

CRAMS New Member Orientation

Welcome to CRAMS

Congratulations on becoming a member of one of the finest radio controlled aircraft clubs in the Calgary area. We hope that CRAMS is everything you have been looking for in a R.C. aircraft club and that you get years of enjoyment from this wonderful hobby. We have enclosed a copy of the club bylaws. Basic field safety rules and etiquette are discussed below.

Background: The Calgary Radio Aero Modelers Society was established May 24, 1968 with the intention of providing a topnotch facility for R.C. enthusiasts. Since the club's establishment it has had several different locations throughout the city. The current field south of 17th Ave. and east of 68th St. is leased from the city and was raw farmland when construction of the runways began in the spring of 1999. Through some good fortune and a lot of hard work by the club members a usable grass field was available by late summer 1999. Since this time, through the strong volunteering effort of club members, many upgrades have been made to the field.

Facilities: The club has continued to improve the facility with the addition of safety fences, defined pit area, starting benches, pilot stations, and a paved pathway to the runways. We now have an excellent field boasting irrigated 80ft by 620ft north-south and 70ft by 550ft west-east grass strips which includes an 18ft by 200ft paved strip. A wind shelter for protection from inclement weather and the hot summer sun is attached to an enclosed club house with huge viewing windows so family and friends can enjoy the show in safety and comfort. Winter flyers can use the club house to warm their tootsies with a portable propane heater. There are no trees in sight to interfere with any kind of flying you wish to attempt.

Meetings: The club meets the second Thursday of each month excluding July and August at 7:30 at the Ogden Legion. All members are encouraged to attend meetings where club business is discussed, new ideas are presented and learning experiences are shared. Executive members are elected for two years from the general membership at the Annual General Meeting providing the opportunity for everyone to participate in running the club.

Events: The club promotes fun flies, indoor electric 3D flying, competitive flying opportunities and good comraderie. Having fun in a safe environment is the key focus of our activities. We welcome ideas that promote having good safe FUN!

Learning to Fly: CRAMS has established "Wings" training built around the MAAC Wings Program for beginner pilots. CRAMS has members qualified to instruct this program and to instruct instructors! This pilot training program is designed to teach new pilots the skills required to fly their plane safely while increasing the likelihood of having

the same number of landings and takeoffs! When new pilots prove their proficiency by completing pre-determined skills they are awarded a pair of pilot's wings by the executive of CRAMS at the next monthly meeting which enables them to fly solo. And we encourage you to improve your skills and share them by becoming an instructor too!

Before Your First Flight: We **STRONGLY** recommend that you have your model checked out (for airworthiness) by experienced and qualified fliers before having our Training Coordinator line you up with an instructor. We encouraged you to bring your model(s) to our monthly meetings or to the flying field for inspection - including ready-to-fly models! There are always qualified people to help you out and give you valuable advice! **PLEASE**, if you have never flown a model before, do NOT attempt to fly any model without qualified help - your are 100% guaranteed to fail and therefore lose your enthusiasm for this great hobby. Please check CRAMS' website for the Training Coordinator contact information.

Field Access: The combination for the gate at the field and to access the field after dump hours is on the back of your CRAMS Membership Card. To ensure that non-authorized persons are NOT able to access this combination, we ask that you observe the following practices:

- If you are the first to arrive at the field and unlock the gate, please rotate the combination so no un-authorized persons can come along and read it!
- Approximately 6 weeks after you receive your CRAMS Membership card, your MAAC Membership card will arrive. We advise that you obtain a transparent luggage tag and display both cards **BACK TO BACK** so again, no un-authorized persons can walk up to the Frequency board and read the combination from the back of your card.
- If you are the last person to leave the field, it is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to lock the gate.
- If you leave or enter through the city dump access gate after hours, ensure that the gate closes behind you before you drive away.

Basic Field Rules & Etiquette

1. MAAC Membership is mandatory.
2. MAAC Wings Program is in force.
3. Mufflers are required on engines over .074 cu. inches.
4. All aircraft must meet noise restriction of 96 db on soft surface or 98 db on hard surface measured at a height of 24 inches and a distance of 25 downwind from the engine.
5. Internal combustion engine powered aircraft (i.e. Gas, glow fuel etc) are not permitted to fly at the field prior to 9:00 am on Sundays only.
6. CRAMS & MAAC Membership cards must be displayed on the appropriate frequency number on the board before turning on your transmitter. (Hanging up your car keys is NOT permitted). When you are sharing a frequency with another member and you are not flying, place your transmitter in the tray on the frequency board and remove your tag.

7. Pilots must stand at the pilot stations while flying not on the runways or in the runway access.
8. No more than four (4) planes flying at one time.
9. Call out LOUDLY your intentions when taking-off, landing or going on runway. When you hear a person indicating his plan to take-off, land or retrieve his/her model from the field, acknowledge him/her with a loud "Thank-you".
10. NO PETS OR CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 12 ALLOWED IN THE PITS AT ANYTIME!!!! (This does not apply to younger CRAMS or MAAC Members.) Children must be under their parents close supervision at all times.
11. Please inform your guests of restricted areas (pit, runways and field beyond safety fences) and the locations of viewing areas.
12. All pets must be on leash at all times.
13. Keep your flying field clean, looking good and safe! We all share the responsibility for repair, maintenance, improvements and housekeeping.

Flight Control

1. Members who wish to fly solo must have passed the wings test as per the CRAMS Wings Training Program or possesses an equivalent to the MAAC Wings Program or perform a flight check with an instructor to verify the NEW member's capabilities.
2. Members who are students in the club training program must be supervised by a club instructor or assistant designated by the instructor.
3. The frequency control system shall be used at all times. Place your CRAMS and MAAC Cards on the appropriate frequency number on the board before turning on your transmitter. HANGING UP OF YOUR CAR KEYS ONLY IS NOT PERMITTED! Members should display channel identification plaques on the antenna of their transmitters. Members sharing a frequency should place their transmitters in the impound when not in use.
4. Members should be ready to fly when their turn comes up. If unable to do so within a reasonable time (10 minutes) they should relinquish their turn.
5. Members should limit their flying to a reasonable duration (15 minutes) in consideration of other flyers.
6. During contests and organized events, the flying field shall be under the control of the Event Director. Any non-participants wishing to fly must have the approval of the Event Director.

Safety

1. The runway in use must be kept clear at all times during flying activity. This means no flying "behind" the pilot stations for that runway. The runway is designated "in use" by pilots who are airborne when you take off. Only one runway is "in use" at any time. The runway is designated by the first pilot to fly and is usually determined by wind direction at take-off.

2. Helicopter fliers are to use the inactive runway when hovering: the far south end of the N-S runway (00/18) if it is inactive; and the far west end of the E-W runway (12/30) if it is inactive. Pilot stations are located and marked for this activity. Helicopter flying on the inactive runway is limited to hovering. If the helicopter is doing significant forward, reverse or lateral motion then this flying must take place on the active runway just like any other aircraft.
3. Flyers are to stand in the designated pilot stations when flying.
4. Flying is to be done only over authorized areas. No flying is permitted over restricted areas such as pits, parking areas and spectators.
5. Members must do everything possible to minimize danger to others. Models shall be maneuvered at all times with due regard for the safety of other persons and property. Members should be constantly aware that hazardous situations may arise at any time due to equipment malfunction, interference or pilot error.
DANGEROUS FLYING OF ANY MANNER WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.
6. Members must follow STRICT ANNOUNCEMENT PROCEDURES at all times where pilots call out to other flyers any intention to move out to a designated runway ("Runway"), take off ("Taking off on runway . . . "), or to land ("Landing runway . . ."). Acknowledgement of another flyer's intention is also required usually by responding "Thank-you".
7. All flyers must take immediate action to avoid and remain well away from any full size aircraft or balloons.