

**MID-HUDSON MODELMASTERS
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

Revised January, 2013

CONSTITUTION

1. **Name:** The name of the Club shall be Mid-Hudson Modelmasters
2. **Purpose:** The purpose of the Club shall be to promote model building and operating, also to encourage participation in sanctioned contests and events organized by the Club and to promote safety at all times.
3. **Membership:** Membership in this Club shall be granted to anyone who meets the qualifications as stipulated by the By-laws.
4. **Officers:**
 - 4.1. The officers of the Club shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant at Arms and Junior Vice President.
5. **Meeting and Quorum**
 - 5.1. Regular meetings shall be held monthly
 - 5.2. The annual meeting shall be held in December of each year.
 - 5.3. A special meeting may be called by the President, or on request of three members. The President shall call such meeting and direct the Secretary to give notice to all members by phone, mail or email.
 - 5.4. At least 2 officers and 3 members constitute a quorum for transacting business.
 - 5.5. Roberts' Rules of Order shall be practiced at all meetings.
6. **Amendment**
 - 6.1. Proposed amendments to this Constitution may be submitted at a Club meeting by a member in good standing.
 - 6.2. Voting on proposed amendments to this Constitution shall occur at the first meeting after notification of the proposed amendment and the scheduled vote date is made by publication in the Club's newsletter.
 - 6.3. Acceptance of proposed amendments shall be by 2/3 vote of members in good standing present, or proxy, providing that there is a quorum. Proxy votes will be accepted by written letter or email to the secretary.

BY-LAWS

1. Duties of Officers

- 1.1. The President shall preside over all meetings.
- 1.2. The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in the event of absence or disability of the President
- 1.3. The Secretary shall record and keep the minutes of the Club's meetings and proceedings, and shall send notices of special meetings and shall be responsible for the Club's general correspondence. Either the Secretary or designee shall issue membership cards.
- 1.4. The Treasurer shall receive and maintain the Club funds in a bank and pay out same by check only. The treasurer shall make a monthly report of receipts and disbursements. All checks paid out are to be signed by the treasurer and one other officer. Bills are to be presented for all moneys disbursed. The treasurer will also notify all members in arrears in Club dues.
- 1.5. The Sergeant-at-Arms will see to it that order is maintained on all Club property and at regular meetings and at all other Club activities. He/she shall serve as safety officer, responsible for maintenance of and adherence to safety regulations at Club meetings and activities. The Sergeant-at-Arms is the custodian of Club equipment.
- 1.6. The Junior Vice President shall organize Club activities for Youth members and shall be responsible for promotion of Youth modeling interest and membership.

2. Qualifications for Office

- 2.1. Members in good standing who have been in the Club for a minimum of one full year of continuous membership, as of the date of the meeting initiating the term of office, shall be eligible to serve as officers.
- 2.2. All officers, with the exception of the Junior Vice President, shall be Adult category members.

3. Term of Office

- 3.1. The term of office for all officers is from January 1 through December 31.
- 3.2. All officers may serve any number of consecutive terms

4. Selection of Officers

- 4.1. All officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting in December
 - 4.1.1. Nominations for Officers shall be solicited at the regular November meeting. The membership shall be notified of those nominated and shall be alerted to the fact that additional nominations are possible until closed immediately prior to the balloting, by publication in the Club's newsletter.

- 4.1.2. Nominees shall be notified and agree to serve if elected. Should a nominee not agree to serve if elected, the nomination shall be automatically withdrawn.
- 4.1.3. Should an Officer resign or become unable to accomplish the duties of the office, the President shall appoint a member in good standing, with at least one year of continuous membership, to finish out the unexpired term.

5. Membership and Dues

5.1. Membership Categories and Privileges

5.1.1. Members will be classified according to their membership category with the Academy of Aeronautics (AMA) as follows:

- (a) Adult Membership-For those 19 or over as of July of the current year
 - Open
 - Family
 - Park Pilot Program

- (b) Youth Membership-For those under 19 as of July 1 of the year

5.1.2. Honorary members are selected on the basis of special contributions that they have made to the Club, principally as nonmembers. Honorary members are entitled to full participation in Club activities, but they do not have voting privileges, and, unless they are AMA members, they may not operate models except as provided for by the current AMA regulations governing model operation by non-AMA members.

5.1.3. Life members are those selected by the Club for special contributions that they have made as members of the Club. Life members are entitled to full voting privileges and participation in Club activities, but, unless they are AMA members, they may not operate models except as provided for by the current AMA regulations governing model operation by non-AMA members.

5.2. Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) membership is required of all regular members.

5.3. Annual membership dues will be set by the executive board annually according to budgetary needs and will be published in the November newsletter and voted on at the general membership meeting in November. Absentee or proxy ballots will be accepted in writing or emailed as stated in Article 6.3.3. The dues schedule will be by AMA category.

5.4. Dues must be paid by March 1st or member shall be suspended of all rights and privileges until the delinquent dues is paid

5.5. New members: An application blank together with dues payment and proof of current AMA membership must be submitted for membership.

5.5.1. Names of new member applicants shall be published in the first edition of the Club newsletter following the receipt of their application.

- 5.5.2. The dues payment for new member applicants shall be the full amount with applications submitted from January through October. Dues paid by new members in November and December will cover the following year's membership. The membership rate will be the rate which was in effect in January of the calendar year the new member joins.
- 5.5.3. New member applicants will have a 62 day probation period during which the applicant may resign from the Club and receive full refund of the dues paid with the membership application. Applicants will automatically become members after the probation period provided that a motion to reject membership has not been made. During this 62 day probation period, any member in good standing may call for "vote of rejection of membership. The vote will be held at the next regular meeting, and rejection will be by majority vote of those members in good standing present. If a new member applicant is rejected, dues paid with the membership application will be refunded in full.

5.6. Honorary and Life Members

- 5.6.1. Nominations for Honorary or Life membership status may be made by any club member in good standing.
- 5.6.2. Voting on Honorary or Life membership nominations shall occur at the first meeting after notification of the nomination and the scheduled vote is made by publication in the Club's newsletter.
- 5.6.3. Honorary or Life members are so designated by vote for acceptance by 2/3 of the members in good standing of the Club. Proxy votes will be accepted by written letter, phone or email.

6. Rules

- 6.1. To compete in any Club event, a person and each member of a team must be a Club member in good standing.
- 6.2. Members are responsible for safe construction and operation of their models. The Sergeant-at-Arms may require safety inspection of operating models, and may appoint Safety Committee for such purpose.

6.3. Voting

- 6.3.1. Business will be conducted by a simple majority at the meeting as long as there is a quorum. On a tie vote, a motion is lost, as a tie is not the majority.
- 6.3.2. No absentee or proxy ballots shall be counted unless specifically solicited for a particular motion to be voted on by notification in the Club's newsletter.
- 6.3.3. Absentee or proxy ballots, when allowed, shall be accepted in writing or emailed to the secretary indicating the motion being voted on. Written proxies must be signed by the voting member.

- 6.3.4. Absentee or proxy ballots shall not be allowed for any vote involving a membership application, removal of an officer, or suspension or expulsion of a member.
- 6.3.5. At any Club-related meeting, any member in good standing has the right to call for a secret vote on any membership application, motion, decision or other items of business that would normally be an open vote.

6.4. Suspension or expulsion

- 6.4.1. An officer may be removed from office by three-fourths vote of the members in good standing at any meeting at which such vote has been scheduled and prior notification given to the members by publication in the Club's newsletter. No such vote may be taken unless at least 15 days advance notice in writing shall have been given to the officer being challenged stating reasons for the challenge and the time and date of the meeting at which a vote on removal shall be scheduled. At that meeting, the officer shall be given a full hearing on the written challenge and no additional reasons for challenge may be presented without consent of the subject officer.
 - 6.4.2. Any member may be suspended or expelled for a cause deemed sufficient by the Executive Committee and/or by a three-fourths vote of the members in good standing at any meeting at which such vote has been scheduled and prior notification given to the members by publication in the Club's newsletter. No such vote may be taken unless at least 15 days advance notice in writing shall have been given to the member being challenged stating reasons for the challenge and the time and date of the meeting at which a vote on suspension or expulsion shall be scheduled. At that meeting, the member shall be given a full hearing on the written challenge and no additional charges may be presented without consent of the subject member.
 - 6.4.3. Motions for removal of an officer or suspension/expulsion of a member may be submitted by any member in good standing. The motion must be made in writing, clearly stating the facts and supported by affidavits or other exhibits as appropriate. The motion must be submitted to the Secretary, who will notify the President. The President will call a meeting of the Executive Committee to review the motion and vote on the requested action. The Secretary will give at least 15 days notice in writing of such meeting to members of the Executive Committee, the challenged officer or member, and the person submitting the motion. The Secretary will provide, together with the meeting notification, copies of the written motion and the supporting materials.
 - 6.4.4. Any member expelled or suspended by the Executive Committee may appeal to the full membership. Such appeal shall be made in writing to the Secretary, who will notify the President. The President will schedule the appeal to be heard and acted on at a regular or special meeting of the Club, and the Secretary shall notify all members at least 15 days in advance of such meeting. At the meeting, the Secretary will read the motion and supporting exhibits. After a full hearing, a vote will be taken to overturn the action of the Executive committee. A three-fourths vote of the members in good standing present shall be required to reverse the action of the Executive Committee.
- 6.5. In the event of any changes in the Constitution or By-laws, the change shall published in the Club's newsletter.

- 6.6. The interpretation by the Executive Committee shall constitute the intent and meaning of the Constitution and By-laws, unless challenged and reversed by a three-fourths vote of members in good standing at a regular meeting.

7. Committees

- 7.1. The Executive committee shall consist of the officers of the Club

- 7.1.1. The Executive Committee shall manage and direct the Club. All decisions of the executive committee shall be determined by a majority vote of the committee. Each voting officer shall cast one vote. Any monies in excess of \$75.00 must be approved by the executive committee and/or any member of the executive committee, and/or committees appointed by the executive committee and must be voted on by the general membership, and approved as per section 6.3.1 of the by-laws.

- 7.2. The President shall appoint such special committees as considered necessary.

- 7.3. If a majority vote of members in good standing present at a regular or special meeting requests a committee, the President shall appoint such committees as they direct.

- 7.4. All committees appointed shall consist of an odd number of members, and no less than three.

- 7.5. The President is an ex-officio member of all committees.

8. Amendments

- 8.1. Proposed amendments to these By-Laws may be submitted at a Club meeting by any member in good standing.

- 8.2. Voting on proposed amendments to these By-Laws shall occur at the first meeting after notification of the proposed amendment and posted in the Club's newsletter.

- 8.3. Acceptance of proposed amendments to these By-Laws shall be by 2/3 vote of members in good standing present, or proxy, provided that there is a quorum as specified in the constitution. Proxy votes will be accepted in writing or emailed to the secretary indicating the motion being voted on. Written proxies must be signed by the voting member.