

## **Palm Beach Radio Control Association Field Safety Rules**

**Last Modified: 3/11/2010**

All Members and guests must follow the AMA Safety Code and any rules or restrictions as defined by the Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Department lease agreement.

In addition to the rules implied above, the following Club Safety Rules shall be observed:

### **Section 1: General Rules.**

- 1) Rule Deleted.
- 2) Pilots MUST contain or catch any overflow when refueling aircraft. No spilling of any fuel or oil will be tolerated. Pilots must supply a catch tank or closed fueling system. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in immediate suspension of flying privileges and/or membership termination.
- 3) Flying hours are during the hours between one half (½) hour after sunrise and one half (½) hour before sunset, with the exception of special events (prior approval required) Monday – Sunday, unless otherwise directed by the county. Applies to both internal combustion engines and electric and park flyers.
- 4) Vehicles must be parked in designated areas only.
- 5) Spectators must remain in the spectator area only. Only AMA members are allowed in the pits area, flight line or overfly area.
- 6) Only Radio Controlled (RC) model aircraft and Control Line (CL) aircraft are allowed to operate at the field.
- 7) Non-club members may fly as a guest of a member no more than 3 times per year, or may request a 2 week guest card. Guests must always be accompanied by their host. Guests must be active AMA members and follow all AMA and Club safety rules. Field Safety Controllers reserve the right to restrict guests from flying at any time. Host member will familiarize his/her guest with the site and club rules. Host must also ensure guest's compliance. Any guest(s) or visitor(s) participating in radio control model aircraft flying will sign a waiver releasing the County from liability.
- 8) The maximum ground sound level for all aircraft shall not exceed 96dBA measured on soft surfaces or 98dBA measured on hard surfaces at a distance of 25 feet. Sound measurement shall be recorded using the written process as defined by the BOD.
- 9) No aircraft shall exceed the maximum weight of 55 pounds.
- 10) No littering of any kind will be tolerated. All crash debris must be cleaned up and removed from the flying site by the responsible pilot. Do not dispose crashed aircraft in the flying site trash cans.
- 11) Bad behavior which may be threatening, vulgar or distracting to pilots and spectators will not be tolerated. Violations may result in suspension of field privileges. Third offence may result in a 1 year membership termination.
- 12) All members, guests, and spectators are expected to behave in a civil and respectful manner.

- 13) No alcoholic beverages, controlled substances are permitted on the flying site.
- 14) All pets must be leashed and are not allowed onto the pits or flight line at any time.
- 15) No person shall use or possess firearms, weapons, or trapping devices within any park property except with prior approval from the Department Director.
- 16) Children under the age of eighteen (18) must be chaperoned at all time with direct supervision of a least one (1) adult twenty-one (21) years of age or older who is a Club member, for every ten (10) children.

## **Section 2: Field Safety Rules.**

- 1) All pilots must be in control of their aircraft while on the ground, taking off, flying or landing and will be responsible for all such actions. A pilot who declares a dead stick has the right of way over all other aircraft. Pilots who lose control of an aircraft must announce an emergency condition. Unsafe practices will not be tolerated and will result in a written warning, suspension, or termination of membership.
- 2) The frequency control and radio impound system must be used at all times. ALL transmitters shall be impounded upon arrival to the field and all transmitters must have the pilot's name affixed to it. An AMA or Club membership card must be displayed in order to secure a frequency. Frequency pins will be used and returned to the impound area immediately after flying. Transmitters must remain off when not in use.
- 3) There must be a minimum of one adult or AMA member in addition to the pilot present in order to fly or start engines or motors. No flying alone. This includes electric and park flyers.
- 4) No more than 4 powered aircraft and 1 glider or 3 powered aircraft and 2 gliders may fly at any time.
- 5) Pilots will announce takeoffs, landings, touch-and-gos, dead-stick landings or any emergency situations. Pilots who are going to walk on the runway will call out a hearty "ON THE RUNWAY".
- 6) Pilots retrieving airplanes on the runway or overfly area must request permission from active pilots to enter or cross the runway. If any aircraft is in the air, you must wear a hardhat to retrieve aircraft in the overfly area outside of the runway.
- 7) All pilots are limited to 15 minutes flight time if any pilots are waiting to fly or waiting for a frequency pin.
- 8) If damage to another airplane occurs due to radio interference and another pilot with the same frequency is violating the radio impound rules, the offending pilot will be responsible for all damages and costs. Disputes will be mediated by the BOD.
- 9) All aircraft must be lined up on the current designated pit row or work tables when starting engines to balance the wear and tear to the grass. All aircraft shall face north (towards the runway) when starting engines. No aircraft may be started behind pilot stations or behind any of the work stands. No setting up directly behind pilot stations. All aircraft must be held by a second party when starting if there are no restraints.

- 10) No taxiing, take offs or landings are permitted in the pits or spectator areas.
- 11) No aerobatic flying over the runway when other members are flying without announcement and acknowledgement from the other pilots.
- 12) No flying is permitted while the field is being mowed, trimmed or otherwise maintained.
- 13) All pilots must fly from the pilot stations. Pilots may temporarily stand in front of the pilot's stations for take off and landings, after announcing intentions, and must move back to a pilot station when flying.
- 14) A left hand traffic pattern must be observed when taking off to the East. A right hand traffic pattern must be observed when taking off to the West. Pilots reversing direction of the observed circuit direction must ask permission from the other pilots.
- 15) Aircraft must be flown within the designated boundaries at all times. No flying south of the extended southern edge of the runway in both directions. Flying over the pilot stations, paddock, spectator area or parking area will not be tolerated at any time. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in suspension of flying privileges and/or membership termination.
- 16) The Main Helicopter area, located to the south west of the Control Line area, shall follow the following rules: a) Only one helicopter may fly at a time; b) Helicopters may only operate in the 2.4GHz frequency range, 72MHz is NOT allowed; c) Pilots must wear a current PBRCA or AMA card; d) Fixed wing aircraft are not permitted in the Main Helicopter area; e) Never fly beyond the eastern or southern boundary fences (Flying over the road is strictly prohibited!); f) There must be a minimum of one adult or AMA member in addition to the pilot present in order to fly or start engines or motors. No flying alone.
- 17) Control Line flight is only allowed in the Control Line designated area. Helicopters may use the Control Line area for hovering practice only (no forward flight). Small slow-flight fixed wing foam electric aircraft may also fly in the Control Line area. No flying outside the fence boundary. Only one aircraft may fly at a time in this restricted area. Frequency control rules as defined in section 2.2 must be followed at all times (72Mhz allowed).
- 18) Digital Spread Spectrum transmitter systems (DSS) will be flown only in aircraft for which it is designed and approved by the AMA.
- 19) No active cell phone in the pilot's station.
- 20) It is prohibited for radio controlled aircraft to fly over and/or into the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge. Radio controlled aircraft are prohibited from designated no-fly zones, which include the Conservation Area, the established perimeter around the Conservation Area and the air-space above these areas.
- 21) All jet turbine aircraft shall be restricted from flying during periods of burn bans as set by Palm Beach County.
- 22) Pilots of all turbine powered aircraft must present a current AMA membership card and AMA Jet Turbine Waiver card OR a current Club Membership card with a turbine endorsement (purple stripe). The cards must be displayed at the Radio Impound Frequency board.

- 23) There will be no refueling of any aircraft while the engine is running.
- 24) Aircraft starting on taxiways must be started on the concrete and to the south of the yellow lines.
- 25) There is no smoking in the pits or the area north of the spectator fence.
- 26) Club cards or AMA membership cards MUST be worn visibly on your person in order to enter the area north of the spectator fence or other restricted areas.

### **Section 3: Rules Enforcement.**

- 1) Field Safety Controllers (FSC) are entitled and expected to enforce the Club Safety Rules. FSCs reserve the right to temporarily suspend flying for the entire site if the safety of members and spectators is compromised. This temporary suspension applies only for a maximum of 12 hours.
- 2) Failure to follow the Field Safety Rules may result in suspension of flying privileges and loss of membership in Club.
- 3) Any pilot violating the Club Safety Rules may have an infraction report submitted against him or her by any member. This report shall be submitted to the BOD for review.
- 4) Violation reports are to be reviewed at the next scheduled or emergency BOD meeting. The violator shall be notified of the date the report will be reviewed so that he or she may attend.

### **Section 4: Solo requirements.**

- 1) Beginner pilots must qualify to fly solo without a buddy box. The club qualification test will be defined by the Chief Instructor, in writing. Successful qualification must be witnessed by a qualified instructor and or BOD member. A signed qualification certificate will be submitted the Club Secretary so that a new membership card can be issued.
- 2) Pilots that have been recommended to be re-tested for solo qualification will undergo the same qualification test.

### **Section 5: Contests, Events and Fun-Flys.**

- 1) All guest pilots must hold a current AMA membership and must agree to abide by all Club By-laws and Safety Rules in order to participate in any event.
- 2) Any contest, event or fun-fly must receive permission to hold the event from the BOD. The BOD then will request permission from Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation.
- 3) New aircraft may not fly at any event. First flights must be performed before the event starts.
- 4) Any contest, except closed club events, must be sanctioned by the AMA or any special interest group, if applicable.

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Revision History:

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