

FOUNTAIN CITY FLYERS

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

The Fountain City Flyers of Prattville, Alabama, is a nonprofit organization governed by the regulations and Bylaws stated herein as amended August 1, 2016.

BYLAWS:

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this organization will be the Fountain City Flyers of Prattville, Alabama, and will herein after be referred to and designated as FCF.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The organization will be nonprofit and will be formed for the following purposes:

1. To promote model aviation building and flying.
2. To assist beginners in the hobby.
3. To bring local model aviation enthusiasts together.
4. To exchange knowledge and ideas.
5. To conduct social activities that include families.
6. To improve the public image of all facets of model aviation.

ARTICLE III. 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. Official decisions may be made by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote or by quorum at a Board of Directors meeting. A quorum shall consist of at least 50% of the current Board members. Official 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 specific, vested in sound discretion of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be comprised of the current Club Officers.

2. President: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and shall act as 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 the minutes of each Club meeting. 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 money 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 improvement/changes.

7. Safety Officer: The 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. Equipment Maintenance Officer: The equipment maintenance officer shall be responsible for maintaining all field maintenance equipment.

ARTICLE IV. VACANCIES

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 his predecessor was elected.

ARTICLE V. AUDIT

The President or his appointees will make a periodic audit of the Treasurers books.

ARTICLE VI. MEMBERSHIP

1. All persons shall be eligible for membership. The membership shall be divided into the following categories:

a) Active Member – is eighteen (18) years old or older and has full privileges and voting rights. Dues: Active members' rate plus AMA membership.

b) Junior Member – Is younger than eighteen (18) years old, has restricted privileges and no voting rights. Must have a parent, grandparent or legal guardian who is an Active Member in the FCF. Dues: Junior member rate plus AMA membership.

c) Associate Member – a Non Flyer, who is interested in the activities of the Club, but has no voting rights and receives the club emails.

2. Applicants for Active and Junior membership must complete the club membership application, which includes their Annual dues, AMA number. These can be presented to any board member. At the time of this writing, the requirement for model pilots registering UASs with the FAA has been in a state of flux, and is still required at this point.

3. All FCF Active and Junior members must be members in good standing with the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA). All members must provide proof of AMA membership by the first meeting of the year to the club secretary. The right of any member to use the flying field stops with expiration of AMA membership.

4. Any member breaking club rules; not acting in a sportsmanlike manner; or showing a lack of cooperation is liable for expulsion from the club. In the event of such a membership revocation, there

will be no refund of dues, fees, or assessments. Revocation of membership requires the vote of two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Directors.

5. Any member who is expelled from membership may be reinstated to membership with two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Directors.

6. The Board of Directors shall have the discretionary authority to provide for and impose disciplinary action for such acts or omissions, which do not justify expulsion from membership.

7. Any member receiving a safety Grievance as stated in Article XII, or who is involved in non-flying violations, or who has key information of a non-flying violation and withholds it from the Board of Directors, may at the Board of Directors' discretion be placed on probation for one (1) year regardless of his or her tenure in the Club.

8. All flyers utilizing the FC Flyers field must comply with all AMA regulations, policies, and procedures. This includes all radio controlled aircraft, helicopters multi-rotors or airships. Failure to comply may result in forfeiture of all flying rights at the FC Flyers club field.

ARTICLE VII. DUES AND FINANCES

1. A new member must pay his/her annual dues. Members of the military who are on temporary assignment can pay a prorated amount for club dues as determined by the President or Treasurer.

2. Dues for active members must be paid at or prior to the November meeting, and are overdue if not paid by the December meeting.

3. The amount of annual dues and/or special assessments will be established by formal action of the members at a regular meeting. Any annual dues change and/or special assessments will require approval by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members present at a regular meeting. Notice of a vote on an annual dues change or special assessments will be made at the regular meeting prior to the meeting at which the change is voted upon.

4. All members will be responsible for payment of any assessments approved in the manner set forth in the preceding paragraph.

5. Expenses will be paid from the club treasury upon presentation of bills and valid receipts. The Club Treasurer will reimburse club members for expenses upon presentation of valid bills and receipts.

ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS

1. Meetings will be held once each month on a mutually satisfactory day and at a time and place approved by the members and will be circulated via email and posted on the club website.

2. Club Officers may call special meetings with no less than five days prior notice of a special meeting, and will notify members via email. The purpose of the special meeting shall be stated in the email.

3. At any Club meeting a simple majority shall be over 50% of the members voting at the meeting.

4. Any member of the Club may initiate a formal request for action by the Board of Directors by submitting a written proposal or email to the President. The proposal shall include a description of the nature, type and extent of the action recommended. The President of the Board shall forward copies of the proposal to other members of the Board of Directors for their consideration. Either the President, or any other Board member, may have the matter placed on the working agenda of the next Club meeting.
5. Meetings will be held businesslike manner and should be as informative as possible.
6. The following format will be used to conduct business at each regularly scheduled Club meeting:
 - a. Reading of minutes of the previous meeting.
 - b. Treasurer's report.
 - c. Reports from committee chairpersons.
 - d. Old business.
 - e. New business.
7. All issues subject to a membership vote must be passed by a simple majority vote of members present unless otherwise required in the bylaws.

ARTICLE IX. ELECTIONS

1. All elected officers will be elected for a one-year term.
2. Nominations of Club officers will be presented at the October Club meeting. 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 announced to club membership via email prior to the election.
3. Elections will be held at the regularly scheduled November Club meeting.
4. Officers will be installed at the close of the December meeting for the following year.
5. Officers to be elected will include:
 - a. President.
 - b. Vice-President.
 - c. Secretary.
 - d. Treasurer.
 - e. Safety Officer.
 - f. Field Marshall.
 - g. Equipment Maintenance Officer.
7. A simple majority vote of the members present at the election meeting will determine the election results. Mail-in ballots or emails will not be allowed for elections.

8. No person will serve as an officer in any single capacity for more than two consecutive years except for the office of treasurer. Because of the importance of financial continuity, the office of treasurer will be extended to five consecutive years.

ARTICLE X. INSURANCE RESTRICTIONS/GUEST POLICY

Flying at a club leased or owned site is restricted to current club members, except that guests who are AMA licensed and accompanied by a club member can be permitted use of the flying site for up to 30 days or until the next regular meeting, whichever is sooner.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS

Amendments may be made to the constitution and these bylaws at any regular meeting of the Club membership.

1. Any current member with voting rights may propose an amendment to the constitution.
2. Proposed amendments are to be presented at a regular scheduled Club meeting and discussed as desired by those members present. The proposed amendment(s) will then be circulated via email prior to the next regularly scheduled Club meeting.
3. At the next regularly scheduled Club meeting, the amendments will be discussed further, and voted upon by the members present with voting rights. Club members who cannot attend the meeting can vote on proposed amendments by sending their votes/inputs in either a written letter/email to any board member. Mail-in ballots will be made available for those members who have voting rights but cannot attend the meeting. Those votes, if received before the next meeting, will count as if those persons were present at the meeting.
4. Acceptance of amendments will be by an affirmative vote by two-thirds (2/3) of voting members present. Results will be included in the club minutes, and the President will be responsible for making any required changes.

ARTICLE XII. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE (FLIGHT & GROUND SAFETY RULES)

1. Purpose: This grievance procedure provides a mechanism to enforce existing safety rules by providing a progressive disciplinary system when needed. Every effort should be taken to settle grievances informally. If that is not possible, or if the matter is so serious, any club member can refer the issue to the Safety Officer for review. Club members with a grievance will in either a written letter or email, provide all pertinent information to the Safety Officer. The Safety Officer may elect to form a "Safety Committee" comprised of some/all of the Board of Directors, and will investigate and try and resolve the issue, while keeping the entire Board apprised. If the Safety Officer determines rules may have been broken, or there may be a need for disciplinary action, it will be brought to the board. The Safety Officer is responsible for notifying all parties of any decisions. If the complainant is not satisfied with the outcome, that person can bring the issue to the President/Vice President. The Safety Officer will maintain complaint records for at least two years.

2. Safety Committee: The Safety Committee shall use its judgment in carrying out action on the following:

a. **FIRST VIOLATION**:

- 1) Viewpoints of both the complainants and the accused will be considered.
- 2) Complaints name will be disclosed.
- 3) A verbal reprimand will be given to the accused by the Safety Officer, who will in-turn, send an email to the Board.

b. **SECOND VIOLATION**:

- 1) Complainants name will be disclosed.
- 2) The accused has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the Safety Officer/Committee.
- 3) If the Board so decides, the flying privileges of the accused will be suspended for (30) thirty-days. This will be mentioned in the club minutes and circulated via email.

c. **THIRD VIOLATION**:

- 1) Board/Committee will notify the accused in writing and Club members via email 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 only upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership present at the meeting.
- 4) Voting will be by secret ballot at the regular monthly meeting.
- 5) The expelled member may reapply for membership after the expiration of the expulsion time period.

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

e. 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 Board of Directors.

3. For other grievances that are not of the flying/ground safety nature, club members may bring these issues to any Board member for consideration.