

# ***Discover Flying Radio Control Club***

## ***By-laws***

Effective : August, 2022

### **ARTICLE 1: Organization**

1. Discover Flying Radio Control Club, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "the club" or "club") is a not-for-profit organization chartered by the Academy of Model Aeronautics (hereinafter referred to as AMA), charter number 1897. The organization operates pursuant to the provisions of Section 501 (c) (7) of the Internal Revenue Code.
2. The principal business address of the club will be located in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at a location designated by the Executive Officers and published in the newsletter.
3. **The official club name shall be, Discover Flying Radio Control Club, Inc. (Art. I)** The names Discover Flying R/C Club and DFRCC may also be utilized in the club's various correspondence, advertisements and communications.
4. **The purpose and objectives of the club are to promote the safety, education and enjoyment in the construction, displaying and flying of radio controlled model aircraft, and to encourage the membership to expand their knowledge of aerodynamics and the related sciences through networking and fellowship among themselves and with other clubs. (Art. II)**
5. Accordingly, the club will:
  - a. Provide a suitable flying site for the use of the members and their guests.
  - b. Set standards for safety and enforce those standards to ensure the personal safety and that of the property of its members, their guests and spectators.
  - c. Endeavor to promote a feeling of comradeship between all members, regardless of aeromodeling interests, so that each member will value his/her association with the club and its members.
6. The Club fiscal year shall be from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>.
7. **No part of the Club earnings shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to, its members, or officers, except to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purpose in Article 1 (4) above. (Art. IV t)**

### **ARTICLE 2: Executive Officers**

1. The control and management of the affairs and business of the club shall be vested in the Executive Officers who shall have the authority to establish and administer its policies. As such, the officers will act in the name of the club, only when convened by the President after adequate notice to all other officers. A quorum shall consist of at least 75% of the current Executive Officers. In the event of a tie vote among the officers, the item being voted will be placed on the agenda of the next regular meeting of the membership and the membership will vote on the item. Official decisions shall be consistent with the stated purposes and objectives of the AMA as set forth in its Bylaws and, where those Bylaws are not specified, vested in the sound discretion of the club officers.
2. **President: The President is the official representative of the organization, and the Chief Executive Officer. As such he shall preside at all meetings of the club and act as a spokesperson in all matters pertaining to it. He shall in general supervise and control all of the business and affairs of the club. The President may appoint Committees, permanent or temporary, and will be one of the clubs bank account signatories. The president will have discretionary spending, of up to \$100 per year without requiring club approval. (Art. IV, 4a)**
3. **Vice-President: The Vice-President shall act for the President when he is unable to serve and when so acting shall have all of the powers and be subject to the restrictions upon the President. (Art. IV, 4b)**
4. **Secretary: The Secretary shall record minutes of club meetings and proceedings and handle all correspondence pertaining to club activities. He will be the club's contact person with AMA and will be custodian for the clubs charter, insurance and the clubs non-financial records. He will keep a register of the members, their addresses, and their AMA verifications. (Art. IV, 4c)**
5. **Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have charge and custody of all funds of the club. He shall maintain an accurate record (including place of storage) of all club assets, and an accurate ledger of all financial transactions. He shall submit a financial report at each regular meeting of the membership or any other time requested by the president. The president or his appointees will make a periodic audit of the treasurer's books. The treasurer will be one of the clubs bank account signatories. (Art. IV, 4d)**
6. **Compensation: Executive Officers shall serve without compensation.**

### **ARTICLE 3: Terms of Office**

1. All elected officers of the club shall serve for one (1) calendar year. Officers are to be elected by a vote of simple majority of members present and in good standing at the annual meeting in the month of December. New officers will take office on January 1. Secret ballots for the election of Officers are not permitted. (Art. IV, 1 of Art. Of Organization)
2. Nomination of club officers shall be made by any club member holding voting rights at the general membership meeting during the month of November. (Art. IV, 2 of Art. Of Organization).

3. **Vacancies in any office shall be filled by appointment by the remaining officers for the remainder of the unexpired term. (Art. IV, 3 of Art. Of Organization)**

#### **ARTICLE 4: Committees**

1. Committees of the club shall be by appointment by the President. Standing Committees are the Safety Committee and Field Marshall Committee.
2. **Safety Officer:** The Safety Officer shall be responsible for ensuring all AMA and club safety rules and policies are enforced and will serve as chairman of the Safety Committee. The Safety Officer is empowered to ground any pilot/aircraft not in compliance with established safety and airworthiness standards until the cause for the grounding is corrected.
3. **Field Marshall:** The Field Marshall shall be responsible for the management and maintenance of the clubs flying site and shall serve as chairman of the Field Marshall Committee. He shall ensure that the flying field is properly maintained and shall recommend any improvement/changes that may be deemed necessary and may enlist such aides as may become necessary to operate the field.

#### **ARTICLE 5: Meetings**

1. Regular meetings shall be held at a time and place designated by the Club Officers and approved by the club members. The regular meetings will be open to anyone interested.
2. The annual meeting will be held in the month of December.
3. The club president may call special meetings with no less than ten days prior written notice. The purpose of the special meeting shall be stated in the written notice.
4. The quorum of membership to conduct club business shall consist of a majority of the club executive officers (3) and any number of current members present.
5. Roberts Rules of Order shall serve as guidance for conducting meetings.

#### **ARTICLE 6: Membership, Dues, Assessments**

1. **Membership in the club is open to any person interested in the design, construction and/or flying of radio controlled model aircraft regardless of gender, race, color, religion or sexual orientation. Members accept the responsibility of adhering to the club's by-laws, all field and safety rules, FCC rules and the AMA National Safety Code as published in the current issue of "Model Aviation" and when applicable any rules pertaining to the special interest groups of AMA. These rules will be binding on club members. In the absence of the Safety officer, all members are obligated to accept responsibility for safety as described in Article 4, section 2.**
2. **Voting privileges are extended to members in good standing (fees and dues paid), but may be withdrawn from those who are in arrears in their assessment obligations. Each voting member shall have only one (1) vote.**
3. **The annual membership dues, types of membership and limits on the total number of members shall be determined by the Executive Officers and approved by a vote of a majority of the members present at a regular monthly meeting, and the members have been given prior notice, that a vote on membership limitation vote will be held at that meeting, along with an explanation of the intended limitation. Dues are non-refundable, except under extraordinary circumstances, which will be determined by the club officers on a case-by-case basis.**
4. **No special assessment shall be levied upon the Club membership unless it is approved by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members present at a regular monthly meeting, and the members have been given prior notice, that an assessment vote will be held at that meeting, along with an explanation of the assessment.**
5. **New members who join in the months of January through September will pay the full dues that are in effect at the time. New members who join from October through December will pay the full dues that are in effect at the time which will cover the rest of the current year and the following year. The initiation fee for new members will not change. A full member who has allowed his/her membership to fall into other than good standing will not be considered a new member for the purposes of this subpart except under extraordinary circumstances, which will be determined by the club officers on a case by case basis.**
6. **A member will be considered in arrears and not in good standing if his/her dues have not been paid by December 31. After December 31<sup>st</sup> members not in good standing will no longer be considered a member of Discover Flying R/C Club. A member renewing his/her annual membership after January 31 of the calendar year, will be required to pay an additional reinstatement fee in addition to the annual dues. Any member who does not renew his/her membership and requests to reapply for membership at a future date shall pay the reinstatement fee until September 30. This fee will be established by the Board of Directors and approved by a majority vote of the members at a monthly meeting.**
7. **The membership shall be divided into the following categories:**
  - a. **Full Member:** Is nineteen (19) years of age or older and has full privileges and voting rights. Dues: Full Member rate plus AMA Membership.
  - b. **Junior Member:** Is younger than nineteen (19) years old, has full privileges except as noted in Article 7. Dues: Junior Member rate plus AMA Membership.
  - c. **Honorary Member:** Is any person nominated by a Full member in recognition for his/her contributions to model aviation over the years and extraordinary service to the Discover Flying Club and whose contributions improved

**the hobby and increased its prestige and stature. Honorary members are elected by a vote of 2/3 majority of the members present at a meeting at which this has been placed on the agenda and the membership has been notified. Dues: None. Has full privileges and voting rights.**

- 8. Members and new applicants will be required to hold and maintain a valid and current license issued by the AMA.**
- 9. If any member ceases to have membership in the AMA, his/her membership in the Club shall thereby terminate, subject to reinstatement of AMA membership. The provisions of Article 6, Section 3 will apply.**

#### **ARTICLE 7: Guests**

1. Any Adult member (Full Member) in good standing may bring guests to the flying site.
2. The club will extend full field privileges to the guest for a maximum of 2 days in any one (1) calendar year, after which he/she must join the club.
3. The guest must provide proof of current AMA membership.
4. The host Adult member will be responsible for the guest's actions and it will be the Adult member's responsibility to insure that the guest complies with the club's field and safety rules.
5. The host Adult member must be present while the guest is conducting flying activities.
6. No member is to provide a guest or any other person with field access information, or keys or lock combinations which would allow unauthorized use of the flying field.

#### **ARTICLE 8: Amendments**

Amendments may be made to these bylaws at any general meeting of the Club membership, provided the members shall have received a thirty (30) day notification in advance that the amendments are to be considered. Amendments shall be approved by no less than a two third (2/3) majority vote of the members present.

#### **ARTICLE 9: Dissolution**

1. The Club may be dissolved with the approval of a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the total membership.
- 2. Upon the liquidation or dissolution of the corporation, after payment of all of the liabilities of the corporation or due provision therefore, all of the assets of the corporation shall be disposed of to one or more organizations that are exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) or (7) of the Internal Revenue Code. (Art. IV, u)**

#### **ARTICLE 10: Disciplinary Action**

1. In order to achieve the purpose and objectives of the club, its members and their guests must conduct themselves in accordance with socially accepted standards while at the flight field or while attending off-site club functions. Acceptable standards of behavior include showing consideration to and respect for fellow members and their guests at all times whether at the field or at off-site club functions. Failure to act in this manner is contrary to the club's objective of promoting camaraderie among members and contrary to providing an environment that enhances the enjoyment of model aviation activities
2. Unacceptable social behavior includes, but is not limited to; Loud or abusive behavior, vulgar or offensive language, consumption of alcohol or prohibited drugs, harassment of any form against anyone while at the flying field or at off-site club functions. Conduct at the flying field which jeopardizes the clubs privilege of using the flying site, any actions which places personal safety or the safety or property of others in danger, or continuously or willfully commits any act or omission which violates any of the terms of the clubs Articles of Organization, and/or Bylaws, Club Safety Rules, or Field Rules as published and posted, the AMA National Safety Code, or those of any Special Interest Group of the AMA if applicable, or which is deemed detrimental to the Club, the AMA, or to Model Aviation in general.
3. In consideration of the above, the Executive Officers may at their discretion initiate proceedings to expel a member who repeatedly and after warnings, continues to behave in an unacceptable manner or who repeatedly violates the AMA National Safety Code and/or club's Field Rules. Such behavior can be brought to the attention of any Executive Officer in writing by any member over his or her signature and bearing the signature of at least one member who witnessed the unacceptable behavior or rules violation. If the cited individual fails or refuses to correct the offensive behavior, after being warned in writing by an Executive Officer, then that member becomes subject to expulsion from the club.
4. The cited member can be expelled by a majority vote of the club's Executive Officers. By a similar notification process and majority vote, a guest who repeatedly exhibits unacceptable behavior and/or violation of field rules can be denied further access to the flying field and off-site club functions.

#### **NOTE:**

**Items in bold type with associated parenthetical reference, refer to the Articles of Organization. Amendments to these sections require that the Articles of Organization be re-filed with the State of Massachusetts.**