

# **BYLAWS OF THE SEMINOLE RADIO CONTROL CLUB, INC**

Amended July 20, 2023

## **ARTICLE I: NAME**

The name of the organization shall be the Seminole Radio Control Club, Inc., incorporated as a not-for-profit organization in the State of Florida, Document Number 746030, hereinafter referred to as the "Club."

## **ARTICLE II: PURPOSE**

A. The purposes for which the Club is organized are to:

1. Form a non-profit association of model aviation hobbyists of all ages who design, build and fly model aircraft as a safe and enjoyable recreation;
2. Promote fellowship among the members for mutual technical support and education; and
3. Provide model aviation related activities that support Tallahassee and Leon County community goals.

## **ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP**

A. The Club shall have four (4) classes of membership:

1. General. Open to any remote control aircraft enthusiast at least eighteen (18) years of age who holds an Academy of Model Aeronautics membership. General members shall enjoy all rights and privileges offered by the Club.
2. Junior. Open to any remote control aircraft enthusiast under eighteen (18) years of age with parental or guardian approval. Junior members shall hold Academy of Model Aeronautics membership. Junior members are ineligible to vote or hold office, but shall enjoy all other rights and privileges offered by the Club.
3. Family. Open to any remote control aircraft enthusiasts who are immediate family members living in the same household. Family members shall hold Academy of Model Aeronautics membership. Family members shall enjoy all rights and privileges offered by the Club except only one (1) family member may vote or hold office.
4. Associate. Open to any remote control aircraft enthusiast who is a prior Club member, but does not intend to continue to operate remote control aircraft. Associate members shall have limited rights and privileges. Associate members shall not vote, hold office or operate remotely controlled aircraft.

B. Qualifications:

1. Applicants for membership shall submit a written or email membership application form to the Treasurer and provide the applicant's Academy of Model Aeronautics membership number, email and contact information. Applications shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors and may be denied or accepted with stipulation(s). An applicant may appeal an adverse decision by The Board to the general membership for vote.
2. Applicants for membership with flying privileges must be members or show evidence of application for membership in the Academy of Model Aeronautics.
3. All Club members with flying privileges must maintain current membership in the Academy of Model Aeronautics. If any member discontinues membership in the Academy Of Model Aeronautics, his/her aircraft flying rights and privileges shall terminate immediately, subject to reinstatement upon restoration of Academy of Model Aeronautics membership.
4. All Club members must pay dues appropriate for their Club membership class.

C. Dues and Fees:

1. Dues for each membership class shall be:
  - a. General: Sixty dollars (\$60.00) per year. (Through 2023)  
Eighty dollars (\$80.00) per year for 2024.  
One hundred dollars (\$100.00) per year effective 2025.
  - b. Junior: Twenty dollars (\$20.00) per year.
  - c. Family: Seventy five dollars (\$75.00) per year. (Through 2023)  
One hundred dollars (\$100.00) per year for 2024.  
One hundred twenty five (\$125.00) per year effective 2025.
  - d. Associate: No cost.
2. Membership dues shall be paid prior to the first day of the Club fiscal year and cover a period through the end of the Club fiscal year. New members who join the Club after the beginning of a year shall have their first year dues prorated by month for the remaining months in the year. Dues will not be prorated for former club members.
3. A member is delinquent if dues are not paid by the end of the first meeting of the Club fiscal year. The member will then be dropped from the rolls. A delinquent fee may be assessed if approved by a vote of the voting Club membership.
4. A member who has attained the age of 80 years and has been a continuous member for five years shall be declared a member for life and annual dues shall be permanently waived.
5. Special assessments are subject to approval by simple majority vote of the voting Club members.
6. The amount of the annual dues in each category, the schedule of payments for partial year memberships, and any other fees shall be determined by simple majority of the voting members.
7. If a vote on an item is necessary and official Club meeting attendance is too small to constitute a substantial number of Club members, the Club Secretary shall conduct an absentee ballot by email or mail and report the result at the next regular meeting.

#### D. Fiscal Year

The fiscal year shall be from the first day of January to the last day of December.

### ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

#### A. Officers:

1. The affairs of the Club shall be managed by four (4) officers a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.
2. The Club shall have no less than four (4) officers.

#### B. Duties:

1. President. Preside at all meetings of the membership, coordinate all committee activities and enforce the provisions of these bylaws of the Club to the best of his/her ability.
2. Vice-President. Assist the president in performing his/her duties and, in case of the absence, incapacity, death, resignation or removal from office of the president, perform the duties of the president until a new president is elected.
3. Secretary. Take minutes at all Club meetings, keep records, officiate during elections and other voting activities, accept membership applications, handle correspondence and perform any other duties deemed necessary by the membership in order to maintain the Club's business and records in an orderly manner.
4. Treasurer. Collect dues, maintain custody of the Club's financial and material assets, purchase goods and services, serve as the Club's registered agent in reporting to the State of Florida, serve as point of contact with the U.S. Treasury, Internal Revenue Service, maintain financial records and perform other duties as deemed necessary by the membership.

#### C. Authority

1. The officers shall represent the Club and shall negotiate vital Club interests on behalf of the membership in all business matters.
2. The officers serve as the Board of Directors of the Seminole Radio Control Club Corporation.
3. Club officers shall collect and store minimal information on Club members pertinent to efficient communication with Club members and managing Club business. Club officers shall not share personal information of any Club members, other than name and Academy of Model Aeronautics membership number, with any outside interests, except with explicit approval. Club officers may share members' names, email addresses and phone numbers with other Club members. Individual Club members may request that their contact information be withheld from other Club members.

#### D. Term of Office

1. Officers shall be elected annually during the first business meeting in December each year and take office at the completion of the meeting.
2. Officers shall serve a term of one (1) year unless re-elected.

E. Election:

1. To be eligible for office a nominee must have been a General Member in good standing for at least one year prior to his or her nomination.
2. Voting shall be by secret ballot or show of hands as decided by the members present at the December meeting. A simple majority of votes cast by the members present is required to elect. Absentee ballots shall be available upon request by any member with voting privileges.
3. A nominating committee, chaired by the secretary, shall present a slate of candidates at the first business meeting in November. Additional nominations may be made from the floor. All nominees must accept the nomination either verbally or in writing. All members shall be notified of the complete slate of candidates at least ten (10 ) days prior to the election.
4. The incumbent secretary and one (1) member-at-large shall comprise the poll committee. All absentee ballots must be delivered directly to the secretary prior to the election. Email delivery is acceptable. After the polls are closed, the poll committee shall tally all votes and announce the new Board of Directors. Should a challenge arise following the announcement, an additional member-at-large shall be named to confirm the poll committee's count. Any challenge being resolved, the ballots shall be destroyed, the new officers/Board of Directors declared the unanimous choice of the Club members and the number of votes any candidate received shall remain secret.
5. Board vacancies shall be filled by special election within sixty (60) days.

F. Appointed Officers

The president shall appoint a safety officer, a field marshal and a training coordinator.

G. Recall

An officer may be removed from the board by the affirmative votes of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members of the Club. Email voting is acceptable.

**Article V: COMMITTEES**

- A. A Nominating Committee shall consist of the secretary, as chairman, and two members-at-large. As necessary, the Nominating Committee shall present two candidates for each office.
- B. An Activities Committee shall consist of the vice-president, as chairman, and other members-at-large as deemed necessary.
- C. A Safety Committee shall consist of the safety officer, as chairman, and other members-at-large as deemed necessary. The Safety Committee shall ensure existing safety regulations are enforced. This includes processing grievance forms and following the grievance procedure documented in the bylaws.
- D. A Field Maintenance Committee shall consist of a field marshal, as chairman, and other members-at-large as deemed necessary. This committee shall ensure that the field is properly maintained and recommend improvements and changes.

- E. A Flight Training Committee shall consist of a training coordinator, as chairman, and those members-at-large who have demonstrated an ability to competently instruct novice pilots. This committee shall review its membership as necessary to maintain quality instructors.
- F. Committees shall be appointed at the first meeting of the year for a term of one year.
- G. Other ad-hoc committees may be created at the president's discretion. Ad-hoc committees shall automatically dissolve at the end of the appointing president's term.

## **ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS**

- A. Authorized meetings shall be announced to a majority of the Club members at least forty eight (48) hours before the meeting is to take place and shall be attended by at least two (2) Club officers.
- B. General membership meetings, which are authorized meetings, shall be held each month on a date and at a location set by, and can be modified by, a majority vote of the Board members and published in the Club newsletter and/or Club web site.

## **ARTICLE VII: MEMBER RIGHTS AND POWERS**

- A. Any member of the Club may initiate a formal request for action by the Club officers by submitting a written or email proposal to the president. The proposal shall include a written description of the nature, type and extent of the recommended Club officer action. The president of the Club shall forward copies of the proposal to other officers for their consideration. Either the president, or other officer, may have the matter placed upon the working agenda of the next Club meeting.
- B. The highest authority of the Club shall be the will of a majority of the membership assembled at authorized meetings.

## **ARTICLE VIII: CLUB RULES**

- 1. The club, under the leadership of the Safety Officer, shall maintain a written set of field, safety, and operational rules entitled "The SRCC Operational & Safety Rules". The SRCC Operational & Safety Rules shall be posted at the field and maintained on the club website.
- 2. The SRCC Operational & Safety Rules shall be enacted by, and may be amended in accordance with **ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS AND WAIVERS**.
- 3. In the event of an unusual circumstance, the Safety Officer may temporarily amend, suspend, or add a rule. Any action shall be reviewed at the next business meeting and a vote taken if appropriate.

## **ARTICLE IX: GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

### **A. Purpose**

The grievance procedure provides a mechanism to enforce existing safety rules by providing a progressive disciplinary system when needed.

### **B. Responsibilities**

1. Club members are responsible for safe model aviation practices, support of all aspects of well-being of the Club, appropriate conduct toward visitors and the general public and promoting fellowship among Club members and compliance with all terms of the Seminole Radio Control Club, Inc. Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, rules of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, terms of Club insurance policies and the land lease with Leon County.
2. Club officers shall address any unacceptable behavior by an individual member or members. Any individual may be expelled from membership in the Club if it is determined through this grievance procedure that such individual(s) willfully committed any act or omission which is detrimental to the Club, or model aviation, and is a violation of Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, rules of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, terms of Club insurance policies or the land lease with Leon County.

#### C. Procedure

1. Complaints shall be resolved informally if possible.
2. If a complaint is serious or cannot be resolved informally, the matter should be referred to the Safety Committee for consideration. A grievance form shall be completed and turned in to the Safety Committee Chairman.
3. At least one witness is required to sign the grievance form. Any member receiving a grievance, who directs any retaliatory action against the person filing said grievance, will be subject to immediate expulsion from the Club. This includes threats, intimidation, physical harm, intentional equipment damage or any other action deemed to be retaliatory by the Club officers.
4. The Safety Committee shall use good sound judgment in carrying out action on the following:
  - a. FIRST VIOLATION
    - i. Viewpoints of both complainants and accused will be considered.
    - ii. Complainant's name will be disclosed.
    - iii. If it is determined that a safety violation has been committed, a verbal reprimand will be given to the accused by the Safety Committee, and will be recorded in the committee files.
  - b. SECOND VIOLATION
    - i. Viewpoints of both complainants and accused will be considered.
    - ii. Complainant's name will be disclosed.
    - iii. The accused has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the committee.
    - iv. If the committee so decides, the flying privileges of the accused will be suspended for thirty (30) days. Written notice of shall be issued and a copy published in the Club newsletter.
  - c. THIRD VIOLATION
    - i. Viewpoints of both complainants and accused will be considered.

- ii. If the committee so decides, the committee will notify the accused in writing and the Club members via the Club newsletter that the Club will vote on the expulsion of the accused at the next Club meeting. The accused may be expelled by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Club members present at the meeting. Voting shall be by secret ballot.
  - iii. Said expulsion will last for one-year, minimum, but may be longer if deemed necessary by the officers. The expelled member may reapply for membership after the expiration of the expulsion time period.
5. All three levels of disciplinary action will not be enforced unless they are accumulated within a two (2) year time period.
6. Any member who threatens, intimidates, causes physical harm, intentionally damages equipment or engages in any other action deemed to be violent or illegal will be subject to immediate expulsion from the Club and reported to law enforcement. Expulsion shall be carried out in accordance with Article IX. C. 4. c. Third Violation.

## **ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS AND WAIVERS**

- A. These articles may be amended by a fifty five percent (55%) majority of the voting members after thirty (30) days written or electronic mail notice by the officers to the full membership. The notice shall state a proposed amendment and the date on which it will be voted.
- B. Absentee ballots shall be available and shall be delivered to the secretary by email or postal mail prior to voting time.
- C. The Club secretary and one (1) member-at-large shall comprise the poll committee. After the polls are closed, the poll committee shall tally all votes and announce the results.
- D. Should a challenge arise following the announcement, an additional member-at-large shall be named to confirm the poll committee's count.
- E. Any challenge being resolved, the ballots shall be destroyed and the amendment declared "PASSED" or "DEFEATED." If "PASSED," the amendment shall be effective immediately.
- F. If any amendment to these bylaws that differs from the Seminole Radio Control Club, Inc. Articles of Incorporation is PASSED, the Articles of Incorporation shall be amended accordingly and the amendment filed with the Florida Department of State.
- G. Any provision of these Bylaws may be waived for a single occasion by a majority vote of the Club membership at an official Club meeting if the waiver is not in conflict with the Seminole Radio Control Club, Inc. Articles of Incorporation.

## **CERTIFICATION**

These bylaws were approved by more than a fifty five (55) percent majority of the voting Club members.

(Original signed and filed by Jeff Owens)      July 20, 2023

Secretary

Date