

BYLAWS
R/C Fliers of Venice, Inc.
Venice, FL
(A Not-For-Profit Corporation)

(Revised: March 6th, 2026)

ARTICLE I: NAME, PURPOSE, and OFFICES

1. The name of the Corporation shall be R/C Fliers of Venice, Inc. (hereafter, “RCFV”). The official abbreviation of the Corporation is RCFV.
2. The purpose of the Corporation (hereafter, the “Club”) is:
 - a. To foster a common interest in the construction and flying of R/C model aircraft in the Sarasota County area.
 - b. To educate the community, both youths and adults, in all aspects of R/C aero-modeling.
 - c. To maintain an Academy of Model Aeronautics chartered Club. The Academy of Model Aeronautics (hereafter, “AMA”) is a nationally recognized Community Based Organization.
 - d. To operate and maintain suitable Club facilities and flying field.
 - e. To ensure the Club maintains a healthy membership level so it can thrive operationally.
3. The physical structures and flying field of the Club are located within the Sarasota Central County Solid Waste Disposal Complex property (hereafter, the “Landfill”) at 4000 Knights Trail Road, Nokomis, FL. The official address of the Club is the home address of the Treasurer. At the time of this writing, the home address of the Treasurer is: 876 Tartan Drive, Venice, FL.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERS

1. Membership in the Club is open to the public and is obtained through application, payment of an initiation fee and dues, providing proof of current enrollment in the AMA or MAAC, and agreeing to abide by the Rules of the Club.
 - a. The membership period is February 1st through January 31st.
 - b. All classes of membership must maintain continuous enrollment in the AMA or Model Aircraft Association of Canada (hereafter, “MAAC”) throughout the membership period.
 - c. To maintain membership in the Club year over year, annual dues must be paid by the due date, and any special assessments must be paid.
 - d. Annual dues shall be paid by January 31st of each calendar year.
 - e. Members who resign or are removed are not entitled to any rebate.
 - f. A new member joining the Club after July 31st may pay reduced annual

dues for the remainder of the membership period, as defined in the membership application.

2. Classes of membership:
 - a. Adult Membership: An Adult Membership entitles a member 21 years of age or older to enjoy the Club's facilities. A new Adult Member will be responsible for full annual dues and an initiation fee. A renewing Adult Member will be responsible for full annual dues. Any Adult Member may hold office and is entitled to one vote.
 - b. Additional Adult Family Membership: An Additional Adult Family Membership entitles a member 21 years of age or older to enjoy the Club's facilities when sponsored by an Adult Member. An Additional Adult Family Member must reside in the same household as the sponsoring Adult Member. A new Additional Adult Family Member will be responsible for annual dues at a reduced rate and the initiation fee will be waived. A renewing Additional Adult Family Member will be responsible for annual dues at a reduced rate. Any Additional Adult Family Member may hold office, and is entitled to one vote.
 - c. Junior Membership: A Junior Membership entitles a member less than 21 years of age to enjoy the Club's facilities without the burden of annual dues or an initiation fee. All new and renewing Junior Members shall have annual dues and initiation fee waived. A Junior Member must renew their membership each year by February 1st. A Junior Member may not hold office and may not vote. A Junior Member will maintain their Junior Membership status for the duration of the membership period in which their 21st birthday is reached. After the completion of the membership period in which their 21st birthday was reached, they must renew as an Adult Member or an Additional Adult Family Member and they will be responsible for the annual dues associated with the type of Adult membership they are applying for, but the initiation fee will be waived.
3. Access to the Landfill: Members must know and abide by all Landfill rules and regulations regarding access to the Club facilities and flying field. Landfill rules and regulations may change from time to time at the discretion of the Landfill. In the event the Landfill changes the rules and regulations, the Club shall adopt the new Landfill rules and regulations in a timely manner without need of ratifying these bylaws.
 - a. As of this writing, an electronic gate card must be purchased from the Landfill office and used to enter Landfill property through Lane 3.
 - b. As of this writing, when the Landfill is closed to the public, members must use a physical key for ingress/egress through locked, chain-link fence gates, as well as follow Clause 3a above. The key for the chain-link fence gates may be obtained from a Board member. Members must post a refundable security deposit for this key. This key must not be copied and must be returned when membership is terminated, at which time a partial amount of the deposit will be returned.

4. Discipline: The Board has the authority to administer discipline to Club members. A Club member may be disciplined for demonstrating disregard for Club Rules, disregard of Landfill rules and regulations, for unsafe flying practices, or for other disruptive or threatening behavior.
 - a. If a violation, incident, or other disruptive or threatening situation is brought to the attention of the Board, the Board shall consider if disciplinary action is warranted. For the Board to conclude that disciplinary action is warranted, a motion shall be made. Approval of the motion requires an affirmative vote of at least 6 Board members.
 - b. If the Board approves disciplinary action, the Board shall follow the Disciplinary Guidelines document when determining the severity of the discipline. While all attempts shall be made to follow the Disciplinary Guidelines, not all situations can be anticipated. In special cases, the Board may deviate from the Disciplinary Guidelines as the President deems appropriate.
 - c. Upon determining the severity of the disciplinary action, the Board will notify the Member of the disciplinary action. The Member will be issued written notice of the disciplinary action via email.
 - d. A member is entitled to challenge disciplinary action. The Member may challenge disciplinary action by requesting a hearing with the Board in writing via email. A hearing must be requested within one week from issuance of written notice of the disciplinary action.
 - i. If a hearing is requested, the hearing is to be held at the next regularly-scheduled monthly Board meeting, or a specially-scheduled meeting of the Board which would be determined by the President.
 - ii. If the Member requests a hearing, the Member should provide new or additional information for consideration by the Board.
 - iii. Upon completion of a hearing, The Board will dismiss, modify or uphold the disciplinary action. The Member will be notified of the results of the hearing within one week, in writing via email. Any disciplinary action that survives the hearing is effective immediately upon delivery of written notification of the hearing.
 - e. If the Member declines to request a hearing within one week of receiving written notice of disciplinary action, any challenge to the disciplinary action is considered waived, and the Board's disciplinary action survives in full, effective from the date the Member was initially notified.
 - f. Good faith attempts shall be made to follow the above process whenever practical. The above process may be altered as deemed appropriate by the President given that not all possible circumstances can be anticipated, and some cases may require special treatment.

ARTICLE III: MEETINGS

1. In-person membership meetings shall principally be conducted at the Club flying field. The President has the discretion to call special membership meetings at other locations or electronically. In-person membership meetings shall be held the 2nd Saturday of each month except for the summer months of June, July, August and September. The Chair of membership meetings shall be the President. If the President is absent, then the Vice-President, the Treasurer, or the Secretary shall preside as Chair, in that order. Membership meetings shall be conducted by parliamentary procedure. Robert's Rules of Order shall be used as a guide. The usual order of business at in-person membership meetings shall be:
 - Call to Order
 - Pledge of Allegiance
 - Chair's opening comments
 - Secretary's report
 - Treasurer's report
 - Other Officer & Director reports
 - Committee reports
 - Old business
 - New business
 - Raffle
 - Door prize
 - Show and Tell
 - Adjournment
2. A Board meeting shall be held prior to each membership meeting. Additional Board meetings may be held if needed, as determined by the President of the Club.
3. The President may establish special committees to address specific tasks on an as-needed basis. These special committees shall meet at a time and place that is convenient for the committee members.
4. An Annual Meeting of the membership shall be held in December. The Annual Meeting will conduct business as described in Clause 1 above, as well as:
 - Announce the newly elected officers, who will assume office at the adjournment of the Annual Meeting.
 - Presentation of financial audit results.
 - Presentation of next year's approved annual budget, reserve schedule, dues fee structure and initiation fee.
 - Next year's goals.
 - Review of safety and Landfill access rules.

ARTICLE IV: VOTING

1. Each Adult Member and each Additional Adult Family Member whose membership is current is entitled to one vote. Junior Members do not vote.
2. A member who holds office may be a candidate for another office position, and if the member is elected to the new office, he must resign his former position. No member may hold two office positions simultaneously and no member may run for two offices simultaneously.
3. Motions require a simple majority of the votes cast for passage unless otherwise stated in this document.
4. Election of Officers and Directors shall be decided by plurality.
5. All votes require a quorum to be valid. (See ARTICLE V: QUORUM).
6. Motions that have low impact to the Club, its members, or its procedures may be voted upon at membership meetings unless otherwise stated in this document. Votes are to be counted by hand, by members appointed by Chair. Motions are approved by a simple majority of the votes cast at the meeting. Motions voted upon and their results are to be included in the Club newsletter. Types of motions that may be voted upon at membership meetings shall include, but are not necessarily limited to:
 - a) Acceptance of Officer reports
 - b) Acceptance of meeting minutes.
 - c) Other items/issues brought before the membership meeting where the impact to the Club, its members, or its procedures is minimal.
7. Motions that have high impact to the Club, its members, or its procedures shall be voted upon by utilizing electronic voting tools. Utilizing electronic voting tools enables all Club members to be reached for vote without requiring their presence at in-person meetings. Electronic votes are to be tallied and audited by at least two Club members appointed by the President. Results of electronic votes are to be distributed to all Club members via email, included in the Club newsletter, and are to be posted at the Clubhouse. Unless otherwise stated in this document, motions that utilize electronic voting are approved by a simple majority of the votes cast. Types of motions that may be voted upon utilizing electronic voting tools shall include, but are not necessarily limited to:
 - a) Election of Officers and Directors.
 - b) Budget, reserve schedule, dues fee structure, and initiation fee.
 - c) Revisions to the bylaws.
 - d) Revisions to documents concerning Club Rules and Discipline Guideline.
 - e) Removal of an Officer or Director.
 - f) Non-budgeted expenditures in excess of \$3,000.
 - g) Assessments.

ARTICLE V: QUORUM

1. A quorum for membership meetings is 20% of the total membership with voting privileges at the time of the meeting.
2. A quorum for an electronic vote is 35% of the total membership with voting privileges at the time the electronic voting window is opened.
3. A quorum for a Board meeting is 5 Board members. A quorum is required for any motions voted upon or decisions made by Board members unless otherwise specified in this document.

ARTICLE VI: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The Board of Directors (hereafter, the “Board”) shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Safety Officer and three at-large Directors. Each member of the Board shall have one vote.
2. All members of the Board are to maintain current membership in the Club. All Club members running for office or being appointed to fill a vacancy must be eligible to hold office.
3. The term for Officers shall be approximately two years, starting at the annual membership meeting in which they assumed office and ending at the adjournment of the annual membership meeting two years later. The terms are to be staggered; the Vice-President and the Treasurer are to be elected in December on even years and every two years thereafter. The President and the Secretary are to be elected in December on odd years and every two years thereafter.
4. The terms for a Director shall be approximately three years, starting at the annual membership meeting in which they assumed office and ending at the adjournment of the annual membership meeting three years later. The terms for each Director are to be staggered; one each year over a 3-year cycle. Director seat A is elected in year one, Director seat B is elected in year two, Director seat C is elected in year three, Director seat A is elected in year four, Director seat B is elected in year five, and so on.
5. Club members who are eligible to hold office must declare their candidacy before the November membership meeting. Nominations for candidacy of Office will close at the adjournment of the November membership meeting. Members may declare their candidacy by contacting a Board member in writing via email or stating their intentions at a membership meeting.
6. Club members appointed to fill vacancies on the Board shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term of the vacated Board seat.
7. Officers and Directors are responsible for the operation of the Club. Their specific duties are:
 - a) **President:** The President shall be the primary executive officer of the Club and shall supervise and control the day-to-day affairs of the Club. The President shall preside at all meetings of the membership and may sign all instruments on behalf of the club.
 - b) **Vice-President:** During the absence or disability of the President, the Vice-President shall have all the powers and functions of the President. The Vice-President shall become the President if the President

is unable to fulfill the Office, unless the Vice-President declines the Office. If the Vice-President declines the Office of the President, the new President shall come from the existing Board. The new President must be approved by motion by 6 Board members. The former President does not vote, and the Board member who will assume the Presidency does not vote. If the Board is unable to agree upon this motion, the Club membership must hold a special election for President within thirty days of resignation of the President. The special election shall be conducted in accordance with ARTICLE IV: Clause 2 (plurality) & Clause 5 (electronic voting), and ARTICLE V, Clause 2 (electronic vote quorum).

- c) **Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall have custody of and be responsible for all the funds and securities of the Club. The Treasurer shall collect all monies due the Club. The Treasurer shall keep a record of the names and addresses of all members, and their dues and their AMA/MAAC status. The requirement of keeping membership records may be waived by the President, who may choose to designate another Board member to do so. The Treasurer may sign instruments regarding Bank transactions on behalf of the Club.
- d) **Secretary:** The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all membership and Board meetings, and maintain Club the documents. The Secretary may sign instruments on behalf of the Club.
- e) **Directors:** The Directors shall work with the Officers on all Club matters and participate in votes that come before the Board.
- f) **Safety Officer:** The President solicits potential Club members who are eligible to hold office for the Safety Officer position. The Board approves the appointment by an affirmative vote from at least 5 members of the Board. The term of office for Safety Officer is to be continuous (it does not expire). The Safety Officer is responsible for flying field safety and conformity to Club Rules. The Safety Officer is to:
 - Courteously communicate with members over infractions and recommend the course of action to resolve such issues.
 - Communicate such incidents and remedies to the Board.
 - Be aware that a Contest Director for events can apply or amend Rules.
 - Follow the AMA Safety Coordinator guidelines.

ARTICLE VII: REMOVAL OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

1. Officers and Directors may be removed from office for due cause. Removal may be for lack of performance, lack of participation in Board meetings, disruptive or threatening behavior toward members, or other matters that cannot be anticipated. Removal of a Board member requires a vote by the Club membership.
2. The Club membership may initiate the recommendation of removal of an Officer or Director to the Board by:
 - a. Presenting a petition to the Board with at least 15 signatures of Club

- members with voting privileges.
- b) This petition must also provide a written explanation of the conduct in question. The petition must be presented to the Board within 30 days of the conduct in question.
3. The Board itself may recommend the removal of a fellow Officer or Director to the Club membership.
 4. Regardless of where the recommendation for removal of an Officer or Director starts, the process to remove an Officer or Director is as follows:
 - a) The Board must consider due cause for removal. If the Board finds due cause, the Board shall vote on a motion to approve a recommendation for removal. The motion for recommendation to remove a Board member requires an affirmative vote of at least 5 members of the Board. The Officer or Director being considered for removal does not have a vote.
 - b) Upon an affirmative vote by 5 or more members of the Board, the Club membership will be notified of the recommendation for removal via email.
 - c) A vote by the Club membership for removal of the Officer or Director shall be conducted promptly, but at least 10 days after such notice is delivered to the Club membership, giving the membership time to consider the recommendation for removal. The vote shall be in accordance with ARTICLE IV, Clause 5 (electronic voting) and ARITCLE V, Clause 2 (electronic vote quorum). Approval of removal requires a two-thirds simple majority in the affirmative of the votes cast by the membership.
 - d) The Board member is dismissed immediately upon an affirmative Club Membership vote.

ARTICLE VIII: BUDGETS, ASSESSMENTS, AUDITS.

1. The fiscal year is November 1st through October 31st.
2. The Board shall create a budget, updated reserve schedule, membership dues structure and the initiation fee for each fiscal year. The budget, the updated reserve schedule, dues structure and initiation fee shall be introduced at the October meeting and published in the October Scramble Sheet, then voted upon by the Club membership in November. This vote shall be in accordance with ARTICLE IV, Clause 5 (electronic voting) and ARITCLE V, Clause 2 (electronic vote quorum). Approval requires a two-thirds simple majority in the affirmative of the votes cast.
3. The Board may recommend a special assessment if necessary for Club improvements or other reasons as deemed necessary by the Board. Assessments must be voted upon by the Club membership in accordance with ARTICLE IV, Clause 5 (electronic voting) and ARITCLE V, Clause 2 (electronic vote quorum). Approval requires a two-thirds simple majority in the affirmative of the votes cast.
4. The President shall appoint a committee to audit club finances at the end of each fiscal year. The audit report shall be given to the Club members via

email not later than the annual membership meeting.

ARTICLE IX: FIELD, FLIGHT SAFETY and SECURITY RULES

1. RCFV Rules shall be formulated by the Board. All safety rules within the RCFV Rules document must be at least as strict as the AMA Safety Code. RCFV Rules are to be approved by the Club membership. Revisions to RCFV Rules must be voted upon by the Club membership in accordance with ARTICLE IV, Clause 5 (electronic voting) and ARITCLE V, Clause 2 (electronic vote quorum). Approval of a revision to the RCFV Rules requires a two-thirds simple majority in the affirmative of the votes cast.

ARTICLE X: VACANCIES

1. Vacancies on the Board shall be filled as promptly as possible. The President shall recommend the appointment of a Club member who is eligible to hold office to fill the unexpired term of vacant Board seat. The appointment must be approved by motion of the Board. At least 5 Board members must vote in the affirmative for approval. If the Board is reduced to fewer than 5 members, a special election with the Club membership must be held within thirty days to fill the vacancy. The election shall be conducted in accordance with ARTICLE IV, Clause 2 (plurality), Clause 5 (electronic voting) and ARITCLE V, Clause 2 (electronic vote quorum).

ARTICLE XI: RESIGNATIONS

1. Resignations of Officers or Directors will be made in writing to the President or the Secretary of the Club. Resignations are effective immediately when received by the President or the Secretary.

ARTICLE XII: CHANGING THE BYLAWS

1. Bylaw changes may only be sought once per calendar year. Any proposed change to the bylaws must be in accordance with Florida State Law. Proposed changes to the bylaws must be in writing with all Club members provided a copy of the proposed changes via email for a 10-day review and comment period. Proposed changes to the bylaws shall be voted upon by the Club membership after the review and comment period and after feedback has been evaluated for incorporation into the proposed changes. Proposed changes to the bylaws shall be voted upon by the Club membership in accordance with ARTICLE IV, Clause 5 (electronic voting) and ARITCLE V, Clause 2 (electronic vote quorum).

Approval of changes to the bylaws requires a two-thirds simple majority in the affirmative of the votes cast.

ARTICLE XIII: INSURANCE

1. The Club shall maintain the liability policy offered to AMA chartered Clubs. Sarasota County shall be listed as an additional insured. Coverage shall be the maximum offered by the AMA. Proof of this coverage shall be sent to Sarasota County Risk Management annually.
2. The Club may be required to maintain additional liability insurance above and beyond the AMA liability policy as determined by Sarasota County Risk Management. Proof of this coverage shall be sent to Sarasota County Risk Management annually. At the time of this writing, Sarasota County Risk Management requires additional liability coverage for:
 - a. Hired auto
 - b. Non-owned auto
3. The Board may purchase Directors and Officers liability insurance.

ARTICLE XIV: MISCELLANEOUS

1. Expenditures throughout the fiscal year that are listed in the annual budget do not require a separate Club membership vote of approval as the annual budget has already been approved by a Club membership vote.
2. A non-budgeted expenditure < \$3000 requires Board approval. The motion for approval of a non-budgeted expense < \$3000 requires at least 5 members of the Board to vote in the affirmative.
3. A non-budgeted expenditure of \$3001 or greater requires approval by the Club Membership. Voting shall be in accordance with ARTICLE IV: Clause 5 (electronic voting) and ARTICLE V, Clause 2 (electronic vote quorum). Approval of a non-budgeted expenditure >\$3000 requires at least 51% in the affirmative of the votes cast.
4. Funds must be available for any non-budgeted expenditure before approval is sought.
5. The Club newsletter shall be the official instrument for distributing information to the membership. The newsletter shall be available to the membership on the Club website.

ARTICLE XV: LAPSED MEMBERSHIP

1. After 3 years of lapsed membership the club dues and initiation fee will be required for reenrollment.