

BYLAWS -- Spring Area Radio Kontrol Society, Inc.

MISSION:

These bylaws are written to help establish the structure of the Spring Area Radio Kontrol Society, Inc. (also referred to as the club in these bylaws) in order that the main efforts of the club shall always be directed toward the pleasure, recreation, fellowship, and increase in knowledge in model aeronautics of its members. We shall also offer assistance to our members in pursuing the pleasures of the hobby of building and flying model aircraft. We shall always keep in mind the importance of safety in the pursuit of our hobby, and respect for others in the community within which we operate. Definition: Throughout these bylaws, the pronoun "he" and all other masculine pronouns shall be meant in the generic sense only. These pronouns are deemed to refer equally to all male and female members of the club.

ARTICLE I OFFICERS

SEC. 1 - CLUB OFFICERS

- (A) President
- (B) Vice-President
- (C) Secretary
- (D) Treasurer
- (E) Newsletter Editor

Two of these offices may be held by one person at the same time.

SEC. 2 - ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

- (A) Officers of the club will be nominated and elected from the current open senior members.
- (B) The President will appoint a nominating committee at the March meeting.
- (C) The nominating committee shall make their recommendations at the May meeting for one or more nominee for each elected office. Additional nominations may also be made by any open member present at the May meeting. Nominations will be closed at the May meeting.
- (D) The names of nominees for each office will be listed in the June newsletter and mailed to the open members of the club.
- (E) Election of officers will be held at the June meeting.
- (F) A majority vote of the members present, provided a quorum exists, shall determine the winning candidate for each office. In the event one candidate does not receive a majority of the vote, a runoff will be held between the two candidates receiving the highest numbers of votes.
- (G) Officers will assume their elected offices on July 1st following their election.

SEC. 3 - TERM OF OFFICE

The club officers will be elected annually to serve for a term of one year. They may be reelected to the same or a different office in subsequent years.

SEC. 4 - VACANCIES

Should an officer resign from his office or be unable to serve his term of office, a special election may be held to fill the vacancy for the remaining un-expired term of office at the next regular meeting. If the remaining elected officers are willing to assume the duties of the vacant office, they may decide not to have an election to fill that office.

SEC. 5 - DUTIES OF OFFICERS:

(A) The President shall preside at all meetings of this club and conduct the same according to the rules adopted. He shall enforce due observance of the bylaws, decide all questions of order, sign all official documents that are adopted by the club, and perform all other customary duties pertaining to the office of President. He shall appoint committees as needed, and represent the Spring Area Radio Kontrol Society, Inc. whenever appropriate.

(B) The Vice-President will assist the President, and he shall assume all the duties of the President in his absence. The Vice-President will be the chief club safety officer, and will be responsible for club safety rules and maintaining proper conduct of members and guests at the flying field.

(C) The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings, keep a roll of members, submit applications for membership, carry on all correspondence, read communications at each meeting, and furnish a copy of the minutes to the Newsletter Editor and to the President. He shall renew the club AMA charter annually, file timely reports with the federal and/or state bureaus as may be required and maintain the records of the club.

(D) The Treasurer shall receive all money paid to the club; he shall keep an accurate account of all money received and expended. He shall pay all bills of the club. At each regular club meeting, he shall submit an itemized statement to the club members of the disbursements and receipts since the last statement and the cash balances of the club accounts. He shall, at the end of his term of office, turn over all records, bills, etc. pertaining to his office to his successor.

(E) The Newsletter Editor shall prepare and make arrangements for the duplication and mailing of the monthly club newsletter, "CROSSWINDS", to all club members. This publication should include information on new members, notices of regular and/or special meetings, and any other information required by these bylaws. Any club member may also furnish articles to the Editor. The Editor may decide whether to include these articles in the newsletter.

(F) The Field Manager is a position appointed by the elected officers at their will and discretion, and has no term limits. The Field Manager is responsible for coordinating the overall quality of the SPARKS flying field. Field Manager duties include: Schedule and oversee all routine field maintenance such as mowing, fertilizing, rolling, seeding, pest control, waste removal, parking area, tables, and shed. Advise club officers on needed workdays, and with officers, either supervise the work groups, or arrange for other club members to supervise them. Note field drainage problems and recommend added work projects as needed. Prepare an annual budget estimate for routine field maintenance and for proposed projects.

(G) The Frequency Coordinator is a position appointed by the elected officers at their will and discretion, and has no term limits. Frequency Coordinator duties include: Become able in the use of the club frequency scanner and provide instruction in its use to club members. Explore interference problems reported by members. Conduct periodic frequency checks at the field and report results at club meetings and in the newsletter. Encourage members to keep their channel use profile updated on the club website. Consolidate member channel use from our website and make the information available to members wanting to buy new radios. Keep abreast of frequency issues and coordinate with the District 8 Frequency Coordinator as necessary.

SEC. 6 - REMOVAL OF OFFICERS

The following will outline the procedure for the removal of an officer or officers from their elected positions.

(A). At a regular meeting of the club at which a quorum is present, any open senior member may make a motion that an officer or officers of the club be removed. The motion must also be seconded by another senior open member. A nomination must also be made by the same or different senior members for the replacement(s) to the office(s) to be vacated should the motion to remove be passed at a later meeting. Additional nominations may be made.

(B). The members of the club shall be notified of the motion and the names of the persons making and seconding the motions. They shall also be notified of the replacement nomination(s). The notifications will be through the newsletter or by special mailing.

(C). At the next regular meeting at which a quorum is present, the motion to remove an officer or officers will be presented. After discussion, it will be voted upon and must be passed by two thirds of the open senior members present. If this motion fails to pass, then the nominations for those offices shall become null and void. If this motion should pass, then the nomination(s) for the office(s) will be presented and other nominations may be made from the floor. The nominee who receives a majority of the vote of the open senior members shall be elected to that office. A runoff may be necessary between the 2 nominees that receive the most votes for an office.

ARTICLE II MEETINGS

SEC. 1 - MONTHLY MEETINGS

Meeting frequency, dates and location will be set at the discretion of the elected club officers.

SEC. 2 - SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings may be called by the President or by written requests of five (5) open senior members. Open senior members must be sent a notice by mail at least 48 hours prior to such special meeting. Only the business specified in the meeting notice may be acted upon.

SEC. 3 - QUORUM

A quorum shall consist of a minimum of twenty five (25%) of the open senior members of the club.

SEC. 4 - Robert's Rules shall govern proceedings where protocol is not established in these bylaws.

ARTICLE III AMENDMENTS

SEC. 1- TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT AMENDMENTS

These bylaws as well as rules and regulations may be amended by the amendment procedures described in this article. Unless specifically stated to be a temporary amendment with an expiration date, any amendment to any of the rules, regulations or bylaws that govern the actions of this club and its members shall be considered permanent and remain in affect unless later amended by these amendment procedures.

SEC. 2 - AMENDMENT PROCEDURES

These amendment procedures shall be the acceptable methods that may be used by the elected officials at any time or open senior members during a regular or special club meeting at which a quorum is present, to affect changes in the rules, regulations, or bylaws of the Spring Area Radio Kontrol Society, Inc.

(A) Immediate amendment procedures: When in the opinion of 50% or more of the elected club officials, immediate action is needed to either affect a temporary or a permanent change in the rules, regulations, or bylaws of the Spring Area Radio Kontrol Society, Inc., they may make an immediate decision and take the action necessary to correct an existing problem or prevent an anticipated problem from occurring. This method of amendment procedures will only be used by the elected club officers when in the opinion of the officers, normal amendment procedures would take more time than would be in the best interest of the club. Immediate amendment procedures could be used in situations such as: (1) repeated safety violations by the same individual, (2) a rule, regulation, bylaw or policy which allows safety violations by the same or different individuals, (3) changes in the rules, regulations or laws of the IRS or other legal entities that have jurisdiction over us. Immediate amendment procedures are not limited to these situations.

If immediate amendment procedures are implemented, then it will be reported in the next club newsletter if practical, and will be announced to the membership present at the next regular meeting of the club. The membership has the option to use normal amendment procedures to reverse or alter the new rule regulation, actions, etc. as much as is possible or practical.

(B) Normal amendment procedures: Any senior open member of the club, at any regular or special meeting at which a quorum is present, may make a motion to change any rule, regulation, policy, or bylaw. If the motion is seconded by another open senior member, then two additional steps are necessary before it is implemented.

(1) The membership will be notified of the motion in the next newsletter or by special mailing.

(2) The motion must be passed by a majority of the open senior members present at the next regular meeting at which a quorum exists.

ARTICLE IV SAFETY RULES

SEC. 1 - This club shall enact appropriate rules to provide a safe environment for the operation of flying model aircraft. Club safety rules, special safety rules pertaining to specific flying sites can be enacted or changed by amendment procedures as herein defined.

SEC. 2 - Any club member or guest that violates any AMA safety rule or intentionally violates the safety rules or other rules of the club can be grounded for the day by any instructor or elected club officer. Violation by a member of the club of one or more of the safety or other rules of the club will be reported to the elected officers of the club. They will investigate the alleged incidents and decide on the appropriate discipline. They may choose to invoke Article V Sec. 6(B). Any member disciplined under this section, shall have the right to appeal the action to the members of the club at the next regular or special meeting of the club at which a quorum is present. A two-thirds majority vote of the open senior members voting will be necessary to reverse the disciplinary action of the elected officials of the club.

ARTICLE V MEMBERSHIP

SEC. 1- MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

All persons interested in radio controlled model aeronautics are eligible for membership.

SEC. 2 - NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICANTS

New applicants are generally granted membership in the Spring Area Radio Kontrol Society, Inc. subject to the following restrictions:

- (A) The applicant must submit a written application for membership.
- (B) The applicant must be an AMA (Academy of Model Aeronautics) member or become one before being accepted as a member.
- (C) The applicant must pay all initiation fees, dues, and any other fees required.
- (D) There is an opening for another member within the maximum number of members allowed.

SEC. 3 - MEMBERSHIP ACCEPTANCE

Anyone meeting the restrictions listed in Article V sec. 2 will be accepted to membership unless his membership has been revoked for violations of safety or other rules of the club.

SEC. 4 - TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP:

Types of memberships in the Spring Area Radio Kontrol Society, Inc. is as follows:

(A) Open Member

- (1) Open senior member - age 19 or older on July 1. (full time student over age 19 with proper student I.D and second adult in family)
- (2) Open junior member - under age 19 on July 1.

An open senior member is entitled to all club privileges including holding office and voting.
Open junior members are entitled to all club privileges except holding office and voting.

(B) Honorary Members

- (1) An honorary member has all club privileges except the right to hold office and to vote. Honorary members must maintain AMA Membership if they desire to fly at club site(s).
- (2) An individual may be given the status of Honorary member by the same procedures as for amendments as is defined in Article III.

(C) Temporary Member

(1) A temporary membership is provides a method for potential new club members to have full club privileges for a period of six (6) months. The temporary membership cost is 50% of the Open senior membership dues and initiation fees. After the six month period, the Temporary Member may become an Open Member by paying the remaining 50% of dues and initiation fees.

(2) A temporary member has all club privileges except the right to hold office and to vote.

SEC. 5 - MEMBERSHIP LIMITATIONS

The membership of the club will be limited so that the flying site(s) available will not be over crowded. The club will set the maximum number of club members by the same procedures as for amendments as is defined in Article III.

(A) Applicants who are denied membership due to non-availability of openings will be placed on a waiting list in the order received. Any waiting list which might be in effect at any given time is available for public inspection upon request to the club Secretary.

(B) When an opening occurs, the people on the waiting list will be contacted in order and offered membership until the limit of membership is again reached.

SEC. 6 - LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP OR MEMBERSHIP REVOCATION

(A) A person will no longer be a member of the club if he fails to pay all dues, fees and assessments due according to these bylaws.

(B) A majority of the elected officers of the club have the right to immediately revoke club membership for any member who violates the safety rules or other rules of the club. Any person whose membership has been revoked, will not be refunded any portion of the initiation fee, dues, other fees or assessments already owed and paid to the club. The revocation and the reasons for it will be published in the club newsletter. The open senior members present at the next meeting after information about the revocation is published in the club newsletter, have the right to reverse the action of the officers in the manner described in Article III, sec. 2 (B)

**ARTICLE VI
DUES, FEES, AND ASSESSMENTS**

SEC. 1 - INITIATION FEES

(A) New open senior members shall be assessed a one time initiation fee. The amount of the initiation fee for the next year may be changed in the November meeting. If no action is taken in the November meeting to change the initiation fee, then it will remain the same.

(B) Open junior members shall not be assessed an initiation fee.

(C) Honorary members shall not be assessed an initiation fee.

SEC. 2 - PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICANTS

(A) A person who joins the Spring Area Radio Kontrol Society, Inc. must pay in full all initiation fees, dues, other fees, and assessments as determined by these bylaws or by other rules or regulations of this club.

(B) The dues for open senior member shall be prorated for the balance of the club calendar year. Any assessments that become due in the next year will be due of this new member also.

(C) Open junior member applicants will pay 100% of all fees due regardless of the time of year they join.

SEC. 3 - DUES

The amount of dues will be determined by a majority vote of the open senior members at the November meeting. If no action is taken at the November meeting to change the dues, then they will remain the same.

SEC. 4 - FEES OR ASSESSMENTS

Fees or assessments other than annual dues or initiation fees, may be set by the same procedures as for amendments as described in Article III.

SEC. 5 - ANNUAL DUES, FEES, AND ASSESSMENTS PERCENTAGES

(A) OPEN MEMBERS

(1) Senior – 100 percent over age 19 *

a.*full time student over age 19 or second adult in family - \$50.00.

(*full time student must provide copy of student I.D.)

(2) Junior – 30 percent

(3) Junior with a parent or guardian senior member – 10 percent

(4) Honorary member – 0 percent

SEC. 6 - PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR EXISTING MEMBERS

The fiscal year for SPARKS is Feb. 1 through January 31 of each year. All dues, fees, and assessments for the forthcoming year are officially due and payable from all members on January 31 of each year, for the next year. If a member's dues, fees, and assessments are not paid in full for that year by the close of the March meeting, he will no longer be a member of the club. A member who has lost membership due to non-payment of dues, fees, and assessments may subsequently reapply for membership in the Spring Area Radio Kontrol Society, Inc., but will be treated as a new membership applicant and will be subject to the rules of admission for new member applicants.

ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES

The President can appoint temporary or permanent committees. A permanent committee will continue to exist until dismissed by the President. The committees will report to the membership or the President as appropriate the findings or actions of their committee.

ARTICLE VIII INSTRUCTOR PILOTS

SEC. 1 - The elected officers of the club will set the qualifications for instructors. They will also appoint the instructors for the club. Instructor pilots will be listed in the newsletter. Once an instructor is appointed, he will remain an instructor until one of the following occurs:

(A) 50% or more of the elected officers of the club vote to resend his instructor status.

(B) He wishes to be removed from instructor status.

(C) He is no longer a member of the club.

SEC. 2 - Any member of the club may ask for assistance from any other member of the club.

ARTICLE IX CODE OF HONESTY AND BEHAVIOR

All junior and senior members of the club are required to be considerate of all other club members. Rude, obnoxious behavior will not be tolerated. Any such behavior, theft or dishonesty and any related facts will be reported to the elected club officers. The club officers may then at their discretion investigate the alleged offenses. At the conclusion of their investigation, they may decide to drop or defer further action, confer with the accused, and/or invoke Article V, Sec. 6 (B) to immediately revoke the accused person's club membership. The elected club officers shall further have the right to report to the proper authorities any felony or misdemeanor perpetrated against club property. Any action taken may be reported to the membership in the newsletter and/or at the next club meeting. If the officers decide not to report their actions to the membership due to mitigating circumstances, then the person against whom the action is taken may present his view of the situation to the membership at the next club meeting. If the action is brought before the membership, then the membership by a two-thirds majority vote of the senior members present at the next meeting at which there is a quorum shall have the right to reverse the action of the officers.