



Academy of Model Aeronautics
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MEDIA RELEASE

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AMA expands primary insurance coverage for members

M U N C I E - The Academy of Model Aeronautics Executive Council has expanded the primary liability insurance coverage to certain groups of AMA members, significantly expanding the value of membership in the country's largest model aviation association.

"The AMA Executive Council has listened to the concerns of AMA members who are exposed to an increased risk of being held liable for the duties they perform on behalf of the Academy," said Dave Mathewson, president of the AMA. "The insurance industry calls this the 'vicarious liability' for the acts of others or accidents caused by others."

The groups in question represent AMA members who volunteer for positions requiring them to perform duties that include, but are not limited to, ensuring member compliance in operating model aircraft within the AMA Safety Code, providing oversight of other members.

"This additional coverage is important for those who inspect model aircraft systems for airworthiness, and those who are responsible for sanctioning, coordinating, and directing aeromodeling events," said Andy Argenio, Vice President, District I. "The EC recognized that these groups of AMA volunteers deserve to have primary vicarious liability coverage because they help to reduce the risk, frequency, and severity of accidents. Their efforts help keep insurance premiums from increasing."

The new coverage will go into effect on March 31. EC approval was necessary to include this change in policy language and insurance benefits for members who represent the AMA within the scope of their official AMA duties. This includes, but is not limited to, Contest Coordinators, District Safety Officers, Contest Directors, Event Directors, Leader Members, Large Model Aircraft Inspectors, Air Show Team Managers, Associate Vice Presidents, Contest Board Members, and World Championship Team Leaders.

"The best news is that this has been accomplished without any increased premium cost for the AMA or its members," continued Argenio. "It took several months because there is always added scrutiny when risks and resources are involved. I'd like to also cite the added support received from AMA's Safety & Member Benefits Director Ilona Maine and District II Vice President Gary Fitch."

Continued..



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According to AMA leadership, there has never been a better time for AMA members to do something for their association and fellow members by volunteering and accepting positions of responsibility. AMA members no longer need to be so reluctant to accept these positions because of legal fears and reliance on their personal liability insurance coverage.

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