

**BY-LAWS
OF
ASHEVILLE-BUNCOMBE AEROMODELERS CLUB**
Adopted July 1, 2004
Amended October 1, 2015

ARTICLE 1 – NAME

The formal name of this Club shall be known as the ASHEVILLE-BUNCOMBE AEROMODELERS and shall also be known by the abbreviation of ABA.

ARTICLE 2 – OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this club shall be:

- (1) To promote and encourage the construction, design, and **safe** operation of radio controlled model aircraft.
- (2) To promote fellowship among radio control modelers through their participation in club activities.
- (3) To promote an understanding of the activity throughout the general public by static displays and flying demonstrations where possible.
- (4) To acquire and retain a flying site, complying with all restrictions that may be required by the site owner as a condition of use, as well as all applicable club field rules.

ARTICLE 3 – MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be divided into classes as follows:

Full Membership: A person over the age of 19 as of July 1 of the current year and having a current AMA membership. In order to gain full membership a person must serve the prescribed probationary period without a violation of the ABA safety rules, as described in Articles 8 and 9 of this document. Only Full Members will be voting members and only Full Members may sponsor people in other membership classes.

Probationary Membership: A person having a current AMA membership and having passed the field orientation process. The field orientation process will consist of a safety briefing, and a review of the field rules. Additionally, each new member must demonstrate to the Flight Instruction Chairman or a member from a list of active/qualified instructors, the proficiency to fly safely before being granted probationary status. A plan to train the new member will be worked out for those who cannot demonstrate such proficiency. The probationary period will be one year. Advancement to Full Membership will occur after serving the probationary period without a violation of the ABA safety rules as described in Articles 8 and 9 of this document. Probationary members will not be voting members and may not hold an elected office.

Park Flyer Membership

Park Flyer members do not have AMA voting rights, cannot compete in AMA sanctioned competitions, and have reduced liability insurance and no accident/medical insurance. Park Pilot members will pay full ABA membership dues and will be issued a key. Park Flier members will not be ABA voting members. Park Flyer members who no longer meet the AMA requirements must immediately upgrade to a full, open AMA membership.

Youth Membership: A person under 19 as of July 1 of the current year that is not a child or spouse of a current member and having a current AMA Open, Youth or Park Flyer membership. Youth members must have an adult sponsor who is a current full member of the Asheville-Buncombe Aeromodelers. Youth members will not be issued a key and will not be voting members. A special, reduced dues amount will apply.

Associate Membership: Person(s), who are immediate family members and have a current AMA membership. This includes children under 19 as of July 1 of the current year and spouses. Associate members will not be voting members, and will not be issued a key, nor required to pay dues.

Membership Interruption: Members who have had an interruption of their membership of a year or more in duration, upon application for renewal of membership, will be reinstated as a probationary member, unless the Board of Directors determines there were extraordinary circumstances that would allow immediate reinstatement as a full member.

In addition to the requirements stated in Article 3, only members with a full year AMA membership that extends to the end of the calendar year will be issued a key.

ARTICLE 4 - OFFICERS

The Officers of the club shall consist of the: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. No officer may hold more than one office at the same time.

President: Shall preside over meetings of the general membership and the Board of Directors. Shall appoint committees as needed. Shall represent the club at club or public functions as well as act as the clubs business representative.

Vice President: Shall assume the duties of the President if the President is temporarily unable to fulfill the duties of President. If the President is permanently unable to fulfill the duties of President the Vice President will become the President for the remainder of the Presidents term. The Board of Directors would then appoint a new Vice President for the remaining term of the Vice Present.

Secretary: Shall record the minutes of meetings and have them on file for the past fiscal year. Shall keep AMA charter of ABA up to date. Shall take care of correspondence with AMA or any other organization. Shall maintain a file of grievances that have been submitted. Shall publish The Schedule of Events for the forthcoming year, to be presented for club approval at the January meeting,. An approved copy will then be posted on the field bulletin board.

Treasurer: Shall keep records of ABA financial transactions. Shall have on file the records for the past three years. Shall present the current years financial status, the next years proposed budget and the next years proposed membership fee for approval at the October club meeting. Approval by a simple majority of the members present is required. Shall maintain a master club membership roster. Shall post an abbreviated membership roster on the field bulletin board.

Article 5-Appointed Officials

The Board of Directors shall appoint members to the following positions:

Safety Officer: Will work with Contest Directors and Field Marshall's to insure the safety of all participants and visitors during all times when flying activities are occurring. Safety officer will note violations of safety rules and other field rules to violators immediately after they occur as further detailed in Article – 9. Safety officer is responsible to communicate changes in the safety and field rules to the membership as soon a possible.

Field Marshall(s): Shall be responsible for the day to day supervision and operation of the club's flying site. They are empowered to enforce all flying site rules and report violations to the Safety Officer.

Article 6 – Board of Directors

The affairs of the club shall be managed by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be the current officers of the club in addition to the immediate past president.

The Board of Directors meetings shall be scheduled as deemed necessary by the President. In the event a situation occurs that is considered an emergency by at least 3 members of the Board and cannot wait until the next scheduled club meeting of the membership, the President will call for a Board of Directors meeting to decide a course of action. In emergency situations, the Board of Directors is authorized to act on behalf of the entire membership. A motion that is made during the emergency meeting will require approval by 4 members of the Board to be acted upon. The membership shall be notified at the next scheduled meeting of the membership of any actions taken by the Board of Directors.

Article 7 – Term of Office

The term of office for all officers shall be for a period of one (1) year, beginning October 1 of the year. The officers shall be nominated at the August meeting of each year, and elected at the September meeting, by secret ballot, by a simple majority of the members present. The new officers will assume their duties at the October meeting. Should any office, (except President), become vacant, the Board of Directors will appoint a replacement to serve the remaining term of the vacated office and report such action to the membership at the next schedule club meeting.

Article 8 - Termination of Membership

This section provides for the enforcement of the Safety as well as other rules that are related to flying or to compliance with all conditions of field occupancy and use. Field rules will be published in a separate document, to be approved by the membership at the January meeting and requiring a simple majority of the members present to be adopted. The field rules will be a part of the membership application form. A copy of the field rules will be posted on the Club field bulletin board.

Article 9 – Grievance Procedure

1. The grievance procedure provides a mechanism to enforce existing rules by providing a progressive disciplinary system when needed. Although most complaints can be resolved informally, the matter is to be referred to the Safety Officer for consideration by means of the Grievance Form. At least one witness is required to sign the form.
2. The Safety Officer shall use his/her judgment in determining what further course of action to take, as follows:

(a) FIRST VIOLATION

1. Viewpoints of both complainant and accused will be considered.
2. Complainant's name will be disclosed
3. A verbal reprimand, will be given to the accused by the Safety Officer, if indicated, and recorded in the club files by the secretary.

(b) SECOND VIOLATION

1. Complainant's name will be disclosed.
2. The accused has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the Safety Officer.
3. The Safety Officer will make a recommendation to the Board of Directors, which could include suspension of flying privileges. The Board of Directors will notify the Safety Officer, in writing, of their decision. The Safety Officer will notify the accused.

© THIRD VIOLATION

1. Safety Officer will notify the accused in writing of the complaint.
2. Safety Officer will notify the Board of Directors of the violation.
3. The Board of Directors will schedule a vote at the next regular club meeting for consideration of the expulsion of the accused member from the club..
4. A member may be expelled from the club upon simple majority vote of the membership present.
5. Voting will be by secret ballot.
6. An expelled member may reapply for restoration of membership after one year, to be voted on at the next regularly scheduled club meeting, and requiring a simple majority vote for renewal membership.
7. Three violations accumulated within a two year period are required to consider expulsion.
8. Any member receiving a grievance, who directs any retaliation action against the person(s) filing said grievance, will be subject to permanent and immediate expulsion from the club. This is to include threats, intimidations, physical harm, equipment damage, or any other action deemed to be inappropriate by the Board of Directors.

Article 10 – Dues

The amount of the dues will be established at the October meeting in conjunction with the approval of the following year budget. A special dues amount for Youth Membership will be established. The youth membership dues will not be reduced *based on the date the Youth member joins the club*.

Dues policy for **new, full** members.

The amount of dues payment will depend on the date the new member joins the club. This is necessary since ABA membership works on a calendar year basis starting January 1st and ending December 31st. Prorated dues only effect New Members and only one time. (Old members who let their membership lapse do not qualify). If you join ABA as a first time, new member, from January 1st through March 31st, you will do so at the full, open rate, from April 1st through June 30, at a 25% reduction in dues, from July 1st through September 30th, your payment will reflect a 50% reduction in dues, from October 1st through December 31st, your payment will reflect a 75% reduction in dues. The field lock will be changed on January 1st.

Article 11 - Fiscal Year

The Clubs fiscal year will be from January 1 through December 31 of each year.

Article 12 – Notification

Members may be notified of pending club actions to be voted on by electronic or other means as circumstances dictate.

Article 13 - By-Laws Changes

Any changes in the By-Laws shall be proposed and discussed at a regular business meeting. All voting members shall be notified of the proposed changes, and any decision made shall be based upon the vote of a simple majority of the members present at the next regular business meeting.

Article 14 – Dissolution

1. The Club may be dissolved with the approval of a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the vote of the total voting membership.
2. Upon dissolution of the Club, the Board shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Club, dispose of all the assets of the Club in a manner to be recommended by the Board of Directors and with the approval of the voting membership.