



SAFETY RULES FOR FLYING AT HERITAGE PARK - ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY FIELD

Ground Rules

1. All flying activities shall be conducted in compliance with;
All published AMA Safety Rules
Published Use Agreement documents with Isle OF WIGHT CONTY (see attached)
2. Flying is restricted to Tidewater Model Soaring Society (TMSS) club members and their guests, provided those guests possess a valid AMA membership. Guests will be required to apply for club membership after 3 guest flying sessions.
3. On flying days when the Club Safety officer is not present, the Senior Elected TMSS Officer in attendance shall designate a Safety Officer for that flying Session.
4. Vehicles must be parked in areas designated by the Club Safety Officer, or designee in attendance or the responsible Contest Director for scheduled events.
5. Shelters may be erected on the site (away from the launch equipment), near the parked vehicles in areas designated by the Club Safety Officer, or designee present at the field that day, or the responsible Contest Director for scheduled events.
6. The Club Safety Officer, or designee present at the field or on Club Contest Days, the Contest Director, shall designate the landing Zone area (LZ) to be used for that day.
 - a. More than one (1) specific Landing Circle or Landing Runway within the LZ may be designated.
 - b. A safety line or barrier shall be in place near the Landing Area that is approximately twice the distance of the Landing circle from the center of the Landing Circle. The pilot must remain behind this line or barrier during the landing phase of the flight. The safety line may be crossed only to measure the Landing and/or retrieve the model after it has come to a stop.
7. Flight Boxes and models being prepared for flight shall be restricted to the pit area or parking area.
8. Models may be placed on the ground, no closer than 25 feet downwind from the launch equipment while waiting for thermal activity.
9. Only radio control frequencies currently approved by the Federal Communications Commission will be used.
10. All transmitters must be turned off with the antenna collapsed when not engaged in flying activity.
11. No transmitter shall be activated without the appropriate frequency pin affixed to its antenna when using any of the approved 50 channels in the 72MHz, all 27 MHz, all HAM Band and 2.4 GHz frequency ranges.
12. All transmitters shall display numerical 'flags' with the operating frequency numbers clearly marked affixed to the antenna of the transmitter except when using the 2.4 GHz frequencies. The flag will correspond to the operating frequency of the transmitter.
13. The frequency pin must be returned to the Frequency Control Board at the conclusion of each flight, unless an immediate launch will be attempted. When using the 2.4 GHz frequencies, the pin can be returned at the end of the flying session.

14. When more than one pilot is operating on the same transmitter frequency, possession of the pin shall be limited to the time specified by mutual agreement of other TMSS club member(s) using that same frequency.
15. Spectators are welcome but must remain downwind of the launch equipment and out of the LZ at all times.

Model Requirements

16. All models must comply with AMA safety requirements.
17. All models shall have the owners name and address on or inside the sailplane or have the owners AMA number clearly marked on the aircraft.
18. The TMSS Safety Officer or designated representative shall inspect all new and rebuilt models (repaired after major damage) for structural integrity before flights.

Equipment

19. The Winch Master shall be responsible for the good operating order of the launching and/or retrieval system(s).
20. The Winch Master/Operator shall ensure there is no one or nothing in front of the winch during the launch or retrieval cycle that will interfere with the launch cycle or cause possible harm.
 - a. In the event of a break in either the tow and/or retrieval line(s), the Winch Master/Operator will turn the electric switches to the OFF position prior to leaving the station to repair the line break.

Flight Rules

21. Newly installed radios and radios that have been in a model during a crash shall be range checked before flight. While not generally a requirement, it is recommended that each pilot range check his or her equipment at the beginning of each flying session.
22. Hand launching is permitted only from designated areas. Hand launching in the parking area, in front of the winch equipment (upwind), or near the Landing Tape(s) in the Landing Zone will not be permitted.
23. When launching a sailplane from the winch, the pilot is responsible for clearly announcing his intentions to all (winch/retriever operator, other pilots flying nearby, timers, assistants, etc.) and ensuring the Winch Operator is ready for the pilot's launch.
24. The Pilot and Winch Operator will ensure the winch and the retrieval system is ready for launch.
25. Prior to launch, the pilot should ensure full radio transmitter antenna extension and verify control surface operation.
26. A sailplane attached to the launch equipment, and therefore in the process of being launched, has the right of way over all other sailplanes.
27. In any case of model malfunction while in the air (either radio or mechanical) the pilot will promptly announce the problem to others at the field in a loud voice.

- a. "Pop Off!", "I've Lost my Plane!", "I Don't Have Control!", "Head's Up!" are but a few of the phrases that can be used to alert others.
28. During a Pop Off situation, the Pilot must try to regain or maintain control of the aircraft so as not to fly over the spectator or parking areas if at all possible.
29. There shall be no flying over the parking area or any shelters that may have been temporarily erected at an altitude of 75 feet or less.
30. When landing in the designated LZ, the pilot must announce his intentions to others nearby.
 - a. In no instance may a pilot stand in or near the LZ while flying, attempting to 'reserve' the LZ while other pilots are attempting to land. The pilot must remain behind the safety line or barrier especially during the landing phase.
 - b. The LZ must be kept clear.
 - c. In the same vein, retrieval of aircraft from the LZ must be expeditiously carried out in order to keep the LZ clear.
31. Low fly bys over the spectator or parking areas are not permitted.
32. Fliers shall not consume alcoholic beverages or drugs at the flying field.
33. Police the vicinity around you. Anything you bring to the field you will take it with you when you leave.
34. Pets shall be confined to the spectator area.
35. TMSS members must display club badges on their person while at IOW.
36. To protect those TMSS club members that may be sensitive in nature from the stings and barbed tongue remarks of fellow club members, consider wearing hearing protective devices.
 - a. A sense of humor is necessary for flying at this field.