

FIELD SAFETY RULES

1. All pilots must observe field discipline and comply with all MAAC safety codes and club rules. It is a shared responsibility of all club members to ensure these rules are applied and adhered to.
2. Only electrically propelled models shall be flown at OREO flying fields. All club related flying shall be done only at approved designated club flying fields where club members have permission to fly. A guest may only fly at an OREO field when accompanied by a member.
3. Only experienced qualified pilots with “wings” shall fly unassisted. It is the duty of all new pilots, and those pilots who are unable to guarantee that their aircraft will remain safely under control at all times, to ensure they are supervised and assisted by an experienced, qualified pilot.
NOTE: Inexperienced pilots without “wings” are NOT permitted to fly unsupervised even if they happen to be at the field on their own.
4. Any OREO instructor has the right to request any pilot who is not flying in a safe and adequate manner to fly only with the direct assistance of an instructor until such time that a club instructor deems he is safe to fly unaided. (The club supports a training program for new pilots based on the OREO wings program. Qualified experienced volunteers who will be pleased to assist are listed in the club instructor list on the club website.)
5. A range and operation test shall be performed before a pilot makes a first flight of the day at the field. It is recommended that the range test shall be performed with the Tx antenna collapsed or binding button depressed (as applicable) whilst watching for inappropriate, erratic or uncommanded control-surface movement. It is recommended that the plane being range tested be carried along the flight-line away from the corresponding transmitter, whilst the transmitter is operated at or near a designated pilot-station. It is highly recommended that the direction and function of flight controls and fail-safe settings be checked as part of this test.
6. It is the responsibility of all club members to ensure that all spectators remain at least 40 m behind the designated flight-line and flying area, and also to ensure that all vehicles are parked at least 40 m away from the designated flying area. Members are also required to maintain a minimum distance of 13m from the flight line when working on their models both before and after flying. Club members shall land and refrain from flying if non-club members, spectators or other persons enter or are within the flying area.
7. All fliers shall observe an established flight line and stand in the designated area whilst flying. The flight line shall be identified with temporary markers eg traffic cones, coloured cable or rope etc. It is the responsibility of all pilots to ensure that identified pilot stations are used and that flight line, pits and spectator limit are all marked. These may be marked by traffic cones, blocks of foam, or bean-bags etc. **PILOT STATIONS SHALL LIE NO LESS THAN 10 METERS FROM THE FLIGHT LINE / FLYING AREA** and shall be spaced at least 2 m apart. The first turn after take-off should always be made away from the flight line, pilots and spectators.
Pilots shall never fly on the pilot's and spectator's side of the flight line, over people, or over houses, vehicles and other property. Pilots must clearly and loudly announce their intentions for the benefit of other pilots. Eg "Launching", "Taking-off", "Landing", "Going on the Runway" & "Runway Clear" etc.
8. An adequate frequency control method shall be employed at all flying fields* All pilots shall ensure their transmitters are labeled with the channel number for the frequency on which they are operating*.

Before turning on their transmitters, pilots shall identify the channel they are about to use by placing a frequency control peg marked with their name and channel number on a Frequency Control Board. This ensures that not more than one person is using any particular channel at any moment in time. When not in use, transmitters shall be powered off, their antennas retracted and the corresponding peg shall be removed from the board. People using channel selection modules shall take extreme care to only reset them after pegging-off the channel they wish to use.

*The above frequency control regulations are NOT applicable to 2.4GHz transmitters. Thus 2.4GHz radio systems are NOT required to be labelled and pegged off.

9. No more than five pilots shall be in the air at any one time. When more than five pilots are present at the field, then either an agreed Tx impound shall be set up, or all unused Tx's shall be returned to the owner's vehicle.

10. In the event that a manned aircraft of any kind approaches the field then a MAAC rule requires all pilots to descend and land immediately.

11. All new or repaired models shall be "checked out" by a qualified experienced pilot before being flown. All models are subject to random safety spot-checks which may be carried out by any Instructor. If in an instructor's opinion a model is unsafe to fly it shall not be flown at a club field until the problems are rectified.

12. Simultaneous fixed-wing and helicopter flying is not allowed. Helicopters may only be flown individually. Flying time-slots for helicopters will be mutually agreed between the pilots present at the time.

13. "Fail-safe" settings used on PCM and spread spectrum transmitters shall set the motor off regardless of any other control operations governed by the "fail-safe". Particular care must be taken when swapping from FM (ie PPM) to PCM to ensure that the "fail-safe" is correctly programmed.

14. All pre-1991 radio-control equipment including wide-band transmitters is not allowed at OREO flying fields.

15. All voice and data communication equipment including cellular telephones is banned within 50 feet of the flight line. (This means 'phones etc shall not be carried on one's person on the field). It is recommended all members, guests and spectators should leave cellular phones etc in their vehicles.) First Person View (FPV) and flight telemetry equipment is allowed.

16. No dogs or other pets are allowed at the flying field or in any OREO meeting. All persons under the age of 12 shall be accompanied and closely supervised by a responsible adult all of the time. (A person responsible for a child shall not fly except as part of providing instruction to that child.)

17. All incidents occurring at the flying field involving injuries to persons or damage to property shall be reported in a timely manner to MAAC head office through the OREO club president and/or club executive committee. Such reporting shall conform to relevant MAAC requirements.

18. The layout of each flying field and adequacy of all related safety requirements shall be reconsidered, checked and confirmed on an annual basis.

Current as of January 3, 2022 and supersedes all previous versions.