

Palm Beach Radio Control Association Field Safety Rules

Last Modified: 4/12/2018

All Members and guests must follow the AMA Safety Code and any rules or restrictions as defined by the Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Department lease agreement.

In addition to the rules implied above, the following Club Safety Rules shall be observed:

Section 1: General Rules.

- 1) Rule deleted.
- 2) Pilots MUST contain or catch any overflow when refueling aircraft. No spilling of any fuel or oil will be tolerated. Pilots must supply a catch tank or closed fueling system.
- 3) Flying is permitted from one half (½) hour after sunrise until one half (½) hour before sunset, with the exception of special events (prior approval required) Monday through Sunday, unless otherwise directed by the county. Applies to both internal combustion engines and electric and park flyers.
- 4) Vehicles must be parked in designated areas only.
- 5) Spectators must remain in the spectator area. Only AMA members are allowed in the pits area, flight line or overfly area.
- 6) Only Radio Controlled (RC) model aircraft and Control Line (CL) aircraft are allowed to operate at the field.
- 7) Guests must be current AMA members and follow all AMA and Club safety rules. Host member will familiarize his/her guest with the site and club rules. Host must also ensure guest's compliance.
- 8) The maximum ground sound level for all aircraft shall not exceed 96dBA measured on soft surfaces or 98dBA measured on hard surfaces at a distance of 25 feet. Sound measurement shall be recorded using the written process as defined by the BOD.
- 9) No aircraft shall exceed the maximum weight of 55 pounds.
- 10) No littering of any kind will be tolerated. All crash debris must be cleaned up and removed from the flying site by the responsible pilot. Do not dispose crashed aircraft in the flying site trash cans.
- 11) Bad behavior which may be threatening, vulgar or distracting to pilots and spectators will not be tolerated. Violations may result in suspension of field privileges.
- 12) All members, guests, and spectators are expected to behave in a civil and respectful manner.
- 13) No alcoholic beverages, controlled substances are permitted on the flying site.
- 14) All pets must be leashed and are not allowed into the pits or flight line at any time.
- 15) Rule deleted.

- 16) Children under the age of fourteen (14) must be chaperoned at all time with direct supervision by a least one (1) adult club member (twenty-one (21) years of age or older). There must be one adult chaperone for every ten (10) children.

Section 2: Field Safety Rules.

- 1) All pilots must be in control of their aircraft while on the ground, taking off, flying or landing and will be responsible for all such actions. A pilot who declares a dead stick has the right of way over all other aircraft. Pilots who lose control of an aircraft must announce an emergency condition. Unsafe practices will not be tolerated and will result in a written warning, suspension, or termination of membership.
- 2) With the exception of 2.4 GHz radios, the frequency control and radio impound system must be used at all times. ALL non-2.4 GHz transmitters shall be impounded upon arrival to the field. All transmitters must have the pilot's name affixed to it. An AMA or Club membership card must be displayed in order to secure a frequency. Frequency pins will be used and returned to the impound area immediately after flying. Transmitters must remain off when not in use.
- 3) Rule deleted.
- 4) No more than 4 powered aircraft and 1 unpowered glider may fly at any time.
- 5) Pilots will announce "takeoffs", "landings", "touch-and-gos", "dead-stick landings" "entering the runway" or any emergency situations. Pilots who are going to walk on the runway will call out a hearty "ON THE RUNWAY".
- 6) Pilots retrieving airplanes on the runway or overfly area must request permission from active pilots to enter or cross the runway.
- 7) All pilots are limited to 15 minutes flight time if any pilots are waiting to fly or waiting for a frequency pin.
- 8) Rule deleted.
- 9) All aircraft shall face north (towards the runway) when starting engines. No aircraft may be started or electric motors energized behind pilot stations or south of any of the work stands. No setting up directly behind pilot stations. All aircraft must be held by a second party when starting if there are no restraints.
- 10) No taxiing, take offs or landings are permitted in the pits or spectator areas.
- 11) No aerobatic flying over the paved or grass runway without prior consent from the other pilots flying.
- 12) No flying is permitted while the field is being mowed, trimmed or otherwise maintained.
- 13) All pilots must fly from the pilot station. Pilots may temporarily stand in front of the pilot's stations for take off and landings, after announcing intentions, and must move back to a pilot station when flying.
- 14) A left hand traffic pattern must be observed when taking off to the East. A right hand traffic pattern must be observed when taking off to the West.
- 15) Aircraft must be flown within the designated boundaries at all times. No flying south of the extended southern edge of the runway in both directions. Flying over the pilot station, pits, spectator area, parking area or archery range will not be

- tolerated at any time. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in suspension of flying privileges and/or membership termination.
- 16) The Main Helicopter area, located to the south west of the Control Line area, shall follow the following rules: a) Helicopters may only operate in the 2.4GHz frequency range, 72MHz is NOT allowed; b) Pilots must wear a current PBRCA or AMA card; c) Fixed wing aircraft are not permitted in the Main Helicopter area; d) sUAV (Quadcopters, Multirotors and Drones) normally fly in accordance with rule 27 below. However, they may utilize the helicopter field when helicopters are not present or by coordinating with the helicopter pilots; e) Due to the limited field size, flights are limited to one helicopter in the air at a time with the following exception: one helicopter and one camera drone may be flown together for the purpose of aerial pictures and video; f) Never fly beyond the eastern or southern boundary fences (Flying over the road is strictly prohibited!).
 - 17) Control Line flight is only allowed in the Control Line designated area. Helicopters may use the Control Line area for hovering practice only (no forward flight). Small slow-flight fixed wing foam electric aircraft (less than one pound) may also fly in the Control Line area. No flying outside the fence boundary. Only one aircraft may fly at a time in this restricted area. Frequency control rules as defined in section 2.2 must be followed at all times (72Mhz allowed).
 - 18) Limited range receivers will be flown only in aircraft for which it is designed and approved by the AMA.
 - 19) Rule deleted.
 - 20) It is prohibited for radio controlled aircraft to fly over the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge. Radio controlled aircraft are prohibited from designated no-fly zones.
 - 21) All jet turbine aircraft shall be restricted from flying during periods of burn bans when set by Palm Beach County.
 - 22) Pilots of all turbine powered aircraft must present a current AMA membership card and AMA Jet Turbine Waiver card OR a current Club Membership card with a turbine endorsement (yellow stripe). The cards must be displayed and clearly visible.
 - 23) There will be no refueling of any aircraft while the engine is running.
 - 24) Aircraft starting on taxiways must be started on the concrete and to the south of the yellow lines.
 - 25) There is no smoking in the pits or the area north of the spectator fence.
 - 26) Club cards or AMA membership cards MUST be worn visibly on your person in order to enter the area north of the spectator fence or other restricted areas.
 - 27) Except for downed aircraft search, all sUAV* (quadcopters, multirotors, drones) flights are limited to the “hover” area, (southwest of the main flight line) or the heli area following the rules listed in paragraph 16 and must be flown in accordance with Palm Beach Radio Control Association, Palm Beach County Parks & Recreation and AMA Rules and regulations, including:

AMA Document #550 (Radio Controlled Model Aircraft Operation Utilizing “First Person View” Systems).

AMA Document #560 (Radio Controlled Model Aircraft Operation Utilizing Failsafe, Stabilization and Autopilot Systems).

All sUAV flights must comply with all Palm Beach Radio Control Association rules and regulations, including flying within the established flight boundaries during search flights, and within the flight boundaries of the 'hover' area. All sUAV flights are limited to ten (10) minutes. Any "search" flight within the main flying field must be within the established flight boundaries and permission to fly must be obtained from all active pilots at the flight line.

sUAV flights, per AMA Documents 550 & 560, are limited to VLOS (Visual Line Of Sight) and FPV (First Person View) flights must have an FPV Spotter next to him or her throughout the flight.

The Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Department has approved sUAV flights based on the above mentioned rules and regulations. You cannot fly an sUAV anywhere else within West Delray Regional Park. You are responsible to be aware of and check for updated rules and regulations and FAA rules regarding sUAV's and the flight restrictions on quads, quad copters/multirotors (aka - "Drones").

Definition: sUAV* - small, Unmanned Aerial Vehicle

28) Lake Flight Rules:

1. The majority of all pilots present shall allow Lake flying with the following provisions:
 - a. The Main runway will be closed to all flight while pilots are lake flying.
 - b. A flight restriction sign will be placed on the runway during the closure.
 - c. A safety officer or a club member will be assigned to monitor the main runway to restrict flying off the main runway.
 - d. Lake flying time limit is 30 minutes. After the 30 minutes, the lake must be closed to lake flying and the main runway will be reopened for regular flying.
2. A maximum of 2 aircraft may fly on the lake at one time.
3. Pilots must fly from the designated lake flying pilot stations. No piloting from any other location around the lake.
4. The majority of flying off the lake will be conducted within the confines of the lake boundary.
 - a. Absolutely no flying over the bike trails.
 - b. You may fly outside the lake boundaries north of the extended southern edge of the paved runway. Flying over the pilot station, pits, spectator area, parking area will not be tolerated at any time.
5. There is no lake flying while airplanes are being retrieved from the lake with the boat.

6. All pilots flying off the lake must have a spotter present.
 7. All other club safety rules apply to lake flying.
- 29) Boat Safety Rules:
1. Only current members have permission to use the boat.
 2. Individuals using the boat do so at their own risk.
 3. Without exception life jackets must be used.
 4. Members using the boat are responsible for returning the boat and properly locking the container.

Section 3: Rules Enforcement.

- 1) Field Safety Controllers (FSC) are entitled and expected to enforce the Club Safety Rules. FSCs reserve the right to temporarily suspend flying for the entire site if the safety of members and spectators is compromised. This temporary suspension applies only for a maximum of 12 hours.
- 2) Failure to follow the Field Safety Rules may result in suspension of flying privileges.
- 3) Rule deleted.
- 4) Rule deleted.

Section 4: Solo requirements.

- 1) Pilots in training must fly with the use of a buddy box until taking a solo test.
- 2) Beginner pilots must qualify to fly solo without a buddy box. The club qualification test will be defined by the Chief Instructor, in writing. Successful qualification must be witnessed by a qualified instructor and two soloed active club members. A signed qualification certificate will be submitted the Club Secretary so that a new membership card can be issued.
- 3) Pilots that have been recommended to be re-tested for solo qualification will undergo the same qualification test.

Section 5: Contests, Events and Fun-Flys.

- 1) All guest pilots must hold a current AMA membership and must agree to abide by all Safety Rules in order to participate in any event.
- 2) To hold any contest, event or fun-fly, permission must first be received from the BOD. The BOD then will request permission from Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation.
- 3) New or untested aircraft may not fly at any event. First flights must be performed before the event starts.
- 4) Any contest, except closed club events, must be sanctioned by the AMA or any special interest group, if applicable.

Originally approved: 2/8/07

Revision History:

Modified: 3/8/07: Changed 1.3, 1.7, 1.9. Added 1.15, 1.16 and 2.20

Modified: 4/12/07: Added 2.21

Modified: 8/8/07: Added 2.22 and 2.23

Modified: 10/11/07: Changed 1.8, 2.16. Added 2.24

Modified: 3/13/08: Added rules 2.25 and 2.26

Modified: 5/14/09: Deleted rule 1.1, changed 3.2, 2.16, 2.17

Modified: 3/11/10: Modified rule 2.26.

Modified: 3/19/12: Modified rules: 1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 1.7, 1.11, 1.16, 2.2, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 2.9, 2.11, 2.14, 2.15, 2.16, 2.17, 2.18, 2.20, 2.22, 3.2, 4.1, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3. Deleted rules: 1.15, 2.8, 2.19, 3.3, 3.4.

Modified (revision I): 2/12/15: Deleted rule 2.3 (flying alone), Edited rule 4.2 (witness solo).

Modified (revision J) 9/25/2015: Added rule 2.27.

Modified (revision K) 6/9/2016: Added rules 2.28 and 2.29.

Modified (revision L) 4/12/2018: Modified rules 2.16 and 2.17 to allow sUAVs to fly in the heli area.