

CONSTITUTION OF THE EGLIN AERO MODELLERS
Revised on 9 December 2014

ARTICLE 1
Name and Purpose

SECTION 1: Name. The name of this organization shall be the “Eglin Aero Modellers”, hereinafter referred to as “the Club”. The general nature of its business shall be to promote and enhance aero modeling activities. **This is a private organization. It is not a part of the Department of Defense or any of its components and it has no governmental status.**

SECTION 2: Purpose. The purpose of the Club shall be to acquire and maintain sites suitable for flying model aircraft, to improve the **educational/technical** proficiency of members through the exchange of information and ideas and to enhance the enjoyment of model aviation through mutual associations and activities.

ARTICLE 2
General Provisions

SECTION 1: Operations. The Club operates a flying site on Eglin AFB with the consent of the Installation Commander. Operation is contingent on compliance with the requirements and conditions of all applicable Air Force Regulations. **The Club is organized as a Private Organization (PO) under the 96th Services Squadron of Eglin AFB.** The Club has been permitted use of a portion of Eglin AFB for use as a flying field.

SECTION 2: Liability. The laws of Florida govern membership liability for organizational (corporation) debts in the event the organizations assets are insufficient to discharge liabilities. Liability is further outlined in AFI 34-223, Private Organization Program, and the Memorandum of Understanding and Hold Harmless Agreement on record with Eglin AFB.

SECTION 3: Incorporation. The Eglin Aero Modellers is a corporation, not for profit, organized under the laws of the State of Florida and holds charter number 762308.

SECTION 4: Affiliations. The Club is affiliated with the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) and holds AMA Charter Number 221. AMA/Department of Defense (DOD) Family Members visiting from other areas shall be accorded full flying privileges upon presentation of proof of AMA membership to a member of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5: Insurance. Insurance protection is provided through the Academy of Model Aeronautics both for the U.S. Air Force and individual members as an AMA Chartered Club.

ARTICLE 3
Officers and Governing Body

SECTION 1: Board of Directors. The affairs of the Club are to be managed by the Board of Directors who will be elected annually.

SECTION 2: Composition. The Board of Directors shall be composed of all elected officers of the Club. The President may appoint additional members to advise the Board, but these appointed members shall not vote on resolutions before the Board.

SECTION 3: Officers of the Club. The officers of the Club shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Member-at-Large. Officers shall be elected from DOD Family Members in good standing for a term of 1 year, to commence on 1 January following the election at the December general meeting. All elected officers shall serve as members of the Board of Directors.

1. President. The President shall preside over meetings of the Club and the Board. The President shall act as spokesman for the Club and shall appoint all special committee chairmen and members. The President shall act as alternate custodian of Club funds and may issue checks against Club funds in the absence of the Treasurer.

2. Vice President. The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President during absence or incapacitation of the President. The Vice President shall also function as the Field Improvement Manager and Club property custodian. The Vice President shall maintain a record of Club property, where Club property is located and to whom Club property is charged.

3. Secretary. The Secretary shall record minutes of Club and Board meetings and provide a synopsis of same for inclusion in the newsletter. The Secretary shall receive and answer correspondences directed to the Club, and prepare original correspondences as necessary. The Secretary shall be responsible for renewing the Club Charter with AMA and the Articles of Incorporation with the State.

4. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall collect dues and maintain a record of member's dues accounts. The Treasurer shall receive all monies paid to the Club and shall deposit them in a checking account at a bank designated by the Board. The Treasurer shall disburse money from the Club treasury for payment of debts of the Club and shall present a financial report at each meeting.

5. Member-at-Large. The Member-at-Large shall represent the membership at meetings of the Board and shall act as the Club Safety Officer.

6. Uncompleted Terms. In the event an officer is unable to complete the term for which elected, the Board shall select a replacement to serve for the remainder of the term.

SECTION 4: Functions. The Board shall conduct Club business that occurs between general Club meetings. The Board is responsible for asset accountability, debt satisfaction, and financial and operational management. The Board shall hear and act on grievances and allegations of misconduct as outlined herein. In addition, each member of the Board shall assist the Member-at-Large in ensuring safety is observed.

SECTION 5: Meetings. The Board shall meet at the call of the President.

SECTION 6: Visitors. Any member in good standing shall be admitted to a Board meeting upon request.

SECTION 7: Election of the Board of Directors.

1. When held. Elections shall be held as the last item of business at a general meeting in December each year.

2. Nominations. At the general meeting held in October, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee. The Committee shall receive nominations during the following month, and present a slate of candidates at the general meeting held in November. Nominations shall also be made from the floor, and those nominations receiving a seconding vote shall be added to the slate of candidates. The Secretary shall publish a list of candidates in the newsletter immediately preceding the election.

3. Balloting. Voting shall be conducted by secret written ballot, preferably on a preprinted ballot bearing the names of the candidates. The President shall ensure that only eligible voting members receive ballots. Proxy votes shall be accepted. Signed absentee ballots shall be accepted.

4. Result of Voting. The Nominating Committee shall count votes when balloting is concluded, and shall announce the results. The Secretary shall publish names of newly elected officers in the newsletter.

ARTICLE 4 Membership

SECTION 1: Eligibility. Any DOD Family Member without regard to race, religion, color, age, national origin, or sex is eligible for membership. Membership is limited primarily to members of the DOD Family which are composed of active duty military personnel, retired members, members of the reserve components, their family members and surviving spouses and civilian employees and their dependents. Other civilians are eligible as determined by the installation commander.

SECTION 2: Responsibilities. By accepting membership in the Club, a member agrees to abide by the laws and rules of the Club, observe safety procedures and insist others do also, to serve on committees to which appointed, and to faithfully discharge the responsibilities of any office to which elected or appointed.

SECTION 3: Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA). All members shall maintain current membership in AMA. No member shall operate a model aircraft from the Club flying site unless in possession of, or has proof of application for, a valid AMA license.

SECTION 4: Definition. A member in good standing is one whose dues are paid, possesses a current AMA license, per Section 3 above and who is not under suspension.

ARTICLE 5 Method of Financing

SECTION 1: Dues. Dues shall be \$40 per year per family (at the same address) paid in full by **1 January**. New members shall be pro-rated 1/10th of the annual dues per months remaining after March. Temporary Visitors with current AMA cards may join at the rate of \$4.00/mo. for up to four months. Individuals classified as “Youth” by the AMA may join for \$1.00/yr, if they do not qualify as above.

SECTION 2: Delinquent Dues. If a member’s dues are allowed to become overdue past 1 January, the Board shall suspend the member’s membership and the Secretary shall notify the member, in writing, of the suspension. Members so suspended shall forfeit all rights in the Club including voting and use of the flying site(s). A member suspended for non-payment of dues shall be reinstated upon payment of back dues owed at the time of suspension, plus a penalty of \$10.00. Exceptional situations will be handled by the Board.

SECTION 3: Expenses. Expenditures shall be made only after approval by the majority of members present and voting at a general meeting. Approval of an annual budget for known annual expenses will authorize routine expenses. **For items not budgeted and are for sums less than \$50.00, the Board may approve, and will report at the next general meeting for Club action.**

SECTION 4: Obligations. **The Club shall not incur any financial obligations which it does not have the funds to meet. Individual Members are not authorized to obligate the Club without specific authorization of the Board.**

SECTION 5: Other Sources of Income. The Club may occasionally conduct contests or other Club activities where entry fees are charged to offset any costs incurred. As a convenience to contestants, items such as soft drinks and hot dogs and the like may be sold. Prices will be set to cover costs only. Profits, if any, from these activities will be added to the Club treasury. Losses, if any, will be assumed by the Club.

SECTION 6: Audits. **The Club may audit the Treasurer’s records at any time it is deemed necessary or appropriate but at least every two years.**

ARTICLE 6 Activities

SECTION 1: General. The scope of the activities of the Club shall be as described in this constitution.

SECTION 2: Other Activities. The Club shall conduct and/or sponsor modeling activities from time to time as requested by other organizations, or the membership. Such activities might include contests, social functions, displays, open houses and demonstrations.

ARTICLE 7
Meetings and Quorums

SECTION 1: Meetings. General meetings of the Club shall be held each month, on the third Thursday of the month when possible, at a place designated by the President. When circumstances require the Board to call a special meeting, other than a general meeting, a notice will be posted on the EAM web site and e-mailed to all paid members one week prior to the scheduled meeting.

SECTION 2: Quorums. The quorum for conducting Club business shall constitute those Club members present and/or voting at a regular or special called meeting.

ARTICLE 8
Amendments and Adoption

SECTION 1: Amendments. This constitution may be amended at any general meeting of the Club upon two-thirds vote of the members present and/or voting, provided that the proposed amendment has been submitted in writing and announced at a previous meeting and/or published in the newsletter.

SECTION 2: Adoption. A revised constitution shall be effective when approved by the general membership at a meeting as specified above. This constitution is subject to final review by the Installation Commander.

ARTICLE 9
Other Provisions

SECTION 1: Misconduct. Acts of misconduct shall be reported to the Board by any member witnessing the act. Upon receipt of an accusation of misconduct, the Board shall conduct an investigation of the incident. Pursuant to the finding of the investigation, the Board may exonerate the accused, issue a warning against recurrence, suspend membership privileges for a specific period, or recommend that the member be expelled from the Club. If expulsion is recommended by the Board, it shall be carried out upon two-thirds vote of members present and/or voting at a general meeting. Operating an R/C model from the Club site without valid AMA license, disclosing the combination of the lock to the Club field to an unauthorized person, or flagrant abuse of facilities at the flying site are examples of misconduct.

SECTION 2: Committees. The President shall appoint committees as needed to fulfill special requirements which arise from time to time.

SECTION 3: Facilities. All structures, equipment, amenities, and safety items at the flying site are sole property of the Club and exist and will be maintained on site for use of all Club Members. Only such items that are approved by the Club will be added or removed upon Club direction. Personal items may be used while flying but those items must not remain at the flying

site. The U.S. Air Force is not responsible for any of the above items and may direct removal/disposal at its leisure.

SECTION 4: Grievances. Grievances concerning the Club's operation or action of its members shall be presented to the Board in writing. The Board shall investigate the grievance and take such action as deemed appropriate. In the event that a grievance pertains to a member of the Board, that member shall not vote in Board proceeding pertaining to the case.

SECTION 5: Dissolution. In the case of dissolution of the Club, what ever funds are contained in the treasury at the time will be used to satisfy and outstanding debts, liabilities, obligations. The balance of these assets will be disposed of as prescribed by the Articles of Incorporation and AFI 34-223.

THIS CONSTITUTION WAS APPROVED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT A GENERAL MEETING OF THE EGLIN AERO MODELLERS ON _____.