

Florence Aero Modelers

AMA Charter #4720

Club Bylaws

ARTICLE 1 - Name and Charter

Section 1 Club Name

The name of this organization shall be the "Florence Aero Modelers", hereafter referred to as "the Club".

Section 2 Club Charter

The Club was established under a charter granted to it by the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) for the purpose of promoting and enhancing the sport of model aircraft.

ARTICLE 2 - Officers and Duties

Section 1 Officers and Duties

Board of Directors: The management of the affairs of the Club shall be vested in the Board of Directors (the "Board") who shall have the authority to establish and administer its policies. There shall be five (5) members of the Board consisting of the Club officers and one (1) additional member appointed by the President. Official decisions may be made by a quorum at a Board of Directors meeting. A quorum shall consist of at least 50% of the current Board members.

President: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and shall act as the Club's spokesperson in all matters.

Vice President: The Vice President shall preside at all meetings of the Club when the President is unable to preside. The Vice President shall act for the

President at any time the President is unable to act. The Vice President shall immediately succeed to the office of President should that office become vacant during a term, for the remainder of that unexpired term. The Vice President shall maintain an accurate record (including place of storage) of all Club assets.

Secretary: The Secretary shall record minutes of each Club meeting and handle all correspondence pertaining to Club activities. The Secretary will also maintain the Club's charter and membership list with the AMA.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall collect all moneys due, disburse all payments, and keep a record of all financial transactions of the Club in accordance with Article 5.

Section 2 *Terms of Office*

All elected officers shall serve for a term of one (1) year commencing with the date of election. Officers are to be elected by a simple majority vote of those present at the December regular meeting. Committee personnel and other special appointments will be made by the elected officers and confirmed by a simple majority vote of those members present during a regular meeting.

Nomination of Club officers shall be made at the general membership meeting during the month of November. Nominations for office may be made by any active Club member holding voting rights, either in person or by submitting a proxy nomination to an existing officer.

For the removal of a Club officer, a secret ballot is required unless waived by a simple majority vote of the members present at the meeting. Club officers are subject to recall by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting.

Section 3 *Vacancies*

Vacancies in any office (other than the President) shall be filled by appointment by the remaining officers, such appointee to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 4 *Committees and Appointments*

Safety Officer: A safety officer shall be appointed by the Board and shall serve for a one-year term running concurrently with the elected officer's terms. The Safety Officer shall be responsible for ensuring existing safety rules are enforced.

Chief Flight Instructor: A chief flight instructor (CFI) shall be appointed by the Board and shall serve for a one-year term running concurrently with the

elected officer's terms. The CFI shall establish and maintain the Club's flight training program and a list of approved flight instructors.

Club Newsletter Editor: The Board shall solicit volunteers and appoint an individual to serve as the newsletter editor.

Club Webmaster: The Board shall solicit volunteers and appoint an individual to serve as the Club's Webmaster.

Special committees: The President may appoint special committees. Such committees will be appointed to carry out the functions of the Club and will be disbanded when such work is accomplished.

Committee members shall be Club members in good standing. Vacancies in unexpired special committees shall be filled by the President.

ARTICLE 3 - Membership, Dues, and Member Standing

Section 1 Membership Eligibility

All persons, unless previously expelled by the Club or another AMA sanctioned club, shall be eligible for membership, and shall agree to abide by the Club's bylaws, and those of the AMA.

Section 2 Membership Categories

The membership shall be divided into the following categories:

Junior Member: An individual who is eighteen (18) years old or younger and has full privileges but no voting rights.

Senior Member: An individual who is nineteen (19) years old or older and has full privileges and voting rights.

Family Membership: Includes all flying members of an immediate family and has full privileges and voting rights but shall be limited to two (2) votes.

Dues for a family membership, is defined to be one (1) Senior Member dues and one (1) Junior Member dues for a given year. Children are included in a family membership through their 18th birthday.

Associate Member: An individual who is interested in the activities of the Club. This member has full privileges but MAY NOT FLY.

Honorary Member: An individual designated by the Board with full privileges but no voting rights.

Privileges of Club membership include access to the Club field, participation in Club activities and events, and the ability to serve as a Club officer.

Section 3 *Membership Dues*

The annual dues to be paid to the Club shall be determined by the Club officers with the approval of a simple majority vote. Dues are non-refundable, except under extraordinary circumstances, which will be determined by the Board on a case-by-case basis.

Membership dues shall be payable by the first regular meeting in each calendar year. Any individual whose Club dues have not been paid by that time shall cease to be a member after that date. Such members shall be dropped from the Club membership roster and all Club privileges shall be revoked.

Members who are delinquent in payment of dues may be reinstated upon payment of all delinquent dues plus a penalty of one dollar (\$1.00) per month from the date of delinquency.

No special assessment shall be levied upon Club members except by majority vote of those members present at a regular meeting, and that notice of such a vote must be given five (5) days prior to such meeting.

Section 4 *Membership Standing*

Any member in good standing may resign his/her membership by giving notice to the Club.

Flying members are required to acquire and maintain membership in the AMA.

Prospective and current Club members shall provide proof of AMA membership during first-time Club registration or membership renewal. Membership in the Club will be automatically terminated if the member ceases to be a member of the AMA.

Their Club membership shall be reinstated upon restoration of their AMA membership. Associate (non-flying) members do not require AMA membership.

Any member who purposely or repeatedly violates the AMA and/or Club safety rules may be expelled from the Club by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Directors if, in the Board's determination, such

violations are detrimental to the safety of the individual, other individuals, the Club, the AMA, or to model aviation.

Any other unacceptable behavior, which violates, is contrary to, or is inconsistent with the Club's rules or bylaws of the Club or AMA, by an individual member or members, is grounds for disciplinary action as determined by the Board. Any individual may be expelled from membership from the Club by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Directors if, in the Board's determination, the unacceptable behavior is a violation of any of the terms of these bylaws, or the Rules of the AMA, or which is detrimental to the Club, the AMA, or to model aviation in general.

Any member who is expelled from Club membership may be reinstated to membership only by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board.

ARTICLE 4 - Meetings

Section 1 General

Regular meetings shall be held at a time and place designated by the Board.

Notification of the general membership as to the time, date and location of said meetings is the responsibility of the Club Secretary.

The Board is expected to meet as often as deemed necessary, in order to properly address the day-to-day activities of the Club. The President of the Club schedules these meetings and notifies the other members of the Board as to the time, date and location of each meeting.

Section 2 Special Meetings

Club officers may call special meetings. The purpose of the special meeting shall be stated in the proposed meeting notice.

Any member of the Club may initiate a formal request for action by the Board by submitting a written proposal to the President. The proposal shall include a written description of the nature, type, and extent of the Board action recommended. The President shall forward copies of the proposal to other members of the Board for their consideration. Either the President, or any other Board member, may have the matter placed upon the agenda of the Club's next general meeting.

Section 3 *Majority*

At any Club regular meeting, a simple majority shall be over fifty (50) percent of the members voting at the meeting. A quorum shall consist of twenty (20) percent of the Club's members in good standing.

ARTICLE 5 - Financial Policy

Section 1 *General*

The treasurer shall receive and have custody of all monies of the Club, depositing same, in a suitable depository. The treasurer shall make disbursements for all expenses, except that, any expenditure over \$100.00 must be approved by the membership prior to commitment.

Any officer or member of the Board of Directors may be compensated for the cost of goods or services expended on behalf of the Club, provided that such expenditures were requested prior to their expenditure.

The balance of Club monies shall be reported to the membership at each general meeting. The Board shall make a periodic audit of the Treasurer's books.

The Treasurer shall complete the appropriate IRS tax forms each year in keeping with federal laws governing profit/non-profit organizations.

ARTICLE 6 - Bylaw Amendments

Section 1 *General*

The bylaws of this Club shall at all times conform to the purposes and programs of the Club and the AMA. In case of dispute, the rules and regulations of the AMA shall prevail.

Amendments may be made to the bylaws at any general meeting of the Club membership. A quorum at a regular or special business meeting shall be required for consideration of the proposed amendment(s). Adoption of proposed amendments shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the quorum present.

ARTICLE 7 - Club Dissolution

Section 1 General

Club dissolution is initiated by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote by the Board of Directors. Should the Board vote for Club dissolution, the proposal, shall be presented to the general membership for a vote during a special or regularly scheduled general meeting. No less than two (2) months written notice will be provided to Club members notifying them of the forthcoming dissolution vote. At the Club meeting during which action of dissolution is to be decided, the Club membership shall be entitled to be heard. The Club may be dissolved with a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of a quorum of members at the specified meeting. The decision of the membership vote shall be final and conclusive.

Section 1 Dispersion of Assets

Upon the dissolution of the Club, the Board shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Club, dispose of all the assets of the Club in a manner determined by the Board.

In the case of merger of this Club with another chartered club of the AMA, all funds remaining in the treasury, after settlement of outstanding obligations, shall be made a part of the merger.

ARTICLE 8 - Grievance Procedure

(Flight and Ground Safety Rules)

Section 1 General

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 for his/her consideration by means of a Grievance Form to be filled out and turned into the Board. At least one witness is required to sign the Grievance Form.

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 Board.

Section 2 *First Violation*

- a. Viewpoints of both complainants and accused will be considered.
- b. Complainant's name will be disclosed.
- c. A verbal reprimand, will be given to the accused, by the Safety Officer, and this will be recorded in the Club membership files.

Section 3 *Second Violation*

- a. Viewpoints of both complainants and accused will be considered.
- b. Complainant's name will be disclosed.
- c. The accused has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the Board.
- d. If the Board 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 posted at the flying field and recorded in the Club membership files.

Section 4 *Third Violation*

- a. Viewpoints of both complainants and accused will be considered.
- b. Complainant's name will be disclosed.
- c. The Board will notify the accused in writing and will notify the Club members that the Club will vote on the expulsion of the accused at the next regular meeting.
- d. Said expulsion will last for a minimum of one-year. (Longer if deemed necessary by the Board)
- e. A member may be expelled from the Club only upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership present at the regular meeting.
- f. Voting will be by secret ballot.
- g. The expelled member may reapply for membership after the expiration of the expulsion time period.

