

Bylaws

Edwin Warner Model Aviators

As of January 1, 2011

I. ARTICLE: The Organization

- A. The official name of the club shall be Edwin Warner Model Aviators, hereinafter referred to as EWMA.
- B. The flying field for EWMA shall be located in Nashville, Tennessee's Edwin Warner Park, across from the Steeplechase on Old Hickory Boulevard. From OHB, turn south at the traffic light onto Vaughn Road, then take the first road to the left. Drive to the end of the road where the club's runway and pavilion are located.

II. ARTICLE: Purposes

- A. The mission of EWMA shall be to provide a safe, friendly, and helpful place for those interested in flying model airplanes.
- B. EWMA's vision shall be to promote the hobby of model airplane flying.
- C. The objectives of EWMA shall be to encourage all ages (especially youth) to learn how to fly model airplanes, make flying enjoyable, and emphasize safety.

III. ARTICLE: Membership

- A. Qualifications
 - 1. All persons shall be eligible for EWMA membership. All shall agree to abide by EWMA Bylaws and the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) Safety Code.
 - 2. Insurance and Park Permit
 - a) Flying members of EWMA shall be required to hold and maintain AMA membership or proof of home owner's insurance to provide sufficient insurance coverage. Flying members are also required to have a Metro Nashville Parks and Recreation Model Airplane Flying Permit (which requires proof of insurance).

- b) If any member ceases to hold insurance coverage, either through AMA membership or a homeowner's policy, or does not hold a Metro Parks Permit, his/her membership in EWMA shall thereby terminate, subject to reinstatement upon restoration of eligibility. Upon request, any individual who does not meet these requirements may continue as a non-flying member.
- c) Non-flying members do not need AMA membership or a permit.

B. Dues and Assessments

1. The annual dues to be paid to EWMA shall be determined by the club's officers with the approval of a simple majority vote of those attending a regular monthly meeting. Dues are nonrefundable, except under extraordinary circumstances, which will be determined by the officers on a case-by-case basis. Renewing members' dues are to be paid no later than the January club meeting.
2. Any member who allows his/her membership to lapse beyond March 1st shall be removed from EWMA's active member roster.
3. New members who join after June 30th shall pay on a prorated schedule for the rest of the year. After October 31st, the prorated dues shall include membership dues through the end of the following year.
4. No special assessment shall be levied upon EWMA membership, unless it is approved by a vote of two-thirds majority of the members present at a regular monthly meeting. Members shall be given five days prior notice along with an explanation of the assessment.

IV. ARTICLE: Officers

A. Responsibilities

1. President: The president shall preside at all meetings of EWMA and shall act as a spokesperson in all matters pertaining to it.
2. Vice-President: The vice-president shall act for the president when he/she is unable to serve, and is to maintain an accurate record (including place of storage) of all EWMA assets.
3. Secretary: The secretary shall record minutes of each EWMA meeting and handle all correspondence pertaining to club activities. He/she will also be the club's contact person with AMA in case of questions, problems or situations.
4. Treasurer: The treasurer shall collect all monies due and shall keep a record of funds disbursed by EWMA.

5. Safety Committee Chairman/Safety Coordinator: The safety committee chairman/safety coordinator shall be responsible for chairing the Safety Committee and ensuring existing rules are enforced. This includes processing the grievance forms and following the existing grievance procedure documented in the Bylaws.
6. Management of EWMA affairs shall be vested in the officers who shall have the authority to establish and administer its policies. Official decisions may be made by a two-thirds majority vote at a regular monthly meeting or by a quorum at a meeting of the officers. A quorum shall consist of at least 50% of the current officers. Official decisions shall be consistent with the stated purposes and objectives of the AMA as set forth in its Bylaws and, where those Bylaws are not specified, sound discretion of the officers shall prevail.

B. Terms of Office

1. Nomination of EWMA officers shall be made at the general membership meeting during the month of December. Nominations for office may be made by any active club member, either in person or by submitting a proxy nomination to an existing officer prior to the meeting.
2. Officers are to be elected by a vote of a simple majority of those present at the regular meeting in the month of December. New officers will take office immediately after the December meeting. All elected officers of EWMA shall serve for one year from the date of their election.
3. A secret ballot is required for elections or for removal of a EWMA officer unless waived by a simple majority vote of the members present at the regular monthly meeting.
4. Supporting personnel will be appointed by the elected officers and confirmed by a simple majority vote of those members present during a regular meeting, e.g., newsletter editor, webmaster, etc.

C. Vacancies

1. Vacancies in any office shall be filled by appointment by the remaining officers. The appointee is to serve until the end of the term for which the predecessor was elected.

V. ARTICLE: Meetings

- A. Regular meetings shall be held at a time and place designated by EWMA officers. The information shall be published in the newsletter and on the website.

- B. EWMA officers may call special meetings with no less than five days prior written or email notice of that meeting. The purpose of the special meeting shall be stated in the notice.
- C. At any EWMA meeting, a simple majority shall be over 50% of the members voting at the meeting.
- D. Any member of EWMA may initiate a formal request for action by the club by submitting a written proposal to the president. The proposal shall include a written description of the nature, type, and extent of the action recommended. Either the president or any other officer may have the matter placed upon the working agenda of the next meeting.

VI. ARTICLE: Record Keeping

- A. The president or his appointees will make a periodic audit of the treasurer's books.
- B. Minutes from all meetings, both officer and regular club meetings, will be kept by the secretary. Minutes will be available for any member to review.

VII. ARTICLE: Committees

- A. The committees of EWMA shall be appointed by the president and may be approved by a simple majority vote of members present at a meeting (if a vote is requested). The appointee shall serve throughout the term, or less, of the president's tenure.
- B. The Safety Committee is a standing committee.

VIII. ARTICLE: Dissolution of EWMA

- A. EWMA may be dissolved with the approval of a two-thirds majority vote of the total membership.
- B. EWMA is not incorporated, therefore the disposal of assets does not come under what is required under Tennessee state law to cover dissolution of a 501(c)(3) charitable corporation.
- C. Upon the dissolution of EWMA, the officers shall, after payment of all debts, dispose of remaining assets in a manner that will continue the club's vision to promote the hobby of model airplane flying, including but not limited to the transfer of assets to the AMA or another flying club.

IX. ARTICLE: Disciplinary Action

- A. Any unacceptable behavior by an individual member or members, as defined by the club, is subject to the authority of the officers as identified in these Bylaws, Article IV, Section A.
- B. Any individual may be expelled from membership in EWMA by a two-thirds majority vote of club members at a regular monthly meeting if, in their judgment, such individual 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 EWMA, the AMA, or model aviation.
- C. A secret ballot is required for expulsion of a EWMA member from the club.
- D. Any member who has been expelled from EWMA for a safety infraction, yet returns to the club's public field to fly, shall be reported to Edwin Warner Park Headquarters. At that time the safety issue shall come under the authority of Park personnel, to handle the situation in a manner of their choosing.
- E. Any member receiving a safety Grievance, as stated in Article IX, who is involved in non-flying violations, or who has key information of a non-flying violation and withholds it from EWMA officers, may at the officers' discretion be placed on probation for one year regardless of his or her tenure in the club.
- F. EWMA officers shall have the discretionary authority to provide for and to impose disciplinary action for such acts or omissions which do not justify expulsion from membership.
- G. Reinstatement
 - 1. Any member who is expelled from membership may be reinstated to membership only by a two-thirds majority vote of EWMA members present at a regular monthly meeting.

X. ARTICLE: Grievance Procedure (Flight and Ground Safety Rules)

- A. Purpose
 - 1. EWMA shall require members to comply with the Official AMA National Model Aircraft Safety Code that relates to flying activities. The EWMA grievance procedure provides a mechanism to implement existing safety rules by providing a progressive disciplinary system if needed.

2. Although most complaints will be resolved informally, if a complaint is serious or cannot be resolved in such manner, the matter shall be referred to the safety coordinator and the Safety Committee for its consideration, by means of a Grievance Form.

B. Safety Committee

1. When a Grievance Form (see page 8) is completed, it shall be submitted to the chairman of the Safety Committee. At least one witness is required.
2. The Safety Committee shall use its judgment in carrying out action on the following:
 - a) First Violation
 - (1) Viewpoints of both complainant and accused will be considered.
 - (2) Complainant's name will not be disclosed.
 - (3) A verbal reprimand will be given to the accused by the Safety Committee should it be determined rules were broken. A record will be placed in the committee's files.
 - b) Second Violation
 - (1) Complainant's name will be disclosed.
 - (2) The accused has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the committee.
 - (3) If the committee so decides, the flying privileges of the accused will be suspended for thirty days. Written notice of this action shall be issued and a notice published in the EWMA newsletter.
 - c) Third Violation
 - (1) The committee will notify the accused in writing that EWMA will vote on his/her expulsion at the next monthly meeting. Club members will be informed through the newsletter or electronic communication.
 - (2) Said expulsion will last for a one-year minimum (or longer, if deemed necessary by EWMA).
 - (3) A member may be expelled from EWMA only upon a two-thirds majority vote of the membership present at said meeting.
 - (4) Voting will be by secret ballot at the meeting.
 - (5) The expelled member may reapply for membership after the expiration of the expulsion time period.

- d) The expulsion will not be enforced unless the violations are accumulated within a two-year period of time.
- e) Any member receiving a Grievance, who directs any retaliatory action against the person filing said Grievance or the witness(es), will be subject to immediate expulsion from EWMA. This is to include threats, intimidation, physical harm, intentional equipment damage, or any other action deemed to be retaliatory by club officers.

XI. ARTICLE: Amendments

- A. Amendments may be made to these Bylaws at any general meeting of EWMA membership, provided the members shall have been notified in writing or email at least five days in advance that the amendments are to be considered. Copies of the proposed amendments shall be provided to all members as part of the notification. Amendments shall be approved by no less than a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at a regular monthly meeting.

**Edwin Warner Model Aviators
Grievance Form
for
Flight or Ground Safety Rule Infraction**

Date of Infraction: _____

Time of Infraction: _____

Accused: _____

Nature of Violation: _____

Signature of Complainant: _____

Signature of witness (required): _____

Additional Witnesses (not required):

