

# **CATALINA RADIO CONTROL MODELERS, INC.**

## **BY-LAWS Effective September 9th, 2023**

Catalina Radio Control Modelers, Inc. is operated as a Social/Recreational Club in accordance with IRS 501(c)(7) not-for-profit rules and regulations. If the Club's gross receipts are less than \$50,000 per year, the Club is required to file IRS Form 990N annually on or before May 15th. Members should be made aware that any monies paid to the club (dues, donations, etc.) are not tax deductible per IRS rules for 501(c)(7) organizations.

These BY-LAWS are the definitive rules governing the CATALINA RADIO CONTROL MODELERS, INC., a not-for-profit organization, herein called THE CLUB. All special or local enterprises of the Club shall conform to the policies of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) and to the rules and regulations of the AMA covering such functions.

### **1.0 MEETINGS:**

The general membership meetings shall take place at the flying field on the second Saturday of each month. Starting time is 8:00 a.m. May through September; 9:00 a.m. October through April. Times may be changed by the Board if necessary. In case of severe weather the Board may elect to move the meeting to an indoor location or to postpone the meeting to the following Saturday. Notice to be posted via e-mail when possible.

#### **1.1 MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS:**

A general membership meeting requires a minimum of four board members.

#### **1.2 SPECIAL MEETING:**

In the case of situations deemed urgent which cannot wait for resolution at a regularly scheduled meeting a Special Meeting may be called by the Board to convene no sooner than 72 hours after the notification.

### **2.0 MEMBERSHIP:**

Any person who is active in model building and flying, or is genuinely interested in learning to do so, may apply for membership at any regular meeting or to any Club officer. Upon meeting the requirements of the Club BY-LAWS and payment of the fees required in these BY-LAWS, the applicant will become a member in good standing of the Club.

Membership shall be capped at 120 members. The cap number includes regular and snowbird members. Intro Pilots may apply for membership when they become qualified. Should a person submit an application when the club cap has been reached, the Board will place that applicant on the Waiting List. When the Club membership falls below 120 members, the Club will notify the number one person on the Waiting List, via email, that they may join the Club upon payment of dues. The applicant will have one week to accept membership. If that applicant does not respond within the one-week period, his/her application will be placed at the bottom of the Waiting List, and the next applicant will be notified.

The Board reserves the right to choose, at its sole discretion, to admit a new member to the Club, even if the cap has been reached, and the additional member is not first on the Waiting List. This right may be exercised by the Board for any reason, including, but not limited to, the Board's desire to admit family members of existing members, or admit former members who seek to renew membership after an interruption in their membership due to illness or other personal circumstances.

#### **2.1 APPLICANTS:**

Non-members of the AMA and the Club are required to apply for membership to both organizations and will not be permitted flight privileges at the Club flying site until proof of membership is shown to any Club officer. This includes all beginners after their first lesson. An exception will be made for beginners who are flying with an "Intro Pilot" Club instructor as part of the AMA Introductory Pilot Program, valid for up to 90 days after first lesson.

#### **2.2 CLUB DUES (EXISTING MEMBERS):**

The annual dues for existing members are as follows:

a) General member: \$125.

b) Junior member: \$20.

c) Snowbird member: \$75 valid from November 1st through April 30th. Additional months may be added for \$10 per month.

General and Junior member dues are due by January 31st of each year or the member will be dropped from the roster.

Snowbird dues are due by November 1st.

### **2.3 CLUB DUES (NEW MEMBERS):**

New General member: January thru March-\$125; April - \$115; May - \$100; June - \$90; July - \$75; August - \$65; September - \$50; October - \$40; November - \$25; December - \$15 (or may pay \$125 for next year).

New Junior members: January 1 thru June 30 - \$20; July 1 thru December 31 - \$10.

### **2.4 SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS:**

The General Membership may initiate a special assessment on all members for extraordinary expenses. Memberships will be terminated if special assessments are not paid within thirty days.

### **2.5 MEMBER CLASSIFICATION:**

- a. General member: 19 years or older at time of dues payment.
- b. Junior member: 18 years or less at time of dues payment.

### **2.6 CURRENT AMA/MAAC MEMBERSHIP:**

Proof of current AMA (or AMA-approved Canadian equivalent MAAC) membership must be shown to or verified by a Club Officer prior to any flight operations at the field. Failure to have current AMA or MAAC membership will result in suspension of flying field privileges until it is renewed.

### **2.7 SAFETY:**

**SAFETY IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EVERY MEMBER OF THE CLUB.** All Club members are expected to study the Official current AMA Safety Code and Club safety rules as outlined in section 7 of the Club By-Laws and consciously practice those rules while operating model aircraft.

### **2.8 MEMBERSHIP REMOVAL:**

Proceedings may be initiated against any member who compromises his or her fellow member's safety or brings disgrace upon the Club or injury to its reputation or violates its established BY-LAWS. Decisions regarding member removal shall require a majority vote of the ENTIRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

### **2.9 ENTRY GATE COMBINATION:**

The code for our lock on the entry gate to the field may be given to current members by club officers, board members, and club instructors.

## **3.0 ORGANIZATION:**

The elected executive officers and members of the Board of the Club shall consist of a President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, two or more members-at-large, and the Chief Flight Instructor and Chief Safety Officer.

**3.1** Other non-elected non-executive officers shall consist of: Webmaster, News Letter Editor, and Contest Director (CD). Other positions shall be established on an as needed basis by the Board of Directors.

**3.2** The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected Club executive officers.

## **4.0 ELECTIONS:**

All Officers of the Club shall serve a one-year term from January 1st to December 31st. The annual nominations shall take place during the November meeting and the elections shall take place during the December meeting.

### **4.1 ELIGIBILITY:**

Elected officers are restricted to current General members in good standing. All members, regardless of membership classification, are eligible to vote in officer elections and on all regular Club business. Voting will be based on the one person one vote rule. No absentee ballots will be permitted.

#### **4.2 SPECIAL ELECTIONS:**

A meeting to recall Club officers or fill vacancies in Club offices may be called by the Board of Directors. Such special elections may be advertised in the Club newsletter and/or sent to the Membership in electronic format, i.e. email, and posted on the board at the field as priority agenda items, and provisions of sections 4.0, 4.1, and 4.2 shall prevail.

#### **4.3 PRESIDENTIAL VACANCIES:**

In the event of a presidential vacancy, the office shall be assumed by the Vice President. A special election shall then be held to elect a new vice president, as per sec 4.2.

### **5.0 OFFICER DUTIES:**

**ALL CLUB OFFICERS SHALL BE THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH THE BY-LAWS AND SAFETY CODE DOCUMENTS.**

#### **5.1 PRESIDENT:**

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and shall act for the Club in all matters pertaining to the Club. He or she shall also make all appointments to committees and shall have full audit authority over the Club treasury. The President also serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors.

#### **5.2 VICE PRESIDENT:**

The Vice President shall assume the duties and exercise all authority of the President in the event the President is absent or unable to fulfill those duties. Also, the Vice President shall assume all other duties as assigned by the President or as directed by the Board of Directors.

#### **5.3 SECRETARY:**

The Secretary shall keep minutes of all Club meetings including attendance rolls. He or she shall also maintain and update the BY-LAWS, including any changes voted on and approved by the membership. He or she shall also be responsible for all Club correspondence including but not limited to all communications between the Club and the AMA and the webmaster.

#### **5.4 TREASURER:**

The Treasurer shall collect and disburse all Moneys of the Club and keep an accurate record of all Club transactions. He or she shall provide a financial report to the membership at regular monthly meetings. Treasurer is subject to an audit at any time by the Club President. An annual budget shall be prepared and presented at a Club meeting the first quarter of the calendar year.

#### **5.5 EDITOR:**

The Editor will prepare and distribute to each Club member Club newsletter at least once a month, and at least one week prior to the next monthly meeting. The newsletter shall contain a minimum of time, date, and place of the next Club meeting.

#### **5.6 WEBMASTER:**

The Webmaster shall maintain the Club website and shall update it on an as-required basis.

#### **5.7 CHIEF FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR AND CHIEF SAFETY OFFICER:**

The Chief Flight Instructor (C.F.I.) and Safety Officer shall set minimum standards for solo flight privileges. The C.F.I. will test anyone wishing to become an instructor. The C.F.I. may appoint qualified pilots to the position of Instructor. Instructor pilots must be a full member in good standing. The Safety Officer annually shall supervise and make known all safety rules as stated in Section 7 of the BY-LAWS and the AMA Safety Code.

Note: The code for our lock on the entry gate to the field may be given to current members by club officers, board members, and club instructors.

#### **5.8 CONTEST DIRECTOR:**

The Contest Director (CD) shall be in charge of all contests, Fun fly's, etc., sponsored by the Club in accordance with the current AMA rules and regulations.

## **6.0 CLUB BUSINESS:**

Decisions by the Club, other than those amending the By-Laws, shall be decided by a majority vote of the membership present at regular advertised monthly Club meetings. Decisions to amend the Club's By-Laws shall be presented to the Board of Directors with sufficient time for the Board to review the proposal and make a recommendation to the membership for approval/disapproval. The Board's recommendation must be published to the membership a minimum of ten (10) days prior to the next scheduled general membership meeting. The adoption or rejection must be decided by a 2/3 majority vote by members present at the regularly scheduled meeting.

### **6.1 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

The Board of Directors shall provide management and leadership to the Club. They are responsible for presenting plans, projects and providing directions to and for Club activities and business. They must approve all nominations as submitted to them for Flight Instructor by the Chief Instructor Pilot by a majority vote.

### **6.2 RECURRING BILLS:**

Recurring bills, such as repairs, landscaping, office supplies, and port-a-potty, as well as one-time payments for minor field improvement projects may be paid at the President's or Treasurer's discretion provided the bill does not exceed the limit set forth in the established budget.

### **6.3 URGENT ACTIONS:**

Any urgent actions, particularly changes in safety rules, review of Safety Officer decisions requested by Club members, or any Club business deemed too urgent to wait for the next Club meeting may be decided and acted upon for the Club by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. The President shall call a special meeting of the Board for urgent action as deemed necessary by the President, or the President may employ the telephone or other means to contact the Board members. Any expenditure made as a result of these urgent actions shall be limited to \$400.00.

## **7.0 SAFETY/FIELD RULES:**

**THE AMA SAFETY CODE AND ALL REGULATIONS SHALL BE IN EFFECT AT ALL TIMES.**

### **7.1 ALCOHOL:**

No consumption of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs of any kind will be allowed at the Club flying field. No person under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs shall be permitted to fly.

### **7.2 SAFETY OVERSIGHT:**

Absence of the elected Safety Officer during flying sessions shall be filled by the first member in good standing arriving at the field and shall continue until the elected Safety Officer arrives or until the temporary Safety Officer is relieved by a Club officer. Such temporary Safety Officer shall act with all authority designated to the elected Safety Officer.

### **7.3 STUDENT PILOT'S AIRCRAFT:**

No instructor or other pilot may perform reckless or high stress maneuvers with a student pilot's aircraft. However, aerobatic instruction, dead stick landings, and short field landings and any other beneficial flight instruction, may be taught to a willing student who has demonstrated that they are ready for such instruction as determined by their instructor.

**\*\*NOTE\*\*** These maneuvers are only to be performed after the aircraft has been determined airworthy on the ground and in the air.

### **7.4 PILOT QUALIFICATIONS:**

Pilot qualification for solo flight by Club members shall consist of a successful demonstration of the pilot skill in performing the maneuvers of the Chief Flight Instructor's training program.

### **7.5 AIRCRAFT QUALIFICATIONS:**

Aircraft qualifications consist of a thorough airworthiness inspection including, but not limited to, airframe structural strength, alignment, balance and proper operation of radio controls. All new or extensively rebuilt aircraft are subject to an airworthiness inspection by a Flight Instructor before air operation.

## **7.6 GUEST FLYING PRIVILEGES:**

A guest is a non-member who is sponsored by a CRCM member. Guests may fly up to 6 days per year. Guests must be accompanied by the sponsoring member. Prior club members will not be granted guest flying privileges until 6 months after their last membership expiration. The sponsor is responsible for the guest's flying ability and before any flight the sponsor must cover the CRCM Safety and Operational Rules with the guest. The guest must present to the acting Safety Officer a current AMA Open membership card.

## **7.7 WORK PARTIES:**

Work parties may be called at any time at the discretion of the Board of Directors. During such periods, the field shall be closed to all operations and all members using the field shall help accomplish the tasks directed by the Board of Directors.

## **7.8 VIOLATIONS:**

Club members are required to abide by the CRCM safety / field rules as well as all applicable local, state and federal ordinances, statutes, and regulations as stated in the compliance and regulations section of the Pima County's License Agreements with Catalina R/C Modelers. Violations of the terms of our license agreement and/or safety/field rules should be brought to the attention of the person committing the violation immediately by the observer of the violation. Repeated violations are due cause for loss of field flying privileges, or removal from the Club membership rolls as outlined in Section 2.8.

## **7.9 CHILD AND ANIMAL RESPONSIBILITY:**

It is the responsibility of any member of the Club who brings his or her child or pet to the flying field to see that the child or pet is staying within the spectator area where they will not hurt or distract other flyers. The Club cannot and will not be responsible for injuries suffered by children or pets at the Club flying field.

## **7.10 GENERAL FIELD RULES:**

These rules are in addition to the official AMA Safety Code. Exceptions to these rules must be pre-authorized by the Chief Flight Instructor and Chief Safety Officer. Courtesy and common sense is expected from all members and users of the Club flying field. Pick up your own trash, props, broken aircraft parts, rubber bands, rags and other items. The last person leaving the field shall be responsible for locking the gate. The last person leaving the field should scout the area for lost articles. That person should bring the found articles home and promptly notify the Club President.

**ALL SPECTATORS MUST REMAIN IN THE SPECTATOR AREA.**

## **7.11 FREQUENCY CONTROL:**

Operations on narrow-band frequencies below 100 MHz:

Transmitters will not be operated unless you sign in on the Club Frequency Board with date, name, frequency (MHz) and channel number. If you are the only pilot who has that frequency, then you control that frequency. However if two or more pilots have the same frequency, then their transmitters must be placed on impound shelf near the Frequency Board and used one at a time. Only one transmitter can be operated on any given frequency at any time. Operation of more than one transmitter on the same frequency will cause loss of model control. If you turn on your transmitter and do not have control of the frequency and your action causes a pilot who has control of the frequency to crash his aircraft, YOU must offer to replace each and every damaged and broken part with a new part of comparable quality. Pilots ready to fly have priority on the frequency board. Range checks, engine test runs etc., must not be made, even with the transmitter antenna removed unless you have frequency control.

Operations using spread-spectrum radios (2.4 GHz and above) are exempt from the above.

## **7.12 PIT AREA:**

All pit operations must be conducted behind the safety fence. Prolonged engine runs/ break-in or extended engine runs to adjust throttle controls in the pit area are prohibited. Such runs may be conducted in the engine test area. When starting or running engines on the ground, point the tail of your aircraft away from other aircraft, people, and vehicles. When starting or adjusting the engine, do not place your head or body in line with the spinning prop. Pieces of rock, dirt or pieces of a broken prop can easily penetrate your eyes or skin and cause serious injury.

### **7.13 FLYING GUIDELINES:**

- Unsafe and reckless flying is prohibited.
- All flight operations will be conducted with the pilot standing behind the flight line safety fence.
- Pilots test flying or flying extensively rebuilt aircraft will inform the safety officer.
- All field operations, including engine test runs, will be stopped while the aircraft is test flown.
- Club pilots or Club instructors who agree to test fly someone's new or rebuilt aircraft are not to be held responsible for damages incurred to the aircraft.
- On take-off your initial turn must be directed away from the pit area. Avoid flying aircraft over spectators, the pit area, and vehicles. Intentional flying over these areas is prohibited.
- The area of the sewage plant, solar power panels and Sports Park is a NO-FLY ZONE.
- When four or more planes are in the air, a spotter is required.

#### **7.13.1 DRONE AND HELICOPTER GUIDELINES:**

Drones and helicopters pose special risks to other pilots and spectators due to blades spinning at high RPM while hovering. All drone and helicopter flight operations must be conducted past the yellow flight line and no closer than 25 feet from any person. An exception to the yellow line requirement will be pilots flying from the hover pads at either end of the pit areas, however the 25-foot rule still applies.

#### **7.13.2 FPV OPERATIONS.**

FPV pilots are required to operate within rules defined in AMA Document #550, Unmanned Aircraft Operation Utilizing First-Person View, and FAA Advisory Circular 91.57 B (or 91-57 C when implemented by the FAA).

### **7.14 VERBAL WARNINGS:**

- A loud call of "TAKING OFF" must be made before taxiing onto the runway and beginning take off run.
- If your engine quits in the air or if you have a glider on final approach, call out "DEAD STICK" loudly. All pilots must give right-of-way to this DEAD STICK call until the aircraft is on the ground and clear of the flying area. The take-off and landing area must be kept clear at all times.
- If it is necessary to walk on the runway to recover a powerless or damaged aircraft, the retriever must call out loudly "ON THE FIELD". All other aircraft should remain in the air if possible, or remain motionless on the runway. The runway should be cleared as soon as possible. Call "CLEAR" when people and aircraft are clear of the field.
- A loud call of "LANDING" or "TOUCH AND GO" must be made on approach to landing.

### **7.15 NOISE ABATEMENT:**

No internal combustion model engines shall be operated prior to 7:00 am. In addition, all members and visiting pilots must adhere to City of Tucson noise ordinances to ensure that noise levels do not exceed 70 db at any residential property boundary. Mufflers are required on all engines in order to reduce the noise level emitted from our field. Furthermore, a no-fly zone boundary to the south of the model aircraft field exists to ensure that aircraft are greater than 400 ft. from residential properties. The Safety Officer has the authority to ban any aircraft that is exceeding noise levels.

### **7.16 BIKE PATH:**

A public bike path is present immediately south of the Club's runway. Flying over any person on the bike path must be avoided at all times. Club members should call out to pilots who are operating model aircraft when any person is present on the bike path.