

# LONE STAR AERONUTS CLUB BYLAWS

## AMA NUMBER 3669

Upon acceptance by the AMA, and a 2/3-majority vote of the membership at a regular monthly meeting with 5 days notice of the vote, these Articles will become the bylaws of the Lonestar Aeronuts of Round Rock Texas, replacing and making void any previous bylaws.

### ARTICLE 1: DUTIES

1. *Board of Directors:* the management of the affairs of the Club shall be vested in the Board of Directors who shall have the authority to establish and administer its policies. Official decisions may be made by a two-thirds (2/3)-majority mail vote or by a quorum at a Board of Directors meeting. A quorum shall consist of at least 50% of the current Board members. 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 Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be made up of the current elected officers plus the immediate past President. Two Members at Large may be added to the Board by a simple majority vote of the members present at the monthly meeting.
2. *President:* The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and shall act as a spokesperson in all matters pertaining to it.
3. *Vice-President:* The Vice-President shall act for the President when he/she is unable to serve, and is to maintain an accurate record (including place of storage) of all Club assets.
4. *Secretary:* The Secretary shall record minutes of each Club meeting and handle all correspondence pertaining to Club activities. He/she may also be the Club's contact person with AMA in case of questions, problems or situations.
5. *Treasurer:* The Treasurer shall collect all moneys due and shall keep a record of moneys disbursed by the Club. The same person who holds this position may also hold the Secretary position.
6. *Field Marshall/Field Maintenance Committee Chairman (optional):* The Field Marshall shall be responsible for chairing the field maintenance committee and establishing "mowing crews" and "mowing equipment maintenance crews". He/She is to ensure that the field is properly maintained and recommend improvement/changes.
7. *Safety Committee Chairman/Safety Officer (optional):* The Safety Committee Chairman/Safety Officer shall be responsible for chairing the safety committee and ensuring existing rules are enforced. This includes processing the grievance forms and following the existing grievance procedure documented in the by-laws. The same person who has the position as Field Marshall can also hold this position.
8. *Contest/Event Committee Chairman (optional):* The Contest/Event Committee Chairman shall be responsible for coordinating and establishing, in conjunction with

all the Club's Contest Directors, a schedule for the next contest/event season. The schedule will be decided by the Contest Directors, and approved by the members.

9. *Meeting/Activity Coordinator (optional)*: The Meeting Activity Coordinator/s shall be responsible for coordinating model-related activities, immediately following the business portion of the meeting.

## **ARTICLE 2: AUDIT**

1. The President or his appointees will make a periodic audit of the Treasurer's books.

## **ARTICLE 3: TERMS OF OFFICE**

1. All elected officers of the Club shall serve for one (1) year from the date of election. Officers are to be elected by a vote of simple majority of those present at the regular meeting in the month of November. Mail-in ballots will be made available for those members who have voting rights but cannot attend the meeting. Those ballots, returned by mail before the next meeting, will be counted as if those persons were present at the meeting. New officers will take office immediately after the December meeting. Personnel will be appointed by the elected officers and confirmed by a simple majority vote of those members present during a regular meeting: i.e. Newsletter Editor, Contest Director, etc.
2. Nomination of Club officers shall be made at the general membership meeting during the month of October. All Nominees for office shall be a voting member in good standings with the Lone Star Aeronauts for a minimum of not less than one (1) year. Nominations for office may be made by any active Club member holding voting rights, either in person or by submitting a proxy nomination to an existing officer. All known nominations for office will be published in the newsletter prior to the election.
3. A secret ballot is required for elections, for removal of a Club officer, a member of the Board of Directors, and for expulsion of a member from the Club unless waived by a simple majority vote of the members present at the meeting.

## **ARTICLE 4: VACANCY**

1. The Vice President shall fill vacancy of the office of President. All other vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the remaining officers, such appointee to serve until the end of the term for which his predecessor was elected.

## **ARTICLE 5: COMMITTEE**

1. The committee of the Club shall be appointment by the President and may be approved by a simple majority vote of the members present at a meeting (if a vote is requested), to serve throughout the term, or less, of his tenure of office. Standing Committees are the Safety Committee and the Field Maintenance Committee.

## **ARTICLE 6: MEETINGS**

1. Regular meetings shall be held at a time and place designated by the Club officers and published in the Club newsletter.

2. Club officers may call special meetings with no less than five days prior written notice of a special meeting. The purpose of the special meeting shall be stated in the written notice.
3. At any Club meeting a simple majority shall be over 50% of the members voting at the meeting.
4. Any member of the Club may initiate a formal request for action by the Board of Directors by submitting a written proposal to the President. The proposal shall include a written description of the nature, type, and extent of the Board action recommended. The President of the Board shall forward copies of the proposal to other members of the Board of Directors for their consideration. Either the President, or any other Board member, may have the matter placed upon the working agenda of the next Club meeting.

## **ARTICLE 7: DUES AND MEMBERSHIP**

1. The annual dues to be paid to the Club shall be determined by the Club officers with the approval of a simple majority vote. Dues are non-refundable, except under extraordinary circumstances, which will be determined by the Board of Directors on a case-by-case basis. Dues are to be paid no later than the February Club meeting. New members on the waiting list will not be accepted until such time has passed.
2. 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 the regular monthly meeting, and the members have been given five (5) days prior notice along with an explanation of the assessment.
3. New members will pay a \$10 initiation fee. New members who join in April through December will pay initiation fee and rates of 1/12<sup>th</sup> the annual rate times the number of months remaining in the calendar year. This will cover the membership dues until the end of the year.
4. A member shall be in arrears and shall not be considered active if his/her dues have not been paid as provided in Article 7, Section 1. Any member who allows their membership to lapse beyond March 1 of any year shall be considered a new member when renewing their membership and will not be given preference over any other applicant should a membership waiting list be in existence. Dues will not be pro-rated for memberships inactive for less than 1-year.
5. Types of membership and limits on the total number of members shall be determined by the Club officers and approved by a vote of two thirds (2/3) majority of the members present at the meeting.
6. Two types of membership are available: full time voting members and non-voting associate members. All associate members of the Lone Star Aeronuts must be a voting member and in good standing with another approved AMA Charter Club. All associate members of the Lone Star Aero Nuts will be recognized as non- voting members.
7. The number of voting members at the current Lone Star Aeronuts flying site is limited a total of 50 members.
8. The number of non-voting associate members at the current Lone Star Aeronuts flying site is limited to a total of 20 members.

## **ARTICLE 8: MEMBER STANDING**

1. All persons shall be eligible for membership, and shall agree to abide by the Club's bylaws, safety rules, flying site owner rules and those of the AMA.
2. The membership shall be divided into the following categories:
  - a. Open Member: Is sixteen (16) years old or older and have full privileges and voting rights. Dues: Open Member rate plus AMA Membership
  - b. Junior Member: Is younger than sixteen (16) years old, has full privileges and voting rights. Dues: Junior Member rate plus AMA Membership
  - c. Family Membership: Includes all flying members of the immediate family (spouse and children). They have full privileges and voting rights. Dues: One (1) Open Membership plus one (1) Junior Membership, plus AMA Membership for each flying member. Junior members must have AMA membership to vote. Children are included until their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday and from their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday until their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday, provided they remain continuously dependent upon their parents for their principal support. Only one newsletter per family address.
  - d. Senior Member: Is 65 years or older, has full privileges and voting rights. Dues: Senior Member rate plus AMA Membership.
  - e. Associate membership: must have AMA membership and be a current voting member in good standing with another approved AMA charter club. Associate member of the Lone Star Aeronuts will not have voting rights/ privileges. Dues: Associate member will pay 50% of total annual dues per year plus a one time \$10.00 initiation fee.
3. Flying members will be required to hold and maintain a license issued by the AMA. All first-time flying members' applicants, as well as present flying members seeking membership renewal, must show proof of membership in the AMA. Non-flying Members do not require AMA membership.
4. Any member receiving a safety Grievance as stated in Article 16, who is involved in non-flying violations, or who has key information of a non-flying violation and withholds it from the Board of Directors, may at the Board of Directors' discretion be placed on probation for one (1) year regardless of his or her tenure in the Club.

## **ARTICLE 9: RESIGNATION, TERMINATION, DISCIPLINARY ACTION, EXPULSION AND REINSTATEMENT OF MEMBERSHIP**

1. Any member in good standing may resign his/her membership by giving written notice to the Club.
2. 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.
3. This section provides for enforcement of the Safety Rules that are related to flying activities. Any other unacceptable behavior by an individual member or members, as defined by the Board of Directors, become the responsibility of the Board of Directors as stated in Article 1, Duties, Section 1 of these Bylaws. Any individual

may be expelled from membership from the Club by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Directors if, in the Board of Directors' determination, such individual willfully commits any act or omission which is a violation of any of the terms of these Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, or the Rules of the AMA, or which is detrimental to the Club, the AMA, or to model aviation.

4. Any member who is expelled from membership may be reinstated to membership only by two-thirds (2/3)-majority vote of the Board of Directors.
5. The Board of Directors shall have the discretionary authority to provide for and to impose disciplinary action for such acts or omissions, which do not justify expulsion from membership.

### **ARTICLE 10: AMENDMENTS**

1. Amendments may be made to these bylaws at any general meeting of the Club membership, provided the members shall have been notified in writing at least five (5) days in advance that the amendments are to be considered. Copies of the proposed amendments shall be provided to all members as part of the notification. Amendments shall be approved by no less than a two third (2/3)-majority vote of the members present, at the regular monthly meeting. Mail-in ballots will be made available for those voting members who cannot attend the meeting. Those ballots, returned by mail before the next meeting, will be counted as if those persons were present at the meeting.

### **ARTICLE 11: SPECIAL FUNDS**

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.
2. The President will have discretionary spending of up to \$100.00 without requiring Club approval.

### **ARTICLE 12: DURATION**

1. The duration of this Club shall be perpetual.

### **ARTICLE 13: 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 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 exclusively for the purposes of the Club in such manner, to the Academy of Model Aeronautics, Inc., or to such other organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious or scientific purposes or to such other organization with purposes similar to the purposes of this Club, as the Board shall determine.

## ARTICLE 14: INCORPORATION

1. The incorporation of this membership shall be a minimum of three (3) of the four (4) elected officers.

## ARTICLE 15: LOGO

1. The official Club logo shall be:



## ARTICLE 16: GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE (FLIGHT AND GROUND SAFETY RULES)

1. The grievance procedure provides a mechanism to enforce existing safety rules by providing a progressive disciplinary system when needed. Although most complaints can be resolved informally, if a complaint is serious or cannot be resolved informally, the matter should be referred to the Club Officers for its consideration by means of a Grievance Form to be filled out and turned into the President. At least one witness is required to sign the Grievance Form.
2. The Safety Committee shall use its judgment in carrying out action on the following:
  - (a) A grievance form (see page 9) will be filled out and turned into the Safety Committee Chairman. At least one witness is required.
  - (b) FIRST VIOLATION
    - a. Viewpoints of both complainants and accused will be considered.
    - b. Complainant's name will be disclosed.
    - c. A verbal reprimand will be given to the accused by the Safety Committee, and this will be recorded in the Committee files.
  - (c) SECOND VIOLATION
    - a. Complainant's name will be disclosed.
    - b. The accused has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the Committee.
    - c. If the Committee so decides, 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.
  - (d) THIRD VIOLATION
    - a. Committee 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.
    - b. Said expulsion will last for a one-year minimum. (Longer if deemed necessary by the Board of Directors).
    - c. A member may be expelled from the Club only upon a two-thirds (2/3)-majority vote of the membership present at the meeting.

- d. Voting will be by secret ballot at a regular monthly meeting.
- e. The expelled member may reapply for membership after the expiration of the expulsion time period.
- (e) The three actions will not be enforced unless they are accumulated within a two-year period of time.
- (f) 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 Board of Directors.
- (g) The Board of Directors shall act as the Safety Committee if no such committee has been appointed.

**Pursuant to paragraph one of this document, the members present at the December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008 meeting of the Lone Star Aeronuts approved these by-laws by a unanimous vote.**

