



Safety Message

August 2020—Field Procedures and considerations

As safety officer my philosophy is to educate rather than reprimand. Only sociopaths intentionally break rules – especially safety rules. **All of us may have moments when we forget, are distracted, or unaware of the situation around us.** As such, there is no reasons for harsh words in those situations when a gentle reminder will suffice. In my experience, harsh, overly loud or poorly thought out words are the leading cause of hurt feelings and lost members. Fortunately – our club has a great group of folks who understand this; which is why I believe the club has shown considerable growth recently.

With this growth and the great weather, we've found the field busier than in the past. I'd like to provide some suggestions to make participation during these busy times more enjoyable for all.

- Limit the planes in the sky at one time to 5
- Stand close enough to other pilots to be able to communicate
- Volunteer to spot when the third and subsequent pilot takes to the air.
- Avoid standing on taxiway
- Communicate with volume – landing, taking off, on the field, dead stick, mayday – etc.
- Verbally acknowledge calls of taking off, landing, and “on the field”.
- Be willing to yield flight time when training or new pilots are in the air.
- Be willing to yield flight time for pilots that

need less air traffic for any reason

- Yield the runway for dead sticks – or other must land situations
- Avoid head on passes – unless both pilots are coordinating the maneuver
- If two planes need to land near the same time, one call for the far side of the field and the other for near side of the field.

COMMUNICATE

- Speak kindly when shit happens and apologize when you don't.
- Refrain from snarky comments, trash talking etc.
- In light of Covid – be mindful that people have differing tolerance for “social distancing”. Let the default be to provide more distance than **you** consider necessary. Personally I much prefer 10' rather than 6' – but I know others have no social barriers at all.
- Communicate tactfully if somebody is too close for your comfort.

These suggestions are proactive – not reactive. There are no veiled messages for any person in particular, but things we all should be mindful of so we ALL can enjoy this great hobby.

There are lots of new guys out there. Let's get to know them, teach them, learn from them, and enjoy our RC community.