

## Des Moines Modelaires Field Rules

Revised date: 8/29/2023

All rules apply to both Des Moines Modelaires club fields (E. Paul Johnson field East of Elkhart and Westfield West of Grimes) except as noted.

It is the responsibility of all members to monitor for compliance with these rules.

Any member may ask you to stop flying if you are not in compliance with our field rules or flying in an "unsafe" manner. Neither you nor our field owners are covered by liability insurance if you are not in compliance with these rules.

Violations of field rules should be reported to the club Safety Officer. Repeated violations can result in revocation of your membership.

### General Rules:

- Flying gas, glow, or turbine powered aircraft before 9am (10am Sundays at EPJ due to proximity of the church) or after sunset is not permitted.
- At West Field flying near the home south of the field or performing acrobatics over the farm east of the field is strictly forbidden.
- At West Field flying turbine powered aircraft is not permitted.
- Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on the field at any time.
- Fireworks are never to be discharged or ignited at our fields.
- Use of our fields for target practice (shooting guns at targets) is strictly prohibited.
- Use of our fields is restricted to current members of the Des Moines Modelaires and guests.

### **A guest shall be defined as the following:**

1. A person who is undergoing flight training by a Des Moines Modelaires flight instructor.
  2. A pilot from out of town or an invited pilot that has a valid AMA, Trust and FAA number that wants to fly at our fields.
  3. An AMA member who is not currently a Des Moines Modelaires member who is participating in a club AMA sanctioned or fun fly event.
- Both our flying fields are AMA sanctioned. To fly at these fields:
    1. All pilots must be a Des Moines Modelaires club member or invited guest.
    2. All pilots must have a current AMA membership.
    3. All pilots must have a current FAA registration.
    4. All pilots must have passed the TRUST test.
    5. It is recommended that a club member be present when a guest is at a field (for hospitality purposes). It is the responsibility of the inviting club member for their guest(s).
    6. Pilots must stand near a designated flight stations and behind the safety fence when flying. We have a limit of 1 pilot at each flight station.
  - New members must demonstrate their flying proficiency to an existing member or to the Field Safety Officer before flying solo.
  - Spectators are welcome to observe from the pit area but are not allowed within the flying portion of the field.
  - Pets are **NOT** allowed in the pit area and must be on a leash away from the pit area and the flying area.

- Club members must have current Des Moines Modelaires membership and display their membership card on their person at all times or display it upon request as they may not have the means to attach it to clothing.

### **Use of 72 MHz Transmitters / and Ham Frequencies**

A frequency board is used to share 72 MHz frequencies. Do not turn your transmitter on, or begin flying, until you have placed your membership card on the frequency control board and know for sure your frequency is clear.

If you are using a transmitter that broadcasts on a frequency other than 2.4GHz you must post your frequency on the board. This includes Ham Radio frequencies and includes the video link frequencies used in FPV if required by the AMA.

1. Place your current membership card over the frequency number you will be using.
2. If your frequency is in use, communicate with the other pilots on your frequency and negotiate sharing it. Please be courteous and share frequencies.
3. Des Moines Modelaires members will use their current club membership card on the frequency board.
4. Guests must use their current AMA card on the frequency board.
5. Your **72 MHz** transmitter must have a frequency number displayed.

### **Starting or running of engines / motors**

- Do not start or run engines / motors in the pit area. This includes helicopters, Quad copters, and electrics.
- If you are using a 72 MHz transmitter to run your engine, your card must be on the frequency control board.
- If you are preparing to fly, start your engine or arm your electric motor at a flight station.
- Effective mufflers are required on all fuel based engines as we must respect our neighbors by minimizing engine noise.
- Engine tune-up and engine testing must be done in the designated area at either end of the pit area and away from all flight stations.

### **General Flying**

- Before taxiing onto a runway announce loudly “coming out” to let others know your intentions.
- Before starting your takeoff roll announce loudly “taking off” to let others know your intentions.
- Fly from the “Pit” side of the runway only. This includes all 3D activities and helicopter flights.
- Absolutely no flying over the pit area. Repeat violations will result in termination of your membership.
- Absolutely no flying DIRECTLY towards the pit area! Repeat violations will result in termination of your membership.
- Flying must be to the far side (away from the pit area) of the runway. This includes helicopters, quads and 3D flying.
- Always take off into the wind, if a cross wind or no wind situation exists, the pilots present will decide which direction to fly.
- After takeoff always turn 90 degrees away from the pit area and continue to fly in a rectangular or oval pattern.

- When landing, announce loudly to the other pilots, “landing” to let others know your intentions
- If you are “dead stick” (engine not running) announce loudly “dead stick” to let others know your situation. **Dead Stick aircraft have priority for landing.**
- Retrieval of downed aircraft from adjacent farm fields must be done on foot only.
- When retrieving an airplane from any part of the flying field:
  1. Check traffic to be sure you can retrieve your aircraft safely.
  2. Announce loudly “on the field” to let others know your intentions.
  3. Retrieve your aircraft as quickly as possible.
  4. When you are back behind the flight line fence, announce loudly “clear” to let others know you are safely off the flying field.

### **3D / Helicopter / Quad copter Flying / Gliders**

- If you would like to fly a 3D plane, helicopter, glider, or quad copter clear of the active runway you must coordinate with pilots using the active runway and make sure they know your intentions.
- You must be skilled enough to ensure your aircraft does not cross the active flying pattern in use.
- 3D Aerobatics **MUST NOT BE DONE** over the petromat to avoid possible damage to the runway.

### **FPV (First Person View) Flying**

- Your aircraft must remain in sight at all times.
- You must have an active spotter next to you at all times.
- You must follow AMA published rules.

**Always Coordinate and Communicate, remembering Courtesy is Contagious and Safety is No Accident.**

Academy of Model Aeronautics National Model Aircraft Safety Code  
Effective January 1, 2018

A model aircraft is a non-human-carrying device capable of sustained flight within visual line of sight of the pilot or spotter(s). It may not exceed limitations of this code and is intended exclusively for sport, recreation, education and/or competition. All model flights must be conducted in accordance with this safety code and related AMA guidelines, any additional rules specific to the flying site, as well as all applicable laws and regulations.

As an AMA member I agree:

- I will not fly a model aircraft in a careless or reckless manner.
- I will not interfere with and will yield the right of way to all human-carrying aircraft using AMA's See and Avoid Guidance and a spotter when appropriate.
- I will not operate any model aircraft while I am under the influence of alcohol or any drug that could adversely affect my ability to safely control the model.
- I will avoid flying directly over unprotected people, moving vehicles, and occupied structures.
- I will fly Free Flight (FF) and Control Line (CL) models in compliance with AMA's safety programming.
- I will maintain visual contact of an RC model aircraft without enhancement other than corrective lenses prescribed to me. When using an advanced flight system, such as an autopilot, or flying First-Person View (FPV), I will comply with AMA's Advanced Flight System programming.
- I will only fly models weighing more than 55 pounds, including fuel, if certified through AMA's Large Model Airplane Program.
- I will only fly a turbine-powered model aircraft in compliance with AMA's Gas Turbine Program.
- I will not fly a powered model outdoors closer than 25 feet to any individual, except for myself or my helper(s) located at the flightline, unless I am taking off and landing, or as otherwise provided in AMA's Competition Regulation.
- I will use an established safety line to separate all model aircraft operations from spectators and bystanders.

For a complete copy of AMA's Safety Handbook please visit: [modelaircraft.org/files/100.pdf](http://modelaircraft.org/files/100.pdf)