

1 **BYLAWS**

2
3 **ARTICLE I – NAME**

4
5 The name of the Club is DRONE FLYERS CLUB, herein referred to as the “Club”.

6
7 ~~The Club mailing address is:~~
8 ~~Drone Flyers Club~~

9 _____
10 _____
11 _____

12
13 The Club is a not-for-profit 501(c)(7) organization and operates as part of The
14 Villages Recreation Lifestyle group. ~~corporation organized under the laws of the~~
15 ~~State of Florida and The Villages Recreation Department Lifestyle group rules.~~

16
17
18
19 **ARTICLE II – PURPOSE**

20
21
22 SECTION 1: The purpose of this Club shall include but not necessarily be limited
23 to the following: To organize the efforts of its Members to promote the
24 development of Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) multi-rotor aircraft
25 commonly referend to as “drones” as a recreational, sporting, and educational
26 activity; to participate in and foster safety and education programs; to encourage
27 Members to develop good citizenship, sportsmanship, and responsibility toward
28 others through participation in the Club’s programs; to promote the exchange of
29 ideas and information; and to aid the community and local public safety
30 organizations whenever possible.

31
32 SECTION 2: ~~The Club shall secure and renew as required a charter from the~~
33 ~~Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) or other a nationwide community based~~
34 ~~organization as agreed to by the Membership.~~This document repeals and
35 supersedes any previous revisions

36
37
38 **ARTICLE III – DEFINITIONS**

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40
41 Drone – a Small Unmanned Aircraft System of a multi-rotor or convergent type
42 capable of vertical or near-vertical takeoff and landing. Standard fixed wing
43 remote controlled aircraft are not included for the intent of this Club.

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44 ~~AMA—Academy of Model Aeronautics—an aviation association representing~~
45 ~~model airplane clubs across the country offering chartered clubs official contest~~
46 ~~sanction, insurance, and assistance in getting and keeping flying sites. This shall~~
47 ~~be the prescribed nationwide community based organization supporting the Club~~
48 ~~until otherwise decided by the Membership.~~
49

50
51 Recreation Department – The Villages Community Development Districts
52 Recreation & Parks Department, the overseeing organization responsible for
53 meeting facilities for the Club and providing the general guidance for Resident
54 Lifestyle Groups that the Club operates under.

55
56 Safety Regulations – all Federal, FAA, state, and local laws and regulations
57 governing the safe operation and use of sUAS.

58
59 Safety Rules – Club prescribed safety rule implemented in addition to Safety
60 Regulations. In the event of a conflict between Safety Rules and Safety
61 Regulations the more restrictive shall apply to all Club sponsored activities.
62

63 **ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP, DUES, and FEES**

64
65
66 SECTION 1: Any resident of The Villages Florida with a positive interest in
67 drones is eligible for membership in the Club. Each applicant for membership will
68 complete the prescribed form in effect at the time of the application. Each resident
69 must have a valid and active Villages Resident ID or Villages Guest ID.

70
71 SECTION 2: Guests may attend regular Club meetings and functions. Any guest
72 must agree to follow all Safety Regulations, Safety Rules, ~~and Club Rules,~~
73 ~~and must be current and in good standing members of the AMA if any flights are~~
74 ~~involved and provide their AMA number to a Club Officer present at the function.~~
75

76 SECTION 3: ~~Deleted All operators of drones participating in any Club functions~~
77 ~~that involve flight must be current and in good standing members of the AMA in~~
78 ~~a category of membership which provides the full insurance coverage provided.~~
79 ~~An AMA membership is not a requirement for non flight Club activities or~~
80 ~~independent/non Club related or Club sponsored flight.~~

81
82 SECTION 4: Membership dues structure: Each Member will be assessed dues as
83 determined by the Board of Directors and approved by vote of the Membership to
84 be sufficient to meet expected operating costs and budget. Other one-time
85 assessments needed from time to time will also be determined by the Board of
86 Directors and approved by Membership vote prior to collection. These fees are
87 provided in Amendment I of the Club bylaws.

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88
89 SECTION 5: The annual renewal dues of all Members shall be due and payable
90 by the beginning of the calendar year. If the annual renewal dues of any Member
91 remain unpaid through the first two (2) Club meetings then his/her Membership
92 shall be deemed terminated. A Member's dues must be current and paid in order
93 to exercise a vote in Club business, participate in Club events and activities, or
94 utilize Club facilities or equipment.
95

96 SECTION 6: No special assessment shall be levied upon the Club Membership,
97 unless it is approved by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Members present
98 at the regular (monthly) meeting, and the Members have been given twenty-one
99 (21) days prior notice via e-mail along with an explanation of the assessment.
100

101 SECTION 7: All Dues are non-refundable.

102
103 ~~SECTION 8: Each Member is responsible for payment of their respective~~
104 ~~membership fees to the AMA.~~~~SECTION 8: Deleted~~
105

106 **ARTICLE V – OFFICERS**

107
108
109 SECTION 1: The elected Officers of the Club shall be President, Vice-President,
110 Secretary, and the Treasurer. ~~The President shall appoint a Membership~~
111 ~~Director.~~ All Officers shall be full time/year-round residents of The Villages.
112

113 SECTION 2: The President is the primary executive Officer of the Club and will
114 preside over all meetings of the Club, will appoint any committees and the
115 chairpersons of such, and will be a Member with full voting rights of all
116 committees. The President shall convene meetings of the Board of Directors and
117 committee chairpersons as needed to assess the objectives, activities, planned
118 events, operating and financial condition of the Club, and to form
119 recommendations concerning such matters for presentation to the Membership.
120

121 SECTION 3: The Vice-President shall perform such duties as are prescribed by
122 the President. Additionally, the Vice-President will assume the duties and
123 responsibilities of the President in the event of his absence or disability.
124

125 SECTION 4: The Secretary is the official record keeper of the Club and as such
126 will keep a complete and accurate record of all meetings of the Club. The
127 Secretary shall maintain the Club roster which shall contain the contact
128 ~~information and verify the members~~ Villages ID number, ~~and AMA number~~ of
129 every Member. The Secretary will conduct all routine correspondence,
130 ~~communicate the master membership roster updates to the AMA,~~ and perform
131 such other duties as may be required by Club activities. ~~The Secretary shall~~

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132 ~~retain the Bylaws and copies of all previous Bylaws. Any newsletters or other~~
133 ~~official publications of the Club will be approved by the Secretary and a record~~
134 ~~copy retained.~~ The Secretary shall ensure appropriate notice is provided ~~to~~ The
135 Villages Recreation News to advertise scheduled meetings~~s.~~

136
137 SECTION 5: The Treasurer shall have custody of all funds and shall keep, in
138 computer files or books belonging to the Club, a full and complete accounting of
139 all receipts and expenditures of Club funds. All moneys of the Club shall be
140 deposited in the Club account in an expeditious manner. Treasurer accounts will
141 be audited prior to turnover to a new Treasurer or President. Any discrepancies
142 will be rectified prior to turnover. The handling of all funds shall be in accordance
143 with The Villages Recreation Department rules and guidelines and the Internal
144 Revenue Service's regulations.

145
146 SECTION 6: ~~The President shall appoint t~~The Membership Director, ~~an Officer~~
147 ~~appointed by the elected Officers.~~ The Membership Director shall be ~~directly~~
148 responsible for implementing established Club policies regarding potential, new,
149 current, and rejoining Members. ~~The Membership Director shall be a Member of~~
150 ~~the Board of Directors.~~

151
152 SECTION 7: The President shall appoint the Safety Officer. The Safety Officer
153 shall ~~be appointed by the elected Officers of the Club.~~ ~~The Safety Officer shall~~
154 be responsible for enforcing the safety rules of the Club. ~~They shall also be the~~
155 ~~contact person with AMA in case of any situation, problems or questions that may~~
156 ~~arise.~~ The Safety Officer shall be a Member of the Board of Directors.

157
158 SECTION 8: If the need arises, an Officer of the Club may hold no more than two
159 positions within the Club. The offices of President and Treasurer shall not be held
160 simultaneously by one Club Member, spouses, significant other, or family
161 member.

162
163 SECTION 9: Additional positions for Officers and Directors may be established by
164 the Board of Directors. The Membership shall have been given twenty-one (21)
165 days prior notice via e-mail along with an explanation of the duties and
166 responsibilities of any new positions being created. A two-thirds (2/3) majority of
167 Members at a regularly scheduled meetings ~~attendance~~ shall approve all new
168 positions. The duties and responsibilities of new positions shall be recorded as an
169 amendment to these bylaws.

170
171 SECTION 10: For the purposes of incorporation the Club Officers will fulfill the
172 Director's duties, serving as Board of Directors.

173
174 SECTION 11: The Directors of the Club shall all be Club Officers either elected
175 by the Membership or so appointed. Additional At Large Directors shall be elected

176 by the Membership to serve on the Board of Directors, the number of At Large
177 Directors shall be two or three, as needed, to establish an odd number of Directors
178 on the Board of Directors. The Directors shall comprise The Board of Directors
179 and shall also serve as the Safety Committee.

180
181 SECTION 12: Subject to the majority vote of the Membership to the contrary, the
182 Officers are authorized to execute and perform all corporate acts appropriate to
183 carry on the business of the Club. All Officers shall serve without compensation.
184

185 **ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS**

186
187 SECTION 1: Meetings of the general Membership shall be held on ~~the 4th~~
188 ~~Wednesday of each month~~ a monthly basis, except if approved by the Membership
189 for suspension due for defined periods or as required by The Villages Recreation
190 Department due to availability issues. The date, time, and location of scheduled
191 meetings will normally be published to the Membership at least one month in
192 advance by email, and at least one week in advance of a rescheduled meeting. The
193 Secretary shall ensure The Villages Recreation News is provided with the
194 necessary information for the scheduling and publishing of the monthly meetings.
195

196 SECTION 2: Each Club member in good standing ship shall have one vote. Proxy
197 votes are not authorized. A majority of the Board of Directors ~~or and~~ ten percent
198 (10%) of the total Membership shall constitute a quorum for conducting routine
199 business. A simple majority of the Members voting shall be required to pass any
200 motion at any meeting, except in the case of amendment of these Bylaws as
201 required in article IX.

202
203 ~~A simple majority of the Members voting shall be required to pass any motion at~~
204 ~~any meeting, except in the case of amendment of these Bylaws as required in~~
205 ~~Article IX.~~

206
207 SECTION 3: Special meetings may be called by the President, Club Officers,
208 and/or Special Committee. ~~Written~~ Notification of notice shall be sent by e-mail
209 five days (5) in advance. The purpose of the special meeting shall be stated in
210 the ~~written notice~~ notification.

211
212 SECTION 4: At any Club meeting a simple majority shall be, over 50% of the
213 Members voting at the meeting and not abstaining.

214
215 SECTION 5: Any Member in good standing may initiate a formal request for
216 action by the Board of Directors by submitting a proposal to the President or
217 Secretary. The proposal shall include a description of the nature, type and extent
218 of the Board's action recommended. The President or any Board members, may
219 have the matter placed upon the working agenda of the next meeting.

220
221 SECTION 6: The Members shall be notified of the annual election meeting by e-
222 mail, not less than twenty-one (21) days prior to such meeting. Notice of the
223 annual election meeting of the Members shall be served by mail not less than
224 twenty one (21) days prior to such meeting. When such notice is emailed, it shall
225 be sent to each Member of the Club in good standing and the Member in good
226 standing shall be entitled to vote on the election of Officers, ~~and Director.~~
227

228
229 SECTION 7: All records are and shall remain property of the Club and shall be
230 passed on to their successors when new Officers are elected.
231

232 **ARTICLE VII – TERMS and ELECTION of OFFICERS**

233
234 SECTION 1: Election of Officers shall be held at the January meeting, by ballot
235 or show of hands cast in person or in the case of “no contest”, by acclamation, if so
236 moved and carried. An excess of votes cast for any candidate over those cast for
237 any opponent will be deemed sufficient for election. Ballots, if required, will be
238 tallied and elected nominees announced at the election meeting.
239

240 SECTION 2: Assumption of elected office will occur on February 1st of the new
241 calendar year. Outgoing Officers shall assist in and assure the smooth transition
242 of leadership, responsibilities, and records.
243

244 SECTION 3: Vacancies in any office will be filled by appointment by the remaining
245 Officers. Such appointees will serve to the end of the term for which their
246 predecessor was elected.
247

248 SECTION 4: The elected Officers shall serve for a period of two ~~year~~years or until
249 successors are duly elected and installed.
250

251 SECTION 5: Recall by election - A secret ballot is required for removal of Club
252 Officers, Board Members, or Club Members unless waived by a majority vote of
253 the Members present at the meeting.
254

255 **ARTICLE VIII – DISSOLUTION**

256
257 SECTION 1: In the event of the dissolution or termination of the Club in any
258 manner or for any reason whatsoever, the assets of the Club that remain after
259 payment or making provisions for payment of all Club liabilities, shall be donated
260 to a section 501(c)(3) organization as deemed acceptable by a simple majority vote
261 of the Membership.
262

263 **ARTICLE IX – ADOPTION, AMENDMENT, IMPLEMENTATION**

264
265 SECTION 1: These bylaws may be amended, altered, changed, added to or
266 repealed by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of Members present who are
267 entitled-eligible to vote, at any regular or special meetings of the Club, a quorum
268 being present. Notice that such a motion is to be made and voted upon by the
269 Members shall be announced at least twenty-one (21) days before the meeting.
270 These bylaws shall be in full force and effect immediately upon adoption and shall
271 remain in effect until dissolution or termination of the Club or upon amendment.

272 273 **ARTICLE X – INJURY AND PROPERTY DAMAGE**

274
275 SECTION 1: In the event that an aircraft causes damage to any structure, fence,
276 equipment, or other property, or causes injury to themselves or others, the
277 operator or remote pilot in command of the aircraft shall be fully responsible for
278 all costs and liabilities caused by their operations, actions, or inactions.

279
280 In the event of property damage or accident the senior Club Officer present at the
281 time of the event shall direct the immediate return and landing of all aircraft and
282 suspend all further flights until such time as it is deemed safe and appropriate to
283 resume flight operations.

284
285 If the Member pilot refuses to pay the repair cost, his/her Membership will be
286 changed to a Member in Bad Standing with revoked flying privileges until the
287 situation is resolved. The Member in Bad Standing will be reinstated at a later
288 time only on the recommendation of the majority of all Club Officers.

289
290 SECTION 2: The Club is not responsible for any injuries or damage to Members
291 aircraft or other properties during flight meets or other activities.

292 293 **ARTICLE XI – TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

294
295 SECTION 1: This section provides for enforcement of the Safety Rules and Safety
296 Regulations that are related to flying activities or any other unacceptable behavior
297 by an individual Member or Members. While most violations can be resolved
298 informally, those that cannot, such as flagrant or continued violations, will be
299 referred to the Board of Directors for consideration.

300
301 SECTION 2: A complaint against a Member shall be submitted in writing, signed
302 by at least one current Member in good standing and filed with the Secretary. The
303 Secretary shall bring the complaint to the attention of the Club Officers within
304 ten days of the written complaint. The Club Officers shall make the decision for
305 dismissal of complaint, suspension or expulsion of that Member.

306
307 SECTION 3: Grounds for suspension or expulsion include but are not limited to:

- 308 1) An individual or individuals willfully ~~committed~~ committing an act or omission
309 which is in violation of any of the terms of the bylaws or other rules of the Club.
310 2) An individual or ~~individuals~~ willfully or repeatedly ~~commits~~ committing an act
311 which may be detrimental to the Club or Club's reputation or good standing
312 within the community, or in some other way deemed disorderly or prejudicial
313 to the Club or its Membership.
314 3) An individual or individuals knowingly or willingly violat~~ing~~ Club Safety
315 Rules or Safety Regulations during a Club activity.
316 4) An individual or individuals ~~violates~~ violating any rule of The Villages
317 Recreation Department while utilizing their facilities.

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318 SECTION 4: A vote for expulsion or termination by the Membership shall require
319 a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Directors present. The individual's
320 Membership may be terminated for a period of one (1) calendar year without any
321 monetary refund of Membership dues or fees. The offending Member or Members
322 will be informed of the disposition of the violation in writing.
323

324 SECTION 5: REINSTATEMENT: A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of
325 Directors is required for the reinstatement to the Club after the one-year period.
326 After reinstatement, the Member must become current with their Membership
327 dues.
328

329 **ARTICLE XII – FISCAL POLICIES**

330 SECTION 1: The fiscal year of the Club shall be the calendar year.
331

332 SECTION 2: Planned expenditures of Club funds will normally be discussed and
333 approved by a simple majority of the Members at ~~a~~ regularly scheduled Club
334 meeting. Expenditures deemed in the Club's best interest and within the
335 prescribed limits need not be delayed until a Club meeting.
336

337 SECTION 3: Expenditures of Club funds up to \$300 per event may be authorized
338 by the President plus one other Officer.
339

340 SECTION 4: Expenditure of Club funds in excess of \$300 per event shall require
341 a simple majority vote of the Members present at ~~a regularly~~ any scheduled
342 meeting.
343

344 SECTION 5: All contracts or obligations incurred by the Club shall bear the
345 signature of the President, ~~or in their absence the Vice President~~, and shall not be
346 valid unless so signed. The President or the Vice-President shall be one of two
347 authorized signers of checks issued on the Club account, the other signer shall be
348 the Treasurer.
349
350
351

352 SECTION 6: An audit of Club financial records shall be conducted annually by
353 two Members of the Board of Directors not including the Treasurer. This audit
354 will be completed no later than March 31 of each calendar year.

355
356 SECTION 7: The Board of Directors shall establish an Annual Budget for the next
357 fiscal year. The budget shall be approved by a majority of the Members present
358 at the December monthly meeting, or other meeting as the situation may require.
359 The annual budget shall determine if the annual membership fees shall be
360 adjusted.

361 The annual budget shall include as a minimum:

- 362 1) Any and all fees payable by the Club, ~~annual fees for incorporation, and all~~
- 363 ~~filings~~
- 364 2) Any Insurance fees
- 365 ~~3) The cost of General Liability Insurance for the Club and the Directors of the~~
- 366 ~~Club~~
- 367 ~~4) CBO/AMA membership fees for the Club (not Club Members)~~
- 368 ~~5) All anticipated fees, costs, and expenditures~~
- 369 ~~6) Adequate reserves to cover reasonable unforeseen costs and~~
- 370 ~~expenditures~~
- 371
- 372

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373 SECTION 8: Fees and financial matters shall be collected, conducted, and
374 maintained in accordance with the most recent and current guidelines published
375 for Resident Lifestyle Groups and Volunteers by The Villages Community
376 Development Districts Recreation & Parks department.

377
378 **SECTION XIII – HISTORY OF REVISIONS OF the DRONE**
379 **FLYERS CLUB Bylaws**

- 380
- 381 9/30/2018 – Original Draft
- 382 10/24/2018 – Second Draft submitted to Membership for approval
- 383 11/28/2018 – Revisions and changes to establish final bylaws.
- 384 1/23/2019 – Bylaws approved by the membership
- 385 2/27/2019 – Amendment 2 adopted – Local Flying and Safety Rules
- 386 4/24/2019 – Amendment 3 adopted – Removal of AMA charter and membership
- 387 requirements for bylaws
- 388 6/22/2023 - Revision and changes to bylaws approved by the Membership
- 389

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390
391 **Section XIV - BYLAWS ADOPTION:**

392 Section 1: Bylaws approved by the membership and adopted ~~January April 23rd,~~
393 2019-June 22, 2023.

394 APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THIS AMENDMENT HEREBY CERTIFIED

396 BY ~~2019~~2023 OFFICERS:

397 PRESIDENT: _____

398 DATE: _____

400 VICE-PRESIDENT: _____

401 DATE: _____

403 SECRETARY: _____

404 DATE: _____

406 TREASURER: _____

407 DATE: _____

409

410 ***AMENDMENT 1 – FEES and DUES SCHEDULE***

411
412 The fees and dues set forth herein shall be the operating expenses and agreed to
413 Club expenditures as directed by the Board of Directors and Membership.
414 Standard fees and dues are defined and may be modified as set forth in the Club
415 Bylaws.

416
417
418 SECTION 2: Refunds of Fees and Dues: All dues and fees paid to the Club are not
419 refundable.