

Des Moines Modelaires Field Rules Effective August 2017

All rules apply to both Des Moines Modelaires club fields (E. Paul Johnson field East of Elkhart and Westfield West of Grimes) except as noted.

It is the responsibility of all members to monitor for compliance with these rules.

Any member may ask you to stop flying if you are not in compliance with our field rules or flying in an "unsafe" manner. Neither you nor our field owners are covered by liability insurance if you are not in compliance with these rules.

Violations of field rules should be reported to the club Safety Officer. Repeated violations can result in revocation of your membership.

General Rules:

- Flying gas, glow, or turbine powered aircraft before 9am (10am Sundays at EPJ due to proximity of the church) or after sunset is not permitted.
- At West Field flying near the home south of the field or performing acrobatics over the farm east of the field, when people are present, is strictly forbidden.
- At West Field flying turbine powered aircraft is not permitted.
- Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on the field at any time.
- Firearms and fireworks should never be discharged or ignited at our fields.
- Use of our fields is restricted to current members of the Des Moines Modelaires and their guests. **Members must be present with, and supervise, their guests.**

A guest shall be defined as the following:

1. A person who is undergoing flight training by a Des Moines Modelaires flight instructor.
 2. An AMA member who is flying with a current club member as a guest and flies with that member present at all times.
 3. An AMA member who has been a Des Moines Modelaires and is not currently a member, who contacts a current club board member to specifically ask for "guest status" for a specific day and is granted such status.
 4. An AMA member who is not currently a Des Moines Modelaires member who is participating in a club AMA sanctioned event.
 5. All Guest's **MUST** fly with a sponsor member at all times.
- Both our flying fields are AMA sanctioned. To fly at these fields:
 1. All pilots must be a Des Moines Modelaires club member or invited guest.
 2. All pilots must have a current AMA membership.
 3. All pilots must have a current FAA registration.
 4. Club members must have a current Des Moines Modelaires membership and display their membership card on their person at all times.
 5. Invited guest pilots must be with a current Des Moines Modelaires member who is present and display their AMA card on their person at all times, or display it upon request as they may not have the means to attach it to clothing.
 - Pilots must stand near a designated flight stations and behind the safety fence when flying. We have a limit of 1 pilot at each flight station.

- New members must demonstrate their flying proficiency to an existing member before flying solo.
- Spectators are welcome to observe from the pit area but are not allowed within the flying portion of the field.
- Pets are **NOT** allowed in the pit area and must be on a leash away from the pit area and the flying area.
- Club members must have current Des Moines Modelaires and AMA memberships and display their membership card on their person at all times.

Use of 72 MHz Transmitters / and Ham Frequencies

A frequency board is used to share 72 MHz frequencies. Do not turn your transmitter on, or begin flying, until you have placed your membership card on the frequency control board and know for sure your frequency is clear.

If you are using a transmitter that broadcasts on a frequency other than 2.4GHz you must post your frequency on the board. This includes Ham Radio frequencies and includes the video link frequencies used in FPV if required by the AMA.

1. Place your current membership card over the frequency number you will be using.
2. If your frequency is in use, communicate with the other pilots on your frequency and negotiate sharing it. Please be courteous and share frequencies.
3. Des Moines Modelaires members will use their current club membership card on the frequency board.
4. Guests must use their current AMA card on the frequency board.
5. Your **72 MHz** transmitter must have a frequency number displayed.

Starting or running of engines / motors

- Do not start or run engines / motors in the pit area. This includes helicopters, Quad copters, and electrics.
- If you are using a 72 MHz transmitter to run your engine, your card must be on the frequency control board.
- If you are preparing to fly, start your engine or arm your electric motor at a flight station.
- Effective mufflers are required on all fuel based engines as we must respect our neighbors by minimizing engine noise.
- Engine tune-up and engine testing must be done in the designated area at either end of the pit area and away from all flight stations.

General Flying

- Before taxiing onto a runway announce loudly “coming out” to let others know your intentions.
- Before starting your takeoff roll announce loudly “taking off” to let others know your intentions.
- Fly from the “Pit” side of the runway only. This includes all 3D activities and helicopter flights.
- Absolutely no flying over the pit area. **Repeat violations will result in termination of your membership.**
- Flying must be to the far side (away from the pit area) of the runway. This includes helicopters, quads and 3D flying.
- Always take off into the wind, if a cross wind or no wind situation exists, the pilots present will decide which direction to fly.
- After takeoff always turn 90 degrees away from the pit area and continue to fly in a rectangular or oval pattern.
- When landing, announce loudly to the other pilots, “landing” to let others know your intentions
- If you are “dead stick” (engine not running) announce loudly “dead stick” to let others know your situation. **Dead Stick aircraft have priority for landing.**
- Retrieval of downed aircraft from adjacent farm fields must be done on foot only.
- When retrieving an airplane from any part of the flying field:
 1. Check traffic to be sure you can retrieve your aircraft safely.
 2. Announce loudly “on the field” to let others know your intentions.
 3. Retrieve your aircraft as quickly as possible.
 4. When you are back behind the flight line fence, announce loudly “clear” to let others know you are safely off the flying field.

3D / Helicopter / Quad copter Flying / Gliders

- If you would like to fly a 3D plane, helicopter, glider, or quad copter clear of the active runway you must coordinate with pilots using the active runway and make sure they know your intentions.
- You must be skilled enough to ensure your aircraft does not cross the active flying pattern in use.

FPV (First Person View) Flying

- Your aircraft must remain in sight at all times.
- You must have an active spotter next to you at all times.
- You must follow AMA published rules.

Always Coordinate and Communicate, remembering Courtesy is Contagious and Safety is No Accident.

**Academy of Model Aeronautics National Model Aircraft Safety Code
Effective January 1, 2014**

A. GENERAL: A model aircraft is a non-human-carrying aircraft capable of sustained flight in the atmosphere. It may not exceed limitations of this code and is intended exclusively for sport, recreation, education and/or competition. All model flights must be conducted in accordance with this safety code and any additional rules specific to the flying site.

1. Model aircraft will not be flown:

(a) In a careless or reckless manner.

(b) At a location where model aircraft activities are prohibited.

2. Model aircraft pilots will:

(a) Yield the right of way to all human-carrying aircraft.

(b) See and avoid all aircraft and a spotter must be used when appropriate. (AMA Document #540-D.)

(c) Not fly higher than approximately 400 feet above ground level within three (3) miles of an airport without notifying the airport operator.

(d) Not interfere with operations and traffic patterns at any airport, heliport or seaplane base except where there is a mixed use agreement.

(e) Not exceed a takeoff weight, including fuel, of 55 pounds unless in compliance with the AMA Large Model Airplane program. (AMA Document 520-A.)

(f) Ensure the aircraft is identified with the name and address or AMA number of the owner on the inside or affixed to the outside of the model aircraft. (This does not apply to model aircraft flown indoors.)

(g) Not operate aircraft with metal-blade propellers or with gaseous boosts except for helicopters operated under the provisions of AMA Document #555.

(h) Not operate model aircraft while under the influence of alcohol or while using any drug that could adversely affect the pilot's ability to safely control the model.

(i) Not operate model aircraft carrying pyrotechnic devices that explode or burn, or any device which propels a projectile or drops any object that creates a hazard to persons or property.

Exceptions:

Free Flight fuses or devices that burn producing smoke and are securely attached to the model aircraft during flight.

Rocket motors (using solid propellant) up to a G-series size may be used provided they remain attached to the model during flight. Model rockets may be flown in accordance with the National Model Rocketry Safety Code but may not be launched from model aircraft.

Officially designated AMA Air Show Teams (AST) are authorized to use devices and practices as defined within the Team AMA Program Document.

(AMA Document #718.)

(j) Not operate a turbine-powered aircraft, unless in compliance with the AMA turbine regulations. (AMA Document #510-A.)

3. Model aircraft will not be flown in AMA sanctioned events, air shows or model demonstrations unless:

(a) The aircraft, control system and pilot skills have successfully demonstrated all maneuvers intended or anticipated prior to the specific event.

(b) An inexperienced pilot is assisted by an experienced pilot.

4. When and where required by rule, helmets must be properly worn and fastened. They must be OSHA, DOT, ANSI, SNELL or NOCSAE approved or comply

with comparable standards.

B. RADIO CONTROL (RC)

1. All pilots shall avoid flying directly over unprotected people, vessels, vehicles or structures and shall avoid endangerment of life and property of others.

2. A successful radio equipment ground-range check in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations will be completed before the first flight of a new or repaired model aircraft.

3. At all flying sites a safety line(s) must be established in front of which all flying takes place. (AMA Document #706.)

(a) Only personnel associated with flying the model aircraft are allowed at or in front of the safety line.

(b) At air shows or demonstrations, a straight safety line must be established.

(c) An area away from the safety line must be maintained for spectators.

(d) Intentional flying behind the safety line is prohibited.

4. RC model aircraft must use the 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.

5. RC model aircraft will not knowingly operate within three (3) miles of any pre-existing flying site without a frequency-management agreement. (AMA Documents #922 and #923.)

6. With the exception of events flown under official AMA Competition Regulations, excluding takeoff and landing, no powered model may be flown outdoors closer than 25 feet to any individual, except for the pilot and the pilot's helper(s) located at the flightline.

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

8. RC night flying requires a lighting system providing the pilot with a clear view of the model's attitude and orientation at all times. Hand-held illumination systems are inadequate for night flying operations.

9. The pilot of an RC model aircraft shall:

(a) Maintain control during the entire flight, maintaining visual contact without enhancement other than by corrective lenses prescribed for the pilot.

(b) Fly using the assistance of a camera or First-Person View (FPV) only in accordance with the procedures outlined in AMA Document #550.

(c) Fly using the assistance of autopilot or stabilization system only in accordance with the procedures outlined in AMA Document #560.

C. FREE FLIGHT

1. Must be at least 100 feet downwind of spectators and automobile parking when the model aircraft is launched.

2. Launch area must be clear of all individuals except mechanics, officials, and other fliers.

3. An effective device will be used to extinguish any fuse on the model aircraft after the fuse has completed its function.

D. CONTROL LINE

1. The complete control system (including the safety thong where applicable) must have an inspection and pull test prior to flying.

2. The pull test will be in accordance with the current Competition Regulations for the applicable model aircraft category.

3. Model aircraft not fitting a specific category shall use those pull-test requirements as indicated for Control Line Precision Aerobatics.

4. The flying area must be clear of all utility wires or poles and a model aircraft will not be flown closer than 50 feet to any above-ground electric utility lines.

5. The flying area must be clear of all nonessential participants and spectators before the engine is started.