

S.P.A.R.K.S. Membership General Requirements

Thank you for your interest in joining S.P.A.R.K.S.! Completion of the following list of items, along with satisfactory completion of sixty (60) day probationary period will be necessary to become a member. Please read the list carefully to avoid delays in the processing of your application.

1. **AMA Membership and HAM License:** Proof of current Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) Membership is required. Model Aircraft Association of Canada (MAAC) is acceptable. You must include a copy of your current AMA card along with your application **or** show your current AMA card to a club officer who will sign your application to confirm your current AMA membership status. Members wishing to use the **OPTIONAL** Amateur Radio Frequencies, (HAM Radio), must provide proof of valid F.C.C. HAM license to the club secretary. There is no license required to use other designated F.C.C. flying model frequencies.
2. **Application for Club membership:** You must submit a completed application. The parent or legal guardian of an applicant under age 18 must also sign the form.
3. **Initiation Fee:** A one time initiation fee of \$50.00 is required for all new adult members. There is only one initiation fee collected per family.

- ?? A member who leaves the club, or falls delinquent and is dropped from the active roster, has 2 years to re-apply for membership. Such a member can be reinstated by paying the current years membership fee and any assessment or delinquent fees levied against them.
- ?? Junior/Youth members with no associated family member are **NOT REQUIRED!** to pay an initiation fee and are not charged late fees or special assessment fees .
- ?? After two years of inactivity, a past member who wishes to return must pay the new member initiation fee and be considered by the general membership for acceptance to the club. Such returning members will not have to pay any club assessments or late fees that may have been levied during his or her 2 year or longer period of inactivity.

4. **Annual Dues (January 1st-December 31st):**

- ?? Adult members pay \$75.00 per calendar year pro-rated to \$40 for new members joining after June 1st for the remainder of their first calendar year.
- ?? Junior/Youth members (under age 19 on July 1st) pay \$10 per calendar year. They are not subject to late fees or special assessments and are not considered full members for the purpose of voting or membership cap.
- ?? Temporary Members pay \$20 per month to fly and must show current AMA membership certification. They are not subject to late fees or special assessments and they are not considered full members for the purpose of voting or membership cap.

5. **Late Fees:** A late fee of \$50 is imposed on any member who has not paid his annual dues prior to the February general meeting of the club. A single such late fee will be imposed even if the member is delinquent more than one calendar year. If a member is delinquent for two whole calendar years he or she will be dropped from the membership roles and be required to re-apply for membership as a new member. If the cap is reached a dropped member wishing to return will be considered no differently than a first time new member.

6. **Assessments:** The club can, under special circumstances, create an assessment beyond the annual dues and late fees, for a special purposes, such as the field restoration project or other construction projects. All current members are required to pay such assessments and **will not** be permitted to renew their membership until such assessments are paid in full.

7. **Membership Cap:** The membership is currently capped at 200 paying adult members. Once the cap is reached no new applications will be accepted. A waiting list will be created and the applicant's position on the waiting list will be determined by the date of receipt of the new members application by the membership chairman.

No money will be collected from applicants on the waiting list. When a membership slot comes open, the first applicant on the list will be invited to come before the membership at the next general meeting. The applicant will be presented to the general membership for a vote. All initiation fees and membership fees will be due and payable immediately following the membership's acceptance vote. If the member does not come to the meeting, the next name on the list will be called and that member, if present, will have the opportunity to join the club. The member who's name is called but who does not appear for presentation to the members for vote will go to the bottom of the waiting list. Members on the list will be given every opportunity to attend a meeting and be afforded consideration if they cannot be present. a club officer can act as representative for the new member if such arrangement is made in advance.

8. **Flying Privileges:** Only those member with a current membership card will be allowed to fly the field. New members and inexperienced pilots will be issued a white card until they have successfully demonstrated their ability to fly safely and pass the Solo Certification test. (See Solo Certification form.)

Visitors and potential new members are permitted to fly the field a maximum of three times as a guest of the club. They must have a current member willing to sponsor them and that member must be present on the tarmac when the visitor flies. If they are experienced pilots they must have a current AMA membership card in their possession.

The club will offer introductory flights given by one of the club's instructors on the students plane or on one of the club trainers as instructor time and equipment is available. A maximum number of three such flights are available after which the student will be asked to join the club. If the 200 member cap is met the potential new member will be required to join the AMA and submit their application for membership.

Once the membership cap is reached, people on the waiting list who wish to fly the field, can do so as a guest of a current member in good standing or as a student pilot with a club instructor. The inviting member or instructor must be present and will put his current membership card in the frequency slot for his guest. The three visit rule is waved for those people who are on the membership waiting list and who are guests of a current member however such guests, even student pilots, must have valid AMA membership status. Should an applicant be rejected, voted down or sent to the bottom of the list for failure to show for club member induction, he or she will lose the right to fly the field, even as a guest, until they actually join the club.

Please contact any S.P.A.R.K.S. Club officer if you have any questions about S.P.A.R.K.S. membership, field flying privileges or how to join S.P.A.R.K.S.