

BY-LAWS
of the
MID-HUDSON
RADIO CONTROL
SOCIETY, INC.

Revised March 3, 1995; Revised April 1, 1996; Revised August 2, 1996; Revised December 6, 1996; Revised July 26, 1999; Revised January 1, 2002; Revised April 4, 2003; Revised May 7, 2004; Revised December 6, 2004; Revised February 21, 2007; Revised May 16, 2007; Revised March 6, 2008; Revised Nov 14, 2008; Revised May 15, 2010; Revised February 19, 2014; Revised April 6, 2015, Revised June 2017, Revised November 2018, Revised November 2020

MID-HUDSON RADIO CONTROL SOCIETY, INC
BY-LAWS

ARTICLE ONE: Organization

Section 1: The name of the organization shall be MID HUDSON RADIO CONTROL SOCIETY INC.

Section 2: The organization shall have a seal.

ARTICLE TWO: Purpose

Section 1: The primary purpose of this organization shall be to promote and advance the building and flying of fixed wing radio controlled model aircraft.

ARTICLE THREE: Membership

Section 1: All members shall be actively interested in the construction and flying of fixed wing radio controlled aircraft.

Section 2: As hereafter prescribed, all members shall have current AMA membership except Non-Flying members.

Section 3: All members must reside in Dutchess, Ulster, Putnam, Orange or Sullivan counties, or as outlined by Out of Area membership Section 5C. Anyone who is a Grand-fathered (Out of Area members section 5C) member but not residing in specified counties will be allowed to retain full voting membership status until such time that they allow their membership to expire, resign or are removed from the club as per article 3 section 7. Any former club member that lets their membership lapse, shall then follow all new membership rules.

Section 3A: Membership shall be restricted to 125 members. These 125 members shall be comprised of Regular, Life, Spouse, Probationary, Out of Area and Non Flying members, while excluding junior members.

Section 4: All members shall be subject to assessments as set forth in article 8.

Section 5: Membership shall be divided into classes as follows:

A: REGULAR MEMBER - A member who has completed his 1 year probationary membership and has been voted into Regular Membership status by the general membership. And who is 19 years of age or older, or who shall attain the age of 19 years on or before July 1st in the membership year.

B: JUNIOR MEMBER - A member who is under the age of 19 years and who will not attain the age of 19 years until after July 1 of the membership year.

C: OUT OF AREA MEMBER - A member who resides outside the 5 counties as called out in Article 3, Section 3, above, after April 6, 2015 date. Existing members who did not reside in the 5 counties prior to April 6, 2015 will be grandfathered as long as they maintain their membership and will not fall into this

“Out of Area” membership category.

- 1: Out of area membership shall not exceed more than 20 members.
- 2: Should Out of Area membership be full, a waiting list will be started. The Board shall call a prospective member from the waiting list based on the date on their application form.
- 3: Out of Area membership can be for any membership category and all shall count toward the Out of Area membership quota in this section, item 1.

D: PROBATIONARY MEMBER - A new member with less than 1 year tenure with the MHRCS club. A new member shall attend (2) monthly meetings or events in a 4 month period, prior to having their application accepted for membership. After the 1 year probationary period said member will be brought before the general membership to be voted in as a regular member.

- 1: At the end of the probationary period, the Board of Directors will act to:
 - a) Recommend approval of membership to the club membership at large. The outcome of the club membership vote will determine membership status.
 - b) If at least (2) two members of the Board of Directors express reservations regarding membership approval at that time, the probationary period may be extended for an additional period of time.
 - c) If three or more members of the Board of Directors oppose recommending full membership status, the membership application will be considered rejected. Thereby membership in MHRCS is denied and no further action will take place.

- 2: Probationary members have no voting privileges.
- 3: Probationary members cannot have flying guests at any MHRCS facilities during the probationary period.
- 4: Prospective member can fly at the club fields during this 4 month period only under the supervision of a Flight instructor or other qualified member.
- 5: All probationary members must perform a proficiency flight before a qualified club member to be qualified to fly without instructor supervision.
- 6: Probationary membership can be terminated at any time as determined by the Board of Directors.
- 7: MHRCS Membership is a privilege and is not guaranteed or inferred in any way.

E: LIFE MEMBER - A regular member, who by reason of substantial and significant contributions to the organization has been specially honored by the organization and for whom all membership dues and assessments have been

waived for the remainder of such member's life. Such member shall in all other respects be deemed to be a regular member.

1: SELECTION CRITERIA FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Life membership in the Mid Hudson Radio Control Society is an honor bestowed on those members who have demonstrated sustained outstanding service and leadership to the organization over a period of fifteen or more years.

Candidates typically should have served as club President for one or more terms and held several other offices such as Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Safety Officer, Field Chairman or CD at Rhinebeck.

Selection of candidates is the sole responsibility of the Board of Directors. Candidates will be reviewed annually in the fourth quarter of each year. Any regular member of the organization may propose candidates.

- F: HONORARY MEMBER - Is a special Non-voting, Non-Flying category that recognizes a non-member who has preformed special service to the club. Honorary membership shall be nominated in writing to the Board. Upon approval by majority of Board members, each nomination must then be voted on at a regular club meeting following all normal club voting rules. Honorary member has all other club privileges.
- G: SPOUSE MEMBER - A member who is related to a Regular Member by marriage. Such member pays reduced dues but is a regular member in all other respects. Spouse members may have their probationary period waived at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- H: NON-FLYING MEMBER- A member who has all rights as regular member, but cannot fly at any of Fields. Does not need current AMA Membership.

Section 6: Membership Procedures

- A: As part of the membership application procedures, the prospective member shall agree to abide by the club By Laws, Field Rules and AMA Safety Code.
 - 1: A new member is required to have a "Get to know you" interview with the Board members. Said interview shall be made soon after submitting an application for membership to a Board member at a meeting or event.
 - 2: A prospective member is required to attend 2 club meetings or events before being considered for membership occurring in a (4) four month period.
 - 3: Membership applications will not be accepted from individuals who in the opinion of the Board of Directors, have previously demonstrated behaviors which might be interpreted as a detriment or danger to the club, a club member or the club fields.
- B: As part of the application procedure, each prospective member can obtain a copy of the Club application and By-Laws from the MHRCS website.

Section 7: Membership may be terminated in any of the following ways:

- A: Involuntary termination of membership shall result, if in the judgment of the Board of Directors, when ratified by a majority vote of a quorum at a regular or special meeting by secret ballot, said member has by his deeds or words placed the organization in a compromising or embarrassing position or has otherwise failed to carry out their duties and obligations as a member and has therefore become a liability rather than an asset.
- B: Voluntary termination shall result upon written notice of resignation to the organization.
- C: Any former member who has submitted a letter of resignation can be reinstated by completing all membership requirements except payment of the initiation fee.
- D: Any member who has had their membership terminated involuntarily as described in Section 7, Article A, may reapply for membership no sooner than 12 months following the date of membership termination. Said ex-member's reinstatement into MHRCS must be reviewed and approved by a majority vote of the MHRCS membership.
- E: Has had their AMA membership expire and has been flying at the club's field. Said member will not ever be allowed to re-join the club.

Section 8: Membership Expectations:

- A: It is expected that all members will contribute to the club in one or more ways;
 - 1: Serve on the Board of directors
 - 2: Serve as a club officer or in an appointed position.
 - 3: Attend work parties
 - 4: Work at the Rhinebeck Jamboree

Section 9: No MHRCS member joining the organization after April 1, 2010 may fly a helicopter at any MHRCS field. Current MHRCS helicopter pilots or any current member as of April 1, 2010 may continue to fly helicopters at any MHRCS field.

ARTICLE FOUR: Meetings

Section 1: All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Parliamentary Procedure.

Section 2: The Annual meeting of this organization for election of officers and adoption of budget, shall be held on the first regular meeting date of November. The Secretary shall cause to be mailed (or E- Mailed) to every member their address, as it appears in the membership list of this organization, a notice indicating the time and place of such meetings.

Section 3: Regular meetings of this organization shall be held on the first Monday of each month, with the exception of summer field meetings.

Section 4: Special meetings of this organization shall be called at the discretion of the President upon due notice which may include meetings using appropriate virtual meeting technologies or through email.

Section 5: The presence of not less than 10 voting members shall constitute a quorum and shall be

necessary to conduct the business of this organization. In no event may any business be conducted unless at least two officers of the organization are present at such meeting.

ARTICLE FIVE: Voting

Section 1: Voting members are defined as Regular members, Life members, Out of Area members, Spouse members, Junior members, and Non-Flying members.

Section 2: At all meetings except those during which officers and directors are elected or an expulsion is acted upon, all votes shall be taken by show of hands, appropriate virtual meeting technologies poll (e.g. Zoom) or by email. For the election of officers and directors and the expulsion of members, a secret ballot shall be used except as otherwise provided by these By Laws.

ARTICLE SIX: Board of Directors

Section 1: The Board of Directors shall consist of the five officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Safety Officer) the Immediate Past President, Field Directors, Three Directors At Large, Membership Director, Newsletter Editor, and all Life Members. All Directors are elected in the same manner as the officers. Directors and officers will serve a one-year term except Directors At Large who serves alternating three year terms with one Director At Large elected each year.

Section 2: Five members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at the discretion of the President, with not less than 4 meetings per year.

Section 3: Each Director shall have one vote and such voting right may not be exercised by Proxy.

Section 4: The Board of Directors may make such rules and regulations covering its meeting as it may in its discretion determine appropriate.

Section 5: Vacancies in one year term Board of Director positions will be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board. The person filling a vacancy will serve out the term of their predecessor.

Section 6: The PRESIDENT of this organization by virtue of his office shall be Chairman of the Board of Directors. The Secretary of this organization shall perform the secretarial duties required by meetings of the Board.

Section 7: A Director may be removed when sufficient cause exists for such removal. The Board of Directors may entertain charges against any Director. The Board of Directors shall adopt such rules as it may deem necessary for the best interests of the organization for the conduct of such removal hearing.

Section 8: The MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR shall, together with a Committee of at least two additional members appointed by him, have the following duties:

A: Make available to prospective members application forms and material which shall be prepared by the Membership Director and his committee, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors as a whole.

B: Receive from new members and transmit to the Treasurer of this organization all

fees as may be required upon the induction of a new member.

- C: To supply each member with a copy of the current Field Rules and By-Laws if needed.
- D: Cause to be reviewed from time to time, as may be necessary and make recommendations for the revision or amendment of all documentation given to club members such as By-Laws, Field Rules and Membership Application.
- E: Membership Director shall monitor AMA membership status and update Board on a monthly basis of expiring AMA memberships.

Section 9: The FIELD DIRECTOR(s) shall have the following duties:

- A: See to it that our fields are maintained and adequately cared for.
- B: Call for work parties of club members as required.
- C: The field Director may appoint assistants as necessary.

Section 10: The NEWSLETTER EDITOR shall be responsible for the collecting and publishing of the club's newsletter.

Section 11: The Directors at Large (3) shall have the following duties:

- A: Help to maintain a common sense of continuity on the Board as the officers may change from year to year. This will be accomplished by their 3 year term. See Article 6, Section 1.

ARTICLE SEVEN: Officers

Section 1: The election of officers shall be held at the November meeting and the nominations shall be made by a committee of at least 3 members, appointed by the President, not later than Sept 1. At the October meeting, the nominating committee shall advise the membership of the name of the individual selected by it for each of the respective offices and directorships of the organization. The committee shall also advise the membership of the name of any individual who wishes to have his name considered for a particular office. Nominations shall be accepted from the floor after the report of the nominating committee is complete and at the annual meeting.

Section 2: Election to office requires a majority vote of a quorum of the regular voting members. In the case of more than two nominees and no nominee receives a majority, then there shall be a new ballot with the two nominees with the greatest number of votes in contention.

Section 3: All officers (and the Directors elected pursuant to Article 6, Section 1 of these By-Laws) shall assume their duties at the first meeting in January following their election and shall serve for one year from the date of said meeting or until their successors are elected and assume their respective offices.

Section 4: A vacancy in any office shall be filled by appointment by the Board of Directors, and an officer so designated shall serve out the term of his predecessor.

Section 5: The officers of this organization shall be as follows:

PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER, and SAFETY OFFICER.

Section 6: The PRESIDENT shall have the following duties:

- A: To preside at all meetings of this organization and by virtue of his office, serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors.
- B: To see to it that all books, reports and certificates as may be required by law are properly kept and/or filed.
- C: To be one of the officers who may sign the checks or drafts of this organization.
- D: To have such other powers as may be reasonably construed as belonging to the chief executive of any organization.

Section 7: The VICE PRESIDENT shall assume the duties of the President in his absence and be in charge of public relations.

Section 8: The SECRETARY shall have the following duties:

- A: To keep the minutes and records of the organization in appropriate books.
- B: To file any certificates required by any State or Federal law or regulation.
- C: To give and serve all notices to the members of this organization.
- D: To be the custodian of the records and the seal of this organization.
- E: To be one of the officers who may sign the checks and drafts of this organization.
- F: To present to the membership at any meeting any communication addressed to them as Secretary of this organization.
- G: To submit to the Board of Directors any communications that shall be addressed to them as Secretary of this organization.
- H: To attend to all correspondence of the organization and to exercise all duties of the office of Secretary.

Section 9: The TREASURER shall have the following duties:

- A: To have the care and custody of all monies belonging to the organization and to be solely responsible for such monies or securities of the organization. He shall cause to be deposited in a regular business bank or trust company a sum of money for the purpose of a checking account. He may maintain a petty cash fund not to exceed the sum of \$50.00. The balance of the funds of the organization shall be deposited in a regular savings account, except that the Board of Directors may cause such funds to be invested in such investments as shall be legal for a savings bank in the State of New York.
- B: To be one of the officers who may sign the checks and drafts of this organization. No special funds may be set aside that shall make it unnecessary for the Treasurer to sign the checks issued upon it.
- C: To render at stated period as the Board of Directors shall determine, a written account of the finances of the organization and such report shall be physically affixed to the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting at which it is presented.

- D: To exercise all other duties as may be incident to the office of Treasurer.
- E: After each election, it should be the duty and responsibility of the outgoing Treasurer to obtain new signature cards as required for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer for all checking accounts, etc. as deemed necessary.

Section 10: The SAFETY OFFICER shall have the following duties:

- A: To promote increased safety awareness on the part of all members, improve the public perception of modeling as a safe and desirable sport, and provide a means by which important safety information can be shared between clubs. AMA chartered clubs are required to establish the position of safety coordinator.
- B: This person will act as a communications liaison between the club and AMA Headquarters to ensure timely distribution of safety related material.
- C: The club safety coordinator must have E-mail access.
- D: Review all field rules and new member safety guidelines to monitor and reinforce as appropriate.

Section 11: No officer shall for reason of his office be entitled to or receive any salary or compensation, but nothing herein shall be construed to prevent an officer or director from receiving any compensation from the organization for duties other than as such officer or director.

ARTICLE EIGHT: Assessments

Section 1: The organization shall be operated on a calendar year basis to run from Jan. 1 to Dec 31. Dues and initiation fees shall be determined by a majority vote of a quorum at the Annual meeting. Fees levied in this manner will be in effect for the following year. If no new dues proposal is approved at this meeting, then the fees already in place for the current fiscal year will automatically extend to the next year.

Section 2: Special assessments shall be approved by two-thirds vote of a quorum at any regular or special meeting, following normal written notification.

Section 3: All members shall be subject to the above assessments to the extent indicated.

Section 4: Dues will be payable in full by the first meeting in March. A \$15.00 late fee assessment, in addition to the dues payable, shall be levied against any member paying his/her dues after the first meeting in March and before the first meeting in April. Any member failing to pay their dues and late fees by the April meeting date will be dropped from the membership role.

- A: Dues for a partial year will be treated as follows for **new members only**.

First Quarter -	100% annual dues
Second Quarter -	25% reduction in dues
Third Quarter -	50% reduction in dues
Fourth Quarter -	75% reduction in dues

- B: Dues Structure-
For REGULAR members:
To be determined by the MHRCS Board and approved by the

membership.

For JUNIOR Members: \$5.00

Initiation Fee:

\$25 REGULAR MEMBER

\$25 OUT OF AREA MEMBER

\$0 JUNIOR MEMBER

\$0 SPOUSE MEMBER

\$25 NON-FLYING MEMBER

REGULAR MEMBER - pays full dues per Article 8, (Assessments) Section 4, plus any levied assessments.

OUT of AREA MEMBER - pays full dues per Article 8, (Assessments) Section 4, plus any levied assessments.

JUNIOR MEMBER - Pays \$5.00 dues per year.

SPOUSE MEMBER - Pays 1/4 of the Regular Active Member's dues per year.

NON-FLYING MEMBER- Pays \$25.00 dues per year.

LIFE MEMBER - Pays no dues.

HONORARY MEMBER - Pays no dues.

Section 5: Each dues paying member may receive a reduction in regular dues for contributions to the club during the preceding year. The amount of the reduction will be established in each year's budget cycle and approved by the membership.

Contributions to the club that qualify for dues reduction are as follows:

- 1: Serve as an Officer of the club and/or a member of Board of Directors.
- 2: Serve as a Sponsor/Chairperson of a fun fly, Contest, Work Party, or Social activity such as a scheduled club picnic, the holiday dinner etc. or as a Rhinebeck Jamboree committee chairperson.
- 3: Work a minimum of **ten (10) hours** during the course of the year at one or more club events; such as Field Work parties, Rhinebeck, Social Events, etc. To receive credit, members working must report to the event chair to have their name and hours recorded and submitted for credit.
- 4: Be solely responsible for the recruitment and subsequent membership of a new MHRCS member.

Members will also indicate on their membership application which category their reduction falls under.

ARTICLE NINE: Amendments

Amendments may be made to the by-laws of this organization at a regular or special meeting of the membership, provided the members have been notified in writing at least three days in advance that an amendment is to be considered. Copies of the proposed amendment shall be provided to all members. Amendments shall be approved by two-thirds vote of a quorum at such regular meeting.