

BY LAWS OF FLIGHT MASTERS OF ELKHART COUNTY, LTD. #3812

Last Amended 11-3-2018

Article 1 Name:

Flight Masters of Elkhart County, Ltd. #3812

Article 2 Purpose:

To provide a place to fly and promote radio controlled aircraft flying.

Article 3 Affiliation:

The Club is chartered by the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) and shall conform to the policies of the AMA.

Article 4 Membership:

Anyone interested in the sport of radio controlled aircraft.

Article 5 Governing Body:

The governing body of the club shall be vested in the elected officers, consisting of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Board of Directors.

SECTION 1 : MEMBERSHIP

1.1 Any person having an interest in the sport of R/C aircraft is eligible for membership.

1.2 All applicants must show proof of current membership in the AMA. (Photocopy of AMA card required for a new year Application.)

SECTION 2 :DUES

2.1 The Annual dues are payable on or before January 31.

2.2 Members not having a current AMA [and] Membership Card shall not have Club privileges.

2.3 The dues will be tiered at the following levels

Junior member volunteer (up to 18)	15.00
Full open member volunteer	110.00
Senior member volunteer (65 & up)	100.00
Family membership volunteer	110.00
Non-volunteer work exempt	200.00
Non-volunteer work exempt Senior	175.00

First year membership is ½ price.

2.4 Volunteer members shall render 10 hours of service to the club annually. Spring cleaning shall count as 4 hours, mowing as 2 hours and air show work as 3 hours. For official club instructors each instructional session will count as 1 hour. Any member who serves as a board member or officer meets the time qualifications with their positions and no additional time is necessary. The list of hours fulfilled will be maintained by club secretary.

2.5 If any member does not fulfill the hourly commitment for the year, and nothing has been brought to the board for a hardship (health, age, etc.), they will be considered a non-volunteer

work exempt member and shall pay that rate for the next calendar year. If they wish to return to a volunteer membership they may do so the following year.

SECTION 3 : OFFICERS

3.1 The General membership shall elect the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer yearly and

3 Directors on Even years, 2 Directors on Odd years.

3.2 Nomination of Board Members & Officers will be held at the October & November Meetings. The Election will be held at the December meeting. If no additional nominations are made for officers and the officers are willing to serve and they do not need to be on the ballot.

SECTION 4 : DUTIES OF OFFICERS

4.1 The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the management of the Club. They are responsible for conducting all day to day business and do so in conjunction and through the elected officers.

4.2 PRESIDENT

The President shall preside at the General Meeting and Board of Directors meetings. The President shall work with the other Officers, Directors and members for harmonious operation of the Club.

4.3 VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice President shall assume the responsibilities of the President in his/her absence and shall provide programs for the winter meetings. He/She will also manage the maintenance of the clubs flying site or sites. This includes but not limited to the mowing schedule during the Spring, Summer and fall.

4.4 SECRETARY

The Secretary shall maintain a permanent record of the Minutes of all meeting and be responsible for all official correspondence.

4.5 TREASURER

The Treasurer shall be responsible for all monies and maintain permanent record of all collections and disbursements. The Treasurer shall be responsible for completion and filling required reports to the State & Federal Agencies.

All checks in excess of \$250.00 shall be endorsed by two current officers. The accounts will be audited twice yearly by two different board members and the results will be read into the next club meeting minutes following each audit.

SECTION 5 : FIELD RULES

5.1 The Field Rules will be established by the Board of Directors. Any member failing to follow these rules will be disciplined.

5.2 The officers and board will be responsible for the enforcement of club bylaws at any club function, whether at Bullard Field or other venue where a club function is taking place.

5.3 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE (FLIGHT AND SAFETY RULES VIOLATIONS) 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 Officer (currently Jim Bowers)/Board for its consideration by means of a written notice to be filled out and turned into the Board. At least one witness is required to sign the notice. The board shall use its judgment in carrying out action on the following:

- b. **FIRST VIOLATION** Viewpoints of both complainants and accused will be considered. Complainant's name will be disclosed. The Safety Officer/Board will give a verbal reprimand to the accused. This action will be recorded in the Club records.
- c. **SECOND VIOLATION** Complainant's name will be disclosed. The accused has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the Club Safety Officer/Board. 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** Safety Officer/Board 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. Said expulsion will last for a one-year minimum. A member may be expelled from the Club only upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership present at the meeting. Voting will be by secret ballot at a regular monthly meeting. The expelled member may reapply for membership after the expiration of the expulsion time period
- e. The three actions will not be enforced unless they are accumulated within a two-year period of time.
- f. 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 Club Officers.

SECTION 6 : BY-LAWS

6.1 The By-laws may be changed or modified at any time by the majority vote of the Board.

6.2 QUORUM

A quorum for By-Law changes will be defined as a majority of the Board .

SECTION 7 : PILOT RULES

7.1 Pilots must show current AMA and F.M.E.C. Memberships for flight privileges.

7.2 Student pilots show current year AMA and F.M.E.C. memberships

7.3 Guest Pilots are always welcome.

- a) Guest Pilots must show a current year AMA membership.
- b) Guest Pilots are the responsibility of members extending such invitation.
- c) A guest who is a FORMER MEMBER may fly a maximum of three (3) days without rejoining.

SECTION 8 : FLIGHT FIELD RULES

8.1 Model flying must be in accordance with current National Model Aircraft Safety Code as detailed by the AMA.

- a) This is required for AMA liability protection to apply.
- b) The Safety Code is posted on the frequency board.

8.2 All Transmitters are required to meet 1998 standards. (Narrow Band Only)

8.3 No flying before 9:00A.M. Monday through Saturday. And 10:00A.M. Sundays (except race days). Gliders and Electrics are exempt.

8.4 MUFFLERS: All engines must comply with AMA recommendations & be muffled as necessary. A dB (sound) meter will be used per AMA guidelines as a final decision to resolve controversy.

The maximum dB shall be 100dB measured on sod at three meters with the plane resting on the ground.

8.5 -Any member who verbally attacks any officer, director, or club member at Bullard Field or any club venue or event will have to appear before the board and officers for a disciplinary hearing. A special meeting of the board and officers will be convened within one month for the explicit purpose of a disciplinary hearing. Discipline may include having his/her membership temporarily or permanently revoked. Viewpoints of both complainants and accused will be considered.

8.6 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE(For Section 8.5)The grievance procedure provides a mechanism to enforce existing rules by providing a 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 officers/board for its consideration by means of a written notice to be filled out and turned into the officers/board. At least one witness is required to sign the notice.The officers/board shall use its judgment in carrying out action with regards to section 8.5

8.7 Any physical attack will be construed as assault and will be immediately referred to the proper authorities and membership privileges will be terminated immediately.

8.6 A pilot using a 72 MHz must have a frequency reserved with his AMA/Club card in the frequency control board before turning on his/her transmitter.

8.7 Pilots using a 72 MHz frequency must leave the current year AMA/Club card in the frequency board until finished flying.

8.8 2.4 GHz type radios need not use the frequency board. (Guest must use the frequency board with their AMA card even those using 2.4 GHz)

8.9 Club members must provide proof of current club and AMA membership upon request of an officer or board member.

8.10 No Taxiing of aircraft in or through the pit area.

8.11 No take-off or landing towards the pits.

8.12 All flying must be done from the flight line.

8.13 Engine "break-in" is not permitted in pit area.

8.14 Do not leave any trash at the field. TAKE IT HOME.

8.15 *Announce take-off, landings, dead-stick landings, on field intentions so that all pilots are aware.*

8.16 *No person may fly under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.*

8.17 *First Person View (FPV) flights require a spotter. The aircraft will at all times be within visual range of the spotter.*

8.18 *Pilot in Command: The pilot in command is defined as the pilot operating the flight controls. The pilot in command is responsible for ALL facets of operating the aircraft in a safe and competent manner. During flight training, the pilot in command is the instructor pilot.*

8.19 *Aerobatics, including 3-D, should be performed on the downwind leg of the traffic pattern, away from pilots and spectators. If only one aircraft is airborne, aerobatics may be performed in either direction provided the plane is beyond the runway centerline.*

SECTION 9 : FLIGHTLINES

9.1 Flying may be done from any side of the field to take advantage of prevailing wind & sun conditions.

9.2 The first person at the field on a given day determines the flying side. Thereafter, a majority of members determines the side. The majority always rules and all members will obey or not fly.

9.3 When flying is being conducted on the east side of the field all vehicles and personnel will use the north field apron.

9.4 When flying is being conducted from a flight line on any side of the field other than the west, the following shall apply.

a) The flying members shall designate two members responsible for observing vehicles and persons entering & leaving the area.

b) All vehicles entering from the North side of the field shall not proceed past the stop line without giving an audible and visual signal of their intent to proceed to a flight line side of field.

9.5 The flying area shall be parallel to the flight line & 100 feet out over the ends of the fields not being used as a flight line in accordance with AMA rules and other club rules.

9.6 No flying behind the flight line.

9.7 No flying as to cause risk of personal injury or property damage to those in the pits or the flight line is permitted.

9.8 Have fun flying, use common sense, be courteous.