

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE SALINAS AREA MODELERS

NOV. 1983
(Amended August 1985)
(Amended August 1988)
(Amended March 1990)
(Amended October 1993)
(Amended January 1995)
(Amended January 1998)
(Amended August 1, 2001 – Article IV Section I)
(Amended March 5, 2003)

In recognition of the increased complexity, diversity, and interest in the operation of radio controlled model aircraft, and further, in recognition of the need to increase the operating efficiency of our organization to accomplish these aims, we, the "Salinas Area Modelers", hereby organize ourselves in conformity with the Constitution and Bylaws hereinafter stated, and affiliate organization Academy of Model Aeronautics.

ARTICLE I NAME

1. The name of the organization shall be the "Salinas Area Modelers" located in Salinas, California.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

1. The primary purpose of this organization shall be to provide the membership with a suitable location to operate model aircraft safely. This club will function as a non-profit organization to promote the hobby.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

There shall be the following classes of membership:

1. Full Members – 21 years of age or older, shall be members in good standing of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (hereinafter referred as "AMA"), shall have full benefits and privileges and shall pay Full Member rate dues.
2. Associate Members - Non-flying, non-voting, therefore are not required to be members of AMA and pay Associate Membership rate dues.
3. Limited Members - Participants, other than (a) & (b) above, in Salinas Area Modelers club functions; 21 consecutive days flying privileges

(with valid AMA membership), no vote, no newsletter and pay Limited Membership rate dues.

4. Honorary Members - non-flying, non-voting and are not required to be members of AMA. Honorary members are selected by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors for their outstanding support of the club and pay no dues.
5. Life Members - are Active Members who are selected by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors for exceptional service to the club over a long period of time. No further dues are required from Life Members.
6. Junior Members – Under 18 years of age, AMA member in good standing, has full benefits and privileges and pays Junior Member rate dues.
7. Intermediate Member – 18 years of age to 21 years of age, attending college, AMA member in good standing, has full benefits and privileges and pays Intermediate Member rate dues. Anyone 18 years of age or older not attending college are considered Full Members and are subject to all the rules thereof.

ARTICLE IV ORGANIZATION

Section I: OFFICERS

1. The officers shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, Secretary and/or Treasurer, to be elected at the "Annual Meeting" as hereinafter designated. The officers will serve a term of office which shall be one year and shall commence during the January board meeting.

Section II: BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1. In order to conduct business, set policy, enter in to negotiations, and make commitments and contracts on behalf of the club, a Board of Governors is hereby established to serve the needs of the club. The Board of Governors, hereinafter referred to as the "Board", shall consist of the officers of the club and three (3) full members elected at large. The term of office as a Board member shall be one year, and shall commence during the January board meeting. The President of the club shall be the Chairman of the Board.

Section III: NOMINATION COMMITTEE

1. Salinas Area Modelers shall have an annual nomination committee serving from August through October. The Chairman shall be the current Vice President. A minimum of four members shall constitute a quorum to conduct the business of this committee.

Section IV: NOMINATION AND ELECTION TO OFFICE

1. The Nomination Committee, heretofore described, shall meet annually prior to the November meeting and after due deliberation shall present for consideration by the membership a slate of candidates for the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary and/or Treasurer and positions as required by the board. Nominations shall also be open to the floor at the November meeting for the proposal of candidates other than those selected by the nomination committee. Each elective office shall be voted upon individually. The nomination committee shall provide its slate a minimum of one month in advance of the election with nominations accepted from the floor no less than one month in advance of the election.
2. A secret written ballot shall be required and shall be made by mail-in ballot. The ballots shall be mailed to the membership no later than the second week of November. A write-in vote on the ballot will be accepted.

Section V: COMMITTEES

STANDING COMMITTEES: In addition to the Board of Governors, there shall be the following standing committees appointed annually at the discretion of the President of the club to serve terms concurrent with his own and to report to the President and to the Board. The committee chairman shall be an full member.

1. Safety Committee: shall consist of a Chairman and, if required, one or more assistants who shall be responsible to the President and the Board for a continuing program of safety including, but not limited to:
 - a. Proposal of necessary changes and/or additions to the safety regulations for adoption by the Board.
 - b. A program of safety rules enforcement and policing of the flying areas or other model activity sites.
2. Special Events Committee: Composed of a Chairman and, if required, one or more assistants who shall propose, organize, develop and be responsible to the President and the Board for all special non-flying events.
3. Social Activity Committee: a Chairman and, if required, one or more assistants who shall be in charge of the annual dinner party and any and all other official social functions of the club. It shall be a special function of this committee to ensure that no funds of the club contributed or collected shall be diverted to the social activities of the club which must be separately financed unless voted upon and approved by a majority vote of a quorum.
4. Contest Directors Committee: A Chairman and, if required, one or more assistants who shall be in charge of organizing and conducting the year's scheduled contests and flying events.
5. Logistics Committee: A Chairman and, if required, one or more assistants who shall be responsible to the president and the Board for all club property and supplies.
6. Special Committees: In order to facilitate the business of the club the President and/or the Board of Governors shall be empowered to appoint special committees to serve at the discretion of the President and/or the Board and within limits of authority as designated at the time of creation of such special committee.

ARTICLE V
ADMINISTRATION

Section I: CLUB OFFICERS

1. PRESIDENT: Shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the club and shall preside at all meetings of the organization or shall designate the Vice-President to preside in his place. He shall be an ex-officio member of all standing and special committees and may attend and participate in the meeting and/or activities of those committees.
2. VICE-PRESIDENT: Shall act with the authority and the duties of the President in his absence and shall act as the representative of the President when the latter so requests. In addition the Vice-President may have as his special project the procurement of speakers, the presentation of programs and the organization of the educational and scientific portions of the regular meeting.
3. SECRETARY: Shall keep all records pertaining to the activities of the club including the keeping of the minutes of the regular meetings of the club and the Board of Governors. Shall handle the correspondence of the club in the conduct of this business as directed by the President and the Board.
4. TREASURER: Shall be responsible for the collection and disbursement of all funds of the club as authorized by the Board of Governors.
5. BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Shall be empowered to conduct normal and routine business of the club including the entering into of negotiations for contracts, authorizing the disbursement of funds, the collection of fees and assessments levied in accordance with these Bylaws and enacting disciplinary measures. The Board shall be required to submit all matters which represent a change in club policy to the general membership at a regular meeting for a vote, together with sufficient information to allow the membership to make an informed decision.

Section II: VACANCIES

1. Vacancies in any office shall be filled by appointment by the remaining officers, such appointee to serve until the end of the term for which his/her predecessor was elected.

ARTICLE VI
MEETINGS

Section I: MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

1. REGULAR MEETINGS: Unless otherwise changed in special circumstances by the board, shall be the first Wednesday of each calendar month at the time and place prescribed. Additional meetings of a social nature may be called at the discretion of the Board.
2. SPECIAL MEETINGS: When the situation warrants, a special meeting may be called by the President, a majority of the Board, or by petition to

the Secretary by signature of 10% of the current voting membership of the club. The agenda of a special meeting shall be limited strictly to agenda items. A minimum of seven (7) days notice to all members shall be required for a special meeting, whether by mail, telephone, or personal contact.

3. QUORUM TO CONDUCT BUSINESS: A quorum to conduct business of the club at a regular or special meeting shall constitute at least 10% of currently Full Members in good standing, as determined by the records of the Secretary.
4. CONDUCT OF MEETINGS: All meetings shall be conducted according to "Roberts Rules of Order", but in the event of a conflict with the Bylaws, the Bylaws shall prevail. In any issue before the club, any member shall have the right to demand a secret ballot.
5. ANNUAL MEETING: The annual meeting shall be held each year in December at a time and place designated by the Social Committee and approved by the board. It shall include on the agenda the results of the annual election of the officers and Board of Governors for the following year.

Section II: BOARD MEETINGS

1. REGULAR MEETINGS: The Board of Governors shall meet prior to the regular monthly meeting of the club, at a time and place designated by the President of the club.
2. SPECIAL MEETING: Special meetings of the Board may be called at any time with 72 hours notice to all members who can be contacted. A quorum to conduct Board business shall be four members.

ARTICLE VII FINANCES

Section I: DUES

1. All members of the club shall be required to pay dues as prescribed by the AMA class to which they belong and local dues as fixed by the action of the membership of the Board. Failure to pay dues shall be considered grounds for termination of membership in the club as elsewhere hereinafter provided.

Section II: ASSESSMENTS

1. All new members with full privileges are required to pay in addition to the regular dues a one-time field assessment (see Article IX, R & R 3).
2. All members shall be required to pay special, duly authorized assessments within thirty (30) days of enactment unless special circumstances specified in writing are presented to the board within that period of time. The Board shall have the authority to make exceptions to the rule when compliance would work a hardship upon a member.
3. All special assessments of the club proposed by the board, whether challenged or not,

shall require approval by a majority vote of the members present at a meeting where a duly constituted quorum is in attendance.

Section III: AUDIT

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

Section IV: FISCAL YEAR

1. The fiscal year shall coincide with the calendar year beginning January 1 of each year.

ARTICLE VIII

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 qualifications 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, become the responsibility of the Board as stated in Article IV, Section II of these Bylaws. Any individual may be expelled from membership from the Club by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board if, in the Board's determination, such individual willfully commits any act or omission which is a violation of any of the terms of these articles of the Constitution 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 the membership may be reinstated to membership only by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board.
5. The Board shall have the discretionary authority to provide for and impose disciplinary action for such acts of omission, which do not justify expulsion from the membership.
6. Any member who has resigned, is terminated or expelled forfeits all rights and privileges and all dues or assessments paid in advance (if any), at the time of resignation or termination/expulsion by the Board.
7. Any member who is reinstated to the Club shall be required to pay all dues and assessments due at the time of resignation, termination or expulsion, and in the case of expulsion to include the one time field fee, before he/she may be reconsidered for membership.

ARTICLE IX

RULES AND REGULATIONS

RULES AND REGULATIONS: Appended to and made a part of this Constitution shall be the

rules and regulations of the Salinas Area Modelers. This shall be adequate to govern the activities of all segments of the club and shall regulate all club programs.

- R & R 1: Voting - All Full Members, Junior Members and Intermediate Members shall have the right to vote and hold office unless resignation, termination or expulsion has occurred.
- R & R 2: Rule Making - A simple majority of those present at any properly constituted club meeting.
- R & R 3: Field Fee – A Full Member, over the age of 18 years, shall pay a one time field fee of \$100. Only one fee need be paid per single family household provided the additional members from the household are either Junior or Intermediate Members. Members of the Military Armed Forces are exempt from the field fee until such time as they are discharged and shall have one year from the date of discharge to pay said fee. Hardship cases will be decided by the board on an individual basis.
- R & R 4: Radio Frequencies - Only frequencies as listed in the AMA Radio Control Utilization Plan shall be allowed for operation at any Salinas Area Modelers flying site.
- R & R 5: Flying Site Policy Change - No rule change having an effect on flying operations at the Salinas Area Modelers flying site shall be voted on without being published in the club newsletter and circulated/posted at the said flying site a minimum of four consecutive weeks prior to the meeting at which said rule change will be voted on. This shall not preclude the enactment of an on the spot temporary alteration made necessary by the circumstances at the time.
- R & R 6: SAFETY OFFICERS - All active members shall be safety officers when in attendance at any Salinas Area Modelers flying operation. The President or a person selected by the Board of Governors shall be the Chief Safety Officer and whose decisions shall be final unless abrogated by the Board.
- R & R 7: MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE - New members, and members who have not received these listed items, shall receive the following:
 - 1. Membership Card
 - 2. Constitution & Bylaws
 - 3. Field Rules
 - 4. Flying Operation Guidelines
 - 5. Map of flight lines
- R & R 8: DUES – New members joining after June 1 will pay 2/3 the yearly dues; after October 1 - 1/3 the yearly amount. Amounts to be rounded to the nearest whole dollar. Renewals will not be prorated under any circumstance. Any special assessment levied during the calendar year must be paid in full by a new member regardless of the joining date. Any member renewing after an absence must pay in full any special assessment levied during his/her absence. This does not include the Field Fee which is paid only once by any individual except as provided in Article VIII, Item 7.

ARTICLE X
AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by the vote of the members of the club in two ways:

1. At a Regular Meeting - by the vote of 4/5 of a quorum properly assembled, whether challenged or not, provided that the proposed amendment has been published in writing not less than thirty days prior to such meeting.
2. By Written Petition to the Board - By petition signed by 3/5 of the active membership currently in good standing as determined by the records of the Secretary and concurred in by the majority of the Board of Governors at a regular or special meeting.

ARTICLE XI
DISSOLUTION

1. The Corporation may be dissolved with the approval of a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the total membership.
2. In the event that the "Salinas Area Modelers" Club should dissolve, ownership of all assets, including monies, equipment, and all records shall be transferred to the national organization for aero-modeling, the "Academy of Model Aeronautics", 5151 East Memorial Dr., Muncie, IN 47302-9252.

ARTICLE XII
ADOPTION

1. This Constitution and Bylaws shall be adopted by a majority vote following publication to all full members at the next meeting of the club and shall be effective immediately.
2. All previous rules, regulations, Bylaws, and Constitution in existence or thought to be in existence pertaining to this club are hereby repealed.

ARTICLE XIII
ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY MEMBERS

Each member of the club shall be provided with a copy of this "Constitution and Bylaws" and shall be required to abide by them, the form of the agreement to be furnished and retained by the Secretary of the club.

ARTICLE XIV
GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE (FLIGHT AND GROUND SAFETY RULES)

1. Purpose

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, the matter should be referred to the Safety Committee for its consideration by means of a Grievance Form to be filled out and turned into the Safety Committee Chairperson. At least one witness is required to sign the Grievance Form.

2. Safety Committee

The Safety Committee shall use its judgment in carrying out action on the following:

- a) A Grievance Form (see page 14) will be filled out and turned into the Safety Committee Chairperson. At least one witness is required.
- b) FIRST VIOLATION
 - 1) Viewpoints of both complainants will be considered.
 - 2) Complainants name will be disclosed.
 - 3) A verbal reprimand will be given to the accused by the Safety Committee Chairperson, and this will be recorded in the Committee files.
- c) SECOND VIOLATION
 - 1) Complainants name will be disclosed.
 - 2) The accused has the right to a written rebuttal, to be reviewed by the Committee.
 - 3) 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
 - 1) 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.
 - 2) Said expulsion will last for a one-year minimum (longer if deemed necessary by the Board).
 - 3) A member may be expelled from the Club only upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership present at the meeting.
 - 4) Voting will be by secret ballot at a regular monthly meeting.
 - 5) 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.

SALINAS AREA MODELERS
FLYING OPERATION GUIDELINES

Frequency Control

- ◇ **Before you turn on your transmitter**, place your membership card (or guest card) in the card holder that shows the channel number of your transmitter, remove the red colored clothespin that has the channel number, and attach the pin to your transmitter. If the pin is not on the board, the channel is being used by the person whose card is in the holder. When a pilot finishes his/her flight, he/she should return the transmitter to the impound rack, and the frequency pin to the board for the next person to use.
- ◇ **Never turn on your transmitter** without the frequency pin in your possession, even if you are the only flyer at the field. Someone else could possibly arrive, take the pin and turn on a transmitter of the same frequency while you are flying.
- ◇ **Be sure you know** the correct channel number of your transmitter. Channel number flags attached to antennas can be incorrect; i.e., the number 6 can be upside down and read as a number 9. The correct channel number should be found on the crystal section of the transmitter.
- ◇ **Before departing the flying field**, double check that you have returned the frequency pin to the control board and that you have retrieved your membership card from the holder.

Engine Running

Do not run your engine on the setup tables or in the pit area. Engines should be started only on the cement pads at the flight stations with the airplane aimed toward the runway. For engine running other than flight operation, run-up pads are provided at each end of the pit area.

Before Take-off

- ◇ **Check** that you have the correct frequency pin.
- ◇ **Start your airplane engine** on the flight station pad using the tail restraint provided or an assistant holding the airplane.
- ◇ **Make only minor adjustments/repairs** (needle valve adjustment, prop or plug replacement) at the flight line. Move to a table or run-up pad for more extensive adjustments or repairs.
- ◇ **Determine the take-off and landing direction** in use. If there is no wind to establish a direction, a clockwise pattern is preferred taking off and landing to the northwest. Pattern direction should be established with the other pilots present.
- ◇ **Check to make sure** there are no small aircraft (1/2A or electrics) operating in the grassy areas either to the northwest or southeast of the pit area. If there are, observe a flight line that is the edge of the runway next to the flying stations extended straight in both directions to infinity.
- ◇ **Pilots wishing to fly** their 1/2A or electric powered models must make their presence known to the pilots using the hard runway.
- ◇ **Planes approaching to land** have the right of way. Do not taxi out from the pad until the runway is clear of airplanes and none are approaching to land.
- ◇ **Before taxiing out to take-off** call out loudly “GOING OUT” or “TAKING THE

RUNWAY.” If another pilot has already called out or is on the runway, wait for him/her to take-off first.

In Flight

- ◇ **Never fly over** the pit area, toward the pit area, over the sun shelter, parking or picnic areas. **Never fly behind** the pit or parking areas.
- ◇ **The first turn** after take-off must be away from the pit areas.
- ◇ **Passes over the runway** must be made in the existing traffic direction.
- ◇ **The normal flight safety line** is the southwesterly edge of the runway immediately in front of the flying stations. At both ends of the runway the safety line bends 30 degrees off the runway direction toward the river (**see Figure 1 on page 13**). As noted above, if 1/2 A or electric flyers are occupying the grassy area the 30 degree safety line is replaced with a straight line extending from the flying station side edge of the runway.
- ◇ **Reserve flight over the runway** for take-offs and landings or for approaches to set up for a landing.
- ◇ **All high speed low altitude passes** should be made northeast of the runway over the open grassy area. Under no circumstances is low flight over the pilot stations allowed!
- ◇ **In event of a power failure** (dead stick landing) the pilot of the powerless aircraft should call out loudly **“DEAD-STICK.”** The powerless airplane has the right-of-way and all other pilots must yield the approach path and runway to said airplane.

Landing

- ◇ **Determine the landing direction** in use. On the downwind leg loudly call out **“LANDING”** so others will know your intentions. If another airplane is landing ahead of yours, allow space for it to clear the runway before you land. If another airplane is still on the runway as you approach, apply power and go around the pattern again.
- ◇ **If you are practicing** “touch and goes” loudly announce this to other pilots when you are on the downwind leg so others will know your intentions.
- ◇ **If while executing** a dead stick landing it is clear you cannot reach the runway, try to avoid the pond area. An airplane going down in the large cultivated field or the foliated area southeast will go out of sight before touching down. Maintain your control inputs 15 to 20 seconds after losing sight of the aircraft.
- ◇ **After landing** promptly taxi your airplane back to the pad. If you must retrieve the airplane from the runway call out loudly **“ON THE RUNWAY”** before walking onto the runway. Make sure other flyers hear you and pay attention to the approach corridor in use. Either retract your transmitter antenna or leave it at the flight pad.
- ◇ **Land and/or taxi** on the grassy area on the far side of the runway at your own risk. Rough areas can cause a nose-over resulting in a broken prop.
- ◇ **Remove airplane and equipment** from the flight pad area, return your transmitter to the impound area and place the frequency pin in its proper spot on the control board.

Safety

- ◇ **Only** narrow band transmitters are allowed to be used at the flying field.
- ◇ **Observe** the flight safety deadlines as shown on Figure 1, page 13.
- ◇ **Never** turn your airplane so that it is flying directly toward the pit area.
- ◇ **Never** fly behind the pits, parking or picnic areas.

- ◇ **Never** run your engine or taxi your airplane in the pit area.
- ◇ **Use** a mechanical restraint or have an assistant hold your airplane while starting the engine on either a flight or run-up pad.
- ◇ **Avoid** flying alone since there will be no one else there to help in case of an accident. There is no telephone available at the flying field unless someone present is in possession of a cell phone.
- ◇ **Don't** reach over or around a spinning propeller to remove a glow plug igniter or adjust a needle valve.
- ◇ **First Aid** supplies are located in the lock box on the side of the container and in the red box at the transmitter impound area. Both of these boxes are accessible using the gate lock combination number. According to our lease agreement with the County of Monterey, the first person present at the site each day must open the box at the transmitter area. The last person out should close and lock the box as well as the gate.
- ◇ **Be careful** driving and parking in the area as often there are small children present.

HE/SHE THAT OPERATES WITHIN THESE GUIDELINE PARAMETERS SHALL BE CONSIDERED RIGHT IN CASE OF CONFLICT!!!!

SALINAS AREA MODELERS FIELD RULES

1. All members and guests must abide by the Academy of Model and Salinas Area Modelers Rules.
2. Guests must fill out and use a guest card before flying.
3. Aircraft must meet Salinas Area Modelers noise rules, aircraft must have a muffler or be below 85 dba @ 50 feet.
4. All Salinas Area Modelers are Safety Officers.
5. Take all trash off site for proper disposal.
6. No dumping of any kind at the field.
7. Alcohol consumption is **NOT** allowed during or prior to flight operations.

Flying Site Diagram

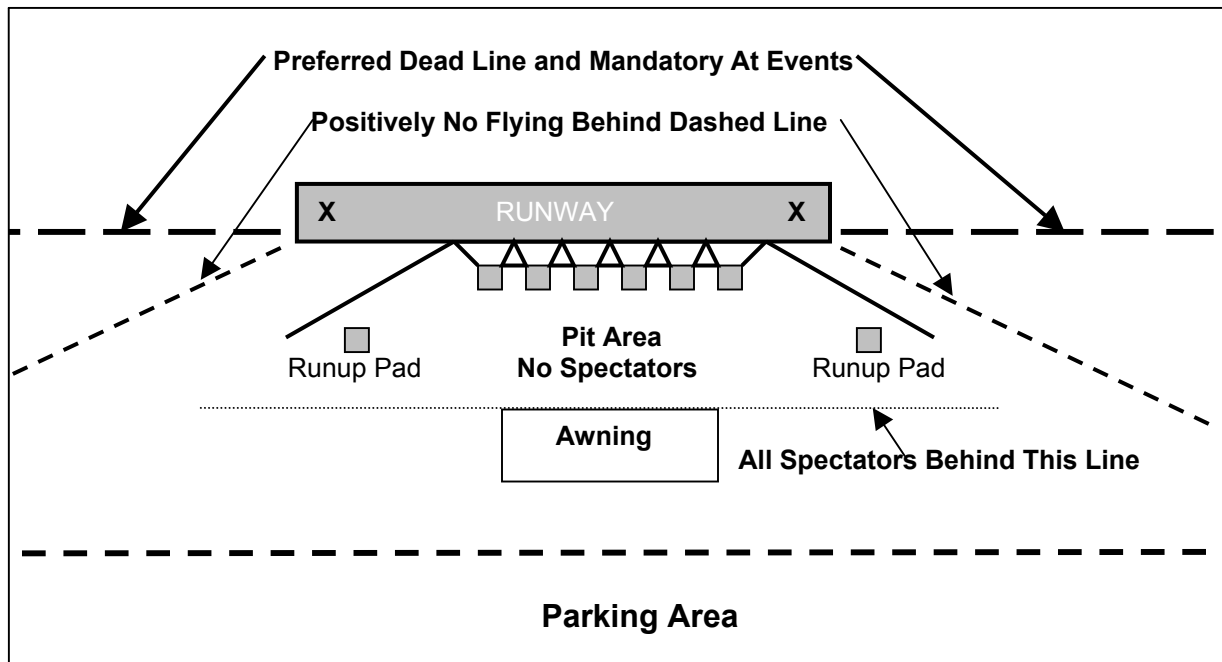


Fig. 1

SALINAS AREA MODELERS CLUB GRIEVANCE FORM

Date: _____

Time: _____

Nature of Violation

Signature: _____

Witness: _____

Additional Witnesses (not required)
