



ARTICLE 21

RC MODEL AND DRONE FACILITY

(Adopted 7/10/09; Amended 08/10/16; Amended 8/14/21)

SECTION 2100. HOURS OF OPERATION (Renumbered 05/10/14)

(a) Hours of operation will be from 7 AM until sunset for electric models, and 9 AM until sunset for internal combustion powered models, 7 days a week. Hours of operation are established by the Board and may be changed without prior notice. (Amended 05/10/14, 3/14/21)

(b) After hours use (non-flying) of the site will observe a 10 PM "QUIET TIME." After hours use is allowed so long as it does not disrupt other site activities, cause harm or damage to the facility or surrounding property. (Section 2101(b) deleted, Section 2100(a) and (b) amended and renumbered 05/10/14)

SECTION 2101. SAFETY (Renumbered 05/10/14)

(a) General

1. A model aircraft shall be defined as a non-human-carrying device capable of sustained flight in the atmosphere. It shall not exceed limitations established in this code and is intended to be used exclusively for recreational or competition activity. This includes, but is not limited to, any radio controlled aircraft, drones, helicopters, gliders, quadcopters etc. (Amended 11/10/16, 3/14/21)
2. The maximum takeoff weight of a model aircraft, including fuel, is 55 pounds, except for those flown under the AMA (Academy of Model Aeronautics) Experimental Aircraft Rules.
3. Facility users will abide by this Safety Code and all rules established for the flying site and will not willfully fly model aircraft in a reckless and/or dangerous manner.
4. Users will not fly model aircraft in sanctioned events, air shows, or model demonstrations until it has been proven airworthy.
5. Users will not fly model aircraft unless it is identified with name and address, or AMA number, inside or affixed to the outside of the model aircraft. This does not apply to model aircraft flown indoors.
6. Acceptable methods of propulsion will be limited to reciprocating internal combustion engines, and/or electric motors. Users will not operate model aircraft with metal-blade propellers or with gaseous boosts (other than air), including model rocket engines or gas turbines of any kind, nor will they operate model aircraft with fuels containing tetranitromethane or hydrazine.
7. Users will not operate model aircraft carrying pyrotechnic devices which explode burn, or propel a projectile of any kind.
8. Users will not operate model aircraft while under the influence of alcohol or within eight (8) hours of having consumed alcohol.
9. Users will not operate any model aircraft while using any drug which could adversely affect their ability to safely control model aircraft or vehicles.
10. Children age 6 and below will not be allowed on the flight line. All minors must be accompanied and supervised by an adult parent or guardian whenever model aircraft are being flown. Children under the age of 12 are only allowed on the flight line as a pilot while under flight instruction by a qualified adult pilot instructor. (Amended 3/14/2021)
11. R/C aircraft may not be flown from residential homes, tracts, or lots. (Amended 3/14/21)
12. Aircraft, whether RC models or drones, etc. may only be flown at the RC Model Field under the flight constraints as delineated in Article 21 and are disallowed from flying on or over any BVSA Facilities, Amenities, or Common Ground. R/C aircraft may not be flown over any roadway or over residential homes. (Added 11/10/16) (Renumbered 05/10/14) (Amended 3/14/2021)

SECTION 2102. RADIO CONTROL AND FLIGHT PATTERN (Renumbered 05/10/14; Amended 08/10/16; Amended 3/14/21)

(a) Operation

1. All model flying shall be conducted in a manner to avoid over flight of unprotected people, vehicles, or horses that may be in the area, regardless of whether or not said people, vehicles or horses are purposely or accidentally encroaching on the designated "Fly Zone", runway, or model airfield common areas. Any person who violates the posted approved air space shall be subject to disciplinary procedures, as outlined in BVSA Rules, Article 17, which may include a suspension of their amenity privileges and/or be fined by the Bear Valley Springs Association. Members are responsible for their guests and may be disciplined for guests who violate these rules. (Amended 8/10/11; Amended 05/10/14; 3/14/21)

2. All model flying must be performed according to the posted Fly Zone Map, designated pilot boxes or flight line pilot locations, utilizing takeoff and landing patterns as outlined below. Adherence to these guidelines will provide a safety buffer between model aircraft and the nearest hard boundaries and other official BVSA amenities that are directly adjacent to the model airfield. (Added 05/10/14) (Amended 3/14/21)

(a.) The Model Airfield flight line is located on the north side of the runway near the picnic benches and awning cover. Pilots shall stand in designated protective pilot boxes located on the flight line, and utilize the airspace facing due south/west towards Lower Valley Road as the designated Fly Zone.

(b.) R/C pilots may fly to the south within 50 ft. of the paved roadway on Lower Valley Rd., in order to keep a safe distance from cars and pedestrians using Lower Valley Road. Flying beyond that point or over the roadway is prohibited.

(c.) The normal flight pattern is dictated by westerly prevailing winds, so that take-offs and landings will normally take place in an east-to-west (or left-to-right) manner while standing in a pilot box on the flight line. This approach is mandatory for all aircraft regardless of gas, glow, diesel, electric, ducted fan, or glider unless easterly winds dictate landing from a west-to-east (right-to-left) direction.

(d.) Flying in the airspace east of the flight line should only be performed in order to enter the landing pattern for a final approach, during which R/C pilots must keep a 50' minimum safe distance between their model aircraft and the CSD Transfer station. Flying beyond that point or over the CSD Transfer Station is prohibited.

(e.) Float planes and other amphibious aircraft may be flown from Jack's Hole when there is sufficient water to use a runway. Take-offs and landings shall take place only on the southernmost half of Jack's Hole, which is delineated by "Low Flying Aircraft" signs posted on the western and eastern shores of Jack's Hole. Amphibious model aircraft may not take-off or land north of the "Low Flying Aircraft" signs. The flight line for R/C pilots flying amphibious aircraft shall be along the southern shoreline of Jack's Hole (on the north side of the Model Airfield parking lot), Westerly prevailing winds dictate that normal amphibious aircraft take-offs and landings shall be from east-to-west (right-to-left) direction.

(f.) R/C aircraft pilots may not fly past the half-way point of Jack's Hole, and must keep a 50' minimum safe distance from the Nature Walking Path and Equestrian Trails to the north and west of Jack's Hole.

(g.) R/C boats are permitted the full, unrestricted use of Jack's Hole with the exception of BVSA sponsored special events, such as fishing derbies; and whenever amphibious model aircraft are using it as a landing zone.

(h.) Amphibious R/C aircraft may use Jack's Hole on Wednesdays and Saturdays during the morning hours (beginning at 7am for electric models, and 9am for internal combustion powered models), up until 12pm. Fishermen may use Jack's Hole after 12pm on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and will have the exclusive use of Jack's Hole throughout the rest of the week without restrictions.

(i.) Electric and sail powered R/C boats shall be allowed on Cub Lake. R/C aircraft of any kind are disallowed at Cub Lake. (Added 3/14/21)

3. Users will have completed a successful radio equipment ground-range check before the first flight of a new or repaired model aircraft.

4. Users will not fly model aircraft in the presence of spectators until becoming a proficient flier, unless assisted by an experienced pilot.

5. At all flying sites a line must be established, in front of which all flying takes place. Only personnel associated with flying the model aircraft are allowed at or in front of the line. In the case of air show demonstrations a straight line must be established. An area away from the line must be maintained for spectators. Intentional flying behind the line is prohibited.

6. Users will operate model aircraft using only radio-control frequencies currently allowed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Only individuals properly licensed by the FCC are authorized to operate equipment on Amateur Band frequencies.

7. No powered model may be flown outdoors closer than 25 feet to any individual, except for the pilot and located at the flight line.

8. Under no circumstances may a pilot or other person touch a model aircraft in flight while it is still under power, except to divert it from striking an individual.

9. The operator of a radio-controlled model aircraft shall control it during the entire flight, maintaining visual contact without enhancement other than by corrective lenses that are prescribed for the pilot. No model aircraft shall be equipped with devices that allow it to be flown to a selected location that is beyond the visual range of the pilot. (Amended 05/10/14) (Added subsection 2. and Renumbered 2,3,4,5,6,7,and 8 to 3,4,5,6,7,8,and 9 on 05/10/14)

(b) Free Flight model aircraft of any kind, including model rockets, are not permitted at this facility. (Amended 3/14/21)

SECTION 2103. MEMBER AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES (Renumbered 05/10/14) This Article will be enforced as provided in Article 17 and Article 3. (Added 12/10/13)

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