

WEST TENNESSEE R/C FLERS  
CONSTITUTION  
Article I - Name

This organization shall be officially known and designated as "The West Tennessee R/C Flyers, not for profit, hereinafter referred to as the "Club".

Article II - Purpose

Section 1 - The objective of this Club shall be to promote model building and flying in Jackson-Madison County and in this general locality. To aid insofar as possible the national program of the Academy of Model Aeronautics and other A. M. A. activities, looking toward the continual advancement of model aviation in all its phases in the United States. The A. M. A. club charter number is 1331.

Section 2 - All special or local enterprises of the club shall conform to the policies of the Academy of Model Aeronautics and to the regulations of that organization governing model aircraft contests and events.

Article III - Membership

All persons living in Jackson-Madison County area or having connections in its cities or vicinity shall be eligible to membership to the West Tennessee R/C Flyers. They must meet the qualifications of this club, and the Academy of Model Aeronautics and hold an individual flyer's license issued by the Academy.

BY-LAWS OF THE WEST TENNESSEE R/C FLYERS

Article I - Membership and Initiation

Section I - Types of Memberships

First: Regular Member

A regular member shall be a dues-paying member who is not expelled due to nonpayment of dues, violation of the laws of the organization or being found of causing any general disorders within the organization. He or she may hold an office in the organization.

A member in good standing must present applicants for regular membership in person at a regular meeting of the club.

A vote will be held at the next regular meeting subsequent to the application by secret ballot. Eighty (80%) approval by the regular members present will be required for acceptance. The applicant shall not be present at said subsequent meeting so that an open discussion may be held considering his or her fitness for membership.

An applicant may be rejected, accepted immediately, or accepted subject to a waiting list by said vote of the regular members. The applicant will be notified by mail within thirty (30) days of said vote as to the membership action so taken. Upon acceptance of a prospective applicant, payments of dues and other fees and costs shall be made within thirty (30) days of mailing of the notice of acceptance.

Second - Junior Members and Additional Family Members

- A. In order to assist and promote model aviation with youth and families, junior memberships and family memberships are established as follows: Any person desiring membership in the Club who has not reached his or her nineteenth (19) birthday as of March 1 may join the club as a junior member.
- B. Those under eighteen (18) years of age, who's parents legal guardians are not Regular members, must file a statement with the Club's secretary signed by their parent or legal guardian giving permission for the youth to participate in all Club activities.
- C. A regular member must sponsor junior members, in order to be elected to membership.
- D. Junior members who have not reached their 16th birthday by March 1 will not pay dues, will be exempt from the mowing roster, shall have field flying privileges, and shall not vote.
- E. Junior members who have reached their 16th birthday, but not their nineteenth (19), as of April 1, will not pay dues, enjoy full field privileges, go on the mowing roster, and shall not vote.
- F. Those falling into the above category "E" and who wish to have voting privileges may do so by exchanging their junior membership for regular membership by paying a regular member's dues.

- G. Additional family members over the age of 19 living at the same residence, may join as family members, will not pay dues, enjoy full field privileges, go on the mowing roster, and shall not vote.
- H. Junior and Family members have the right, in any case, to voice their opinions at any regular club meeting, according to the rules of order.

Third: Honorary Member

The Club may elect, From time to time, certain individuals to Honorary membership who have performed exceptional services for the Club and/or model aviation, or any reason the sponsoring member may think appropriate. The sponsoring member will present a written or oral nominating resume to the Club, and approval of eighty (80%) of the regular members, by secret ballot, will elect the nominee to honorary membership. An honorary member shall be a non-dues paying member and may not hold office in the organization.

Section III - Dues and Fees

Club membership shall be among other things, subject to timely payment of dues as set forth hereinafter.

CLUB DUES

Each regular member shall pay club dues in full in an amount determined by a vote of the Club at the annual February meeting for the following year or as amended during any calendar year as necessary. There shall be no initiation fee.

Dues shall be effective for each year commencing March 1, and ending on February 28 (29<sup>th</sup> on leap years), and shall be paid in full by March 1.

Members not paying their dues by March 1 shall be delinquent. Members not paying their dues by March 31 shall be dropped from the club roster and must be re-nominated and re-elected to membership thereafter. Such member must pay in addition to normal dues plus a reinstatement fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00).

Junior and family members are valid as long as the regular member they are attached to is a paid member in good standing. Each junior and family member is required to have a current AMA license.

New regular members that are elected to membership on or after December 1<sup>st</sup>, but before on or before February 28<sup>th</sup> (29<sup>th</sup> on leap years) shall have the following full year membership included in the Eighty Dollar (\$80.00) fee. A one time maximum of seventeen (15) months is allowed on this discount. Subsequent membership renewals will be due on or before February 28<sup>th</sup> (29<sup>th</sup> on leap years) following the first full year of membership (per paragraph two).

Section IV - Quorum

Quorum for the transaction of any business other than the encumbrance or expenditure of more than one-hundred (\$100.00) of the treasury at any meeting shall be defined as the members in attendance when the meeting is called to order. A quorum for the transaction of all other business shall be at least twenty-five (25%) of the total-voting members of the club.

Section V - Amendment of Meeting Date

The date of a regular meeting may be amended by a majority vote of the Club members at a preceding regular meeting, in the event of conflicting activities such as holidays, etc.

Section VI - Conduct of Meeting

Robert's Rules of Order will conduct the business session of any meeting. The President may appoint a Parliamentarian if he or she so desires.

Section VII - Decisions on Business

The President at regular and special meetings of the Club will direct all regular and special business conducted by the Club, respectively.

Decisions on said business will be determined by a majority vote of those regular members present, unless stated otherwise in these by-laws.

### Section VIII - Order of Business

The order of business at business meetings of the members of the Club shall be:

- A. Calling the meeting to order and roll call.
- B. Reading and approving (or correction) of the minutes of the last meeting.
- C. The report of standing or special committees.
- D. Reading and approving (or correction) of the Treasurer's report.
- E. Unfinished old business.
- F. New business.
- G. Nominating and/or elections (if applicable)
- H. Adjournment.

### Section IX - Acceptance of Membership Application

All new applicants for membership in the Club must request an application form which must be filled out completely and submitted to a member in good standing for presentation at the next regular meeting. Membership dues and fees will be due in full within thirty (30) days of acceptance of the applicant by the club.

### Section X - Renewal of Memberships

Members when renewing membership must submit a new application form accompanied by their annual dues in the full amount to the Treasurer. The application will be for Club records updating and will be immediately valid and enforced as of the date it is received.

### Section XI - Licenses

All members and applicants for membership must also be members in good standing of the A. M. A. and produce their license at time of accepting or renewing their Club membership.

### Section XII – Member Removal from Club

Any member not complying with the Club charter and operating rules, or of the A. M. A., or causing harm to the Club may be removed from membership by a three fourths (3/4) vote of the total regular membership of the Club. This vote may be taken at a regular or special emergency meeting of the Club. Removal of membership will forfeit any dues.

## Article IV - Meeting of Members

### Section I - Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the members for the election of officers and establishment of dues and fees and the transaction of other business shall be held at the place designated by the President at the regular monthly meeting in February.

### Section II - Special Meetings

Special meetings of the members of the Club may be called by the President upon receipt of written petition of ten percent (10%) or more of the membership provided such petition should state the purpose for which meeting is to be called.

### Section III - Business meetings

Business meeting of the members of the Club shall be held on the second Tuesday of each month. The time and place to be announced in the newsletters mailed to each member by the corresponding Secretary approximately one (1) week before said meeting. It shall notify members of any known pertinent business to be introduced at the meeting.

## Article V - Officers

### Section I - Elected Offices

There shall be elected six (6) offices and all such offices shall be held for a term of one (1) year extending from March 1 to February 28<sup>th</sup> (29<sup>th</sup> on leap years) The titles of the officers to be elected are:

- A. President
- B. Vice President
- C. Recording / Corresponding Secretary
- D. Treasurer
- E. Safety Officer
- F. Contest Coordinator

### Section II - Nominating Committee

At the January business meeting the President shall appoint a nominating committee of at least two members, one of which shall be designated as Chairman. It shall be the duty of the nominating committee to present their slate of candidates of at least one member for each office in the newsletter immediately preceding the February business meeting. Any member desiring an office may make it known to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

### Section III - Conduct of Elections

At the February meeting after the selections of the nominating committee have been placed before the members, the President shall call for nominations from the floor. When the nominations are closed, the President shall appoint tellers, ballots shall be distributed, and the vote shall be taken and tallied by the tellers and the results announced. All elections shall be determined by plurality vote and shall be by secret ballot. Those persons elected shall take office at the March meeting. All persons elected as officers must be regular members of the Club and they shall retain their floor and voting rights.

### Section IV - Special Elections

If any one or more of the above offices becomes vacant there shall be a special election held at the next regularly scheduled meeting following the advent of such vacancy. Nominations shall come from the floor and a secret ballot shall be taken and counted as in a general election. The person so elected to fill such a vacancy shall serve out the remainder of the term of such office as if he had been regularly elected thereto

## Article VI - Powers and Duties of Officers

### Section I - President

The President of the Club shall preside over all meetings of the Club and shall be charged with over-all administration and leadership of the Club, shall appoint committees, approve emergency expenditures up to one-hundred dollars (\$100.00) and to act as spokesman for the club.

The President is responsible for the over-all coordination of the club and shall maintain close contact with every faction of the club. The President is charged to maintain an up to date assessment of the views of the individual club members, and to bring these views to bear for the benefit and welfare of the club.

The President shall endeavor to avail himself for any and all meetings of standing or special committees, when requested, in an advisory capacity.

The President shall apprise himself of sources of technical aids and information pertaining to model aviation and shall assist members in obtaining such aid information when requested to do so.

The President shall appoint members for all temporary and/or special committees, and shall also make necessary temporary appointment to fill vacant offices until such time as a special election is held to assume all the powers, authorities and duties of the Treasurer in his absence or inability to act.

### Section II - Vice President

The Vice President shall act for the President when he is unable to serve and shall be a standing member on all club committees.

### Section III - Secretary

The Secretary shall record and maintain the minutes of all club meetings and membership roles. This officer shall also be responsible for keeping club rules and by-laws up to date and see that they are periodically circulated to the members and that all records are passed intact to the succeeding secretary.

The Secretary shall handle all the clubs written correspondence including, but not limited to the monthly meeting announcement and newsletter, which shall be sent to each member approximately one week before a scheduled meeting. This office shall also be responsible for solicitations to manufacturers for club contest prizes, for making purchasing inquiries and for maintaining a field-mowing roster if necessary. This office shall also work with the with the club contest coordinator on contest matters.

This officer shall also maintain at all times an accurate and up to date list of names, addresses, telephone numbers and frequency used by each member of the Club. He will maintain a record of all correspondence and pass these records intact to his successor.

### Section IV - Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be custodian of all funds, securities, valuable papers and other assets of the club. This officer shall collect dues and receive all moneys for the club and shall be charged with the responsibility of keeping the books accurately, up to date, and available for review to any club member at any reasonable time. This officer shall also examine all membership applications and determine whether or not an applicant is eligible to apply for, or to renew, a club membership. The Treasurer's balanced ledger of club finances shall be subject to an annual audit by a committee of two persons appointed by the President from the regular membership of non-officers.

This officer will supply the Secretary with a list of paid up members, issue payments up to one-hundred dollars (\$100.00) on the president's approval and any payment on member approval at a scheduled meeting. He shall pass all records intact to his successor.

### Section V – Safety Officer

The Safety Officer shall handle all the clubs safety related activities. . This office will also be responsible for proper field safety in accordance with AMA guidelines and report monthly at the scheduled club meetings. . This officer shall also maintain at all times an accurate and up to date set of field operation rules, available to all club members, and posted visibly at the flying field. This officer shall also submit safety communications to the secretary for inclusion in the monthly newsletter. He will maintain a record of all correspondence and pass these records intact to his successor.

### Section VI - Contest Coordinator

The Contest Coordinator shall be responsible for the organization of all AMA sanctioned club contests or events. He should be either an AMA leader member or an AMA contest director.

### Article VII - Miscellaneous

#### Section I - Removal from Office

If an office shall become vacated by reason of resignation, termination of membership, or by declaration or failure to perform the duties of such office, said office shall be declared vacant and the vacancy filled as heretofore provided. A unanimous vote of all other officers shall be required before an officer can be found guilty of failure to perform the duties of his office.

#### Section II - Standing committees

The Standing Committees of the Club shall be appointed by the President as required to serve throughout his term of office and their duties shall be indicated by the names of the committees as follows:

- A. Contest Committee
- B. Prizes and Awards Committee
- C. Field Committee
- D. Meeting Program Committee
- E. Membership Committee

### Section III - Liability

The members and officers of this Club shall not be personally liable for any obligation of the Club.

### Section IV - Amendments

All motions to amend the constitution or by-laws of the Club shall be read by the President. The President shall order them to be tabled for at least one (1) month. During that month, the amendment shall be printed in the Club newsletter and sent to members of the Club prior to the next meeting. At the next monthly meeting of the members a second reading shall be made before the members may vote on the motion. A three-fourths (3/4) majority of the voting regular members present at the time the vote is taken shall be necessary to pass the motion for amendment.

#### **Revisions:**

November 19, 2007      TNT      Article 1 Section III      Changed new member discount time period from October 1st to December 1<sup>st</sup> (bylaws officially amended fall of 2006 – This is a documentation update)

January 2004              TNT      Various typing errors in March 2003 Revision now corrected. Fixed wrong months for new officers to take effect.

March 2003              TNT      Article \* Section \*      Changed all fiscal year references from March to February to coincide with AMA Chartering

February              2003      TNT      Article V Section I      Removed Vice President is automatically President elect for the next year

February              2003      TNT      Article V Section IV      Removed Vice President is automatically President elect for the next year

February              2003      TNT      Article VI Section II      Removed Vice President is automatically President elect for the next year

November 2002          TNT      Article I Section III      Changed dues to constant \$80.00 – New members joining late in year get free months

March 1999      TNT      Article I Section III      Changed dues timing and late fees  
Original Acceptance: July      1997      TNT