

## **WHIDBEY ISLAND RADIO CONTROL SOCIETY “WIRCS” BY-**

### **LAWS**

#### **ARTICLE I**

##### **NAME**

Section 1 The name of this organization shall be the Whidbey Island Radio Control Society (WIRCS) and shall hereby be referred to as "the club".

#### **ARTICLE II**

##### **PURPOSE**

Section 1 The purpose of the club shall be to enjoy and promote the sport of radio control modeling, to teach and share model building techniques, ideas and modeling skills, and the development of good sportsmanship among its members.

#### **ARTICLE III**

##### **MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING**

Section 1 Any person interested in the sport of radio control modeling may join the club by taking the following action:

- (a) Attend a regular meeting and indicate his/her desire to join.
- (b) Present a valid AMA membership or proof of application thereof, and maintain said membership.
- (c) Obtain a application form from the club secretary to fill out and return.
- (d) Pay dues in accordance with club by-laws.
- (e) Agree to abide by all club rules, by-laws, and NAS Whidbey Instructions pertaining to the club.

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Section 2 A majority of members present and voting shall constitute a quorum at club meetings.

Section 3 Voting shall be limited to those members whose names appear on the club secretary's list, and whose dues have been currently paid.

ARTICLE IV

TERMINATION AND REINSTATEMENT OF MEMBERS

Section 1 Any member may terminate his/her membership at any time.

Section 2 The membership of any member shall be automatically terminated when dues are in arrears for two months.

Section 3 Any member may recommend to an officer that the membership of another member be terminated for cause. When this occurs, the following actions will take place:

- (a) Club Officers shall investigate the matter and bring the facts before the club at the next scheduled meeting after conclusion of the investigation.
- (b) If the Club Officers determine that termination is recommended, they shall give notice to the offender, in writing, as soon as the investigation concludes, but prior to the next scheduled meeting.
- (c) At the next scheduled meeting, the offending member will be given the opportunity to state their own case. A vote will then take place. If two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at the meeting concur in the termination, said membership shall be terminated.
- (d) The member terminated shall have until the following scheduled meeting to notify a club officer of their intent to appeal. At the first scheduled meeting following the vote to terminate the membership, the terminated member will be allowed to present their appeal. If two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at that meeting concur in denying the appeal, said membership shall remain terminated.
- (e) After a period of not less than one year, the person terminated may apply for membership. If two-thirds (2/3) of the members present after such application approve the application, said member may rejoin the club.

ARTICLE V

DUES

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- Section 1 Dues shall be paid in the following manner:
- (a) General Members: \$30.00 paid annually by March 1.
  - (b) Senior Members: \$25.00 paid annually by March 1. (Senior Members shall be defined as 65 years of age)
  - (c) Junior Members: \$15.00 paid annually by March 1. (Junior Members shall be defined as being under 18 years of age)
  - (d) Associate Members: \$1.00 paid annually by March 1. (Associate Member shall be defined as non-flying members.)
  - (e) Family Membership: \$50.00 paid annually by March 1. (Family Membership shall be defined as two adults, and children under 18 years of age.)
  - (f) Honorary Life Member: No Fee.
- Section 2 The club treasurer shall provide a membership card and a distinctive sticker for the front of the member's AMA card at the time dues are paid. A current AMA card with current club sticker must be exchanged for a frequency flag before flight operations.

## ARTICLE VI

### MEETINGS

- Section 1 General meetings shall be held once a month at the time and place designated by the Club President. Special meetings may be designated by the Club President.

## ARTICLE VII

### NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

- Section 1 Nomination of officers shall be by voice vote at the October meeting.
- Section 2 Voting shall take place at the November meeting.
- Section 3 Newly elected officers shall take office at the December meeting.

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Section 4      Should an officer resign during the club year, the President shall appoint a willing member of the club to assume the office.

ARTICLE VIII

OFFICERS

Section 1      Officers of the club shall be as follows:

- (a)      Elected Officers (Board of Directors):
  - (1)      President
  - (2)      Vice-President
  - (3)      Secretary
  - (4)      Treasurer (NOTE: The position of treasurer may be filled by the same person elected to be club secretary.)
- (b)      Term Limits: Consecutive terms in any one office shall be limited to two terms.
- (c)      Officers appointed by the President
  - (1) Safety Officer
  - (2) Field Marshal
  - (3) Newsletter Editor
  - (4) Chief Flight Instructor
  - (5) Webmaster
  - (6) WIRCS Mail Administrator

Section 2      Duties of Officers

- (a)      President: It shall be the duty of the President to preside at regular meetings and to act as Chairman of the Board of Directors.
- (b)      Vice President: It shall be the duty of the Vice President to maintain the physical assets of the club, including any equipment and supplies. It shall also be the duty of the Vice President to develop programs for each meeting of the club. The Vice President will chair any meeting not attended by the President. If the President resigns, the Vice President will assume the presidency for the remaining term.

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- (c) Secretary: It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep the minutes of all club meetings; to notify the club membership of upcoming, regular, and special meetings and events. The Secretary shall make club records available upon request. The Secretary will chair at any meeting not attended by either the President or Vice President.
- (d) Treasurer: It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to collect, disburse and keep current a record of the club's monetary assets, and; to post or issue a monthly accounting of the club's funds for the preceding month. The Treasurer shall make club records available upon request. The Treasurer shall make incidental monetary outlays of amounts not to exceed \$50.00 per month, with the approval of the President or Vice President. Expenditures of over \$50.00 for any one item shall require approval of the membership by majority of those present at a general meeting. The Treasurer will chair at any meeting not attended by either the President, Vice President or Secretary.
- (e) Safety Officer: Duties include: Pre-flight inspection of new and repaired aircraft; analyze causes for any crash, pilot error included; preparation of club field rules; enforcement of AMA Safety Code; prevent individual fliers from flying if their conduct or aircraft is unsafe; supervision of spectator areas, flight line and frequency control; know address and shortest route to a hospital, police, fire department; location of field fire extinguisher; know names of persons qualified in first aid and CPR; conduct safety classes as part of regular club meetings.
- (f) Field Marshal: Duties include: Supervision of field layout (parking, flight line, etc.); greet new faces at the field and explain the sport and how to become involved; knowledge of location of nearest hospital, police department and field fire extinguisher; knowledge of first aid and location of first aid kit; erection of temporary signs during flying sessions; field clean up (FOD, litter, etc.); presentations to club at open meetings on problems; ability to handle non-fliers who may disrupt operations; personal knowledge of public officials to contact if needed, both Navy and civil who will assist with any problems. Determine requirements for frequency control devices, including pins and assist the club president with implementation of any actions required.
- (g) Newsletter Editor: Duties include preparation and distribution of the bi monthly club newsletter to all members and others on the mailing list.

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- (h) Chief Flight Instructor: Duties include: Provide and/or arrange for instruction to new or inexperienced pilots on the operation of RC model aircraft; inspect and test fly newly built or re-built aircraft for those members requesting same; recommend to the club president those deserving of their AMA solo patch. To the extent practical but without expense to the club unless approved by the membership, arrange for trainer aircraft and buddy boxes for orientation flights for those who might be interesting the RC hobby, in accordance with AMA rules for such flying.
- (i) Webmaster: Construct and maintain a club website. The website will be kept current with material approved by the elected club officers. Webmaster will provide administrative information to the treasurer as needed to support requisite payment for hosting and site name.
- (j) WIRCS Mail Administrator: Maintain a Yahoo based private club email bulletin board for club communication. The administrator shall ensure that all of those with access to said email are current club members and that communication material is appropriate to the administration of the club and nothing else.

## ARTICLE IX

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Section 1

- (a) Membership. The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers of the club, as set forth in ARTICLE VIII plus the immediate past president, two members appointed by the currently elected president and one additional member at large elected by club membership.
- (b) Meetings. The Board of Directors shall meet at the pleasure of the President not less than two times per year and shall act on any matter brought before it by the club president and make suitable recommendations for consideration by the club president and subsequently the club membership if appropriate.
- (c) Officer Status. Board members are not club officers unless otherwise elected or appointed.

## ARTICLE X

### SAFETY

Section 1 All members shall abide by those rules governing the operation radio control models as stipulated in the AMA model aircraft regulation book, and the NASWHIDBEYINST 11132.G (and subsequent revisions) and club By Laws.

Section 2 Noise Abatement Program. All members shall work toward the goal of minimizing noise complaints and an environment that is not hazardous to the hearing of members and spectators.

- (a) Mufflers. All aircraft with the exception of those specifically built for racing, shall have a sound level of no more than 100db at 10 feet over grass at full throttle. Aircraft owners not in compliance shall be advised to make corrections. If found not in compliance a second time without having made an attempt to correct, the offending aircraft shall be grounded until repairs are made. Aircraft specifically built for racing and configured in accordance with AMA rules for racing aircraft may be flown in racing configuration no later than 6:00 p.m. or dusk, whichever is earlier.
- (b) Monitoring. The club Safety Officer shall periodically monitor noise at the flying site and request corrective action be taken for any aircraft not meeting the 100 db/10 foot guideline. The club Safety Officer, at his discretion, shall cause any aircraft to be immediately grounded if its noise level is deemed hazardous to hearing or the wellbeing of the club.

Section 3 Flight Training Programs. Under the direction of the Chief Flight Instructor (CFI) the club will organize, supervise and support a program to train and certify new members and flight instructors to safely fly at OLF Coupeville. The club will provide an R/C model trainer, videos and flight training manuals in support of the program. The club R/C trainer will be restricted to demonstration flights and dual flight instruction with a buddy box only.

- (a) Flight Instructors.
  - (1) Chief Flight Instructor. The Chief Flight Instructor is appointed by the Club President. Desirable characteristics in the Chief Flight Instructor are proficiency as an RC pilot, the ability to instruct others, use of a buddy box, knowledge of AMA and club safety rules, and the ability manage the club's Flight Training Program.
  - (2) Flight Instructors. Other club Flight Instructors shall be recruited and trained as necessary by the Chief Flight Instructor. Desirable

characteristics for Flight Instructors are proficiency as an RC pilot, the ability to instruct others, use of a buddy box and knowledge of AMA and club safety rules.

- (b) New Pilots. The objective of flight instruction is to give members sufficient hands on training to permit safe solo flight (flying without the direct support of a qualified flight instructor) with the member's aircraft. Safe solo flight shall be at the discretion of qualified flight instructors but shall include as a minimum, verbal verification of knowledge and understanding of flying site rules, frequency pin and start up procedures, taxi and take off from the center line of the designated runway, oval pattern flight, figure eights at constant altitude, power on and off landings on the designated runway. Demonstration of these skills will result in the designation Club Certified Pilot.
- (c) Experienced New Members. New members shall demonstrate flying proficiency for a club flight instructor and be designated a Club Certified Pilot before engaging in unsupervised solo flight at the club flying site. Standards are the same as those for a new pilot. If the member's flying skills need refreshment in the opinion of the examiner, a program of instruction shall be worked out between the examiner, member being examined and the Chief Flight Instructor.
- (d) Inspection. Inspection of new or rebuilt aircraft is recommended but not required unless it is the member's first RC model, in which case inspection is mandatory. Inspection shall include but not be limited to control surface deflection (direction and amount); CG location; radio range check; visible structural integrity; alignment of the engine and flying surfaces, and; servo to control surface connections.
- (d) Records. The club Chief Flight Instructor shall maintain a list of those members qualified to solo, date qualified and type of aircraft. A list will also be maintained and published in the club Newsletter with the names of qualified flight instructors with the type of buddy box available (JR, Futaba, etc.).

## ARTICLE XI

### GENERAL



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Section 1 Amendments, additions, or deletions may be considered by the membership at any regular meeting. Agreement by a majority of members present is necessary for adoption of any amendments, additions, or deletions to the club by-laws.

Section 2 The club assumes no responsibility or liability resulting from acts of individual members.

ARTICLE XII

DISSOLUTION OF CLUB

Section 1 WIRCS property at the time of dissolution shall be disposed of in a manner determined by the club officers and any resulting funds realized by such disposal shall be made a part of the clubs liquid financial assets.

Section 2 Upon dissolution of WIRCS, all liquid financial assets including remaining cash, CD's and checking account balance shall be donated to the AMA Foundation.