight station and you must have a spotter when other pilots are flying or getting ready to fly. The job of the spotter will be to protect the pilot flying FPV from other aircraft and to alert them of any changing circumstances or possible collisions with other aircrafts.

Operational Rules

1. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on the premises at any time.
2. Firearms are not permitted on the premises at any time.
3. Harassment or destruction of wildlife or habitat is not permitted.
4. Littering is not permitted. (Take your trash home with you.)
5. Use of field or property for other than SMAC functions is not permitted.
6. Children of members or spectators must be supervised at all times.
7. Spectators are not permitted past shelter.
8. Abuse of SMAC property is not permitted.
9. Visitors are welcome any time, but must follow SMAC rules.
10. Unruly behavior is not permitted.
11. The AMA Safety Code will be displayed when the field is open for flying.
12. Fliers operating models must display AMA membership cards for easy identification.
13. First Aid kit is kept available in club house.

Failure to comply with the above rules is grounds for dismissal from property. Failure to comply with item 1, 2, & 3 under Operational Rules may result in criminal charges.

