

LA MESA MODEL RAILROAD CLUB, INC.
APPLICATION FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP
LMMRRC INC., SAN DIEGO MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM, 1649 El Prado #4, San Diego, CA 92101

MEMBERSHIP IN THE LA MESA MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

The La Mesa Model Railroad Club (officially LMMRRC, Inc.) is building and operates an HO scale model railroad representing the Southern Pacific-Santa Fe Joint Line through the Tehachapi Mountains between Bakersfield and Mojave, California. The Club occupies an assigned space in the San Diego Model Railroad Museum, which leases the building from the City of San Diego for a nominal fee. The agreement with the City requires that the museum be open and operating as a public exhibit every day of the week except Monday (with some exceptions for holidays).

The Club's stated mission is "to preserve and demonstrate Southern California railroad history and practice to the public and to inspire modelers toward excellence in scale model railroading, by constructing and operating a realistic high-quality model of the Southern Pacific-Santa Fe Joint Line through Tehachapi Pass as it was in the early 1950s."

MEMBERSHIP: Membership in the LMMRRC is a privilege granted to an applicant to join a community of motivated model railroad enthusiasts who have contributed a great deal of time and expense to create the exhibit.

ALL applicants must respect the contribution of the current membership and by submitting an application, agree to the following CODE OF CONDUCT:

ALL members are required to follow **ALL** rules and regulations in the LMMRRC Bylaws, a copy of which is available from the LMMRRC Secretary. All members are expected to contribute to the wellbeing of the organization, creation of the exhibit, exhibit maintenance and to present the exhibit in the best possible manner to the public. **ALL** members are required to conduct themselves at all times while in and around the museum with courtesy and respect to all others. **Membership may be revoked at any time by the Board of Directors for any violation of the CODE OF CONDUCT.**

APPLYING FOR MEMBERSHIP: Anyone over 13 years of age may apply for membership in the club by submitting a completed application accompanied by four months dues to the Secretary of the club, which must be submitted by check or cash with the application. There are two categories of membership for which a person may apply:

1. **Associate Member:** Open to any adult. Dues are \$15 per month. Four months dues of \$60 is to be submitted with the application.
2. **Associate Youth/Student Members:** Open to anyone under the age of 18 or who are under the age of 25 and full time students. Dues are \$5.00 per month. Four months dues of \$20 is to be submitted with the application.

The application and dues check payable to LMMRRC, Inc, may be submitted by depositing an envelope in the club mailbox located along the public aisle on the south side of the exhibit **or by mail to:**

LMMRRC, Inc. PO Box 178181, San Diego, CA 92177-8181

Applicants become Associate or Youth Associate members upon approval by the voting members at the next quarterly business meeting as described in the **MEETINGS** section below. Applicants are encouraged to participate in club activities under the supervision of other members until their applications are approved.

Associate and Associate Youth/Student members may participate in all club activities, but do not have a vote at club business meetings, a privilege reserved for Regular members only. An Associate member may serve as Operator in Charge of the exhibit (OIC) and/or be granted keys and security codes only on approval by a majority of the voting members at a business meeting.

To become a Regular member, an Associate member must receive an invitation approved by two-thirds of the voting members at a business meeting. Upon acceptance of the invitation and payment of an **entrance fee of \$50.00**, they become Novice members for at least six months, after which they may be accepted as Regular members by a majority vote.

Dues are payable by check on the first of each month. Members who are three months or more in arrears will be dropped, and may be reinstated only upon payment of dues owed and approval of a request for reinstatement at a business meeting.

MEETINGS: Regular business meetings are held quarterly, on the second Tuesdays in March, June, September and December, starting at 7:30 PM. Applicants are encouraged to obtain a copy of the club's By-Laws and other documents from the club Secretary.

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WORKING ON THE EXHIBIT: Regular work sessions are held on Tuesday evenings, starting at around 4:00 PM when the museum closes. Work sessions are also held on Mondays when the museum is closed, though these are not as regularly attended and new members should call the club at (619) 233-8269 to find out if anyone is present. To work on the exhibit, new members should contact the General Manager or one of his appointed Department Heads in charge of various projects. Departments include Engineering (benchwork, roadbed and track), Electrical (power/control), Signal and Communications, DCC (Digital Command Control), Scenery, Structures, Cars (rolling stock) and Operations.

OPERATING THE EXHIBIT: Club members operate the exhibit as a public display daily except Monday from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM Tuesday through Sunday. During public operation, an assigned Operator in Charge (OIC) has authority over the railroad, the equipment operated on the railroad, and all other operators. No one may operate the railroad or add locomotives or cars to the railroad without permission of the Operator-in-Charge. There is a handbook that covers current Rules, Bulletins and Instructions for Public Operation.

ALL new members must successfully complete training on the setup of trains, use of the NCE throttle system and successfully complete an end to end training run across the model railroad under the guidance of an OIC or General Manager's designate before they can operate any trains.

Cars and locomotives operated on the railroad must comply with the rules of the Car Department. The club maintains a fleet of locomotives and freight cars that are kept on the railroad for use by any member for public operation. Operators who regularly bring their own equipment should submit it to the Car Department for inspection at the earliest possible opportunity. Equipment left on the railroad in the absence of the owner must meet more stringent requirements and be registered by the Car Department. Personal property may not be stored on the premises without General Manager approval.

Several times a year, usually on Saturday and/or Sunday, operating sessions are held that simulate the operating procedures of the real railroad. There are operating sessions that use steam locomotives and early diesels that employ timetable and train order procedures, and others that represent the 1980s or the current era using Centralized Traffic Control (CTC) and Track Warrants or Direct Traffic Control procedures. The dates of these operating sessions vary but are announced well in advance via email and on the club Groups.IO page. Large numbers of operators are needed for these sessions, and except for a few at which invited guests have priority, new members and applicants are encouraged to participate.

CARE OF THE EXHIBIT: The exhibit and the cars and locomotives operated on it are fragile and easily damaged. For this reason:

1. **Do not touch, handle or pick up any cars or locomotives (except your own) or any structure or scenery detail, except as necessary for operation, maintenance or construction of the exhibit.**
2. **Do not place any objects (such as tools or materials, paperwork, or food and beverage containers) on any part of the track or scenery.**
3. **Do not place cars on locomotives **on or off** the track in areas with scenery. **NO equipment storage boxes or carry cases are allowed anywhere on top of the layout.****
4. **Do not allow unknown or unauthorized persons entry into the exhibit areas without an escort AND having signed appropriate Release Of Liability Forms.**

ACCESS TO THE CLUB AND THE MUSEUM: Keys and security codes for access to the exhibit space are normally given only to Regular members and others authorized by a vote at a business meeting. Members normally use the back door on the south side of the building facing the parking lot as the principal entry and exit. Members without keys and prospective applicants should call the club at (619) 233-8269 and ask a member to open the back door if it is closed.

The exhibit is protected by an alarm system with motion detectors integrated with the museum's alarm system. New members should make sure that there are other members present and that the alarm is off before entering the exhibit area.

INFORMATION ONLINE: The club has a user group - **Groups.IO** - on which notices are posted and from which copies of club documents may be obtained. This group is for members only; access must be approved by the club General Manager.

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Membership Application

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY OR TYPE & COMPLETE ALL APPLICABLE FIELDS

Select: Adult Membership () Youth Membership - Under 18 () Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) - ____ - _____ Email: _____

Birthdate if Youth applicant: ____/____/____ Parent or legal guardian address, phone, email:
_____ PH: (____) - ____ - _____

Email: _____ Occupation: _____

Active service member? _____ Branch? _____ Enrolled in college? : _____ Grade? : _____

How long have you been interested in the hobby? _____ What scales do you model? _____

Please list present and past membership in other model railroad organizations:

What is your interest/skill level in the following areas? Indicate by: H (High), M (Moderate) L (Low)

Engines/Rolling Stock: ____ Model building: ____ Electronics (Programming, etc.): ____

Electrical (Wiring, etc.): ____ Carpentry: ____ Scenery: ____ Prototype Operation: ____

Do you model prototype or freelance railroads? : _____

If prototype, which railroads? : _____

What model brands do you have? : _____

How often do you expect to participate? Indicate % of expected participation:

Business meetings (Every 3 mo.): ____ Work nights (Every Tues): ____ Public operation (Tues -Sun): ____

By signing this application, you agree to abide by the Bylaws of the La Mesa Model Railroad Club, Inc. You understand you are not an Associate member until approved by membership vote at a LMMRRC business meeting. Please mail or drop off the completed application with a check for 4 months dues made payable to LMMRRC at the above address.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent or Legal Guardian Printed Name and Signature if Youth Applicant:

_____ Date: _____ Release Forms Submitted: ____ Y/N

Please do not write below this line _____

Fees paid: _____ Tentative Acceptance: ____ Y/N Full Acceptance: ____ Y/N

Notes: _____

Member Contact (print): _____