

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
PHANTOM FLYERS RC CLUB INCORPORATED

CHARTERED CLUB

OF THE

ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS

U.S. Representative for Model Aviation of the
Federation Aeronautique Internationale.

January 2024

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I – NAME

The official name of this club shall be the Phantom Flyers RC Club, Incorporated, (PFRCC, INC.). Herein referred to as “the Club”.

ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVE

- Section 1. The objectives of the Club shall be to promote model building and flying in St. Louis and vicinity, and to aid insofar as possible, the national program of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) and other AMA activities, looking toward the continual advancement of model aviation in all its phases in the United States.
- Section 2. All special or local enterprises of the Club shall conform to the policies and safety code of the AMA and to the regulations of that organization governing model aircraft contests, to the regulations of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. Membership is open to all without regard to race, color, creed, national origin, gender, age, or disability. All regular members shall be a current member of the AMA and shall abide by the rules and policies of the Club and the AMA as defined in the AMA Membership Manual. All club members agree not to sue the Phantom Flyers RC Club, Inc. organization, its Board of Directors, individual officers, or individual members. All members agree to hold harmless and indemnify the Phantom Flyers RC Club, Inc. organization, its Board of Directors, including individual officers or individual members.
- Section 2. (deleted)
- Section 3. Regular Member: All persons shall be eligible for membership in the Club, and shall agree to abide by its by-laws, and those of the AMA. Regular Member membership requires attaining and maintaining the qualifications and requirements prescribed by:
- (a) the Club

- (b) the AMA
- (c) the FCC
- (d) hold a valid license if prescribed by the AMA and the FCC.
- (e) The FAA

Regular Members may hold office, vote and perform a staff function, they may utilize club facilities, enter all club activities and win awards.

- Section 4. Family Member: Any immediate family member (Spouse and Children) as defined as a dependent by the Internal Revenue Service. Basically this includes children to their nineteenth birthday, and from their nineteenth birthday until their twenty-sixth birthday, provided they remain continuously dependent upon parents for their principal support. Also included are any children that are incapable of self-sustaining employment by reason of mental or physical disability regardless of age. Family Members may not hold certain offices (as defined in By -Laws Article II), or own property within the Club. Family Members may vote, utilize club facilities, enter all Club activities and win awards. Family Member flying status membership requires attaining and maintaining the same qualifications and requirements as for Regular Members defined in Section 1.
- Section 5. Non-Participative Member: Non-Participative Members may not utilize club facilities, or enter any activities, except as a guest of a Regular Member in accordance with Section 6 herein, hold office, vote, win awards or own property within the Club. Non-Participative Members shall be eligible to receive Club newsletters and notices.
- Section 6. Outside Participation: Participation in Club open activities by guests (persons other than members) must have approval of the Club and must read and sign the Hold Harmless Statement. Participation in Club activities by any individual guest is limited to a maximum of three occurrences during the calendar year (January through December).
- Section 7. Resignation: Any member in good standing may resign his/her membership by giving written notice to the Club. Dues reimbursement shall be in accordance with ARTICLE XVI.
- Section 8. Termination: If any member ceases to have the qualification necessary for membership in the AMA, his/her membership in the

Club shall thereby terminate, subject to reinstatement upon restoration of eligibility.

- Section 9. Expulsion: This section provides for enforcement of the Safety Rules that are related to flying activities or any other unacceptable behavior by an individual member or members. Any individual may be expelled from membership from the Club by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership if in the officers' determination, such individual willfully commits any act or omission which is a violation of any of the terms of these Bylaws, or the Rules of the AMA, or which is detrimental the Club, the AMA, or to model aviation.
- Section 10. Reinstatement: A two-thirds vote of the membership is required for reinstatement to the club.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I – ELECTED OFFICERS

The elected officers and board members serve on a voluntary basis with no remuneration from the club. The elected officers of the Club shall be:

- (a) President
- (b) Vice President
- (c) Secretary
- (d) Treasurer
- (e) Directors

ARTICLE II – DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

- (a) President: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and act as the spokesman for the Club in matters pertaining to it. The President must be a Regular Member.
- (b) Vice President: The Vice President shall assist the President, as requested by the President and shall take over the duties of the President in the event that the President is for any reason unable to perform the duties of the office. The Vice President must be a regular member.
- (c) Secretary: The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings and handle all Club correspondence as directed by the President or Acting President. The Secretary shall maintain the Club's membership status roster. The Secretary must be a regular member.
- (d) Treasurer: The Treasurer shall collect all monies due and shall keep the Club advised of monies received and/or disbursed by the Club. The Treasurer must be a Regular Member.
- (e) Directors: The Directors shall provide oversight of Officer and Club business. A Director must be a Regular Member.

ARTICLE III – TERMS OF OFFICE

- Section 1. The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Club shall serve for one calendar year (January 1 to December 31).
- Section 2. The election of shall be held annually at the November meeting. Nominations shall be made by a nominating committee, appointed beforehand by the President, for that purpose. Following the report

of the nominating committee, as published in the club newsletter, individual members may offer nominations.

ARTICLE IV – VACANCIES

Section 1. Vacancies in offices shall be filled as follows:

President: Vice President will assume the duties of the President. The Vice President will fill this vacancy until a special election can be held at a regular club meeting.

Vice President: Shall be filled by appointment by the remaining officers.

Secretary: The position of Secretary shall be temporarily filled by the Treasurer until a special election can be held at a regular club meeting.

Treasurer: The position of Treasurer shall be temporarily filled by the Secretary until a special election can be held at a regular club meeting.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular meetings of the Club shall be held January through November or as specified by the Club officers.

Section 2. Special meetings of the Club shall be held at any convenient time, upon a call by the President, or upon a call signed by any ten regular members of the Club, provided that any such call shall name the time and place of such meeting, and shall be issued at least one week in advance of the date set. Notice of regular meetings shall be given. The Secretary shall notify all members by email one week in advance; however, failure of the Secretary to notify members in advance shall not nullify any election procedures conducted at any meeting where a quorum is in attendance, as stipulated in Section 2 of ARTICLE VI.

ARTICLE VI – REGULAR BUSINESS

Section 1. All regular business affairs and enterprises conducted by the Club shall be directed by the officers, except that at any time the Club Officers may call a special meeting of the membership to decide on any problem or business activity.

Section 2. At any Club meeting, a quorum shall be 10 percent of the membership eligible to vote. Issues shall be decided by a simple

majority of those in attendance if a quorum is present. In the event that a quorum is not in attendance at any Regular club meeting, issues may be voted on and decided by a vote of seventy five percent of the members in attendance at that meeting.

- Section 3. The order of business and parliamentary procedure is based on "Roberts Rules of Order".

ARTICLE VII – DUES AND FEES

- Section 1. Club dues are due and payable by 01 October each year for the following year. The club Secretary will validate AMA membership prior to issuing a membership card with flying privileges. The Secretary shall submit the Club's active roster to the AMA. This submittal to AMA will constitute the Club's AMA Charter Roster. Members not submitting their membership renewal by 01 January shall be dropped from the roster and all membership privileges shall be revoked. Membership renewal requests received after 01 January shall be subjected to a \$15 late renewal fee in addition to the normal membership fee.
- Section 2. No special assessment shall be levied upon the Club membership at any time, except by vote of the membership as a whole, and then only upon a majority vote by seventy-five percent of the entire membership.
- Section 3. First year dues rules for all new members will be published in the club Membership Application and Renewal Form.
- Section 4. If the financial position of the Club warrants a change in amount of dues, or a cancellation of dues for a period of time, a change in the dues may be accomplished by both:
- (a) 75% of the Club officers in favor of a specified change.
 - (b) A majority vote at any Regular or Special called meeting of the Club in favor of a specified change. A seven day notice prior to the vote meeting must be issued via email and the club website.
- Section 5. Dues will be published in the club Membership Application and Renewal Form.

ARTICLE VIII – SPECIAL FUNDS

- Section 1. The Treasurer of the Club is authorized to receive contributions or specially obtained funds from any individual or institution, to be applied to the operating expenses of the Club. All such moneys must be in accordance with current IRS rules for 501 C7 organizations.

ARTICLE IX – COMMITTEES

- Section 1. The President shall name appointees and committees as required on either a standing or special basis. Standing appointees and committees shall serve from the time of appointment until the end of the President's tenure in office, and special appointees and committees shall serve for the length of time required.

ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS

- Section 1. Amendments may be made to this Constitution and these By-Laws at any Regular or Special Called meeting of the Club membership, provided the members shall have been notified in writing at least fourteen (14) days in advance that an amendment is to be considered. Copies of the proposed amendment will be published in the Carrier Wave and shall be provided to all members at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting. Approval of these amendments shall be decided by the members in attendance as described in Article VI Section 2 herein.

ARTICLE XI – PETTY CASH

- Section 1. A \$250.00 fund shall be set aside from the Treasury for the purpose of meeting miscellaneous expenses associated with Club business. Both the President and the Treasurer shall have the authority to make expenditures such that the total does not exceed the \$250.00 limit. The fund will be replenished upon the acceptance of the Treasurer's report at Regular Club meetings.

ARTICLE XII – ELIGIBILITY

- Section 1. All persons shall be eligible for membership in the Club, and shall agree to abide by its by-laws, and those of the AMA.

ARTICLE XIII – DISBANDMENT

- Section 1. The duration of the club shall be perpetual. The club may be dissolved with the approval of two-thirds vote of the membership. Upon disbandment of the Club, equipment, all assets including

cash and saleable items of record, will be divided equally among all members.

ARTICLE XIV – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Section 1. The Board of Directors of the Club shall consist of four members.
- Section 2. Directors shall serve for a two year period, with two Directors elected each year.
- Section 3. Directors shall be Regular Members in good standing.
- Section 4. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the remaining directors and the Officers of the Club.

ARTICLE XV – REMOVAL

- Section 1. A Director or Officer may be removed from office for acts of gross negligence or misdemeanors.
- Section 2. A vote of two-thirds of the Regular Membership in favor shall be required for removal.

ARTICLE XVI – REIMBURSEMENT POLICY

- Section 1. Reimbursement of dues will be amortized over a twelve-month period upon receipt of written request to the Club's President by the member prior to the first (1) of July of that year.

ARTICLE XVII – POLITICAL JUDGMENT

- Section 1. The Club shall not communicate their political beliefs through newsletters, flyers, club applications or any other form of communication.

ARTICLE XVIII – GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE
(FLIGHT AND SAFETY RULES)

- Section 1. The grievance procedure provides a mechanism to enforce existing safety rules by providing a progressive disciplinary system when needed. This grievance procedure also applies to threats, intimidation, physical harm, intentional equipment damage, or any other action deemed to be liable to the club or its members. Although most complaints can be resolved informally, if a complaint is serious or cannot be resolved informally, the matter should be referred to the Safety Officer for its consideration by means of a Grievance Form to be filled out and turned into the Safety Officer. At least one witness is required to sign the Grievance Form. The Safety Officer shall use his/her judgment in carrying out action on the following:
- Section 2. A grievance form will be filled out and turned into the Safety Officer. At least one witness is required.
- Section 3. First Violation: Viewpoints of both complainants and accused will be considered. Complainant's name will be disclosed. A verbal reprimand will be given to the accused by the Safety Officer, and this will be recorded in the Club records.
- Section 4. Second Violation: Complainant's name will be disclosed. The accused has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the Club Officers. If the Officers so decide, the flying privileges of the accused will be suspended for thirty (30) days. Written notice of this shall be issued and a copy published in the Club newsletter.
- Section 5. Third Violation: Safety Officer will notify the accused in writing and the Club members via the Club newsletter that the Club will vote on the expulsion of the accused at the next meeting. Said expulsion will last for a one-year minimum. A member may be expelled from the Club only upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership present at the meeting. Voting will be by secret ballot at a regular monthly meeting. The expelled member may reapply for membership after the expiration of the expulsion time period.
- Section 6. The three actions will not be enforced unless they are accumulated within a two-year period of time.
- Section 7. Any member receiving a Grievance, who directs any retaliation action against the person filing said grievance, will be subject to immediate expulsion from the Club. This is to include threats,

intimidation, physical harm, intentional equipment damage, or any other action deemed to be retaliatory by the Club Officers.