



Academy of Model Aeronautics

5161 East Memorial Drive, Muncie, Indiana 47302
(765) 287-1256 – Voice • Competitions Fax (765) 286-3303
www.modelaircraft.org

EXHIBIT A RULES CHANGE PROPOSAL FORM

PROPOSAL NO. RCA20-02
(To be inserted by Headquarters)

RECEIVED DATE 05/24/2018
(To be inserted by Headquarters)

REVISE DATE _____

VERSION NUMBER _____

RULES CHANGE PROPOSAL FORM

Send to AMA Headquarters via email at ruleschanges@modelaircraft.org. A copy will be forwarded to the appropriate Contest Board Chairman.

PROPOSAL TYPE (Check One): Basic Cross Indicate Original Proposal Number _____

Urgent/Safety/Emergency Interpretation

General Section Executive Council Outdoor Free Flight Indoor Free Flight CL Speed

CL Racing CL Navy Carrier CL Aerobatics CL Combat CL Special Events RC Aerobatics

RC Scale Aerobatics RC Pylon Racing RC Helicopter RC Soaring Scale Electric

Special Events RC Combat

Brief summary of the proposed change.

Limit the size and power of aircraft in Sportsman and Intermediate to encourage more interest, participation, and growth in our precision aerobatics event.

Exact wording proposed for the rule book. (List paragraph numbers where applicable. Example: Change “quote present rule book wording” to “exact wording required”).

Change para 4.1 Propulsion Source Limitation, first para, second sentence to read:
Electrically-powered model aircraft are limited to a maximum of 42.56 volts for the propulsion circuit, measured prior to flight while the competitor is in the ready box. In Sportsman and Intermediate classes, internal combustion power is limited to 1.2 cubic inch inclusive or 26 volts for the electric propulsion circuit.

Change para 4.3 Weight and Size, first para to read:
In Sportsman and Intermediate Classes, there is no weight limit. In Sportsman and Intermediate the size of the aircraft is limited to 1.8 meters wingspan and total length (70.86 inches).

For 2 years, Current Sportsman and Intermediate contestants will be grandfathered with their current aircraft after this rule takes affect. As is written in the Sporting Code, contest directors can modify the rules with written notice in their contest sanction thereby allowing them to disregard or change such rules.

Logic behind proposed change, including alleged shortcomings of the present rules. State intent for future reference.

There has been a significant decline in the participation in RC Aerobatics noted specifically by fewer participants at contests, an aging population and the lack of youth. There are a number of reasons for this.

1. The great initial investment, typically \$2000 to \$7000 for a normal sized pattern aircraft has caused potential newcomers who might be interested in trying the sport to turn to other activities. Reduction of size and power requirements will reduce the initial investment by up to 1/5 or more, the normal cost of a full size pattern plane.
2. Transporting a 2 meter sized aircraft typically calls for a dedicated vehicle. These aircraft are difficult to transport in a regular or small vehicle. The reduction in size will greatly improve the ability to transport the aircraft.
3. Maintenance of the aircraft is much less.
4. The perception of needing a full size 2 meter aircraft is eradicated because this rule will eliminate that issue. This size aircraft flies very well and is clearly competitive with the full size aircraft.
5. The flyer will be more likely to fly the aircraft not only in contests but as an everyday flyer, which will only benefit overall.
6. This is a tremendous educational experience for all involved. No event does as much to teach about aeronautics and aerodynamics as RC aerobatics. We have a responsibility to provide those with talent, intuition, ability, and passion with those opportunities. It is vital that we put in place rules to make that possible. Although there are a few that work to promote and gain new participants it is not sufficient. A permanent rule change must happen to correct the path we are on.
7. This is very lucrative for the modeling industry as well. Not only would new and better designs of all sizes evolve but the increase in participants in the long term would grow the market.

New event test data/information (new events only), please provide what testing of this new event has taken place to include number of participants and number of contests.

Not Applicable

Effect, if any, on current AMA records.

None

Note: The Contest Board Chairman may, in coordination with the submitter of the proposal, at any time prior to submitting a proposal to the Contest Board for Final Vote, edit proposal wording to increase clarity and to avoid ambiguity provided the proposal intent is not changed.

1. Proposer ___ John Fuqua AMA 5955 ___ and Michael Harrison AMA

Street Address ___ 175 WT Hulion Rd _____

City Crestview State FL Zip 32539

Day Telephone (850) 951-0736 Cell (850) 974-6655

Date of Signature 24 May 2018