



By-Laws

Of

The Fredericksburg Area RC Club

Thornburg, Virginia

AMA Charter # 4299

(Revised 01-10-2012)

ARTICLE I: NAME

Section 1. NAME

The name of this club shall be the Fredericksburg Area RC Club (FARCC)..

Section 2.. LOCATION

The physical address of the club is 6900 Jefferson Davis Highway, Thornburg, VA, 22407. We are located in Spotsylvania County, Virginia **(Rev. 02-07-09)**.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

Section 1. The purpose of this organization is to promote the building and safe flying of radio controlled model aircraft and to promote acceptance and good will toward this hobby. **(Rev. 02-07-09)**.

Section 2. With the purpose of the Fredericksburg Area RC Club in mind, “to promote This interest and safe participation in radio controlled model aircraft”, all types of fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft are welcome. However, during large events drawing many participants and spectators, The Club may limit flying to only industry wide accepted design, tested, and proven types. **(Adopted by Board of Directors 02-07-09)**.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. QUALIFICATIONS

AMA membership is required. **(Rev. 04-05-08)**

Section 1A. The Property Owner is a non-dues paying member of the club. Membership in the AMA is also waived. He shall be an “ex-officio” Member of The Board of Directors (Executive Board), and is here-in granted, by these By-Laws, all rights and privileges of full Membership excepting flying. Additionally, he may recind any vote of the Membership, and prevent any activity that may interfere with the operation of the farm or cause bad publicity. **(Adopted 02-07-09)**.

Section 2. MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

Open/regular - Any flyer that is over the age of eighteen years old. **(Rev. 02-07-09)**.

Active Duty Military. **(Defined under dues – Rev. 04-05-08)**.

Senior - Any flyer that is over the age of sixty-five years old.

Youth - Any flyer that is under the age of eighteen years old.

Section 3. DUES

Dues are \$105.00 per year for open members and \$85.00 for senior citizens. Active Duty Military, on temporary duty station, shall pay a one time \$40.00 Initiation Fee for 1 year only. \$45.00 for a non-sponsored Youth Member and \$10.00 for a sponsored Youth Member". **(Rev. 08-03-2013)**

(Clarification – 04-05-08) A Youth sponsor need not be a club member or parent. However, the youth/sponsor must have written permission of a parent or guardian).

Section 4. Dues are for one (1) year. However, members joining after November 1st. Will be in good standing until December 31st. of the following year. **(Adopted 09-13-08).**

Section 5. DUES and AMA PENALTIES

Yearly dues are payable by December 31st. Members not paying dues on time will have a grace period until February 1st. Unpaid members shall then be declared "as inactive" by the Treasurer and will have incurred a \$20.00 late penalty. Being declared "inactive" revokes all right to hold office, vote, and flying privileges. (NOTE: the grace period ends February 1st., not the date of the February meeting if one is held). **(Adopted 02-07-09).**

Section 6. Reference Section 5, the member shall be declared "active" upon paying the \$85.00 fee. Those "inactive" members not paying the \$85.00 fee by March 1st. shall be dropped from the roll of membership. They shall then reapply for membership to include A new application, proof of AMA Membership, payment of one (1) years' dues, and the Initiation fee of \$20.00. **(Adopted 02-07-09).**

Section 7. Any member in good standing (paid-up dues) allowing his/her AMA Membership to expire shall immediately become inactive, losing voting rights, the right to hold office, flying privileges, and shall pay a penalty fee of \$20.00 to the Club upon renewal of their AMA Membership. **(Adopted 02-07-09).**

Section 8. RESIGNATION

Any member in good standing may resign his/her membership by giving written notice to the Club.

Section 9. TERMINATION

If any member ceases to have the qualification necessary for membership in the AMA, his/her membership in the Club shall thereby terminate, subject to reinstatement upon restoration of eligibility.

Section 10. EXPULSION

This section provides for enforcement of the Safety Rules that are related to flying activities or any other unacceptable behavior by an individual member or members. Any individual may be expelled from membership from the Club by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership 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, or the Rules of the AMA, or which is detrimental the Club, the AMA, or to model aviation. **(Board Rev. 02-07-09).**

Section 11. REINSTATEMENT

A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership is required for reinstatement to the club.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

Section 1. OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Executive Board)

(2) The officers of the club shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Member at Large, and Property Owner. **(Added) (1)** The above positions shall constitute the Board of Directors. **(1. (Rev 10-06-07)) (2 (Rev. 02-07-09))**

Section 2. . TERM OF OFFICE

Officers **shall be** elected annually **at the November meeting or the next scheduled regular meeting. (Rev. 10-06-07). Changed from October to November because of conflict with Heli-Invasion. (Rev. 02-07-09).**

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall have full power and authority over the business of the Club when called upon to act on their behalf. The Membership will then relinquish all right to vote and the Boards' decision shall be final. **(Adopted 03-03-07)..**

Section 4. (A Board Member cannot hold another Board Member position in another RC Club). A FARCC Board Member, whether elected, appointed, or honorary, shall not be permitted to hold a Board Member position in another RC Club whether elected, appointed, or honorary. **(Rev. 06-07-08)**

Section 5. VACANCIES

Board vacancies shall be filled by The Board of Directors to serve until the next regular Election. The Board shall fill such vacancies within 15 days by appointment. **(Rev. 02-07-09).**

Section 6. DUTIES.

President

President shall be the executive officer of the club and shall preside at all meetings. He shall be the spokesman for the club. He shall appoint standing and special committees, as he deems necessary. He will cast the deciding vote in any case where a tie is encountered.

Vice President

The Vice president shall assist the president in all matters and shall assume the duties of the president if, for any reason, the president is not able to perform his duties. He shall be responsible for the club meeting schedules and other club schedules events, which may be necessary or requested by the club officers.

Secretary

The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes of all regularly scheduled and called club meetings, as well as Board Meetings, keep copies of important documents as required by the Board of Directors, and record meeting attendance. He shall have on hand at each meeting a copy of the previous meeting minutes to be read, a copy of the Treasurer's report, and an up-to-date copy of the Club roster. If the President and Vice President, for any reason, is unable to perform his duties, the Secretary shall assist or take over the duties of the President/Vice President as needed. **Rev. 04-05-08**

Treasurer

The Treasurer shall have charge of all club funds. He shall collect dues when they are due and is authorized to pay any and all club obligations from these funds. He shall keep appropriate records of all club monetary transactions and shall provide a Treasurer's report at each scheduled club meeting. He shall maintain an up-to-date membership record of all members including their name, mailing address, AMA membership, and telephone number.

Member at Large

The Member at Large shall stand in for any board member who is absent except for President position.

Property Owner

The Property Owner is addressed in ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP, Section 1, QUALIFICATIONS, Section 1A.

Section 7. APPOINTED OFFICERS

The appointed Officers of the Club shall be Safety Officer, Field Marshall, Committee Chairman, Program Chairman or any Advisor, other than the Property Owner **(Rev. 02-07-09).**

Safety Officer

Duties of Safety Officer is to promote increased safety awareness on the part of all members, improve the public perception of modeling as a safe and desirable sport, and provide a means by which important safety information can be shared between clubs, AMA chartered clubs will be required to establish the position of Safety Coordinator. This person will act as a communications liaison between the club and AMA Headquarters to ensure timely distribution of safety related material. The Club Safety Coordinator must have E-mail access. (Amended): "Appointed by Safety Officer".

Recommended Duties:

- 1) Provide a communications link between AMA and clubs in matters related to safety
- 2) Act as a safety advisor and resource manager for the club and its members
- 3) Assist AMA in the establishment of a national safety program to reduce accidents/incidents
- 4) Develop, promote and encourage a climate of safety awareness within AMA clubs

Safety Coordinator The Safety Coordinator shall be appointed by the Safety Officer. The Safety Coordinator activities may include the following:

Inspect operational areas for proper signage and safety equipment as applicable.
Distribute AMA Accident/Incident Report Forms and assure they are properly used.
Conduct safety awareness training and related programs during club meetings.
Conduct, at least annually, a safety audit of club facilities, equipment, and grounds to ensure everything is in good working order and safe for normal use by members and the public.

Act as a liaison with the local EMS/Fire Department.

Establish a club emergency action plan to handle serious accidents/incidents.

Coordinate appropriate first aid training for members using qualified instructors.

Develop an appropriate communications plan to assist club officers and members.

Review emergency procedures (fire and rescue) with club members on an annual basis.

F. ("Appointed by The Safety Officer" Rev. 06-07-08)

ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

Section 1. REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular club meetings are held on the first Saturday of the month at 1100am at the Club field House. At any club meeting a quorum shall be any ten (10) members in good standing, **including two (2) elected officers. (Rec. 10-06-07).**

Section 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings **may** be called at the discretion of the President. At any special meeting, **the quorum rule shall apply. (Rev. 10-06-07). (Rev. 02-07-09).**

Section 3. THE ANNUAL MEETING

The November meeting shall be known as The Annual Meeting. This meeting shall be for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports of officers and committees, and any other business that may arise. **(Also see: ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS, Section 2, TERM OF OFFICE). (Adopted 02-07-09).**

Section 4. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Any Board of Directors Meeting may be called, at any time, by a majority of Board members. **These meetings may be open or closed at the discretion of The Board. (Rev 10-06-07)**

ARTICLE VI: RECORD KEEPING

Section 1. All records are passed on when new officers are elected.

ARTICLE VII: NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS, AND RECALL

Section 1. NOMINATIONS

Nominations for officer positions may be from the floor, by telephone during the meeting, by email, or by mail. Members may be nominated in person, by signed proxy received by an officer no later than the date of the October meeting, or by declaration. Nominations for officers shall be made and recorded beginning at the September meeting. They must then be posted on the Club Web-Site until the Annual Meeting. **(Rev. 11-03-07?) (Rev. 02-07-09)**

Section 2. ELECTION

Elections are held at the annual meeting. Voting may be by a signed and dated absentee Ballot delivered to any Officer prior to the election, by email, by telephone during the election, by a show of hands, or by closed ballot.. **(Rev. 01-13-08). (Rev. 06-07-08). (Rev. 02-07-09).**

Section 3. RECALL

An officer of the club can only **be** removed from office when he or she fails to act in his or her capacity in the best interest of the club and with two thirds vote of the membership during a regularly scheduled meeting. **(Rev. 02-07-09).**

ARTICLE VIII: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 1. VOTING

Voting at any regular, special, or Board meeting shall normally be by a show of hands. Additionally, voting may be by closed (secret) ballot at the discretion of the President.

(Rev. 02-07-09)

Section 2. (In reference to Revision 06-07-08, “Voting of any issue may be by proxy”). An absentee vote may be accepted by an officer, prior to voting, by telephone, mail, or email. Such absentee vote may be considered delivered and received provided The officer notes the name of the **member** voting, the issue, and the date and time received. **(Adopted 02-07-09).**

Section 3. Board members on special or controversial issues shall be allowed to conduct polling and the taking of absentee ballots by telephone before and during a meeting or by email. This shall be considered a “good faith” attempt to accept a vote by a person, who through no fault of their own, cannot attend a meeting. **(Adopted 02-07-09).**

Section 4. When a specific membership issue, such as grievance procedures, disciplinary actions, the payment of dues and penalties, or reinstatement of membership, requires a vote that member may be present to voice their position. They will, however, be required to leave the meeting during the taking of the vote. This vote may be by closed ballot at the discretion of the President. **(Adopted 02-07-09).**

Section 5. In all voting the “majority rule” shall be 2/3’s of all votes cast at the meeting, including a show of hands, absentee, and closed ballots. For the majority rule a member casting an absentee ballot shall be considered “present” at the meeting. **(Rev. 02-07-09).**

Section 6. DISSOLUTION OF CLUB

The duration of the club shall be perpetual. The club may be dissolved with the approval of two -thirds vote of the membership.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENT OF THESE BYLAWS

Section 1. These By-Laws may be amended by a “majority rule” vote of the members present at a regular, special, or Board meeting. The issue being voted shall be posted on the Club Web-Site by the Secretary 21 days prior to the taking of the vote **(Rev. 02-07-09).**

ARTICLE X: CLUB AFFLIATION

Section 1. The Fredericksburg Area RC Club shall be an Academy of Model Aeronautics charter club.

ARTICLE XI: GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE (FLIGHT AND SAFETY RULES)

Section 1. 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
The Safety officer/Committee shall use its judgment in carrying out action on the following:

Section 2. A grievance form will be filled out and turned into the Safety Officer/Committee Chairman. At least one witness is required.

Section 3. . FIRST VIOLATION

Viewpoints of both complainants and accused will be considered. Complainant's name will be disclosed. The Safety Officer/Committee will give a verbal reprimand to the accused, and this will be recorded in the Club records.

Section 4. SECOND VIOLATION

Complainant's name will be disclosed. The accused has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the Club Safety Officer/Committee. If the Committee so decides, the flying privileges of the accused will be suspended for thirty (30) days.

Section 5. THIRD VIOLATION

Said expulsion will last for a one-year minimum. A member may be expelled from the Club only upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership present at the meeting. Voting will be by secret ballot at a regular monthly meeting. The expelled member may reapply for membership after the expiration of the expulsion time period.

Section 6. The three actions will not be enforced unless they are accumulated within a two-year period of time.

Section 7. 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 Club Officers.

