

Rock Valley R/C Flyers Club Constitution and By-Laws As Approved May 4, 2024

Section I

This Organization shall be known as The Rock Valley R/C Flyers Club (The Club).

Section II

The objective of The Club shall be to promote the building and flying of radio controlled model aircraft.

Section III

No person shall be denied membership because of race, color, creed, sex or religion.

Section IV

The Club Fiscal Year shall be from January 1 through December 31.

Section V

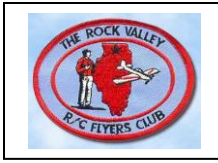
Any Member may propose an Amendment or change(s) to the Constitution and By-Laws upon submitting such proposal in writing to the Executive Committee. The proposed Amendment or change(s) will be read at a subsequent Meeting, following which reading it will be laid over for a period of one month, or until the next scheduled meeting, to allow the entire Membership to be notified of the proposed Amendment or change(s). The proposed Amendment or change(s) will be voted upon at the next scheduled meeting. The Amendment or change(s) will pass with a 2/3rd affirmative vote of the members present.

Section VI

No Officer of any other R/C Club shall be eligible for an Office in the Rock Valley R/C Flyers Club.

Section VII

No member(s) may make permanent changes to the field without approval from the Executive Committee. If permanent changes to the field are approved, the Executive Committee, at the next scheduled membership meeting, will notify the membership.



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Article I – Officers

Section I – Titles

1. The Elected Officers of the Rock Valley R/C Flyers Club, also known as the “Executive Committee”, shall be as follows.
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President
 - c. Secretary
 - d. Treasurer
2. Any tie votes within the Executive Committee shall be settled by a vote then cast by the Senior Advisor.

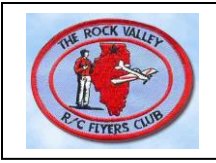
Section II – Board of Directors

The Board of Directors, also known as “The Board”, shall consist of the Executive Committee, plus the following Members for a total of seven. The President selects the Senior Advisor and one Board Member. The Vice President selects the remaining Board Member.

1. Senior Advisor (must have previously held an elected club office – normally a past president)
2. Board Member
3. Board Member

Section III – Duties of Officers and Board Members

1. President – The President shall preside over Club functions and conduct meetings. The President shall be Chairman of the Board of Directors and shall act as Spokesman for the Board and Club in all matters.
2. Vice President – The Vice President shall assist the President in his duties, and provide counsel to him and act in his stead in his absence. The Vice President shall also be responsible for public relations duties as required.
3. Secretary – The Secretary shall keep and maintain all official Club documents and the Club Roster. He shall record and maintain the Club Minutes, and record attendance by the number present, at the Meetings. He shall provide continuity of Secretarial Procedures and AMA Re-chartering with the succeeding Secretary.
4. Treasurer – The Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping and collection of all Dues, Fees, and Assessments, and for paying of Bills and other disbursements authorized by affirmative vote of the Membership. The Treasurer shall substitute for the Secretary in his absence.
5. Senior Advisor – The Senior Advisor shall assume authority as President in the absence of both the President and Vice President and shall aid the Club in any manner possible in regard to Club activities.
6. Board Member – The two Board Members shall sit in counsel with the other Board Members and assist in the general duties of the Board.
7. Board of Directors – The Board of Directors shall advise on all matters of general Policies and Procedures of the Club and act as the Governing Body. The Board of Directors shall meet at least quarterly.
8. Safety Officer – The safety officer shall sit in counsel on the Executive Committee, coach members on safety procedures and known safety problems, investigate alleged safety violations, form and lead a violation investigative subcommittee and make suspension/termination recommendation to the executive committee based on the subcommittee’s findings.



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Section IV – Terms of Office

1. All Officers in the Rock Valley R/C Flyers Club shall serve for one Fiscal Year, and any Officer can be re-elected for any number of terms.
2. Election of Officers shall take place prior to the first Meeting of each Fiscal Year and vote to carry shall be a Simple Majority of Membership votes submitted.

Section V – Nominations for Club Officers

1. Nominations for all Club Offices shall be accepted from the floor at the business meeting one month prior to Election Day.

Section VI – Vacancies of Elected Positions

1. Vacancy in any Office shall be filled by appointment by the Board, and the Appointee will serve the balance of the term of his Predecessor after which he may be elected to that or any other position.

Section VII – Executive Committee Spending Limitations

1. The Executive Committee shall have the latitude to make expenditures of the membership funds. However, the membership shall be notified of such expenditures at the next regular scheduled membership meeting.

Article II – Meetings

Section I

The purpose of Meetings shall be to discuss Club Business or Events, and to conduct elections and other pertinent matters. An equally important purpose shall be the edification of the Membership through films, lectures, presentations, and the exchange of ideas.

Section II

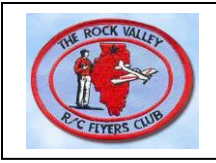
Business Meetings shall be held during the first week of each month, usually at the regular established Meeting Place, but may be held elsewhere upon notification. The specific day of the week will be recommended by The Board and decided by Membership vote.

Section III

Informal or Special Meetings shall be held at any convenient time upon call by the President, upon call made by any three Members of The Board or upon written call signed by any ten Members of the Club. The Call shall state the time and place of the Meeting and shall be issued at least three days prior to the Meeting date.

Section IV

Written notice of regular Meetings will be left to the discretion of the President, except in the case of electing Officers as stipulated in Article I, Section IV, Parts 1 and 2. The President shall notify all Members by mail, email, telephone, or through a designee of the Election Meeting at least a week in advance. Failure of the President to notify Members in advance, however, shall not nullify the Election Procedures conducted in accordance with Article I, Section IV.



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Article III – Membership

Section I

There are three categories of Membership

- 1 Full Regular Adult Membership
- 2 Associate Membership – An Associate Member is a non-flying, non-voting member to accompany Youth Members. They must know AMA and field safety rules. The gate code will be given to Associate Members
- 3 Junior/Youth Membership – For youth members who are 16 years or under as of the start of the fiscal year.

Section II

Prospective Members must attend at least one regular meeting &/or meet with a member of the board.

Section III

It is required that all flying Members hold a valid and current Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) membership for the entire fiscal year. Any AMA membership that lapses will incur a suspension of flight privileges. No Club fees shall be prorated for the term of the lapse of AMA membership.

Members must voluntarily sign (in the case of a minor, the parent or guardian must voluntarily sign), the Club's "Release and Waiver of Liability" form.

In the case of a minor, the parent/guardian will be held accountable/responsible for the actions of the minor, including adhesion of this Constitution and Club Rules.

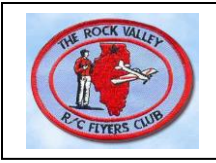
- 1 Only members having paid club dues (if any) prior to January 1 and having been a member of The Club for more than 30 days shall have voting rights.
- 2 The Executive Committee, The Board or The Club membership shall have the right to suspend and/or terminate membership as provided in this document.

Section IV

1. A Terminated Member may apply for Membership as a New Member. Upon approval the previously terminated member shall be allowed all benefits of membership except that they shall not be eligible to hold office as a board member or as part of the executive committee.
2. A previously terminated member may be denied membership by the Executive Committee.

Section V

1. Acceptance of Membership includes agreement by the Member to abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Club governing the use of the Flying Field, to adhere to this Constitution and Bylaws and such other Safety and Procedural Rules and Regulations established by the Rock Valley R/C Flyers Club. All members shall treat others with respect and conduct themselves in a way that reflects in a positive manner on themselves, The Club and other club members. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to, conduct both at and away from club functions and facilities, appearance in printed or video media, public voice recordings, postings on social media, i.e., Facebook, RCGroups and the like. Violation of this Section will be considered cause for termination or suspension of Membership.

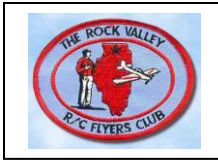


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2.
 - a. The Safety Officer will establish a safety subcommittee as necessary and in the manner of his choosing to investigate safety violations for the purpose of making a recommendation for suspension, duration of such suspension, or termination or other corrective action of the accused member to the Board. The Board, by a simple majority vote, will approve or deny the recommendation from the safety subcommittee. The board will notify the member of the violation, decision to suspend for up to six months, termination of membership and/or corrective action, if any, within seven days of The Board's decision. The member may appeal the decision made by The Board in regard to a safety violation to the membership at the next regular scheduled meeting. The membership may overturn The Board's decision by a 2/3rd vote by the members present at the meeting. If the member does not appeal the decision at the next regular scheduled meeting, the board's decision will be final.
 - b. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to immediately suspend any member for any violations. Such suspension shall be for no more than twenty-one days, and such suspension shall be followed by a Board meeting to review the alleged violations and suspension within the twenty-one day period. The suspension shall begin the day the accused member is notified, preferably verbally, of the suspension by the Executive Committee. The accused member shall also be notified of the date and time of the Board meeting called to consider said suspension and is encouraged to attend said meeting to plead their case. The Board shall then rule on reversing the suspension, upholding and/or extending the suspension for a maximum of twelve (12) months, and/or recommending termination of membership. Except as provided in paragraph "a" above, the Board's decision to uphold or extend any period of suspension shall be final.
3. Termination of Membership for any reason other than as provided in Article IV, Section 5, shall be initiated by a recommendation of the Board to the membership. Termination of Membership shall be determined by a simple majority vote of the Membership in attendance at the next regularly scheduled business Meeting. In case of a tie, the vote of the President shall decide the outcome.
4. A member in the process of being terminated may not resign for the purpose of circumventing the termination process.
5. Terminated members shall be provided a letter documenting the termination decision with a copy retained by the club Secretary.

Section VI

All prospective Members, prior to joining the Club, shall be provided an opportunity to read the Constitution and By-Laws.



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Article IV – Dues and Fees

Section I

Annual Membership Dues (if any), shall be payable by December 31 for the following fiscal year. Any Payment after December 31 may be assessed an additional fee for reactivation. This additional reactivation fee may be waived for special circumstances, as approved by the President.

Section II

The Junior (AMA Junior) annual Membership Dues shall be free. Juniors will be 16 years or under as of the start of fiscal year.

Section III

Associate Member Dues shall be at a reduced rate from full membership dues as established by the Board.

Section IV

No special assessments shall be levied upon Club Membership at any time, except by a majority vote of the Membership present at a Business Meeting. Failure to pay any such assessment within 60 days of the vote to approve such assessment shall be deemed resignation from The Club.

1. Additional time to pay such assessment may be approved by the President, but may not extend past December 31 or 30 days, whichever is longer.

Section V

Current members who fail to pay membership fees (if any) by December 31 for the following fiscal year will cause automatic termination of club membership. If a terminated member pursuant to this section wishes to reinstate his membership before the end of the fiscal year will incur the current membership fee (if any) plus an additional \$10.00 late fee. Members who have left the club for over one year and apply for membership after one year will be considered a new member with a new starting date.

Section VI

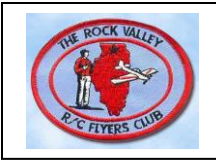
The Board will assess the need to institute, increase or decrease annual fees based on expected expenditures for the next fiscal year(s). The Board will present to the membership the next fiscal year's fees during a regular scheduled club meeting in the 4th quarter of the current fiscal year.

Article V – Committees

Section I

Chairmen of the standing Committees of the Club shall be appointed by the President, and shall serve throughout his term of office. Special Committees as required may be named by the President. Standing Committees, and Duties of the Committee Chairman, are as follows.

1. Events – The Chairman of the Event Committee provides leadership and direction for all Club Contest activities.
2. Park District Liaison – The Park District Liaison Chairman maintains close coordination with the Rockford Park District in all matters relating to the use by the Club of the Park District land as a flying field.
3. Field – The Chairman of the Field Committee sees that the Flying Field is maintained in good condition, free of debris and litter, and properly mowed.



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4. Program – The Program Committee Chairman arranges for technical or general presentations relating to model aircraft. These presentations are scheduled to follow immediately after the monthly Business Meeting.
5. Annual Club Dinner – The Chairman of this Committee manages the production of the annual Club Dinner. He makes the necessary reservations arrangements, is responsible for all funds involved, and provides for traditional and non-traditional awards and recognition tokens as appropriate.
6. Publicity – The Chairman of this Committee is responsible for contest and training publications involving the general public including assisting contest directors with their advertisement as well as public announcements (newspaper, radio, television)
7. Swap Shop – The Chairman of this Committee is responsible for all activities involved with the annual swap shop. Duties include, but not limited to: securing the location, setup and tear down.
8. Membership – The Chairman of this Committee is responsible for maintaining current membership records and issuing membership cards.

Section II

Standing Committee Chairmen may appoint Assistants as required, and may appoint as many Committee Members as needed to accomplish the tasks for which they are responsible.

Article VI – Club Dissolution

Section I

Upon dissolution of the Club, all assets shall be liquidated and the monies donated to the Scholarship Fund of the Academy of Model Aeronautics.

Article VII – Indemnification

Section I

The Rock Valley R/C Flyers Club shall indemnify each of its officers and directors against expenses actually and necessarily incurred by them in connection with the defense or settlement of any action, suit or proceeding in which they are made parties, by reason of being or having been an officer or director, except in relation to matters as to which any such officer or director shall be adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding to be guilty of or liable for willful misconduct in the performance of duty and to such matters as shall be settled by agreement predicated on the existence of such liability. The amount of indemnification shall be limited to the funds available in the Club treasury without any special assessment from Club members.