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# CHEROKEE R-C FLYERS CLUB MORRISTOWN, TN

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## CLUB BYLAWS

### 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. All 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, vested in the sound discretion of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Safety Committee Chair and the Field Marshall.
2. **President:** The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and Board of Directors and shall act as a spokesperson in all matters pertaining to it.
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.
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's contact person with AMA in case of questions, problems or situations.
5. **Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall collect all moneys due and shall keep a record of moneys disbursed by the Club.
6. **Field Marshall:** The Field Marshall shall be responsible for establishing "mowing crews" and "mowing equipment maintenance crews". He/She is to ensure that the field is properly maintained and recommend improvements/changes.
7. **Safety Committee Chairman / Safety Officer:** The Safety Committee Chairman/Safety Officer shall be responsible for chairing the safety committee and ensuring existing rules are enforced. This includes processing the grievance forms and following the existing grievance procedure documented in the Bylaws.
8. **Contest / Event Committee Chairman:** 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. This position shall be appointed by the Board of Directors.
9. **Meeting Activity Coordinator:** The Meeting Activity Coordinator(s) shall be responsible for coordinating model-related activities, immediately following the business portion of the meeting. This position shall be appointed by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE 2: AUDIT**

1. The President or his/her appointees will make a periodic audit of the treasurer's books.

## **ARTICLE 3: TERMS OF OFFICE**

1. All elected Officers of the Club shall serve for one (1) year beginning on the date of the election. The members shall elect the Officers at the regular meeting in the month of November. Mail-in ballots will be made available for those members who have voting rights but cannot attend the meeting. Those ballots, returned by mail, email or given to an existing officer in a sealed envelope before the next meeting, will be counted as if those persons were present at the meeting. New Officers will take office immediately after the December meeting. Personnel will be appointed by the elected Board of Directors: *i.e.* Newsletter Editor, Contest Director, etc. Elected Officers must be at least 18 years old.

2. Nomination of Officers shall be made at the regular meeting in the month of October. Nominations for office may be made by any active Club member holding voting rights, either in person or by submitting a proxy nomination to an existing Officer. All known nominations for office will be published in the newsletter prior to the election.

## **ARTICLE 4: VACANCIES**

1. 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 predecessor was elected.

## **ARTICLE 5: VOTING**

1. A quorum for the transaction of club business at the regularly scheduled business meeting or a special called meeting will be members present. A majority of the quorum must approve any vote.

2. A quorum of the general membership shall be twenty-five percent (25%) of the members in good standing. Unless otherwise specifically stated herein, a simple majority of the quorum must approve any vote.

3. A quorum of the Board of Directors shall be two thirds (2/3). A majority of the quorum must approve any vote.

## **ARTICLE 6: COMMITTEE**

1. Any new committee of the Club shall be nominated by the President and be approved by the Board of Directors. Standing Committees are the Safety Committee, the Field Maintenance Committee, and the Event Committee. Members of each Committee will be made in cooperation with the President and Committee Chairperson.

## **ARTICLE 7: MEETINGS**

1. Regular meetings shall be held at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors and published in the Club newsletter.
2. Board of Directors may call special meetings with no less than five days prior written notice of a special meeting. The purpose of the special meeting shall be stated in the written notice.
3. Any member of the Board of Directors may call a special meeting of the Board with no less than five days prior written notice.
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 Board action recommended. The President shall forward copies of the proposal to the 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.

## **ARTICLE 8: DUES, MEMBERSHIP AND EXPENDITURES**

1. The annual dues to be paid to the Club shall be determined by the Board of Directors with the approval of a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) majority vote of the general membership. Dues are non-refundable, except under extraordinary circumstances, which will be determined by the Board of Directors on a case-by-case basis.
2. A member shall be in good standing with the Club if the member's Club dues are paid by March 1, AMA dues are paid by January 1, and the member is not currently under any discipline, suspension, or expulsion procedure. No club dues will be accepted until AMA membership is current.
3. Special assessment shall be levied upon the Club membership only with prior approval by a majority vote of the general membership. The members must be given five (5) days prior notice along with an explanation of the assessment.
4. New members who join in September through December will pay the regular annual dues. This will cover the membership dues until the end of the following year.
5. A member shall be in arrears and shall not be considered active if his/her dues have not been paid as provided in herein. Any member who allows their membership to lapse beyond March 1 of any year shall be responsible for a full year's membership and will not be given preference over any other applicant should a membership waiting list be in existence.
6. Types of membership and limits on the total number of members shall be determined by the Board of Directors and approved by a vote of the general membership.
7. All debts or expenditures of the Club in excess of \$100.00 must be made with prior approval by a majority vote of a quorum of members present.

## **ARTICLE 9: 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:
  - a. Full Member: Is eighteen (18) years old or older and has full privileges and voting rights. Dues: Full member rate plus AMA Membership.
  - b. Junior Member: Is younger than eighteen (18) years old, has full privileges but is prohibited from voting. Dues: One-Half (½) of the Full Member rate plus AMA Membership.
  - c. Family Membership: Includes all flying members of the immediate family (spouse and children). They have full privileges but are limited to one (1) vote per Full Member. Dues: One (1) Full Membership price plus one (1) Junior Membership, plus AMA Membership for each flying member.
  - d. Associate Member: A Non-Flyer who is interested in the activities of the Club, has no voting rights and receives a newsletter. Dues: To be determined on individual basis by voting membership or Board of Directors.
  - e. 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. Member has full voting rights at Club meetings. Membership dues are per the rate structure published in the newsletter. Membership is contingent upon vote of the Club members.
  - f. Honorary Member: A member, who is interested in the activities of the Club, has no voting rights and receives a newsletter. These memberships will be voted on by a quorum of the eligible members. To fly the member must have current AMA membership.
3. Flying and surface vehicle members/operators will be required to hold and maintain a membership issued by the AMA. All persons seeking Club membership or membership renewal, must show proof of membership in the AMA. Non-flying and non-surface vehicle members/operators, Associate Members and Honorary Members do not require AMA Membership.

## **ARTICLE 10: RESIGNATION, TERMINATION, DISCIPLINARY ACTION, EXPULSION AND REINSTATEMENT OF MEMBERSHIP**

1. Any member in good standing may resign his/her membership by giving written notice to the Club.
2. If any member ceases to have the qualifications necessary for membership in the AMA, his/her membership in the Club shall thereby terminate, subject to reinstatement upon vote by the Board of Directors.

3. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the enforcement of all rules pertaining to unsafe flying activities or other unacceptable behavior by Club members; however, the Board may refer safety matters to the Safety Committee.
4. Any member who is expelled from membership may be reinstated to membership only by two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) majority vote of the Board of Directors.
5. The Board of Directors shall have the discretionary authority to provide for and to impose disciplinary action for such acts or omissions, which do not justify expulsion from membership.
6. Any individual may be expelled from membership from the Club for any reason by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) majority vote of the Board of Directors.
7. A vote for expulsion of a member or removal of a Club Officer from office will be taken by anonymous ballot.

#### **ARTICLE 11: AMENDMENTS**

1. Amendments may be made to these bylaws at any general 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. Copies of the proposed amendments shall be provided to all members as part of the notification. Amendments shall be approved by no less than a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) majority vote of the quorum. Mail in ballots will be available for those full members who cannot attend the meeting, those ballots, returned by mail, email or given to an existing officer in a sealed envelope before the next meeting, will be considered as if those persons were present at the meeting.

#### **ARTICLE 12: 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.

#### **ARTICLE 13: DURATION**

1. The duration of this Club shall be perpetual.

#### **ARTICLE 14: DISSOLUTION**

1. The Corporation may be dissolved with the approval of a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) majority vote of the total membership.
2. Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the Board shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all assets of the Corporation exclusively for the purposes of the Corporation in such manner, to the Academy of Model Aeronautics,

Inc., or 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 Corporation, as the Board shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Chancery Court (or similar court) of the county in which the principal office of this Corporation is then 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 15: LOGO**

1. The official Club logo shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

#### **ARTICLE 16: 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 in to 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 will be filled out and turned in to the Safety Committee Chairman. At least one witness is required.
- (b) *First Violation*
  - (1) Viewpoints of both complainant and accused will be considered.
  - (2) Complainant's name will be disclosed.
  - (3) A verbal reprimand will be given to the accused by the Safety Committee, and this will be recorded in the Committee files.
- (c) *Second Violation*
  - (1) Complainant's name will be disclosed.
  - (2) The accused has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the Committee.
  - (3) 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 newsletter.
- (d) *Third Violation*
  - (1) Committee will notify the accused in writing and the Club members via the Club newsletter that the Club will vote on the expulsion of the accused at the next meeting.

- (2) Said expulsion will last for a one-year minimum. (Longer if deemed necessary by the Board of Directors).
- (3) A member may be expelled from the Club as set forth in Article 10.
- (4) The expelled member may reapply for membership after the expiration of the expulsion time period.
- (5) 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, and any other action deemed to be retaliatory by the Board of Directors.

Adopted this 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016.

Attest: *Darrin Ferrante*  
Secretary

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## CLUB GRIEVANCE FORM

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Violation: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Witnesses (*not required*):

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