



2021-04

Canadian Legal Requirements for International Visiting Pilots

Due to the pending reopening of the Canada/US border to US residents on August 9th this MAAC NOTAM is to explain to MAAC Members and International visitors (i.e. US residents) the legal requirements to operate r/c model aircraft (RPAS) in Canada.

In Canada flying model aircraft is regulated by Transport Canada. Non-Canadian citizens/residents wanting to legally operate r/c model aircraft (RPAS) in Canada must do the following:

- 1) Join MAAC and be a member in good standing. The AMA/MAAC reciprocal agreement is not recognized by Transport Canada.
- 2) While in Canada the visiting pilot is required to follow the MAAC Safety Code and all rules.
 - a) Of note, in Canada, the MAAC member number is to be displayed on or in the aircraft per MPPD10.
- 3) Visitors intending to **only** fly at a sanctioned event or club field can elect to fly under the direct supervision of a MAAC Instructor at that event or field.
- 4) Visitors intending to fly **unsupervised at any time or location** in Canada must meet the requirements of MSD25.
 - a) MSD 25 requires that all pilots demonstrate knowledge of the exemption requirements and MAAC rules as well as a minimum level of piloting competency. These requirements can be met remotely in advance or in person on arrival.
- 5) **For clarity**, a visitor's intent to operate "**supervised**" does not reflect a lack competency or proficiency as RC pilots. This status means the visitor does not need to understand the Canadian regulatory framework. The "qualified MAAC instructor" role in providing "direct supervision" is to ensure airspace constraints and exemption requirements are met.
 - a) If piloting competency/proficiency is not a concern, the maximum visiting pilot to instructor ratio is 4 pilots per instructor. Contest Directors or club executives must ensure that "direct supervision" is maintained at all times.

MAAC will be issuing an all encompassing policy document covering free-flight, control line, space models (rockets) and surface vehicles at a later date.

More detailed information can be found on the [MAAC website](#).

NOTE: Hard copies of this document may become outdated through cancellation or replacement with another document. To ensure that you have the latest information, always check the MAAC web site.