

BY-LAWS OF
CHECKERBOARD RADIO CONTROL CLUB INC.
CHARTERED CLUB OF THE ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS
CHARTER NUMBER 864

Article I: Name Location Incorporation

A. The name of this club shall be: Checkerboard Radio Control Club, Inc., hereinafter referred to as the Club.

B. Club Mailing Address: Checkerboard RC Club
P.O. Box 391
Forest Park, IL 60130

Flying Site Street Address: Miller Meadow - Cook County Forest Preserve
2175 S. 1st Avenue
Forest Park, IL 60130

Flying Site Geographical Location: Latitude 41.851600 degrees North
Longitude -87.8293 degrees West
GPS Coordinates 41° 51' 5.76" N
87° 49' 45.48" W

C. The Club is a not-for-profit corporation organized under the Illinois General Not For Profit Corporation Act of 1986

Article II: Purpose

A. The objectives of this Club shall be to promote and maintain social interests in the field of model aircraft, building, ownership, safety and operation; and to promote progressive development of model aircraft and the enjoyment and safety thereof by its members.

B. To aid insofar as is possible the national program of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, hereinafter referred to as the AMA, and other AMA activities.

C. All special or local enterprises of the Club shall conform to the policies of the AMA and to the regulations of that organization governing model aircraft contests or activities.

Article III: Membership

- A. AMA Qualifications:
 - a. **All members must have a current AMA membership.**
 - b. Eligible AMA membership includes Full Membership Program and Park Pilot Program.
- B. Club Qualifications:
 - a. AMA members shall be eligible for membership in the Club, provided they meet the qualifications prescribed by this Club and by the AMA. To maintain membership in this Club, all Club and AMA guidelines must be followed.
 - b. Exception: Non-Flying Members or those that the Club adopts as Honorary Members.
 - c. All New Club Members must complete the Club Membership Application. All Officers must review the application.
 - d. All New Club Members will be on probation for 90 Days after joining the club. If the New Club Member displays any actions outside of the Club and AMA guidelines, the member will be removed from the Club and paid Dues refunded.
- C. Dues:
 - \$35.00 for new members
 - \$25.00 for new members after August 1st
 - \$30.00 for continuing members
(\$30 Up to January 31 \$35 after January 31)
 - \$ 1.00 for new or continuing junior members or contributors (Under 19 as of July 1).
 - \$0 for Honorary Members are permanent members and are not required to pay annual membership dues. These members will have full privileges and voting rights equal to a member
 - \$0 Elected officers and appointees shall not be required to pay dues to the Club while in office.
- D. By January 31, all members and contributors are expected to pay dues for the calendar year.
- E. Members who allow their membership to lapse beyond March 31 of any year will be notified of their status. These members will be dropped from the Club roster if their dues are not received on or before April 30.
- F. The President will screen the roster quarterly and submit names of members without AMA membership to the Board of Directors for revoking membership from the club.
Method of Membership Dismissal:
 - a. Members to be notified by letter thirty (30) days prior to the Board of Directors vote.
 - b. Member to be placed on probation for thirty (30) days.
 - c. Requires a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
- G. Any former member may be reinstated into the Club by a recommendation from an active Club member and payment of current dues.
- H. All members shall be responsible for enforcing Club and AMA safety rules.

Article IV: Officers

- A. Elected Officers & Duties: All officers must be members of the Club for at least one year and free of any grievance violation at the time of nomination. New members and members with grievance violation are eligible for appointments if agreed upon by the Club Membership majority. The elected officers of the Club shall be:
- a. **President**: The president shall preside at all meetings of the Club and shall act as spokesman for the Club in all matters pertaining to it. He/she shall be responsible for maintaining validation from the AMA pertaining to the Club and membership status. The president or his/her appointees will make a periodic audit of the Treasurer's books.
 - b. **Vice-president**: The Vice-president shall act for the President when the President is unable to serve, and carry the Presidents vote by proxy.
 - c. **Secretary/Treasurer**: The Secretary/Treasurer shall act for the President or Vice-president when they are unable to serve. As Treasurer he/she shall collect and keep a record of all monies due, received, and disbursed. He/she shall procure a checking account in the Club name, using his/her own and the President's signature. A statement of the Club's assets and liabilities will be issued at every Club meeting or when requested by a quorum of the membership. He/she or their appointee shall handle all correspondence pertaining to Club business, including the Club's publications. He/she shall receive operating expenses to cover the cost of monthly mailings and notices.
 - d. **Safety Director**: The Safety Director (to the best of his/her ability) shall manage field operations so as to maintain a safe flying area.
 - e. **Safety Officers**: The Safety Officers (to the best of his/her ability) shall assist in managing field operations so as to maintain a safe flying area under the direction of the Safety Director.
- B. Appointed Officers:
- a. **Recording Secretary**: The recording Secretary shall keep minutes of all regular meetings. Special note shall be made of all changes to the Constitution or By-laws. All records shall be kept on file for a period of no less than 3 years.
 - b. **Board of Directors**: Board of Directors shall be the previous year's officers. The board shall act as consultant and adviser to the newly elected officers.
 - c. **Newsletter Editor**
 - d. **Membership Recorder**
- C. Vacancies: Vacancy in any office shall be filled by appointment by the remaining officers. Such appointee to serve until the end of the term for which his/her predecessor was elected.
- D. Terms of Office: All officers of the Club shall serve for one year from the date of election.

- E. Nominations & Elections: Nominations for the next year's officers shall be made at the September and October meetings. All known nominations for office will be published in the newsletter prior to the election. Election and installation of officers will be held at the November meeting. Officers are to be elected by a vote of a simple majority of those present at the November meeting. A secret ballot is required for elections; for removal of a Club officer; and for the expulsion of a member from the Club unless waived by a simple majority of the members present at the meeting.

Article V: Meetings

- A. Regular Meetings: Regular meetings shall be held once a month. Notice of regular Club meetings shall be given to Club members via email and newsletter. Failure to attend regular meetings shall not nullify any voting or election procedures at any meeting where a quorum is in attendance.
- B. Special Meetings: Special meetings of the Club shall be at any convenient time, upon call by the President, or upon a call signed by three members of the board, or upon a call signed by any ten members of the Club, provided that any such call shall name the time and place of such meeting and shall be issued at least one week in advance of the date set.
- C. Recording of Meetings: Digital or audio recordings are not permitted during the business section of the club meetings. Digital or audio recordings will be not allowed for special guest speakers and the show and tell segment of the meeting. Unless such business is permitted by the majority of the officers.
- D. Quorum: At any regular meeting, a quorum shall consist of 20 members and two officers, if only one officer is available a board member must serve. At any officers meeting, a quorum shall consist of three officers. At any board meeting, a quorum shall consist of a majority of the board's personnel. All regular business affairs and enterprises conducted by the Club shall be directed by the President. Any decision of the President or his/her appointee can be vetoed by a quorum of officers or members.
- E. Attendance by Interactive Technology: Members are entitled to vote, to participate in, and act at any meeting through the use of a conference telephone or interactive technology, including but not limited to electronic transmission, Internet usage, or remote communication, by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can communicate with each other. Participation in such meeting by interactive technology shall constitute attendance and presence in person at the meeting of the person or persons so participating.

Article VI: Fees

- A. The elected officers shall have the right to issue checks up to \$200 for regular business and other expenses they deem necessary to promote the sport of model aviation, especially when pertaining to the Club and its personnel. Checks in excess of this amount

must receive approval from the Club members and contributors at a regular meeting where a quorum is present.

- B. No special assessments shall be levied upon Club members at any time, except by a majority vote of the members at a regular meeting where a quorum is present.
- C. The Treasurer is authorized to receive contributions or specially obtained funds from any individual or institution to be applied to the operating expense of the Club.
- D. Any special funds, or accounts, must be approved by the Club members at a regular meeting where a quorum is present.

Article VII: Committees

- A. Committees may be formed by the Club whenever such a need arises. These will be temporary committees intended to perform only one function, on a onetime basis.

Article VIII: Year-end responsibilities

- A. It shall be determined at the September and October meetings whether a raffle or other option shall be held during the December meeting. If a raffle or other option is held, a minimum of \$100 plus the receipts from the raffle shall be turned over to the incoming officers.
- B. All Club financial records, files, and material of financial value shall be turned over to the newly elected officers. All records are the property of the Club.
- C. All membership dues collected for the succeeding year shall be held in reserve and turned over to the incoming treasurer. These dues shall be allocated as reserve assets in a December 31st end of year net worth statement which the outgoing treasurer shall furnish to the incoming officers. Board approval must be obtained to use any portion of membership dues collected for the succeeding year to offset expenses incurred in the current year.
- D. It is the duty of the Elected Officers of the Club to maintain the not-for profit status of the corporation and provide Tax Reporting in January of the next year. (Example: The 2018 Officers must report for 2018 in January Of 2019).
- E. If a New Officer or Officers are elected at the end of the year term, the By-laws of the Club must be resigned and acknowledged by the newly elected Officer or Officers. All Officers must have signed understanding of the Club By-laws.

Article IX: Amendments to By-laws

- A. Amendments may be made to these Constitution and By-laws at any regular meeting of the Club, provided the members shall have been notified at a meeting, or in the newsletter, at least one week in advance that an amendment is to be considered, or by a majority vote by a poll conducted by mail of the entire membership. Copies of the proposed amendment shall be provided to all members or contributors who request them.

Article X: Resignation, Termination, Disciplinary Action, Expulsion and Reinstatement of Membership

- A. A club member may resign at any time. A resigning Club officer shall provide written notification and shall turn over all materials in his/her position that are the property of the Club within 30 days.
- B. This section provides for enforcement of Safety Rules that are related to flying activities. Any other unacceptable behavior by an individual member or members, as defined by the Club officers, become the responsibility of the Club officers. Any individual may be expelled from membership from the Club if, in the Club officer's determination, such individual *willfully* commits any act or omission which is a violation of the Rules of the AMA, or which is detrimental to the Club, the AMA, or to model aviation. (See Article 11, Section d for expulsion process.) A majority vote of the membership is required for reinstatement to the Club after expulsion
- C. Expulsion: Any member may be expelled from membership from the Club by a majority vote of the membership if in the officer's determination, such member willfully commits any act or omission which is a violation of any of the terms of these Bylaws, or the Rules of the AMA, or which is detrimental to the Club, the AMA, or to model aviation. A majority vote of the membership is required for reinstatement to the Club after expulsion.

Article XI: Grievance Procedure (Flight and Ground Safety Rules)

- A. The grievance procedure provides a mechanism to enforce existing safety rules by providing a progressive disciplinary system when needed. In those cases where a complaint cannot be resolved informally, the matter should be referred to the Safety Committee for its consideration by means of a Grievance Form to be filled out and turned into the Safety Director. The Safety Committee shall be composed of the Club's elected officers or as otherwise appointed by the President. At least one witness is required to sign the Grievance Form.
- B. The Safety committee shall use its judgment in carrying out action on the following:
 - a. A grievance form will be filled out and turned into the Safety Director. At least one witness is required.
 - b. First Violation
 - i. Viewpoints of both complainants and accused will be considered.
 - ii. If warranted, a verbal reprimand will be given by the Safety Committee and this will be recorded in the Club's Safety file. Complainant's name will be disclosed.
 - c. Second Violation
 - i. Complainants name will be disclosed.
 - ii. The accused has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the Safety committee.
 - iii. If the Safety Committee so decides, the flying privileges of the accused will be suspended for a period of time as determined by the Committee.

- d. Third Violation
 - i. The Safety Committee **will** notify accused in writing and the Club members via the Club Newsletter that the Club will be voting on expulsion of the accused at the next meeting. The expulsion period will be determined by the Safety Committee.
 - ii. A member may be expelled from the Club only upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership present at the meeting. Voting will be by secret ballot at a regular monthly meeting.
 - iii. The expelled member may reapply for membership after expiration of the expulsion time period.
- C. These actions will not be enforced unless they are accumulated within a two year period of time.
- D. Any member receiving a Grievance, who directs any retaliation action against the person filing said Grievance, will be subject to immediate expulsion from the Club. This is to include threats, intimidation, physical harm, intentional equipment damage, or any other action deemed retaliatory by the Club officers.

Article XII: Dissolution of Club

- A. Dissolution of Club: The duration of the club shall be perpetual. The Club may be dissolved with the approval of two thirds vote of the membership. If such action is taken, the Officers shall then: (i) make provisions for payment of all the Club’s legally owed debts; and (ii) liquidate and donate to The Academy of Model Aeronautics of all remaining Club assets.

Article XIII: Club Rules

Safety Rules: It is not feasible to make a complete and exhaustive listing of all safety and operational club rules that will make a model flying site function both safely and smoothly. The following Attached Documents shall be the foundation for our Safety Regulations and Flight Operations. These Documents are provided for the general benefit of all members, and are as follows:

- A. AMA Safety Code – dated January 1, 2018
- B. Miller Meadow - FPDCC Regulation Sign – dated May 1, 2017
- C. Miller Meadow – Operating Procedures and Airspace Restrictions – dated May 1, 2017
- D. Miller Meadow – Airspace Restricted Area Range Ring Map – dated May 1, 2017
- E. Miller Meadow – Flying Field Layout Design – dated May 16, 2016

Other Rules: The Club is much more than just a physical place to fly ones model airplane. Rather, it is viewed by the current membership as a highly enjoyable and picturesque place to fly ones model aircraft, and also a place where club members with a common aero modeling interest can gather socially, share technical knowledge, train novice pilots, enjoy camaraderie and fellowship amongst themselves, have a laugh or two, and generally participate in an atmosphere which is both safe and mutually supportive of all members who wish to enjoy this wonderful hobby. Therefore, all club members are kindly requested to keep flying safety first and foremost in their minds, and also to project an honest, friendly, cooperative, courteous, and positive attitude to all other club members, our land owners, the public at large, and visitors to the field.

Modified and Amended:
Date _____

Signed:

President _____
Vice President _____
Treasurer / Secretary _____

