



# THE **RCRC** NEWSLETTER



... an AMA Award of Excellence Club!

*Proudly serving the Huntsville community at the Captain Trey Wilbourn Model Airplane Field.*

P.O. Box 2163

Huntsville, AL 35804

February 2013

## President's Message

Officers		
<b>President</b>		
James Fowler		256-882-1784
<b>Vice-President</b>		
Basil Cooper		256-883-9220
<b>Secretary</b>		
Paul Webb		256-325-2741
<b>Treasurer</b>		
David Seymour		256-830-2047
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>		
Bill Mitchell		256-975-5687
Committee Chairmen		
<b>Field</b>		
Jordan Townsend		256-684-4807
<b>Programs</b>		
Basil Cooper		256-883-9220
<b>Publicity</b>		
Bill Mitchell		256-975-5687
<b>Safety</b>		
Basil Cooper		256-883-9220
<b>Web Editor</b>		
Tom Sutherland		256-714-8496
Flight Instructors		
James Whitbeck	By Appt.	256-541-6123
Pete Wick	By Appt	256-883-7571
Mike Norton	By Appt	256-653-6632

At our February member meeting we will be voting on a new set of flying field regulations that are to replace the existing regulations. A copy of the proposed regulations is published elsewhere in this newsletter. Also in this newsletter is a compilation of omissions to the existing field regulations that will occur if the new set of regulations is approved. Read over both and come to the meeting prepared to vote.

The existing flying field regulations are a compilation of provisions that have been developed throughout previous years partially in response to conditions or situations as they were experienced. Therefore, the existing regulations represent the ideas and thinking of several club members. They are no more stringent than those used by the AMA at their flying site and those used by several other radio control clubs. If viewed from a positive attitude by a person using common sense, complying with the existing regulations should not present any problem. The board of directors does not recommend discarding the existing field regulations.

If you have any ideas for a program or would like some specific topic presented, let the board know.

Fly safe and stay in the zone.

Jim

## January 2013 General Membership Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by the President. All officers were present.

A quorum was present.

The first order of business was the presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation by Marine Gunnery Sargent Mike Lamar for the Club's Toys for Tots contribution generated by the November flying event. The Sargent was introduced by Bob Walls, the event CD.

The minutes of the December membership meeting were approved as printed in the January newsletter.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

The President reported that the meeting at the local IRS office did not result in approval of our submission for tax exemption as hoped. A letter with necessary supporting documentation has been sent to the Cincinnati IRS office to hopefully have them approve the application with the reduced fee of \$100 which we feel is proper. If this attempt fails the fee could be \$750 higher. With a quorum present, the President asked for a motion to authorize him to spend the additional amount. The motion was made and approved.

Bob Walls advised us that Wayne Gladden was hospitalized a week ago and was at HealthSouth Rehab on Governor's Drive. We wish him a speedy recovery and return home.

The meeting concluded with a drawing for door prizes and a presentation by John Pieczynski on his recently completed SIG Mid Star 40.

## February 2013 RCRC BOD Meeting Minutes

February 2013 RCRC BOD Meeting Notes

The February 5, 2013 meeting was called to order by the president at 7:00 PM with all Board members present.

The President reported despite his attempts he has been unable to get the USPS to confirm delivery of our certified letter dealing with our tax exempt status to the Cincinnati IRS office. In the case that the letter is lost, he has faxed the letter with all enclosures and believes it was successfully received. Thus our efforts to bring this issue to a conclusion continue.

The President reported that the City has not responded to him regarding the vendor food issue, repair of our fence and gate which supposedly was given a maintenance work request several months ago, and a decision regarding patching and sealing our runway. He will continue to try to get a favorable response.

The subject of Fred Herrmann's proposed wholesale changes to the flying field regulations was discussed at length. The Board unanimously concluded that the proposed change as worded was not acceptable. The President will include in the February Newsletter a detailed comparison of the proposed language to the present for the Membership to see the inadequacies of the proposal. The Proposed RCRC Flying Field Rules submitted by Fred in December will also be a part of the February Newsletter for review by the Membership. The proposed change will be brought to the floor at the February Membership meeting for a vote.

The meeting concluded at 8:45 PM.



### At The Field

Below you will find the proposed field regulations and the omissions to the existing regulations that we will vote on at the February meeting.



### Proposed Field Regulations

1. All pilots are required to be members of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) and be a member of our RCRC. Out of town, (a local person is considered anyone living in Madison County and its adjacent counties), guest pilots and pilots participating in an RCRC event are not required to become a member of RCRC. All pilots without exception are required to have a current AMA membership. RCRC permits may be issued by any club officer or by any RCRC member in the event an officer is not available. Nonmember permits are available for a \$40 issuance and maintenance fee.

2. Pilots must sign the pilot log, place their RCRC membership card behind the proper frequency pins slot, and place the frequency clip on their transmitter.

3. Pilots should complete a preflight check their model before each flight and announce their intentions. Examples of these intentions include landing and takeoff directions, dead sticks and when crossing the zero line to launch and retrieve a model.

4. All flying will be in FRONT of the zero line. The zero line is defined as an infinite line placed at the back/West edge of the runway. The only exception to this are helicopter pilots who wish to practice over at the Northwest Grassy end of the runway. All flights will be constrained to the overfly area. No flying will occur outside the approved overfly area.

5. The gliders and helicopters are welcome at RCRC. Winches and high starts are not allowed at RCRC. Helicopter pilots should not do extended hovers over the runway.

6. Children and pets are welcome at RCRC. However small children and pets should always be under the direct supervision of their parent/guardian or owner. Because of safety concerns, spectators are encouraged to remain in the parking lot area or have a seat in the provided bleachers.

7. Engines must be stopped when entering the pit area. Night flying models must not exceed 3 pounds in weight. Flying is not allowed when field maintenance is being conducted on the overfly area.

8. Do not conduct prolonged engine runs in the pit area. Please direct your prop wash away from other people and aircraft. A break-in table is provided at the north end of the field.

9. Beginner pilots and pilots moving up in difficulty are sure strongly encouraged to seek the help of a competent flyer. This saves you time and money and more importantly helps keep RCRC safe. 6

10. In order to keep RCRC a safe and well-maintained flying site please remember to clean up after yourself. The

last member out should always lock the gate regardless of time of day.

11. The RCRC flying site park is provided as a courtesy of SWADA and the city of Huntsville. The city and SWADA do not allow alcoholic beverages or commercial business at RCRC.

MOST IMPORTANTLY! Safety is the top priority at RCRC. Always conduct yourself in accordance with the *Academy of Model Aeronautics National Model Aircraft Safety Code!* Always conduct your activities at RCRC with respect for the public and your fellow modelers. Always treat your fellow modeler as you would like to be treated!

### **Omissions to Existing Field Regulations**

The following comments detail the provisions that will be omitted from the existing RCRC flying field regulations if the proposed field regulations as published elsewhere in this newsletter are approved by the membership. The comments/omissions are keyed to the numbered provisions of the existing flying field regulations.

1. **AMA Membership and RCRC Permit**  
The following is omitted: "AMA and membership applies to both pilot trainee and trainer". The sentence: "Anyone found using this facility or assisting another to use this facility, who does not have an AMA membership and a RCRC permit will be subject to permit suspension----". Note: This violation has happened recently although no suspension action was taken.  
The exception #2., (a non-AMA member may possess their own liability insurance). Note: This exception is mentioned within our City agreement.
2. **RCRC is the Authority**  
Provision 2 in its entirety is omitted. Note: The City agreement gives RCRC this authority.
4. **Transmitters**  
The sentence: "Any transmitter turned on without the frequency clip that causes an accident and/or damages is the responsibility of the offender."  
The sentence: "Wide band radios are prohibited at this site."
5. **Aircraft and Radio Equipment Inspections**  
The entire provision is omitted. Note: This provision may seem harsh as written, however it is in line with similar provisions of the AMA safety rules, is valid, and expresses again the Club's stand on safe flying provisions.

6. Engine Silencers  
The entire provision is omitted. Note: This is the Club's authority for managing engine noise.
7. Pilot Flight Stations  
The entire provision is omitted. Note: This is the Club' authority for limiting the number of aircraft in the air.
8. Flight Operations  
Certain provisions of (a) are omitted. Note: The proposed flying site rules touch on this provision but are not specific enough to replace 8a. The following sentences are omitted from (b): "Low, fast passes are prohibited over the runway." "Except for take offs and landing approaches, intentional flying over the runway is prohibited." Certain provisions of (c) are omitted. The proposed flying site rules touch on this provision but are not specific enough to replace 8c. The sentence: "Pilots of powered Gliders shall launch their aircraft from the flight boxes." is omitted from (d). The entire provision (e) covering helicopter pilots is omitted.
10. Beginning Pilots  
Certain provisions are omitted. Note: The proposed rules touch on this provision but are not specific enough to replace 10.
13. Safety  
Certain provisions are omitted. Note: The proposed rules touch on this provision but are not inclusive enough to replace provision 13.
14. Pits and Taxi Ramp  
The entire provision is omitted.
15. RCRC Member Permits  
Certain provisions are omitted. Notes: The proposed rules touch on this provision but are not inclusive enough to replace provision 15. Allowing any member to issue flying permits is in conflict with the Bylaws which require that only the board of directors may issue an annual operators permit. If there are no restrictions on the number of flying days for visitors, why join RCRC?
16. Operator Permit Forms  
The entire provision is omitted. Note: This provision describes the Club's permit forms.
17. Non-AMA Members  
The entire provision is omitted.
18. Entrance Gate Lock  
Except for the first sentence, the entire provision is omitted.
19. Vendors  
The entire provision is omitted.
20. Pre-defined Paths of Flight  
The entire provision is omitted.
21. Gas Engines  
The entire provision is omitted.
22. Parking Along Fence  
The entire provision is omitted.
23. East Fence Flying Restriction  
The entire provision is omitted. Notes: The proposed rules touch on this provision but are not specific enough to replace provision 23. This is a relatively new provision incorporated when the existing tennis courts were constructed. The City has plans to extend that facility in our direction.
24. Flying Field Code of Conduct  
The entire provision is omitted. Note: This provision is the Board's authority and guidelines for handling flying field confrontations between members, etc.
25. Visitor Pilots  
Certain provisions are omitted. Note: The proposed rules touch on this provision but are not specific or adequate enough to replace provision 25.

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## 2013 Events

- Club Day** May 18, 2013: Basil Cooper
- Big Bird** June 7-8, 2013
- War Bird** July 27-28, 2013
- BPA Pattern** Aug 17-18, 2013: Gary Courtney
- AMA Pattern** Sept 20-22, 2013: Jon Lowe
- Toys for Tots** Nov 1-2, 2013: Bob Walls



RCRC NEWSLETTER EDITOR  
 P.O. Box 2163  
 Huntsville, AL 35804

TO: \_\_\_\_\_

AMA CHARTERED  
 CLUB SINCE 1964  
 NO. 715

January 2013

**2012 RCRC EVENTS**

	19 Feb	7:00 PM	RCRC Membership Meeting	Bill Mitchell	(256) 975-5687
	4 March	7:00 PM	RCRC BOD Meeting	Bill Mitchell	(256) 975-5687

**RCRC Event Schedule**

2013 Schedule will be in December's Newsletter

- \* Field closed to non-participants during this event.
- \*\*\* Field closed Fri before event at noon .