

Amendment 2 – Local Flying and Safety Rules

The safe operation of aircraft by the Club Members is of paramount concern for the safety of both the operators as well as the general public. The establishment of local safety rules that supplement Federal, State, and local laws are designed to aid operators in dealing with unique local conditions and hazards.

The perception of drones by the general public continues to evolve and directly reflects on the perception of the Club and its Members. Additional guidelines established herein are designed to help Club Members foster a positive awareness of drones and the Club.

In all cases when flying Club Members should keep two key items in mind: safety, and respect and consideration for the residents of The Villages and members of the community. Safety cannot be understated and should be paramount in every operator's mind. If unsure if a situation is safe to fly the default action should be not to fly. Respect and consideration for the privacy of others should be considered and conflict with members of the general public should generally be avoided when possible, even if they may be wrong or uninformed.

General Flying Rules

- 1) Obey all Federal, State, and Local regulations associated with the operation of drones.
- 2) Always fly within line of sight of the aircraft.
- 3) Limit aircraft altitude to 400 feet above ground level.
- 4) Never fly over persons not actively involved in the activity.
- 5) Do not operate an aircraft while under the influence of alcohol or when using any drug or medication that could adversely affect the ability to safely control the aircraft.
- 6) Do not operate an aircraft carrying pyrotechnics devices that may explode or burn, or any device which propels a projectile or drops any object that may create a hazard to persons or property.
- 7) Do not fly over the town squares when they are occupied.
- 8) Always avoid and give way to any manned aircraft.
- 9) Never fly near or over emergency response efforts.
- 10) Always face the direction of your aircraft as to maintain visual line of site.
- 11) Establish and maintain a Safety Area using rope, tape, pylons, cones, and/or other similar devices as necessary to maintain a clear and unobstructed area for takeoff and recovery. Launch pads are recommended for all ground launches and landing.
- 12) Remain clear of Safety Areas and launch pads when not setting or retrieving an aircraft. Do not service an aircraft on the launch pad or in the Safety Area.
- 13) Always preform a preflight checklist before flying.
- 14) Minimum flight altitude shall be the greater of 10 feet above ground level or 10 feet above objects in the flying area.
- 15) Immediately after takeoff ascend to a minimum of 8 feet above ground level and when landing minimize the time spent between 8 feet and aircraft shutdown.
- 16) Always launch aircraft facing away from the pilot and others in the area.
- 17) When conducting low altitude (<10 feet) maneuvers or practice notify others around you and maintain at least 20 feet or greater distance commensurate with the speed and maneuvers being performed.

- 47 18) Hand launching and recovery of aircraft should be conducted a safe distance from
48 other persons whether involved in the activity or not.
- 49 19) Night flying requires a lighting system providing the pilot with a clear view of the
50 aircraft's attitude and orientation at all times. Hand-held and/or ground based
51 illumination systems are inadequate for night flying operations.
- 52 20) Fly using the assistance of a camera or First-Person View (FPV) only in accordance
53 with the procedures outlined in AMA Document #550 "Unmanned Aircraft Operation
54 Utilizing First-Person View"
- 55 21) The aircraft remote shall be on and fully operational before turning on the aircraft.
56 Turn off the aircraft before turning off the remote.
- 57 22) If you lose control or awareness of your aircraft remember to **SHOPEE**
- 58 a. **S**top – don't panic, release the control sticks and stop further maneuvers
59 b. **H**over – let your aircraft hover in one spot and assess the situation
60 c. **O**rientation – regain orientation of the aircraft heading, altitude, and location
61 d. **P**lan – plan a course of actions and maneuvers to regain control of the aircraft
62 e. **E**xecute – execute your plan and return home or continue flying if appropriate
63 f. **E**valuate – evaluate and learn from your mistakes
64

65 Special Consideration Areas

66 Our community has a large number of areas that present themselves as opportune or
67 interesting places to fly and are not restricted airspace. Two predominant areas fitting this
68 description are the Preserve areas and the Golf Courses. In both of these cases respect and
69 courtesy should be given to the purpose, occupants, and users of these areas. The below
70 special case rules are established to provide the minimum considerations to operation of an
71 aircraft in these areas. In these and all other cases, just because it is not prohibited to fly
72 there doesn't mean it may be appropriate to be flying there.

73 Wildlife and Preserve Areas

- 74 1) Maintain a minimum altitude of 10 feet above any water, wetlands, grasslands,
75 shrubbery, and trees.
- 76 2) Maintain a minimum of 50 feet vertical and horizontal distance from all wildlife or
77 nesting areas.
- 78 3) Do not harass, stalk, tease, chase, hover over or near, or in any way disturb any
79 wildlife or nesting areas.
- 80 4) Do not operate your aircraft in an area or manner that will disturb the enjoyment of
81 these natural areas and preserves by others.
- 82 5) Do not enter into any non-publicly accessible area to retrieve a downed aircraft.
83 Consider any downed aircraft as lost.
- 84 6) Notify the Recreation Department of an aircraft being downed or lost in any wetlands,
85 lake, pond, wildlife, or preserve areas and provide them with the approximate location
86 if known so they may take steps to protect the wildlife and environment. Return of
87 your aircraft is not a priority nor guaranteed.
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89 Golf Courses

- 90 1) Do not operate your aircraft over a golf course in a manner that will intentionally
- 91 disturb golfers or disrupt the play of the game.
- 92 2) Maintain a minimum altitude of 100 feet above ground level when operating over
- 93 or near a golf course area.
- 94 3) As a consideration to others the preferred time for flights over golf courses should
- 95 normally be before or after normal course hours, during course maintenance
- 96 periods, or when the course is otherwise unoccupied.
- 97 4) Do not fly directly over golfers, maintenance personnel, or any other person.
- 98 5) Do not launch, operate, or land your aircraft, enter onto, or stand in any the tee
- 99 box, fairway, sand trap, body of water, green, or other areas between the cart path
- 100 and the course play area.
- 101 6) If required to enter the play area to retrieve a downed aircraft do not interfere
- 102 with the play of the game or maintenance in progress. Take the most direct route
- 103 to and from the downed aircraft to retrieve it in order to minimize time on the
- 104 course.
- 105 7) If you damage any turf or equipment notify the starter shack, ambassador, or
- 106 clubhouse of the damage. You may be held financially responsible for any
- 107 damages.
- 108 8) Do not leave any materials or trash on any golf course property, take it with you.
- 109 9) To protect the course and the environment, if you lose an aircraft on a golf course
- 110 or the associated treed, wetlands, pond, or lake areas notify the starter shack,
- 111 ambassador, or clubhouse immediately of the approximate location. Return of
- 112 your aircraft is not a priority nor guaranteed.
- 113 10) Championship courses are private property, obtain permission before entering the
- 114 course areas.
- 115 11) Complex flight operations over a golf course should only be conducted by the most
- 116 experienced of pilots and under strictly controlled conditions.

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119 Amendment 2 of the Club Bylaws approved by the membership of the Drone Flyers Club and

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121 Officers on _____

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123 President _____ Vice-president _____

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125 Secretary _____ Treasurer _____

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