

November 2012

## **BYLAWS OF THE South Jersey Radio Control Society**

Dedicated to the sport of model aviation

### **ARTICLE I PURPOSE**

- A) The purpose of the Society is the formation of a group of radio control aircraft enthusiasts who support and promote the radio control aircraft hobby.
- B) The Society shall maintain a charter membership in good standing with the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) at all times.

### **ARTICLE II MEETINGS**

- A) The Society's Meetings shall be held on the second Wednesday of the month. Meetings can be held at the field at the discretion of the Society's membership. All meetings shall start at 7:00 pm sharp.

### **ARTICLE III OFFICERS AND POSITIONS**

- A) The Society shall have an elected President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Safety Officer, Head Flight Instructor and Field Marshall..
- B) In the absence of the President, the Vice President or a designated Society officer shall assume the responsibility of the President's position and related duties.
- C) Any monetary disbursements from the Society's account must be approved by three elected officers and checks must be signed by either the President, Vice President or the Treasurer.
- D) All committees shall be approved by the president.
- E) There shall be a permanent safety committee composed of all Society members who are present at the field while any flying activities are taking place.

### **ARTICLE IV ELECTION AND ROLES OF OFFICERS/POSITIONS**

- A) Nominations shall be made at the October meeting from the floor.
- B) Candidates must be a member in good standing for a minimum of one year before being eligible to hold office.
- C) Elections shall be held at the November meeting.
- D) Voting should be by secret ballot or a show of hands as determined by the Society.
- E) Term of office shall be one (1) year for all offices.
- F) Roles of the Officers/Positions
  1. President - The President shall be the executive officer of the Society and shall have general supervision of its affairs and shall be subject to the control of the Board. The President shall preside at all meetings and shall be the spokesperson for the Society. The President shall oversee the general management of the Society and see that all orders and resolutions as directed by the Membership and/or the Board are carried into effect. He shall present at each meeting a report of the condition of the business of the Society not covered by other officers.
  2. Vice President - The Vice President shall assist the President in all matters and shall assume the duties of the President if, for any reason the President is not able to perform his duties. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall assume all the powers and functions of the President. He shall preside at any meeting when the President is unable to preside. He shall preside on any matters where the President excuses himself due to possible conflict of interest.
  3. Secretary - The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes and attendance of all club proceedings. He shall maintain a roster distinguishing between Regular, Junior and Honorary Members. He shall perform such other duties as required to maintain appropriate documentation and records for the Society including all important documentation such as the By-Laws and Field Rules as well as any amendments, changes and additions. He shall keep copies of all correspondence with the AMA. The Secretary shall conduct club correspondence and other such duties, as the Board shall prescribe.
  4. Treasurer - The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds of the Society and shall keep an exact record of all money received and dispersed. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the care and custody of

all Society funds and securities and shall deposit said funds in the name of the Society in such bank or trust company as the Board may elect. He shall disburse such monies as required and approved by the Board and/or the Membership for the benefit of the Society. He shall report to the Membership on a regular basis, preferably monthly, but not less than quarterly, the status of the Treasury, including, but not limited to, balance on hand, expenditures, and income. He shall pay all bills as directed to him by the Board or membership- at-large at each regular meeting. He shall file all tax forms as required by the Federal or State Government and shall maintain copies of all forms as filed. He shall maintain a simple ledger showing all monthly income and expenses.

5. Safety Officer - The Safety Officer shall function as the main conduit for all issues related to safety within the Society and as the primary interface with AMA headquarters on such matters as appropriate. He shall receive inputs (i.e., complaints, recommendations, observations, etc.) and, when warranted, present such information as he deems appropriate to the Membership and/or the Board for consideration and disposition. He shall strive to insure that all members adhere to both AMA and Society safety rules. He shall work with the Head Flight Instructor when needed to assure all training and proficiency programs are done in the safest manner possible. The Safety Officer is The Chairman of The Safety Committee.
6. Head Flight Instructor - The Head Flight Instructor is charged with the duties of pilot training and pilot proficiency programs. He is responsible for the approval and training of all society pilot instructors. He is responsible for the instruction and use of all training equipment used in pilot instruction. He shall work with the Safety Officer when needed to assure all training and proficiency programs are done in the safest manner possible.
7. Field Marshall - The Field Marshall shall function as the main conduit for all issues related to the flying field. He shall receive inputs (i.e., complaints, recommendations, observations, etc.) and, when warranted, present such information as he deems appropriate to the Membership and/or the Board for consideration and disposition. The Field Marshall is The Chairman of all work parties and their committees.

#### **ARTICLE V BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- A) The Board shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Safety Officer, Head Flight Instructor and Field Marshall with remaining position(s) selected by the President making a total of seven (7) distinct board members.
- B) A quorum shall consist of four (4) regular members of the Board.
- C) Board meetings will be held at any time deemed necessary by the President. The President or a designated Society member shall chair the Board meeting, and only for the duration of same.
- D) The Vice President shall assume all the duties of the President at the Board meeting in the absence of the same. The Secretary shall assume all the duties of the President at the Board meeting in the absence of both the President and Vice President. The Treasurer shall assume all the duties of the President at the Board meeting in the absence of the President, Vice President, and secretary.
- E) A majority of the assembled board membership is needed for the board to pass any resolutions
- F) Duties of the Board of Directors shall include:
  1. Making decisions when action must be taken that can not wait until a regular club meeting.
  2. Making decisions as necessary concerning Society policies.
  3. Making decisions as necessary concerning membership.
  4. Making assessments as necessary for the benefit of the Society.
  5. Making expenditures of Club funds. Expenditures of \$50.00 and over shall be subject to the approval of the membership in non-critical time-sensitive situations.
  6. As necessary, amending the By-laws whenever such amendments are deemed to be in the best interests of the Society.

#### **ARTICLE VI MEMBERS**

- A) **Regular Members – 18 years and older.**
  - a) Must hold a current AMA Open Membership.

- b) Must uphold the rules and requirements of the Society
- c) Must have a proper FCC license (if required).
- d) If the above requirements are met, they have regular member voting and flying
- e) privileges.
- B) Junior Members -17 years and younger.**
  - a) Must be sponsored/mentored by a regular Society member in good standing.
  - b) Must have written permission from their parent/legal guardian.
  - c) Must uphold the rules and requirements of the Society. It is the responsibility of the parent/legal guardian to ensure the Junior Member understands and adheres to all rules and regulations.
  - d) Must hold a current AMA Open Membership.
  - e) No Junior Member is to be at the field or meetings without being accompanied by a parent/legal guardian or adult who is willing to accept full responsibility for that Junior Member.
  - f) Junior Members shall also be supervised by a regular Society member in good standing while flying.
  - g) Must have a proper FCC license (if required).
  - h) If all of the above requirements are met, the Junior Member shall have all flying privileges.
- C) The cap on membership is 75 members.

## **ARTICLE VII NEW MEMBERS**

- A) **ALL** perspective New Members shall be sponsored/mentored by an existing Society member in good standing of (2) years.
- B) The sponsor/mentor shall be responsible for the new members adjustment into the Societies rules, plane safety inspections, etc. This is for a one (1) year period.
- C) All new members and children of Society members shall fly with an approved Society flight instructor and shall not solo until released by same. A separate approval is needed for both fixed wing and rotary aircraft.
- D) All new members and children of Society members after their initial solo flight, will be reevaluated by another Society flight instructor or member of the board.
- E) During a new member's flight instruction, no one is to interfere with the instructor or student.
- F) Any completed applications for membership into the SJRCS by a perspective new member or past member seeking reinstatement of membership that was terminated through a direct action by the SJRCS membership or by that individual members initiation of termination of SJRCS membership, will be voted upon and approved by a majority of the assembled membership at the next regularly scheduled SJRCS meeting. Also any past or present personal contributions of property, time, labor or monetary donations or promises thereof for the benefit of the SJRCS by said perspective new member or past member, does not constitute automatic acceptance of or membership into the said SJRCS.
- G) Membership carries a one (1) year probationary period.
- H) A person becomes a regular member when he/she is 18 years of age or older, completes the application form, obtains a current AMA Open Membership and pays the current dues.
- I) Junior Member**
  - a) A person is eligible to become a Junior Member if they are 17 years old or younger and must be sponsored/mentored by a regular Society member in good standing. They also must have written permission from there parent/legal guardian. The perspective Junior member must also complete the application form, obtain an AMA Open Membership and pay the current society dues.
  - b) Children of Society members will not be required to join active membership until fifteen (15) years of age, at which time they are eligible to become junior member. During this time, they must be accompanied by their parent/legal guardian or adult willing to take full responsibility at any field activity and hold a valid AMA Open Membership before flying privileges begin.

## **ARTICLE VIII DUES.**

- A) Regular members 18 years of age and older shall pay current Society dues.
- B) Junior members 17 years of age and younger shall pay half the regular member's current Society dues.
- C) Non-payment of dues constitute suspension or termination of membership.
- D) Advance payment of dues does not constitute continued membership in the Society.
- E) No partial payment of dues will be accepted.

#### **ARTICLE IV DUES SCHEDULE**

- A) Regular membership dues are \$75.00 per year from January 1 to December 31, payable in the month of January or February.
- B) Payments received after February 28th, will have a reinstatement charge of \$10.00
- C) New members shall pay an application fee of \$10.00
- D) New members dues are calculated at \$6.25 per full month of remaining society calendar year after June 30th. Any member joining in the month of November or December will pay the full dues for the upcoming year and will receive the remainder of this year for free.

#### **ARTICLE X AMA MEMBERSHIP**

- A) Valid AMA Open Membership is a requirement for membership in the Society.
- B) No person regardless of past or current Society status will be allowed to fly at the Society field unless he us a duly registered member of the AMA.
- C) Members who have not renewed their AMA membership by the February meeting will be dropped from the Society.
- D) Members and visiting pilots will be required to provide proof of AMA Open Membership before flying.

#### **ARTICLE XI AMA ASSESSMENTS**

- A) An assessment may be levied on the total membership at any time deemed necessary by the Society in an amount not to exceed \$20.00 per member assessment. Any assessment must be approved by a two-thirds majority of the membership at a regular scheduled meeting.
- B) Any member who fails to pay this assessment will not be in good standing.

#### **ARTICLE XII BYLAW CHANGES**

- A) By-Law changes are primarily done by the Board and become immediately effective upon notification to the Society. By-Laws may also be changed by the majority present at two meetings. If passed at both meetings the By-Laws change becomes active.

#### **ARTICLE XIII FIELD RULE**

- A) Current Field Rules are to be considered a part of the Society By-Laws.
- B) Three infractions of the field rules witnessed by two or more members shall cause the offending member to lose flying privileges until the next meeting he/she attends. At this next meeting, a disciplinary action will be discussed.
- C) Any infraction should be submitted to any **ELECTED Society officer**. The Safety Officer will keep a list of these infractions.
- D) The Secretary will notify the member with the infraction by certified mail.

#### **ARTICLE XIV CONDUCT**

- A) The child's conduct is the responsibility of the member or person bringing them to the field.
- B) No illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages are to be consumed prior to, or while at the field.
- C) Members and guests must use the designated toilet facilities.

#### **ARTICLE XV LIABILITY**

- A) Damage caused to any aircraft or field support equipment by any pilot's aircraft, transmitter, children, pets, guest and (etc), not covered by AMA insurance, becomes a liability of the pilot. The pilot responsible for the damage will lose flying privileges until the liability is settled.
- B) The Society as a group is not responsible for damages inflicted upon any pilot's aircraft, transmitter, children, pets, guest and (etc), which is caused by willful or negligent action by a Society member, guest, children, pets etc.

#### **ARTICLE XVI MISCELLANEOUS**

- A) These By-Laws supersede all proceeding rules and regulations composed by the Society.

- B) Any situation that may arise not covered by the Society By-Laws shall be voted on and approved by the majority of Society members present preferably at a scheduled meeting.
- C) All bills of \$50.00 or more not approved by the Board shall be approved by a majority of Society members present preferably at a scheduled meeting.
- D) The Society Treasurer may with the approval of the membership take a tax refund from the Society's treasury to off set his tax liability. This tax refund shall only cover the amount the Society's account added to the Society's Treasurer income.
- E) Instructors shall be on a volunteer list. Every instructor must be a member in good standing and prove to have the required skills to the Head Flight Instructor. Only club instructors will use buddy boxes or give instruction at the field to non-members or current society members who have not been signed off by society instructors.