

# **Radio Control Modelers of Baltimore. Inc.**

## **Constitution and By-Laws**

Amended and Approved on 14 July 2020

### **Preamble:**

Radio Control Modelers of Baltimore, Inc., hereafter referred to as RCMB, was formed in February, 1957, by a group of modelers with a common interest in radio control models of all types. The club was incorporated on February 21, 1961, at 9:00 a.m. The main purpose of RCMB is to promote friendship among modelers and a better understanding of the operation of R/C models. We agree to operate our models in a safe manner and to follow the club's flying and field rules whenever present at the club's flying field. RCMB operates on a fiscal year from January 1 to December 31.

### **ARTICLE I Offices**

1. The Board of Directors will propose a slate of nominees for elected offices to the membership at the meeting 90 days prior to the beginning of the next fiscal year. Nominations can be made from the floor. Those elected will take office at the first meeting in the new fiscal year.

2. An officer who misses four consecutive meetings without submitting a letter of intent will be considered as having resigned. In the event of the resignation of any officer, the President will appoint a member to replace him, except as provided in Article 1, Sections 4 and 5.

#### **3. President**

The President presides at club meetings and acts as spokesman for the club on all matters pertaining to it.

#### **4. Vice-President**

The Vice President acts for the President when the latter is unable to serve. If the President resigns, the Vice-President will serve as President for the balance of the term.

#### **5. Treasurer**

The Treasurer collects all the dues and fees for the club. Along with the President, he manages the club's finances and expenditures. The Treasurer will give a complete financial report at each monthly meeting.

#### **6. Secretary**

The Secretary records and keeps all the minutes and records of club meetings including Board meetings. With the President, the secretary handles the club's correspondence.

## **7. Safety Officer**

The Safety Officer maintains established rules of safety and courtesy to others at the field. All members must comply with the “Official AMA National Model Aircraft Safety Code” in order for AMA liability protection to apply. The Safety Officer will promote compliance of this safety code to all.

## **8. Grounds Keeper**

The Grounds Keeper’s duty is to maintain the flying site grounds. These duties include grass cutting, building maintenance and preparation for field events.

## **9. Web Master**

The Web Master’s duty is to maintain the RCMB web site and keep it current with club activities and events.

## **10. Community Liaison**

The Community Liaison represents RCMB in all interactions with the Community and Government entities.

## **11. Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors has the principal responsibility of managing the operation of the club and shall be included in all decisions that will affect change in policy, proceedings and/or operations.

The Board of Directors consists of all elected officers as well as the previous President. All shall have equal votes on all matters with the exception of the President who only votes in case of a tied vote.

## **ARTICLE II Committees**

1. All committees appointed by the President may be removed by the President.

### **2. Audit Committee**

On the first meeting of the fiscal year, the President will appoint an Audit Committee of two members to audit the Treasurer’s records for the past year. The Audit Committee will give its report to the membership by the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting following the start of the fiscal year.

## **ARTICLE III Membership**

1. Membership in RCMB is open to any person who has an interest in R/C models.

2. Any member whose actions are injurious to the club will be subject to suspension. Suspension or expulsion of a member must be approved by the Board of Directors before being presented to a membership vote, as per ARTICLE VI, Section 2.

3. With the exception of Associates, all members must hold a valid AMA license.

4. All members agree to obey the AMA safety code and “RCMB’s Field and Flying Rules”.

5. Junior Member

Junior members are under age 18 or are full time college students under the age of 21. Junior members, who must be sponsored by a senior or regular member, may not hold office in the club, but may have voting privileges.

5A. Civil Air Patrol Cadet Membership

Open to active CAP cadets in good standing under the age of 18 who have already applied for and received free AMA membership via their CAP membership. Such cadets seeking membership in RCMB must have a letter of recommendation from an active CAP officer. CAP cadets may not hold an office in RCMB and will not have voting privileges.

6. Associate Member

Associates are non-flying members of the club. Associates are not required to hold an AMA license and they are not permitted to fly at the club field or any club functions. Associate members may not hold an office in RCMB and will not have voting privileges.

7. Regular Member

Regular members are all flying members over the age of 18. They are entitled to all rights and privileges of club membership.

8. Family Membership

Family membership includes the spouse and all of the member’s children under 18 years of age.

9. Lifetime Member

A member in good standing may opt to become a life member by paying a one-time payment equal to 10 years of the current annual regular member dues.

10. Honorary Member

Honorary membership is limited to those club members becoming military servicemen, who may remain honorary members for the duration of their military active service. It may also be any former member who has left the club due to relocation or has become disabled and is voted on by the club members to be an “Honorary Member”.

## **ARTICLE IV Dues**

1. RCMB annual membership dues are payable as of April 1.
2. All dues for 2020 and following years will remain as they are listed below until changed by RCMB.

	<u>Dues</u>
• Renewal Members	\$65
• Family Memberships	\$90
• Junior Members	\$25
• Associate Members	\$30

3. Dues and fees are not refundable.
4. Any Regular, Family or Junior Members whose renewal dues remain unpaid after April 30<sup>th</sup> will be considered delinquent. The member will lose all rights and privileges of club membership. If renewal dues are not paid by April 30<sup>th</sup> but are paid before June 30<sup>th</sup> of the year due, a Late Payment Fee of \$10.00 will be charged. The member not paying renewal dues by June 30<sup>th</sup> will be considered a new member and must pay an initiation fee of \$50.00 in addition to his annual dues.

### **5. Renewal Members**

For renewing members, annual dues are \$65 for regular members, \$90 for family memberships, \$25 for junior members, and \$30 for associate members.

### **6. New Members**

New regular and family members will pay a new member fee of \$50.00 in addition to dues applicable to their membership category. New junior members will not pay a new member fee. Members who join RCMB between November 1 and April 1 will pay one-half year's dues at the time they join in addition to their \$50 new member fee.

### **7. Former Members**

Former members choosing to rejoin the club will be considered a new member and must pay the new member fee of \$50.00 in addition to their regular dues.

## **ARTICLE V Meetings**

1. The club will hold a minimum of 11 meetings per year, weather and/or other unnatural circumstances permitting.
2. Special meetings may be held at any time provided that the members are notified three or more days in advance.
3. A quorum shall consist of a minimum of 18 members.

## **ARTICLE VI Voting**

1. All Voting for election of offices is by secret ballot. A ballot will be provided to all members with provisions for a write-in nomination for officers. Ballots must be received no later than 30 days following nominations.
2. Approval of changes to the Constitutional/By-Laws and General Club Business requires a simple majority of the eligible voting membership present at the general meeting and no fewer than 18 eligible voting members in attendance. Those members in attendance not participating or abstaining in the voting process are not considered ANY votes.
3. Expulsion of Members requires a YES vote by 80% of the members present at the meeting.
4. For purposes of Board voting, a simple majority of Board members must participate in the voting process. For the measure to pass, a simple majority of Board members must approve the measure. Voting must be conducted in person at a Board meeting. No voting will be allowed by Email or Telephone.
5. Regardless of the number of individuals comprising a single family membership, only one vote from that family membership will be accepted on any club matters requiring a vote.

## **ARTICLE VII Kirk Field Flying and Field Rules**

Flying and Field Rules must be adhered to as stated in the RCMB document titled "Kirk Field Flying and Field Rules".

## **ARTICLE VIII Disbandment**

In the event that it becomes necessary to disband the club, all club property will be Sold and the proceeds, along with any treasury balance, will be turned over to the Academy of Model Aeronautics to be used for scholarships.

## **ARTICLE IX Club Archives**

The President will hold in trust the club archives consisting of all official documents, Correspondence and club records, including minutes, treasurers and other financial records, newsletters and communications to members.

## **ARTICLE X Annual Awards Criteria**

### **1. Recipients:**

These awards may be given each year at the “Awards and Installation of Officers Banquet”.

Article X in its entirety, with the criteria for each award listed, will be placed in the Last newsletter published prior to September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Members may submit the names of worthy candidates for any of the awards to any Member of the Board of Directors prior to the last day of September.

The Board of Directors will make the final selection of the Award recipients.

### **2. Service Award:**

Given to the person who has given the most service to the club in the past year.

Considerations include:

- Being the preceding club president;
- Multiple terms in any office;
- Chairperson of major event;
- Extraordinary work at the field;
- Flying instructor with the most students;
- Other reasons that are deemed viable.

### **3. Sportsmanship Award:**

Given to the person who has been the best all-around helper in club events or in Helping others at the field. Examples include;

- Assisting in running contests;
- Helping people with their equipment;
- Assisting newcomers in getting started in the hobby;
- Finding lost planes;
- Chairperson or helper in fund raising events.

### **4. Most Improved Flyer or Flyers:**

Given to the person or persons who have improved their flying skills the most in the past year.

### **5. Youth Award:**

Given to a young person under the age of 18 who has the most interest in the Hobby.

Examples include:

1. Building his own plane;
2. Soloing during the past year.

### **6. Senior Endeavor Award:**

Given to a senior modeler/flyer who consistently excels in building and flying model airplanes.

7. Technical Achievement Award:

Given to the person who has demonstrated the most technical achievement during the year. Examples include:

1. Extraordinary model aircraft;
2. Fine scale aircraft;
3. Unique mechanical or electrical device design.

8. Lifetime Achievement Award

The "Lifetime Achievement Award" is an award that is given to an RCMB member who has devoted many years in the Building, Flying and Promoting the hobby of model aircraft.

This award is given to an RCMB member when deemed appropriate by the RCMB Board. A list of possible considerations in meeting the required criteria for this award are listed as follows:

1. RCMB club officer (Pres, V.P., Treas., etc.)
2. RCMB club appointment (Transmitter Editor, Sgt of Arms, etc.)
3. Event Head (Contests, Picnic, Flea Market, Fly-in, etc.)
4. Giving Seminars (Building, Repairing, Engines, Electric, Old Timer, Power)
5. Field Trip Head (Air Museums, RC Shows, Items of Interest, etc.)
6. RCMB representation at National Events, Local Gov't, AMA, etc.
7. Modeling Expertise (Scale, Performance, Experimental, Old Timer, Power)
8. Number of years in the club.
9. Number of years in the hobby.



The Board may provide for awards in addition to those presently shown, but only in accordance with the financial provisions as outlined in Article XI.

## **ARTICLE XI Financial Management**

It is intended that management of club funds be managed in accordance with the sections listed below:

### **Section 1:**

That expenditures up to \$150.00 over budget allowance must be approved by the Presiding president, but may not exceed a total of \$300.00 in a given fiscal year without board approval.

### **Section 2:**

That expenditures exceeding \$150.00, but less than \$400.00, must be approved by a majority vote of the board members present at a scheduled club meeting.

### **Section 3:**

That expenditures in excess of \$400.00 must be advertised in detail a minimum of two weeks prior to a scheduled meeting and be approved by a majority vote of the membership present at that scheduled meeting.

#### **Section 4:**

That no member can dispose of club assets, whether purchased or donated, without the permission of the board. Any conversion of club assets to cash must be placed in the club treasury. Disposal of trash, construction debris, or material of no absolute value is exempt from this by-law.

#### **Section 5:**

Any effort by an RCMB member or group of members to solicit funds, seek equipment, or services in the name of RCMB, without the prior approval of the Board of Directors, is expressly forbidden. Any equipment or services resulting from said effort would require the approval of the Board of Directors prior to implementation.

### **ARTICLE XII Budgets**

Budgets must be submitted, by the Board/Committee Member, to the President or President-elect as expected to incur during the upcoming fiscal year at the November meeting and voted on by the general membership at the January meeting. These budgets must be approved in accordance with the dollar limits outlined in Sections 1 through 4 of Article XI. If no budget is submitted then the previous year's budget will remain in place.

### **ARTICLE XIII Constitutional Amendments**

1. Any voting member may propose an amendment to the constitution. Such proposals must be presented in written form to the President at the meeting in January. Proposals will be presented to the membership at the meeting in February and voted on at the meeting in March. In advance of the February meeting, the President must present to the membership all agenda items that will be discussed at that meeting. This notification may be made by e-mail or by written mailed notice if the member does not have e-mail. Constitutional amendments may be made at other times if an emergency exists, as determined by the Board of Directors.

Constitutional amendments will only be made every other year, on even numbered years.

2. This version of the constitution replaces all former issues of the constitution.

Roberts' Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of the organization.

**Amended and approved: Radio Control Modelers of Baltimore, Inc. on  
17 March 2018.**



## **MISSION STATEMENT OF RCMB** **RADIO CONTROL MODELERS OF MARYLAND**

The mission of the Radio Control Modelers of Baltimore is to enjoy as well as perpetuate the hobby of building and flying radio controlled model aircraft. Our club will strive to pass on the skills of building and flying to any interested person, young or old. Our most important mission, however, is to promote friendships and just have fun.

## **POLICIES OF RCMB**

Our purpose is to perpetuate the sport of Radio Controlled Flight as a hobby for all ages. As a club, we strive to support our flying facility and site and to maintain basic rules of safe flight. Our annual dues support the club, its facilities and maintenance, and its activities. All beginners should seek help from certified instructors for flight training. Membership in AMA, Academy of Model Aeronautics, is required because of our charter with the national organization and for insurance purposes.

We are affiliated with the Baltimore County Recreation and Parks through The Seventh District Recreation Council.



