

Constitution of the "Valley Radio Control Model Club"

The "Valley Radio Control Model Club" is a non profit club governed by the by-laws and regulations shown below and the laws of the province of Kwa-Zulu Natal.

BY-LAWS:

Article 1 - Name:

The name of this organization shall be the "Valley Radio Control Model Club" of Durban, and shall hereinafter be referred to and designated as such.

Article 2 - Purpose:

The organization shall be not for profit and was formed for the following reasons:

1. To create interest in model building.
2. To promote model flying.
3. To educate both new and seasoned flyers in the mechanics and aeronautics of flight, the skills of model building and the electronics involved in the radio control operation.
4. To sponsor model Fun-Flies.
5. To improve friendship.
6. To exchange knowledge and ideas.
7. To create and conduct indoor and outdoor activities.
8. To have social activities to include families.

Article 3 - Membership:

1. The number of members shall be unlimited.
2. Applicants must apply for membership at a formal meeting. The application and dues must be submitted to the Club Treasurer, before the membership is granted.
3. Method of Membership Dismissal:
 - a. Members to be notified by letter thirty (30) days prior to the Committees' vote.
 - b. Member to be placed on probation for thirty (30) days.
 - c. Requires a majority vote of the Committee.
4. Membership is required for all members, except non-flying members or those that the Club adopts as Honorary Members.
5. Any member deliberately breaking club rules, not acting in a sportsmanlike manner or being uncooperative is liable for expulsion from the club by a majority decision of the Committee. A signed petition submitted to the Committee can also initiate the action.
6. All members will be responsible for payment of any assessments approved by the Club membership.
7. All members will be responsible for personal and property damage caused by them and shall assume said responsibility before resumption of flying.
8. Club members are encouraged to have occasional guests at the flying field and meetings. Guests shall comply with all "Valley Radio Control Model Club" rules.
9. Application for Honorary Membership must be submitted to the Committee for approval. If approved, the Committee will bring the application to vote at the next Club meeting.

Article 4 - Dues and Finances:

1. Membership is accepted upon payment of dues and the majority vote of the Committee.
2. Club dues shall be as follows:
 - a. Student Membership: (ages 18 to 64 years) R100 p/a
 - b. Open Membership: (ages 18 to 64 years) R100 p/a
 - c. Associate Membership: (non-flying) R40 p/a
 - d. Senior Membership: (65 years of age and older) R50 p/a
 - e. Lifetime Membership: (as defined in Article 4a, section 2, and subsection e - are permanent members and are not required to pay annual membership dues. These members will have full privileges and voting rights equal to an "Open Member".
 - f. One "Open Membership" or "Lifetime Membership" in the "Valley Radio Control Model Club" provides other members of that immediate family that are under the age of 18, with the status of "Family Membership". Family membership dues are:
 - a. Members aged 13-17 - R 50 p/a
 - b. Members aged under 12 - Free
3. An initiation fee of R100 shall be required for each new membership. This initiation fee covers all family members under the age of 18. Members covered under the "Family Membership" plan are not subject to the initiation fee when converting to an "Open Membership" upon reaching the age of 18 as long as they have maintained continuous membership.
4. Membership dues cover the cost between the time of acceptance and December 31st of the same year.
5. If a member(s) joins between July 1st and October 31st, the member(s) will pay 50% of the full applicable membership dues for that year plus the full initiation fee.
6. If a member joins between November 1st and December 31st, the member(s) will pay the full membership dues for the following year plus the full initiation fee. This payment will cover the remainder of the current year plus the entire following year.
7. Dues for members in good standing must be paid yearly and are due by December 31st for the following year's membership. Any member that has not paid their dues by the January meeting shall have their Club privileges terminated and will be dropped from the Club roster. Any member who has not paid their dues before March 1st will be considered a new member and will be subject to the R100 initiation fee. The Committee may waive the initiation fee for past members in good standing if the Committee determines that there are extenuating circumstances.
8. Dues and initiation fees shall be governed by the Committee, subject to membership approval and reviewed annually.

Article 5a - Membership Categories:

1. All persons shall be eligible for membership in the "Valley Radio Control Model Club" and shall agree to abide by its constitution, Club Rules and Regulations.
2. The membership shall be divided into the following categories:
 - a. Student Member: Is younger than eighteen (18) years old, has full privileges and voting rights. Membership dues are as listed in Article 4, section 2, subsection a.
 - b. Open Member: Is eighteen (18) years old and older and have full privileges and voting rights. Membership dues are as listed in Article 4, section 2, subsection b.
 - c. Associate Member: A non-flyer, who is interested in activities of the Club and has voting privileges. An "Associate Member" may not hold a Club officer position but may be appointed to a sub-committee. If an "Associate Member" decides to upgrade to an "Open Membership", then payment to the club in the amount of the difference in the dues between "Associate Membership" and "Open

Membership" dues are required and are listed in Article 4, section 2, subsection c.

- d. Senior Member: Is sixty-five (65) years old or older and have full privileges and voting rights. Membership dues are as listed in Article 4, section 2, subsection d.
 - e. Lifetime Member: Effective January 1, 2005, any current Club member in good standing that are at least fifty (50) years of age and have maintained paid membership in the Club for the past twenty-five (25) cumulative years with the prior ten (10) years being consecutive, will be automatically converted to "Lifetime Membership" at membership renewal time. A "Lifetime Member" have full privileges and voting rights equal to an "Open Member"
 - f. Family Membership: Requires at least one "Open" or "Associate" membership. A paid "Family Member" has full privileges and voting rights. Membership dues are as listed in Article 4, section 2, subsection e.
 - g. Honorary Membership: Honorary members have no voting rights, cannot hold a Club position (neither elected nor appointed) and are not eligible to win raffle or Fun-Fly prizes (they may participate in the Fun-Fly), but cannot win a prize nor will they be ranked. Honorary members are not paying members. Honorary membership are granted by a unanimous vote of the Committee. Honorary membership will be reviewed each January by the Committee to determine continued eligibility.
3. Flying members will be required to hold and maintain a competency certificate in the form of wings: Solo, Bronze, Silver or Gold.

Article 5 - Club Meetings:

1. Club meetings are to be held once a month.
2. Meetings will be held at a designated place.
3. Meetings shall be held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 19:30.
4. Meetings shall be held in a formal business like manner and should be as informative as possible.
5. Club business should prevail at all meetings. "Bull sessions", "out of turn" and "off the subject" subjects should follow the meetings and programs and not be part of them.
6. The majority of the club membership, in agreement, may call a special Club meeting by advising the Committee.
7. The Committee may call a Special Club meeting with prior notice to the members of the club.
8. The Secretary shall keep the "minutes" of every meeting.
9. The following business shall be executed at each club meeting:
 - a. Previous minutes reading and approval - additions and corrections.
 - b. Treasury Report - additions and corrections.
 - c. Any Chairman reports.
 - d. Old business.
 - e. New business.
10. All voting issues subject to a membership vote must be passed by a simple majority of a "quorum". A "quorum" shall be 30% of the active membership.
11. Additions or revisions of the by-laws are subject to a majority approval of the Committee standing prior to being submitted to a membership vote.
12. Any five (5) members disagreeing with any action taken by the officers of the club may, by petition, bring the matter before the Committee for discussion.
13. Club operating expenses will be paid from the treasury.
14. The Chairman shall have to authority to spend up to R200 for unexpected costs, related to club issues, without formal approval by the Club members.
15. An AGM "quorum" will consist of 30% of the registered members.
16. The Committee meeting will consist of a minimum of five (5) members.

Article 6 - Nominations and Elections:

1. Officers will be elected on a yearly basis.
2. Nominations for all elective officers shall be made at the October meeting.
3. Nominations are closed for each officer separately at the October meeting.
4. During the October meeting, up to 30 minutes shall be allocated for the nomination for the positions of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and the future committee.
5. Members can vote to elect officers at the October club meeting or by paper ballot.
6. Installation of the new committee will be at the close of December meeting.
7. Officers to be elected are:
 - a. Chairman
 - b. Vice-Chairman
 - c. Secretary
 - d. Treasurer
 - e. Safety Officers
8. The election results will be a combination of paper ballots and verbal ballots, which will be combined and counted at the November Club meeting.
9. In case of resignation of the Chairman or his inability to serve, the Vice-Chairman shall ascend to his position as Chairman. A special election will be held to elect a new Vice-Chairman.
10. If the Vice-Chairman assumes the position of Chairman, an election will be held at the next club meeting to elect a new Vice-Chairman.
11. If a member of the committee resigns or cannot fulfill his duties, a new member will be elected at the next club meeting.
12. A majority of cast votes shall determine the election results, when only two (2) candidates are nominated for a position. When three (3) or more candidates are running for a position, the candidate with the most votes is the winner.
13. Sub-Committee to be appointed as required by the Committee for:
 - a. Fun-Fly Ins
 - b. Programs
 - c. Safety
 - d. Refreshments
 - e. Field Safety
 - f. Flying Proficiency
 - g. Picnics and Braais
 - h. Noise Control
 - i. Editorials (e.g. Club News Letters)

Article 7 - Committee:

1. The Committee shall consist of four (4) elected members and the Club Chairman.
2. The Committee shall be responsible for the overall direction and planning of the activities of the club.
3. The Committee has the responsibility of appointing the Club Secretary and Treasurer. The aforementioned appointments shall be determined by a majority of the club.
4. The Committee shall have the authority to spend club finances on club membership approved programs and activities.
5. Any professional (i.e. legal, accounting, etc) services that are required for the club shall be approved by the unanimous consent of the Committee.
6. The Committee is responsible for the maintenance of all corporate and legal documents.
7. All elected officials shall provide their duties in a "Hold Harmless" environment. Specifically they shall not be subject to any legal or monetary penalties for services provided in good faith.
8. No elected or appointed club official shall be compensated for fulfilling their club duties.

Article 8 - Duties:

1. The Chairman shall preside over all meetings and conduct same in a responsible parliamentary manner. The Committee shall authorize and spend responsible club funds for the club raffle and Fun-Fly prizes.
2. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall preside over the meeting.
3. In the absence of both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, the senior member (longest membership in the club) of the Committee that is present shall preside over and conduct the business meeting.
4. The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings and submit them to the membership for approval at the following meeting. In the absence of the Secretary, the Vice-Chairman will be responsible for recording the meeting minutes. The Secretary shall be custodian of all records including the Club roster and shall notify members of any special meetings and regular meetings. He/She will also handle any correspondence and insurance records as required.
5. The Treasurer shall collect all monies and keep record of the same. He/She shall give report at each meeting of all receipts and expenditures. He/She shall conduct dues and maintain a bank account in the Club name and arrange for transfer of same to the succeeding Treasurer.
6. The Editor shall be responsible for the creation and distribution of a news letter.
7. All members shall be responsible for enforcing Club and safety rules.

Article 9 - Sub-Committee Responsibilities:

1. Program Committee: Is in charge of arranging for all demonstrations etc.
2. The Fun-Fly Committee: Is in charge of arranging all the contests, demonstrations and participation with other clubs etc.
3. The Refreshment Committee: Shall be responsible for providing normal refreshments for the club meetings. The cost will be reimbursed from the Club Treasury.
4. The Safety Officers: Shall be responsible for the overall safety at the flying field. They will be responsible for recommending noise level standards for the club. The Committee shall provide periodic noise control recommendations at Club meetings. They shall also be responsible for helping to enforce all club safety regulations and periodic safety reminders at club meetings.
5. The Flying Proficiency Committee: Shall be responsible for maintaining a record of the members "proficiency" ratings. The Committee shall oversee, appoint and regulate all club instructors. All changes in proficiency ratings will be subject to the Committee's approval. The content of the various proficiency tests is the Committee's responsibility.

Article 10 - Amendments:

Amendment 1: The Committee will be responsible for developing and maintaining a system file for the club. This file will include procedures for the business operations of the club. The file will include, but not be limited to, accounting practices, dates and procedures for filing legal documents, dates and procedures for filing Corporate Tax and other accounting records, and where club documents shall be stored.

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