

# **Arizona Model Pilots Society – Night Flying Safety Guidelines**

**Effective June 2025**

These guidelines establish safe and compliant night flying operations at Adobe Dam Regional Park. All pilots are expected to adhere strictly to these rules, which incorporate requirements from the FAA, AMA, Maricopa County, and AMPS.

## **General Requirements for Night Flying**

All pilots must:

- Hold current AMA membership and display an AMA/AMPS ID badge while flying.
- Maintain an active FAA Drone Registration (if applicable), with the registration number clearly visible on the aircraft.
- Possess a valid TRUST Certificate as required for recreational UAS operations.
- Attend the AMPS Night Safety Briefing prior to participating in any night flying activities.
- Maintain Visual Line of Sight (VLOS) with the aircraft at all times.

## **Authorized Flying Times and Aircraft Types**

- Night flying operations are limited to electric aircraft only.
- Night flying for electric aircraft is permitted between 5:00 AM and 12:00 AM (Midnight).
- Gas and glow-powered aircraft are strictly prohibited during night flying hours. They are permitted only during daytime hours, between 7:00 AM and Sunset.
- Flying beyond 12:00 AM (Midnight) is not authorized without explicit approval from the AMPS Board.
- All flying must occur within designated AMPS flying areas. Flying over restricted zones, including Skunk Creek Wash and the dam, is strictly prohibited.

## **Lighting Requirements**

- All aircraft must display anti-collision lighting visible for at least three (3) statute miles, or be operated within a sufficiently illuminated area that ensures visual tracking of the aircraft at all times.
- Lighting should be configured to avoid causing nuisance or disturbance to nearby residents or park visitors. Excessively bright or flashing lights directed toward homes or sensitive areas must be avoided.
- Field lighting at the flying site must remain on during all night flying operations to ensure adequate visibility for pilots, spotters, and spectators.

## **Noise and Environmental Considerations**

- Only electric aircraft are authorized for night flying operations.
- Pilots must be mindful of noise levels to prevent disturbances. Should noise complaints arise, night flying operations may be suspended or limited at the discretion of Maricopa County.
- All AMPS environmental policies apply, including prohibitions on fuel spills and battery dumping.

## **FAA and AMA Compliance**

- All night flying must comply with FAA 14 CFR § 107.29, which mandates anti-collision lighting and familiarity with nighttime flying risks, as addressed in the AMPS Night Safety Briefing.
- FAA 14 CFR § 107.65 requires all pilots to demonstrate knowledge of night flying regulations and best practices.
- Pilots must comply with the AMA Safety Code, including:
  - Maintaining maximum altitude below 400 feet AGL.
  - Yielding right-of-way to full-scale aircraft at all times.

## **Operational Safety Rules**

- A spotter is recommended when three (3) or more pilots are flying at night.
- No more than five (5) aircraft may be airborne simultaneously during night operations.
- Stunts, low passes, or hovering over the pits, spectator areas, or the Ramada are strictly prohibited.
- All pilots must comply with the AMPS Safety Rules (June 2025)

## **Final Provisions**

These guidelines will be reviewed and adjusted as necessary in collaboration with Maricopa County Parks & Recreation and the FAA. All pilots are responsible for familiarizing themselves with these rules and complying with them fully.

By participating in night flying at AMPS, pilots acknowledge and accept these guidelines as a condition of use.