

R/C FLIERS OF VENICE FLIGHT RULES

Updated and Approved by the Board, April 2021

We all enjoy flying our models and are pleased to see others join us in this great hobby. Each of us is unique, and we take pride in our individual skills of building, flying and sometimes teaching new members how to fly. To a great extent, this is a very individual activity. It takes a great deal of personal skill to build and fly a model airplane. We work with various components of our hobby (planes, engines, fuel, etc.) which can pose a danger to ourselves and others. Therefore, when we join a club and come to the club field, we must take this into account when conducting our activity. The individual activity becomes a group activity, and compliance with rules becomes mandatory for our safety, and that of others. With this in mind we are adopting the following:

The AMA safety code takes precedence overall, should a conflict occur. Our Club Rules are divided into two major categories and five special considerations:

1. FIELD SECURITY: Intended to preserve our privileges to use the facilities provided by Sarasota County.
2. FLIGHT SAFETY: Intended to prevent injury to ourselves, other club members, and visitors.
3. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS: To include field courtesy, contests and fun flies, electric models, control line models as well as Turbine and 100MPH + Models.

FIELD SECURITY

1. The flying field will be open between 7am and dusk (or 8:30pm, whichever comes first).
2. The Memorial Field Gate shall be locked **whenever** the last person leaves the field.
3. When entering or leaving the field, follow signs to the south of the landfill property.
4. On Sundays, holidays, and after normal Landfill opening and closing hours both outer Landfill entrance gates are to be kept locked upon entering and leaving the Landfill.
5. A complete and successful radio equipment ground check shall be done before the first flight of a new or repaired model.
6. All students or limited fliers must at all times fly with an instructor using a "Buddy Box" until solo status is granted. New members or guests with previous flying experience must complete a Flight Authorization check.

7. Any member with solo status instructing or helping a member or guest on a "Buddy Box" assumes responsibility of the aircraft and must maintain its control at all times.
8. Any Club member who demonstrates a disregard for Club rules or property shall be subject to disciplinary action at the discretion of the Board.
9. Gasoline powered models shall be fueled and started on the cement pads at the far east and west ends of the pit area.
10. Engines above .10 cubic inch must be muffled. SAM engines with less than a 60 second run time are excluded.
11. FIREWORKS and PYOTECHNIC ROCKETS are prohibited at Memorial Field.

FLIGHT TRAINING

All fliers who presently hold a Solo Certificate are grandfathered from this policy. All new fliers and those presently in training shall comply with the requirements of this policy.

1. Fliers who train to solo in an electric trainer will receive an "Electric Only" solo certificate. The Fundamental Electric training course must be completed prior to the actual solo test flight. This course shall be taught by an instructor approved by the Board of the R/C Fliers of Venice. All new students in this category shall have to complete a Fundamental Gas/Glow course, taught by an approved instructor, before being cleared to fly a gas/glow aircraft. When that course has been completed the student will be reissued a Solo certificate with no restrictions.
2. Fliers who train to solo in a gas/glow trainer will receive a "Gas/Glow Only" solo certificate. The Fundamental Gas/Glow course shall be an integral part of the initial flying training prior to solo. All new students in this category shall also complete the Fundamental Electrical training course, taught by an approved instructor, before being cleared to fly any electric aircraft. When that course has been completed the student will be reissued an Unlimited Solo certificate.

FLIGHT SAFETY RULES:

1. All members and guests who wish to fly must have in their possession a valid and current AMA (MACC) membership card, and comply with all the rules of the RC Fliers of Venice Inc.

2. Any guest wishing to fly must be qualified and can only use the Field for a total of 3 days per calendar year. All guests must be sponsored by current Senior member (over 20 years of age) of the RC Fliers of Venice, and the sponsor must be present when the guest flies.
3. Every student must pass a standard Club exam given by a Club certified instructor to gain solo status.
4. New Club members or guests with previous flying experience must complete the requirements of the Flight Authorization Form, including a demonstration flight.
5. No taxiing in the Pit areas. Shut off engine(s) before passing the 25 foot line on the taxiway. Pilots may taxi -- Outbound Only -- forward (North) of the (new) white line at the inner fence.
6. No more than 4 planes may fly at one time. Contests and Special events are exempt.
7. Do not fly south of the Flight Line (designated by a yellow line at the southern edge of the paved runway) or outside of the boundaries designated on the R/C Flies of Venice Memorial Field No Fly Zones map.
8. Helicopters and Drones may practice hovering from the round cement pad near the green roofed Gazebo in the area designated on the Memorial Field No Fly Zone Map. All other flying of Helicopters and Drones shall be from one of the four flight boxes near the runway. All rules for runway flying shall be followed. Use of a spotter is recommended.
9. High speed passes over the runway are not permitted. High alpha or 3D style flying shall be restricted to the middle of the grass area north of the paved runway.
10. No one is allowed north of the pilot line while flying is in progress without first giving the warning "Man on the Field". If you must go on the field when planes are flying, you shall appoint a spotter to stand near the pilot boxes and stay in contact with all pilots. No takeoffs are allowed when a "Man on the Field" warning has been given. Landings shall be limited to pilots needing to land due to low fuel or battery power. Wait for " CLEAR" before resuming normal operations.
11. Do not restart engines north of the Pilot Boxes.
12. All 72 MHz Transmitters REQUIRE the appropriate frequency pin before being turned on. 2.4 GHz radios do not require a pin. 72 MHz Transmitters are not allowed for use in contests. Only FCC model aircraft designated frequencies and equipment shall be permitted at the field and must meet AMA guidelines. These rules apply to all flying including contests.
13. No flying during field maintenance work, or if the County is cutting the fields adjacent to Memorial Field.

SPECIAL RULES COVERING FIELD COURTESY

1. Limit flying time to 15 minutes when others are waiting to fly.
2. Refrain from flying when another member calls for a test flight, or a new plane is being flown for the first time.
3. It is a good idea for a new or inexperienced pilot to have a new or repaired model to be checked by an instructor or experienced pilot prior to its next flight.
4. Always be safety conscious when flying your plane.

SPECIAL RULES COVERING CONTESTS AND FUN FLIES

1. The contest director shall have discretion over the way the contest is run.
2. During contests and or fun flies the field is under the direct supervision of the contest director.
3. Club fun flies are limited to members only. The Board has the authority to change this rule under special circumstances.
4. All basic FLIGHT SAFETY and FIELD SECURITY rules shall be adhered to.

SPECIAL RULES COVERING ELECTRIC MODELS

1. Electric models with performance similar to “wet fueled” models shall fall under the same category as far as solo training, testing and flight safety rules.
2. Electric gliders and old timers whether they are gas, electric, or high start, do not require a buddy box for training but the new pilot must be under the direct supervision of an experienced pilot.
3. If a person has been taught to fly a glider, high start or old timer they are only entitled to fly these types of model.
4. All basic FLIGHT SAFETY and FIELD SECURITY rules shall be adhered to.

SPECIAL RULES COVERING TURBINES and 100MPH + Models.

1. Before flying a turbine or 100 MPH + models, the pilot shall notify any other pilot flying, of his intentions to fly, so they may have the choice of landing or continuing to fly.

2. Spotters shall be used by the pilots of these models.
3. All pilots wishing to fly gas turbine models shall follow the latest issue of AMA document #510-A “AMA GAS TURBINE PROGRAM” and must have in their possession the required waiver covering that particular aircraft.
4. Club members and guests shall not fly turbine powered model aircraft if Wind Speed exceeds 14mph or the Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) for any area within a one mile radius of the flying field is 500 or over. Current wind speed may be determined by checking the Davis Instruments display in the bulletin board area or the WeathLink App on your smart phone. See rcvenice.com for complete details regarding current KBDI status.
5. All gas turbine engines shall be fueled in cement areas and started in one of the three the taxiways.
6. All basic FLIGHT SAFETY and FIELD SECURITY rules shall be adhered to.

SPECIAL RULES COVERING CONTROL LINE MODELS

1. All control line flying shall be confined to the designated control circle.
2. All basic FLIGHT SAFETY and FIELD SECURITY rules shall be adhered to.

PENALTIES

Any member witnessing a violation of flight safety, field security or AMA rules should inform the violator at once. If the person continues to ignore the rules please report them to the Club Officers, who shall investigate the incident. Deliberate or consistent violation of AMA and or Club Rules are a serious matter and can result in “grounding” or loss of membership.