



Chain-O-Lakes Eagles Membership Handbook and Bylaws

Welcome to the Chain-O-Lakes Eagles. The Eagles is a social RC club dedicated to the hobby and sport of RC flying. This package covers the club rules, membership list, field layout, bylaws, instructor qualifications, website code of conduct and has helpful tips to make your efforts successful. The rules were designed to protect you and your fellow pilots. Safety is of the utmost importance to our club. If you are new to the hobby, please contact an instructor from the membership list. They can help you through your plane setup to your first solo flight.

The club is only as strong as the membership. To make this organization a success, the Chain-O-Lakes Eagles need your help and support. Please feel free to help, and remember that the club and the field are the result of the members' hard work. If anything can improve the club and the field, then by all means please help. If you have any questions, please contact any one of your club officers.

Sincerely,

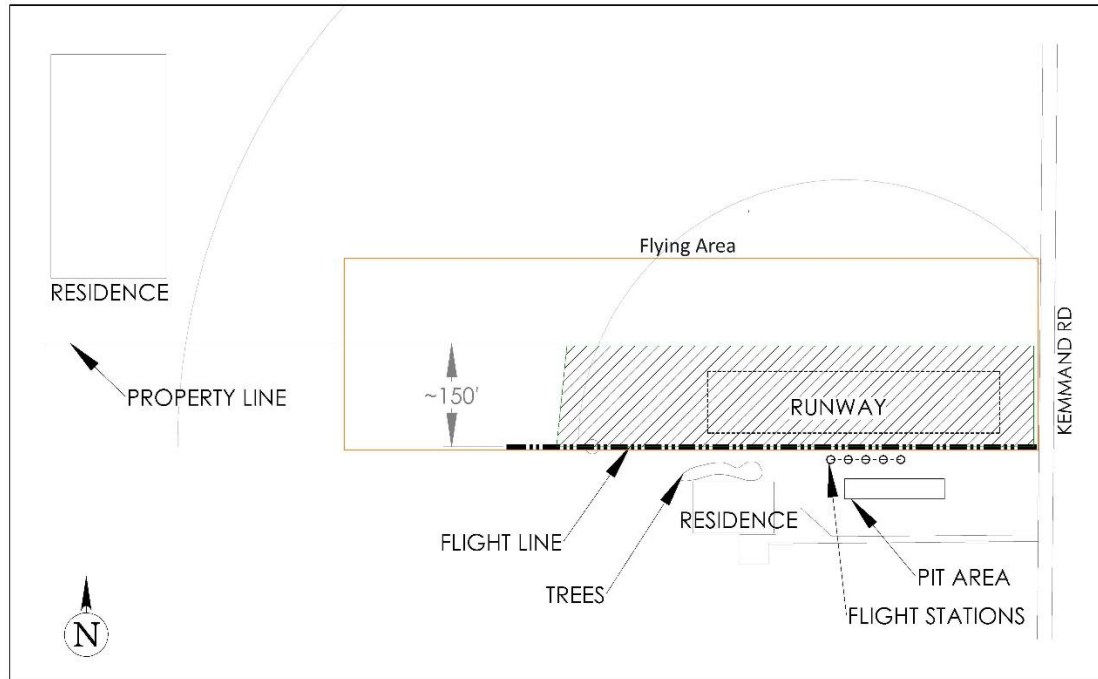
The COL Eagles Board of Directors:

Revision History

Date	Author	Changes
04/16/2013	Mike Schulz	Began Revision Tracking
04/16/2013	Mike Schulz	Added subsection “d” to Article III, section B, subsection 3 (AMA Registered Youth members get free membership)
01/24/2014	Mike Schulz	Updated dates for 2014
01/13/2015	Mike Schulz	2015 v1.0: Updated board members for 2015
08/16/2016	Mike Schulz	2016 v1.0: Updated for 2016; updated by-laws subsequent to membership approval of changes to remove two month attendance requirement, removal of requirement of club vote to attain membership, and update of dues from \$100 to \$75.
10/29/2016	Mike Schulz	Updated to V1.1 for 2017
01/15/2018	Mike Schulz	Updated to V1.2 for 2018
01/07/2019	Mike Schulz	Updated to V1.3 for 2019
11/18/2019	Mike Schulz	Updated to V1.4 for 2020; includes update of dues to \$100/year with no discounts.
2/27/2020	Jim Steward	Added page numbers to document
1/6/2021	Mike Schulz	Updated board members for 2021; V1.5
11/17/2022	Greg Kamysz	Revised to V2.0 and board members for 2023
07/17/2024	Lynn Garnand, Greg Kamysz	Kemman Rd updates, Instructor qual updates, Added noise section, added student dues and late dues charge, Board and Field Marshal expenditures – Art IV M&N
11/15/24	Lynn Garnand, Greg Kamysz	Flying site updates and addition of Appendix 1
9/18/2025	Erbach, Missak, Durik, Kamyz, Mielke, Steward, Garnand	Field rules and flight rules updated, dues updated, New member induction added and grievance procedure added

Field Location and Layout

The main field is located at **8915 Kemman Rd., Hebron IL 60034**



Your First Flights

We want you to succeed in your new venture. If you have not purchased any equipment, talk to an instructor. The instructor can give you advice to help with your purchases. If you have a particular interest such as electrics, gas, glow, or gliders, instructors can steer you to members that can help with your choices. Whatever you do, take it slow and start out with a trainer. A fast flying scale Mustang is no place to start.

Before you take that first flight, the instructor will flight check your aircraft and setup. A good place to do this is at the monthly meetings. You can show off your handiwork, and find out what needs to be corrected before carting your work to the field and maybe finding out your aircraft is not flight ready.

Prior to taking a student out for flight, the instructor will:

1. Ground check all student radios.
2. Check radio stick operations.
3. Have student fill the fuel tank or install motor power battery.
4. Find out if engine has been run, or motor controller setup correctly.
5. Check center of gravity of aircraft.
6. Demonstrate proper starting technique to the student and explain basic safety handling an aircraft.
7. Tune engine rich if not broken in.
8. Escort the student and plane to the flight line.
9. Trim the plane for level flight.
10. Explain to the student what will be expected when in flight. Try to use a "buddy cord" if possible.

Novice student must demonstrate the following to be ready to solo:

1. Pre-check the plane and radio to instructor's satisfaction.
2. Start engine or motor with proper safety procedures.
3. Demonstrate proper take off into the wind and then make the proper procedure turn to a maximum altitude of 400 feet.
4. Student must make proper 360 degree right and left hand turns.
5. Fly at a controlled altitude.
6. Fly within field limits.
7. Set up for landing and re-enter landing pattern.
8. Land aircraft both under power and dead stick within reason of field.
9. De-energize electric aircraft.

Instructor Qualifications

We all learned this sport because someone gave of their time to help us. If you would like to help others learn to fly, then please help the club and this hobby and become an instructor. Being an instructor takes more than the ability to fly. An instructor must generate good will for the benefit of the student and the sport. An instructor must be able to demonstrate proper procedures for handling and controlling model aircraft. It is also important that you have the desire to help others, and the students have fun learning from you.

To become an instructor you must be able to demonstrate that you have a good working knowledge of remote control aircraft and must be able to devote the time needed to train a new member. As an instructor you must be able to demonstrate the following:

- A pre-flight check of the plane and radio
- Use of a buddy cord or wireless trainer transmitter set up.
- Safe starting procedures
- Safe procedures to carry plane and radio to the flight line
- Safe take-off and procedure turn
- Explanation of the basic maneuvers required
- Safe landing procedures.

*Help new pilots to register under the "AMA Introductory Pilot Program" which comes with 60 days of liability insurance.

www.modelaircraft.org/MembersOnly/intropilotdesc.aspx

www.modelaircraft.org/PDF-files/917.pdf

Field Rules and Regulations for the Chain-O-Lakes Eagles

For safety's sake, don't be bashful! If you are not sure about what you are doing or don't understand the rules and regulations, ask for assistance or advice.

Field Rules

1. All members are strongly encouraged to use the "Two Man Rule" during all phases of operation from Assembly through Start-up, Taxi, Flight and Recovery of any aircraft. While this is not an enforceable Safety Rule, it is in everyone's best interest.
2. No novice may fly without an instructor under any circumstance.
3. Must not possess or be under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Any drug that may impede or impair your operation of a model aircraft is included in this regulation.
4. Transporting or consumption of any alcoholic beverage and/or drugs on club field is strictly prohibited.
5. No member or guest may fly unless they have in their possession at the field their valid Academy of Model Aeronautics membership card and also their club membership card. Electronic proof is acceptable.
6. All AMA flight rules and regulations shall be enforced and strictly adhered to.
7. Members are expected to keep the flying area and the parking area free from litter and to refrain from the burning of trash in the same area. This includes planes and parts. Take your trash home.
8. Motor vehicles other than field maintenance equipment must not drive on the flying field. Do not drive in the farm fields.
9. No one other than the pilot, owners, or crew members shall enter the pit areas. No unsupervised children in the pits.
10. Smoking is not allowed in the pits or near any flammable fuels.
11. Flying hours are 10:00 a.m. to Sundown for gas and glow powered aircraft. Electric powered aircraft can fly anytime.
12. No Electric aircraft battery assembly or maintenance may take place under the canopy. This should be performed on the tables designed for assembly and testing.

Flight Rules

1. It is recommended to use 2.4GHz radio equipment. Users of 27, 50, 53, 72MHz must coordinate frequency control amongst themselves.
2. All aircraft must be restrained when starting, either on a starter table or a tailhook if the plane is on the ground.
3. Engine break-in shall not be conducted in the pit area.
4. After carrying the aircraft out from the pit area, all flight control must be from the designated control area. There shall be no taxiing out from the pit area! No taxiing into the pits!
5. Only pilots and their copilot are allowed on or at the flight line.
6. Call out all take-offs and landings and receive an acknowledgement from all of the pilots on the flight line.
7. Perform initial turn after take-off away from the flight line.
8. Any pilot may declare an emergency by voice. Once declared, the pilot has the right of way of all aircraft under power. There will be no take-offs or landings allowed until the emergency lands or the pilot declares the emergency terminated.
9. Any pilot planning to enter the flying field to retrieve a plane MUST call "On The Field" and receive an acknowledgment from all pilots prior to entering the field. The pilot will announce "the field is clear" after recovering the aircraft and leaving the field.
10. There shall be no deliberate flight behind the flight line. The flight line is defined by the Field Layout(s) shown on page 3 of this document. There shall be no over-flying of roads or houses at any club field.
11. No flying will be permitted while field cutting or maintenance is being performed.
12. Low level aerobatics and "3D Flying must be performed on the far side of the runway centerline, opposite the pilot stations. Pilots MUST fly from designated pilot stations

13. When more than one aircraft is airborne, all pilots must fly in a standard race-track pattern in the same direction.
14. Rotary Aircraft must be flown in the designated "Rotary Aircraft" area.
15. Pilots should limit individual flight duration to 10 minutes to allow fair field access.
 - a) Powered or non-powered gliders may remain in the air as long as they are not impeding the flight paths of other aircraft.
16. No downed aircraft shall be left in the surrounding field or on club premises. Pilots are responsible for retrieving their aircraft and cleaning up any debris. Ruko or equivalent remote I.D. device is required for locating downed aircraft.

Field Maintenance

All mowing is to be done twice a week if needed. The suggested days are Tuesday and Friday. Friday would be the preferred day if only cutting once a week. If the weather forecast calls for rain on those days, then field cutting shall be done the previous or next day weather permitting. It is also recommended to mow either in the late afternoon/evening or early in the morning before 9:00 am. The only exceptions to these guidelines are:

1. The day before a public event such as our Annual Air Show.
2. Early afternoon if no flying members are present.

Noise

All gas/nitro engines must pass a noise limit test of less than 96 DB at a distance of 20 feet at a 90 degree angle from the exhaust before its use will be allowed. Measurement shall be made on grass at full throttle with the club owned DB meter.

Before any gas / nitro powered aircraft may be flown at the club field, the noise output must be tested and recorded. (written copy of the results will be kept by the club safety officer and a copy will be given to the pilot.) Pilot is responsible for arranging pre-flight testing with a club officer or safety officer.

- Testing must be conducted using the club's dB meter.
- Results must be verified and approved by a club officer or the safety officer.
- Aircraft failing to meet the noise limit may not be flown at the club field until corrected, retested and approved.

Consequences of a violation of rules for the club

1. Any member who violates any field rule or by-law of the Chain-O-Lakes Eagles places his/her membership in jeopardy.
2. If a member in good standing finds a member in violation, it will be that member's responsibility to inform the violator of the violation(s) in a professional manner.
3. If the violator responds in a negative manner, the member will report the same to an officer of the club as soon as possible.
4. If the violator continues to violate the rules or by-laws, the member will be asked to suspend all flying and leave the field area until such time as a board meeting can be called. All charges against the violator must be in writing.
5. The board will decide on whether or not termination from the club or suspension of the privileges will be brought to the membership at the next meeting where it will be discussed and voted on.
6. The board may also choose to terminate a membership if the member is found to be placing members' safety at risk.

You are responsible for all of your actions and actions of your guests and your children. This includes damage to property including aircraft and equipment. A committee may be appointed by the president to resolve any disputes or questions regarding the value of goods damaged or destroyed.

Bylaws of the Chain-O-Lakes Eagles RC Club

Article I – Name

A. The name of the club shall be known as “Chain-O-Lakes Eagles RC Club”

Article II – Purpose

- A. The purpose of the club is to get together a group of local people with a common interest in building and flying model aircraft, patterned after the national organization called the “Academy of Model Aeronautics” (AMA).
- B. To assist new members to the hobby by helping with building and instructional programs to get their planes in the air in a safe and responsible way.
- C. To create fun, fellowship, and a positive learning experience, all in a courteous manner.
- D. The Chain-O-Lakes Eagles RC Club shall be structured as a non-profit social club formally recognized by the IRS as a 501c7 tax-exempt organization.

Article III – Membership

- A. Meetings are open to the public and any interested persons may apply for membership.
- B. Requirements for membership:

- 1. Current membership in the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA).

- 2. Payment of dues

- a) Dues - \$125 per year for adult voting members. \$25 per year for student membership, non-voting. Student members are defined as those under the age of 24 participating in club meetings and activities without a parent(s) or legal guardian and attending high school, community, technical, 4 year or other college/post high school institute of higher learning.

- b) Initiation Fee for new adult voting member. In addition to the annual dues, a one time initiation fee of \$75 will apply. There is no initiation fee for non-voting youth membership.

- c Existing members must pay dues by the end of February each year.

A \$25 late fee shall be assessed for any renewal dues paid after the end of February.

d) Prorated Dues Policy for Late-Year Memberships

New Members joining the club on or after August 1st shall pay the full annual dues at the time of joining. This payment will cover membership for the remainder of the current calendar year and extend through the entirety of the following calendar year.

- e) In the case of club members in good standing who have children living with them; the children shall be granted full membership in our club at no charge (no dues and voting rights). Children must be AMA members – children defined as less than age 21.

- 3. Must adhere to safety rules and bylaws.

C. New Member Induction

- 1. All applicants must be sponsored by at least two current members in good standing and are encouraged to attend two monthly meetings before joining the club.

- 2. Applications shall be reviewed by the Membership Committee, with the current club Vice President service as Membership Committee Chairman. The committee will be composed of the Chairman and 4 members in good standing with a minimum of 2 years continuous membership in the club.

- 3. After the Membership Committee review, the prospective member will be notified of acceptance or denial of the application prior to the next regular monthly meeting.

D. Grievance Procedure

Submission:

1. Any member in good standing may submit a written notice of a Rules Violation, using the form available on the club web page, to the Grievance Committee, composed of the club President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Safety Officer. Submission must be e-mailed to all committee members.

Committee Review

1. A quorum consisting of all 5 committee members must participate in person or remote for the review.
2. The Committee will assess whether action is warranted.
3. The grieved member may be invited to attend the meeting.
4. Additional parties named in the grievance may also be invited.

Response Timeline

1. The Committee will respond within 15 calendar days in writing via e-mail and registered mail to the grieved member.
2. Majority committee decisions are final and binding.

Possible Actions

1. Immediate disenrollment from the club without refund of club dues.
2. Suspension from flying at the field for a specified period.
3. Suspension from flying certain aircraft types for a specified period.
4. Written warning to the member(s) named in the grievance.

Article IV – Officers

- A. The following officers shall be elected by the membership:
1. President
 2. Vice-President
 3. Secretary
 4. Treasurer
- B. The above group shall be known as the board of directors.
- C. All board members shall be elected to a one-year term.
- D. The board of directors shall be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the club.
- E. Nominations for the offices occur at the October meeting and elections are held at the November meeting.
- F. Any member in good standing (have valid AMA membership and paid club dues) is eligible to run for office.
- G. The duties of the president shall be to preside over all club meetings and act as a club spokesperson.
- H. A club officer will be a member of all committees.
- I. The vice-president shall assume the duties of the president when necessary.
- J. The secretary shall record the minutes of the club meetings, be custodian of all records, and notify members of meetings.
- K. The treasurer shall keep all financial records, income, expenses, and collect all monies and maintain a bank checking account in the club's name.
- L. Any two board members must sign all checks.
- M. All expenditures over \$150.00 will require approval of the membership. The Field Marshal is authorized to spend funds as necessary to maintain the club equipment with board approval.
- N. Should a vacancy exist, the board of directors will call for a special election to fill out the term of the vacancy.

Article V – Safety Officer and Field Marshal

- A. The following officers will be appointed by the board or elected by the membership if the board decides to have an election.
1. Safety Officer
 2. Field Marshal
- B. The Safety Officer is responsible for flying safety. All flying shall be in accordance with the AMA Safety Code as published in the current year AMA Membership Manual, and with the Club Field Rules for the flying field location. The Safety Officer shall inform fliers of any safety violations and request that the rules be followed. In the event of continued violations, the Safety Officer shall inform the President in writing and request that the member be removed from the club.
- C. The Field Marshal shall be responsible for all flying field and equipment maintenance and for field mowing schedules.
- D. The Safety Officer and Field Marshal shall be appointed or elected to a one-year term.

Article VI – Meetings

- A. Regular meetings will be held once a month at a location and date designated by the board.
- B. A special meeting may be called for at any time, by the board, with proper notice.
- C. A quorum must be present before a meeting can be opened. 20% of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

Article VII – Committees

- A. The board may appoint any committee it deems necessary.
- B. Each committee will have a chairman, a secretary, and at least three members.
- C. The purpose of each committee will be to recommend their findings to the membership, which then must be approved by the membership.
- D. Upon arrival, copies of all rules and regulations will become part of the club's permanent records.

Article VIII – Rules

- A. The rules contained in the “Robert’s Rules of Order” shall govern the club in all cases and to the extent they apply.

Article IX – Amendments

- A. Amendments to the bylaws can be made in the following manner:
 - 1. Submit in writing to the board in advance of any regular meeting the addition or change that you wish and present the changes to the membership at any regular meeting.
 - 2. Any new addition to our bylaws which is not now a part of the bylaws requires a simple majority vote to be approved and added to our bylaws.
 - 3. Any change to our existing bylaws requires a two-thirds majority of the quorum.

Club Forums Code of Conduct

The club provides an email-based mechanism for communicating with other members of the club. All members in good standing have the ability to send email messages (using the email address provided to the club when they joined) to all club members using the membersforum@coleagles.com email address. Any member that desired to remove themselves from this list may send a request to the board.

The board uses the club.business@coleagles.com email address for communicating important club business to members. All members are added to this list. Only board members may send messages to this list.

For all communication on the forum, and at the field, be courteous and respectful to all members, and as much as it may be appropriate - resist the urge to flame. If you have an issue with an individual, discuss that privately with the individual, not in public.

The use of inappropriate, offensive language or language substitutions is not permitted. Inappropriate or offensive language includes, but is not limited to, any language or content that is sexually oriented, sexually suggestive or abusive, harassing, defamatory, vulgar, obscene, profane, hateful, or that contains racially, ethnically or otherwise objectionable material of any kind. Be considerate to other members in the forums when posting your messages.

Rules for messaging:

1. Do not shout. If you don't already know, TYPING IN CAPITALS is the equivalent of shouting. It's rude, unnecessary and not welcome here. If you want to emphasize a word, use the bold tag. However, do use capitals where they belong, for example, to start a sentence or for a name.
2. It is illegal to post any content that is copyrighted or trademarked, unless you hold the copyright or trademark. Any material protected by copyright may not be posted in the forums without the expressed permission of the author or owner of the copyright on that material. This includes reproducing the full text of news stories, articles, etc. It is acceptable to provide a link to copyrighted material, to post brief excerpts, or to paraphrase other works, though we do strongly encourage you to cite the original source whenever possible.
3. Club members are allowed to embed images in their messages by linking to an image that exists on another site or downloading it from their computer's hard drive. In addition to the copyright restrictions mentioned above, users should also refrain from embedding any images of a sexual or offensive nature. Any links to clearly offensive or pornographic materials will be removed immediately at the moderator's discretion.

Appendix 1 Member Code of Conduct

The term “Board” refers to the COL Eagles RC Club Board, i.e. the club officers to include the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. All members and their guests are expected to always exhibit appropriate behavior. The following Code of Conduct has been developed to help make flying and club activities safe and enjoyable for all. Additional rules may be developed for specific activities/events as the Board and/or event coordinators deem necessary. The Board insists that all members comply with the club's Code of Conduct. All members shall:

1. Show respect to all members and guests.
2. Follow club and field rules always. This includes activities behind and in front of the flight line as well as in the air.
3. Refrain from using abusive or foul language.
4. Refrain from threatening or causing bodily harm to self, or others.
5. Show respect for equipment, member property, and the field, including equipment and infrastructure.
6. Do Not possess any weapons on the flying field.

A positive approach will be used regarding discipline.

If inappropriate behavior occurs, a prompt resolution will be sought specific to everyone's situation. The Board reserves the right to expel a member whose behavior endangers his or her own safety or the safety of others under Article III Paragraph C of the club by-laws.

If the member exhibits inappropriate actions:

1. The Board will determine the severity of the action and immediately take steps to correct it. These may include but are not limited to: * A verbal warning * A suspension for the day from the field. * Or * Expulsion from the club, under Article III Paragraph C of the by-laws*.
2. Depending on the age of the member and the offense/activity, the member's parent/guardian may be notified. The inappropriate behavior that members or Board members observe will be explained to the parent/guardian. Communication between the Board and parent/ guardian will be ongoing regarding any further incidences of inappropriate behavior.
3. Appeals by the Member and/or Member's parent/ guardian should be directed to the Board.