



Winston-Salem Radio Control Club Rules

GENERAL

Common sense, courtesy and attention to safety will limit the requirement for many new rules, now and in the future. That is not to say that some rules are necessary and they apply to all members of the Winston-Salem Radio Control Club (hereafter WSRC), all non-members, all spectators, all guests.

In addition to all Academy of Model Aeronautics (hereafter AMA) safety rules, all persons using or visiting the WSRC flying field shall abide by the following rules. It is the responsibility of each member of WSRC to remind any person of these rules and to report any willful and/or malicious violations to the Officers and/or members of the Board of Directors. These rules were formulated through many years of experience and were approved by the members of WSRC on November 2, 2023, to promote good flying habits and ensure the safety of all. Civility, courtesy and respect toward all fellow members and guests is always expected.

WSRC is not responsible for any loss or any damage to any aircraft or vehicle or for any individual injury that may occur.

GENERAL RULES

- Members of WSRC may use the WSRC flying field at any time but should be considerate of our neighbors.
- Non-members that wish to fly at the WSRC flying field must be accompanied by a member.
- It is mandatory that members and/or any non-member guest flying at the WSRC flying field hold a current AMA membership with the following exception:
 - Guests that are being introduced to the hobby of model flying and have not made an official application to join WSRC.

- Members and/or non-member guests using the WSRC flying field during a WSRC special event, contest or an official AMA Sanctioned Contest must abide by any special rules and are under the direct authority of the Contest Director officially approved by the club.
- Loud, distracting, profane, disturbing or any other such conduct that is contrary to a general family fun atmosphere will not be tolerated and is not allowed.
- Alcoholic beverages are not allowed at the WSRC flying field.
- For safety reasons, when WSRC flying field maintenance (e.g., mowing) is being conducted, flying is not allowed.
- Members should remind spectators to stay behind any fencing or barriers erected for their safety. If a spectator wishes to see a model more closely, and it is safe to do so, a member must always accompany the spectator to view the model. However, at no time is an unaccompanied non-pilot spectator allowed on the flight line or to approach any aircraft that has an engine running.
- Pets must always be on a leash. Pet owners are responsible for their pets including picking up their pet's waste as well as any damage any pet may cause.

EQUIPMENT RULES AND SAFETY

- The area from inside the spectator safety barrier to the designated flight line is designated as the pit area. All models and flying equipment shall be kept in this area or in the model pilot's vehicle or trailer.
- Mufflers are required on all wet fuel engines .10 cubic inches and larger.
- Special engines and scale models where mufflers are impractical or impossible may be operated at the discretion of the appointed CD, WSRC club Officer or a member of the Board of Directors.
- Noise levels will be monitored at the WSRC flying field to ensure flying models do not exceed 96dBA at full throttle measured at 20 feet on the ground for more than 5 continuous seconds. A decibel meter is kept on site and may be used by any member, Officer, safety officer or member of the Board of Directors when the noise level of a particular model is questionable. Any flying model that exceeds 96dBA at full throttle measured at 20 feet on the ground for more than 5 continuous seconds will not be permitted to fly. A phone app may be used as an alternative to measure noise levels if the decibel meter is not available.

Noise levels may be checked periodically and randomly at different areas on field and off field and at different times of the year to ensure that WSRC is doing all it can to keep noise at or below the 96dBA level during all model flights.

- "Breaking In" of a new engine will be done at a far corner of the flying field and not unduly disturb fellow flyers.
- There will be no fueling, refueling, or emptying of fuel tanks for wet fuel motors in the *covered* pit areas (aka shelters).
- Electric powered models may be powered in the *covered* pit areas but only to test or activate retractable landing gear and then only on the provided work benches.
- There will be no motor operation in the *covered* pit areas of any kind, regardless of the motor type. There will also be no motor operation of any kind in the spectator areas or inside the club building.
- All radio transmitters and receivers operated at the WSRC flying field must be 72MHz band frequencies or spread spectrum type (e.g., 2.4GHz). Radio systems other than spread spectrum (e.g., 2.4GHz) and 72MHz are not allowed without permission from the CD or Officers of WSRC.

The following rule does not apply to members and/or non-member guests using spread spectrum type (e.g., 2.4 GHz) radio transmitters and receivers.

- When more than one member and/or non-member guest is using equipment in the 72MHz band to control flight, they are to make this known and follow the WSRC frequency use plan.
- Pre-flight all models. Each model pilot and/or aircraft owner is individually responsible for ensuring their aircraft is properly configured and safe to fly.
- WSRC is not responsible for the failure of any model pilot to comply with any applicable federal, state, or local regulations. However, willful and/or malicious failure of the model pilot to comply with applicable federal, state, or local regulations that causes or may cause WSRC to defend itself against a citation may lead to disciplinary action up to and including termination of membership.

FLYING RULES, AND SAFETY

- For safety reasons, WSRC requires that new members and prospective new members learn our safety rules and demonstrate safe, proficient flying skills prior to being released to fly by themselves. Any Officer, instructor, safety officer or member of the Board of Directors can witness and verify a new member's or prospective new member's demonstration of proficiency and safety.
- All take-offs, flying and landings must be made with the model pilot standing behind the designated flight line with the following exception:

- With students, new models or general sport flying, take-offs may be made with the pilot standing behind the model at the end of the runway. After take-off, the pilot must return to the designated flight line.
- On takeoff, after a model is airborne, initial turns must be made away from the pit area and spectators. There shall be no flying west of the club designated flight line, *this flight line is defined from the pilot stations as a line running generally north northeast and generally south southwest from each end of the runway*, with the following exceptions:
 - Powered and non-powered sailplanes are permitted to fly west of the designated flight line for the purpose of exploring and achieving maximum thermal soaring. In no case are these models exempt from flying over the pit area and the parking lot. This area is defined as the area that is west of the designated flight line.
 - Pilots may use the geotextile (aka tarp) for takeoffs and landings, but at no time shall fly over the pit area, spectators, parking lots, driveways, or any structure. If taking off to the west or landing from the west all turns must be made to avoid flying over the pit area, spectators, parking lots, driveways, or any structure.
- There will be absolutely no flying over the pit area, spectators, or parking lot at any time.
- Do not fly north / northwest above and/or beyond the power lines. The power lines are deceptively close.
- There will be absolutely no taxiing back into the pit area. All motors, regardless of type, must be stopped no farther than the end of the runway exits/entrances before proceeding to the pit area. That distance is approximately ten (10) feet.
- All take-offs must yield to landing models.
- All dead stick landings or other emergencies shall be announced in a loud and clear voice. Emergencies and dead stick landings have priority over all other take-offs and landings.
- Any time any person must be on or cross over the active runway, for any reason, that person will announce it in a loud voice, words such as “on the field”. Once that person has left the runway or finished crossing the runway, they must announce in a loud voice that they are clear of the runway.
- For any crash or otherwise downed model that occurs “off field” all others flying at that time will avoid flying over those searching for or recovering the crashed or downed model. For safety reasons, when in doubt about whether you might be flying over people, pilots flying at the time should land as quickly and safely as possible. Hold further take-offs until such time as it is safe to resume flights.

- All crashed models will be recovered as quickly as possible and all persons will return to the pit area as quickly as possible. Crash analysis/investigation will not be conducted at the crash site unless it will not interfere with others that are waiting to fly.
- Saturdays from noon until 2pm is reserved for instructors who are teaching new pilots. Members may continue to fly during those times but are advised that students/new pilots may also be flying. Courtesy and understanding is expected.

NON-MEMBER GUEST RULES AND SAFETY

- A member of WSRC is permitted to invite a non-member guest to the WSRC flying field no more than four times during a calendar year unless otherwise approved by the Board of Directors.
- The above rule does not apply to invited guests who are members in good standing of any AMA chartered model airplane club. The above rule also does not apply to a non-member guest invited by a member to become acquainted with the flying of radio-controlled models; or to potential members of WSRC who are being taught to fly by duly authorized instructors. A person flying or otherwise participating in a WSRC special event or contest is not considered a non-member guest.

ENFORCEMENT OF RULES AND SAFETY

- Each member of WSRC has a responsibility to warn others who, in his/her informed opinion, willfully and/or maliciously violates these rules. It shall also be the responsibility of each WSRC member to report willful and/or malicious violations to an Officer or member of the Board of Directors for action.
- It is the responsibility of the Board of Directors to request an accused violator(s) be present at a specially called meeting of the Board for possible action against the accused violator(s). Due process will be afforded. If the Board of Directors finds a violation has occurred, the violator(s) may either be suspended from the club for a specific period or for serious violations, membership may be terminated. There is no appeal from a Board of Directors decision.