

WEST TENNESSEE R/C FLYERS

CONSTITUTION

Article I - Name

This organization shall be officially known and designated as "The West Tennessee R/C Flyers", a 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 (AMA) and other AMA activities. The AMA Club charter number is 1331.

Section 2 - All special or local enterprises of the Club (including model aircraft contests and events) shall conform to the policies and regulations of the Academy of Model Aeronautics and the FAA

Section 3 - Operation of the club flying facility(s) shall be in accordance with AMA safety rules and regulations and FAA regulations.

Article III - Membership

The West Tennessee R/C Flyers is a non-discriminatory organization and all shall be eligible to membership to the Club provided they meet the qualifications of this Club, and the Academy of Model Aeronautics, and hold a current individual flyer's license issued by the Academy as defined in section IV.

BY-LAWS

Article I - Flying Site

The primary flying site for the WTRCF Club is located on property owned by the Jackson Energy Authority (JEA) and lies within the city limits of Jackson, TN. The Club's use of the site is governed by a lease with JEA. This lease and verbal agreements with the officers of JEA defines how the Club may use the field and restrictions associated with the Club's operation.

The Club's Flying Site Rules incorporate the agreements the Club has with JEA along with other practical uses of the flying site. Club members are obligated to abide by these rules in the use of the flying site.

Incorporated in the Club's agreement is the security of the JEA property. One such security item is the gated entrance. JEA has agreed to provide an entrance FOB to each regular member of the Club in good standing. When a member leaves the Club, the FOB will be deactivated, and the member is expected to return the FOB to an Officer of the Club.

The WTRCF flying site is an Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) and FAA-Recognized Identification Area (FRIA) site.

As an AMA chartered Club the flying site is covered by AMA insurance. The cost of the annual insurance is paid by the club directly to the AMA. The AMA provides a copy of the insurance certificate to JEA when issued.

Article II - Membership

Section I - Types of Memberships

Regular Member

A regular member shall be a dues-paying member who has not been expelled from the club by the enforcement of Section V of Article II. He or she may hold an office in the organization. Each regular member shall enjoy full privileges of the Club including full field privileges, right to hold office, and voting privileges.

Junior Members

To promote model aviation with youth, Junior memberships are established as follows:

- A. Any person who has not reached his or her nineteenth (19) birthday as of March 1 of the current year may join the Club as a Junior member. Junior members will not be required to pay dues, will enjoy full field privileges, and shall not have voting privileges. Junior members must be sponsored by a Regular Club member as required in Section II below.
- B. Those sixteen (16) years of age or older, who wish to have voting privileges, may obtain regular membership by paying current regular member dues and voted on as a new member as outlined in Section II below.
- C. Those under eighteen (18) years of age, whose parents or legal guardians are not Regular Club 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 Club activities.

Family Members

Family members of a regular Club member over the age of 19, living at the same residence, may join as family members. Family members will not be required to pay dues, will enjoy full field privileges, and shall not have voting privileges.

Honorary Member

The Club may elect individuals who have performed exceptional services for the Club and/or model aviation to Honorary membership. A sponsoring member(s) will present a written or oral nominating resume to the Club during a regular meeting. An honorary member shall be a non-dues paying member, may not hold office, and may not vote, but entitled to full field privileges.

Section II - Acceptance of New Members

New applicants for all types of membership in the Club must submit a completed application form at the next regular meeting. Subject to a quorum, eighty (80%) approval by the regular members present will be required to accept new applicant for membership. Membership voting will be by Voice vote unless a Regular Member request voting to be by secret ballot. Membership dues and fees will be due in full upon acceptance of the applicant by the Club.

Section III - Renewal of Memberships

Members renewing membership must submit a new application form (current year) 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 IV – Required Licenses

All members, including Regular, Junior, Family, Honorary members, and applicants for membership, must possess a current Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) license and produce their license when submitting a new application. Current Members must maintain a valid AMA license to be in good standing. It is the responsibility of individual members to ensure their AMA license is current.

Section V – Member Removal from Club

Any member (all types) not complying with the Club charter and operating rules, or AMA rules or causing harm to the Club may be removed from membership. A vote will be taken at a regular or special emergency meeting of the Club. Subject to a quorum, a unanimous vote of the regular members present is required to remove the member. Removal of membership will result in forfeiture of any dues paid, shall be dropped from the Club roster, flying privileges suspended, and security FOB Disabled. It will be the responsibility of the delinquent member to return the JEA issued FOB to the club.

Article III - Officers

Section I - Elected Offices

There shall be elected seven (7) offices, and all such offices shall be held for a term of one (1) year extending from January 1st through December 31st. The titles of the officers to be elected are:

- A. President
- B. Vice President
- C. Recording Secretary
- D. Treasurer
- E. Website/Newsletter/Communications
- F. Safety Officer
- G. Contest Director(s)

All persons elected as officers must be regular members of the Club.

Section II - Nominating Committee

Prior to the annual meeting the President shall appoint a nominating committee of at least two members, one of which shall be designated as Chairman, and shall have the Recording Secretary notify the Club members of members of the nominating committee via email. The Website/Newsletter/Communications officer may also post the nominating committee members to the website or other appropriate communication method. Any member desiring an office should make it known to the Nominating Committee.

It shall be the duty of the nominating committee to present their slate of candidates of at least one member for each office to the Club Recording Secretary and the Website/Newsletter/Communications officer. The Recording Secretary shall then communicate this slate of officers to the Club members via email prior to the annual meeting. The Website/Newsletter/Communications officer may post the slate to the website or other appropriate communication method prior to the annual meeting.

Section III - Conduct of Elections

At the annual meeting the selections of the nominating committee will be placed before the members, and the President shall call for nominations from the floor. Subject to a quorum, approval of eighty percent (80%) of the regular members present is required to elect the officers for the next year.

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 subject to a quorum, approval of eighty percent (80%) of the regular members present is required to fill the vacancy. 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 IV - Powers and Duties of Officers

Section I - President

The President of the Club shall preside over all meetings of the Club, shall be charged with over-all administration and leadership of the Club, shall appoint committees, shall approve emergency and routine expenditures up to the limits outlined in Article VI, Section III and shall 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 all meetings of standing or special committees, when requested, in an advisory capacity.

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. The President shall assume all the powers, authorities and duties of the Treasurer in his absence or inability to act.

The President may assume any or all duties of the Recording Secretary in case no Recording Secretary is currently in office and may assign any or all Recording Secretary duties per Article IV Section III.

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. The Vice President may be assigned by the President any or all duties of the Recording Secretary in case no Recording Secretary is currently in office.

Section III - Recording Secretary

The Recording Secretary shall record and maintain the minutes of all Club meetings and membership rolls. 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 Recording Secretary shall also always maintain an accurate and up to date list of names, addresses, telephone numbers, AMA and FAA numbers of each member of the Club. The Secretary will ensure the roster is up to date on the AMA web site as well as the WTRCF web site. The Secretary will review the current status of each member's AMA license each month and report delinquent members at the next regular meeting. The Secretary will maintain a record of all correspondence and pass these records intact to his successor.

In the event that no Recording Secretary is elected, The Recording Secretary duties may be assumed by the President or Vice President as outlined in Article IV Sections I, II, and III.

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. The Treasurer shall also examine all membership applications and determine whether an applicant is eligible to apply for, or to re-new 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. The Treasurer can approve emergency and routine expenditures up to the limits outlined in Article VI, Section III

The Treasurer will supply the Secretary with a list of paid-up members, issue payments on the President's, Treasurer's, and Safety Officer's approval (subject to the limits as outlined in Article VI, Section III) and any payment on member approval at a scheduled meeting. He shall pass all records intact to his successor.

Section V - Website/Newsletter/Communications

The Website/Newsletter/Communications officer shall be responsible for all internal Club communications via some or all the following as appropriate

- Maintenance of the Club website
- Monthly Newsletter/communication
- Email relevant Club announcements
- Monitor Social Media

Section VI – Safety Officer

The Safety Officer shall handle all the Club's safety related activities and. be responsible for proper field safety in accordance with AMA guidelines. The Safety officer provides a safety report/discussion at scheduled Club meetings.

The Safety officer shall provide safety rule updates to the Club Recording secretary for inclusion in the Club rules. The Safety officer shall also submit safety communications to the Website/Newsletter/Communications Officer for inclusion in the monthly newsletter.

The Safety Officer will maintain a record of all correspondence and pass these records intact to his successor. Additionally, the Safety Officer can approve emergency and routine expenditures up to the limits outlined in Article VI, Section III

Section VII - Contest Director

An AMA Contest Director shall be responsible for the organization of all AMA sanctioned Club contests or events.

Article V - 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 in November at the place and time designated by the President at the prior regular monthly meeting in October.

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 regular members of the club, provided such petition should state the purpose for which meeting is to be called. Additionally, a special meeting maybe called at any time by President and one other officer for emergency expenditure or actions requiring Club approval. Notice shall be given by the Recording Secretary via email to the regular members as soon as practical.

Section III - Business meetings

There shall be a regular monthly business meeting of the members of the Club. The meeting schedule for the year will be determined at the annual meeting. The time and place for upcoming meetings to be announced via email to each member by the Recording Secretary approximately one (1) week before said meeting. It shall notify members of any known pertinent business to be introduced at the meeting.

Section IV – Quorum

A quorum (when required for a vote by the regular members of the Club, as stated in various sections of these Bylaws) shall be defined as twenty percent (20%) of the regular members of the Club.

Section V - Amendment of Meeting Date

The date and place of the next regular meeting may be amended by a majority vote of the Club members present current regular meeting, in the event of conflicting activities such as holidays, etc.

The time and place for the amended meeting date to be announced via email to each member by the Recording Secretary approximately one (1) week before said meeting. It shall notify members of any known pertinent business to be introduced at the meeting.

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

Article VI – Club Financial Matters

Section I - Dues and Fees

Each regular member shall pay Club dues in full in an amount determined by a vote of the Club at the annual meeting for the following year or as amended during any calendar year as necessary. Subject to a quorum, approval of (80%) of Regular Members present will be required to set the annual dues and fees.

Dues shall be effective for each year commencing January 1, and ending on December 31, and shall be paid in full by January 31.

Members not paying their dues by February 1 shall be delinquent, shall be dropped from the Club roster, flying privileges suspended, and security FOB Disabled. It will be the responsibility of the delinquent member to return the FOB to the club

Junior and family members are valid as long as the regular member they are attached to is a paid member in good standing.

New regular members that are elected to membership on or after November 1st, but on or before December 31 shall have the following full year membership included in the current annual membership fee. A one-time maximum of fourteen (14) months is allowed on this discount. Subsequent membership renewals will be due on January 1 following the first full year of membership (per paragraph two).

Section II – Special Assessments

Should events occur which requires an expenditure(s) in an amount that would be exceed or cause extreme burden on the Club funds, a special assessment of the members may be needed. If upon the consensus of the Officers an assessment is required, the Recording Secretary shall notify the membership of the need and amount of the assessment prior to the next regular Club meeting. The needed assessment will be presented and discussed. The approval of the assessment shall be deferred until the following regular Club meeting. The Recording Secretary shall notify the members via email one week prior to the meeting of the vote on the needed assessment, including the amount and reason for the assessment. The voting process shall consist of a secret ballot submitted at the meeting, or an email to the Recording Secretary designating your vote at least three days before the meeting. Eighty percent (80%) of Regular members of the club must vote to approve the assessment.

Section III – Officer Spending Authority

Between business meetings routine and emergency expenditure are required for the operation of the Club. To facilitate these requirements, the following schedule of spending authority is established for certain Club officers:

President	\$500.00
Treasurer.....	\$500.00
Safety Officer	\$100.00

The above limits may be changed at the Annual meeting of the Club. The changes at the Annual meeting will not require an amendment of these Bylaws.

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 remaining officers shall be required before an officer can be found guilty of failure to perform the duties of his office. Subject to a quorum, approval of eighty percent (80%) of the regular members present members will vote on the Officers' recommendations for removal.

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/Event Committee
- B. Field 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 at a regular Club meeting. The President shall order them to be tabled for one (1) month. The Recording Secretary shall notify all members of the proposed by-laws amendment via email prior to the next meeting.

At the next monthly meeting of the members, a second reading of the amendment shall be made before the members prior to a vote on the motion. Subject to a quorum, the approval of eighty percent (80%) of the regular members present shall be necessary to pass the motion for amendment.

Revisions:

March 12, 2025 - New Version Complete Re-write / Update to match current club operations. Supersedes all previous versions of West Tenn R/C Flyers bylaws.

Approved by the Club on July 7, 2025