



# Announcing AMA's new Park Pilot Program.

**Recommend it to non-AMA RCers who fly only park flyer models  
and everyone wins.**

**For annual dues of only  
\$29.95, park  
flying modelers get  
an appropriate  
level of liability  
coverage and a  
quarterly  
magazine. It's a  
deal that really pays  
off for all of us.**

It's no secret that non-AMA RCers are flying park flyer models everywhere.

And why shouldn't they? With their models' small size and lower airspeeds, they don't need the prepared fields and large overflight areas our "regular" models do.

Problem is, while a few park pilots have joined AMA, most haven't, and the reasons are simple: lots of these modelers aren't even aware of the AMA. What's more, many of them who are aware of the AMA aren't inclined to spend \$58 annually for lots of services they don't really need.

So in response, your AMA has developed a new membership class with benefits tailored to the specific needs of this group.



## The AMA Park Pilot Program.

The Park Pilot Program is designed to serve fliers who only operate model aircraft that fly at less than 60 mph and weigh less than 2 pounds.

Models in this class must fly quietly, so engine-powered models don't qualify. Most of these models will be electric powered, of course, but rubber or any similar quiet means of propulsion are fine, too.

The class includes both airplanes and helicopters, so the potential number of Park Pilot Program members is very high. (There are literally hundreds of thousands of qualifying models sold in the US to RC newcomers every year.)

For \$29.95 per year, the Park Pilot Program provides \$500,000 of personal liability insurance for its members—a fraction of Open Membership coverage. And while it may seem odd to be concerned about insurance for operators of these small models, let's face it, we live in the world's most litigious nation, and accidents do happen.

Also, Park Pilot Program members won't receive *Model Aviation*. Instead they will receive the new *Park Pilot* publication: a quarterly magazine featuring articles and ads of interest to park flying enthusiasts.

In addition, new members will receive the *Top Tips to Keep Your Park Flyer Flying* booklet, featuring useful ideas for model setup, development of flying skills, etc.





## Here's why the AMA created this membership class.

Although your AMA is a solid, secure, professionally managed organization, the number of modelers entering the "traditional" hobby has diminished a bit, while the number of new, unaffiliated RC park fliers has risen dramatically. Without a response to those numbers, regular membership would gradually decline, and services would have to be discontinued or dues would have to be raised—options that are simply unacceptable.

So the AMA developed the Park Pilot Program to offer unaffiliated park pilots attractive incentives to become part of the solution instead of part of the problem. It's also hoped that the program will function as a gateway to full AMA membership for park pilots who'll develop an interest in flying larger, conventional models.

## Where can AMA Park Pilots fly, and what are AMA Park Flying Sites?

As long as their models can be operated safely (using common-sense guidelines), AMA Park Pilot coverage applies at any location where pilots have access to fly, including parks, field houses, gyms, privately owned open lands, and indoor facilities.

On the other hand, the AMA

is encouraging the development of new, officially recognized AMA Park Pilot sites in metro areas throughout the US.

As an aid in reaching this goal, we've developed a special "How to Start a Park Flying Site" turnkey

package so members who are trying to secure a field won't have to start from scratch when they approach landowners or officials responsible for regulation of public facilities.

The package includes a DVD to show landowners and park officials what park flying is all about—and how different it is from the engine-powered radio-control flying with which they may already

be familiar.

There are tips on how to approach officials and landowners, plus instructions on how to set up a field. It even includes a guide for how to quickly and efficiently organize a club, its bylaws, and field rules. And best of all, members will be able to inform landowners and officials that they'd be covered by AMA site liability coverage in the amount of \$2.5 million, which should serve as a great incentive.

The goal is to make it easier for official AMA-recognized flying sites to be developed quickly and in great numbers.





## **Will regular AMA members be able to fly at AMA-designated Park Pilot sites, and will Park Pilots be able to fly at our regular AMA club fields?**

The answer to the first part of the question is an emphatic *yes*. Your regular AMA membership will be effective at the new sites, and you'll be under no obligation whatsoever to take on dual membership.

The answer to the second question isn't quite so cut-and-dried.

Basically, Park Pilot membership is designed for park flying sites—not “regular” AMA fields that exist today. However, if club rules permit, Park Pilot Program members may fly park flyer models as guests at AMA clubs' flying sites; it's strictly up to each club to decide. And while there's absolutely no pressure to do so, making such an accommodation may be worth considering. Added exposure to the excitement of larger models and impressive piloting may actually influence Park Pi-

lot Program members to make the leap to “regular” RC flying and full AMA membership.

As we stated earlier, however, the intent of the Park Pilot Program is also to establish separate AMA Park Pilot sites and clubs. These Park Pilot fields will only support the flying of models that meet the official park flyer requirements. And the goal is for these new fields to be closer to where you work or live. As a regular AMA member, you may be able to get a flight or two in on your way home from work or on a lunch break at one of these officially recognized sites. This “reverse migration” of flying fields from the outlying areas back into the cities should be healthy for everyone: modelers, the industry, and your AMA. We'll all benefit from the strength of numbers.

## **Here's how the Park Pilot Program is being promoted.**



Hundreds of participating hobby dealers will be exhibiting the counter display you see in the photo, and they'll be urging new park fliers to sign up. The display will contain brochures describing the program's features and membership application forms will be included.

Besides that, an ad promoting the advantages of Park Pilot Program membership is planned for insertions in commercial, RC-oriented publications. What's more, the AMA Web site will feature special promotions.

Check it out at [www.parkflyer.org](http://www.parkflyer.org).



# The Park Pilot Program. It's an investment in RC aeromodeling's future.

When you add the potential of establishing hundreds of new, officially recognized AMA Park Pilot sites to the prospect of gaining thousands of AMA-affiliated RCers, the Park Pilot Program represents a brighter, more secure future for our sport.



And by the way, as a regular AMA member, you may want to help make it happen by using the Park Pilot Program membership application form on the right (and make some extra copies, too) to sign up some unaffiliated park pilots you may have already flown with in your area.

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## Thanks for your help—and for helping your organization grow in the future.



[www.parkflyer.org](http://www.parkflyer.org)

## Application for Park Pilot Membership One Individual Per Application



Please type or print the information clearly in CAPITAL letters.  
When completed, this form can be mailed with payment to AMA,  
5161 E. Memorial Dr., Muncie, Indiana 47302-9252, Phone: (800) 435-9262  
[www.parkflyer.org](http://www.parkflyer.org) - [www.modelaircraft.org](http://www.modelaircraft.org)

Mr.  Mrs.  Ms.   
First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Birth Date:(mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

**Park Pilot Membership \$29.95**  
PAYMENT OPTIONS: Check enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Charge my  VISA  MasterCard \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Card No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Cardholder's signature \_\_\_\_\_

- PARK FLYER SAFE OPERATING RECOMMENDATIONS**
- Inspect your model before every flight to make certain it is airworthy
  - Be aware of any other radio frequency users who may present an interference problem
  - Always be courteous and respectful of other users of your selected flight area
  - Choose an area clear of obstacles and large enough to safely accommodate your flying activity
  - Make certain this area is clear of friends and spectators prior to launching your aircraft
  - Be aware of other activities in the vicinity of your flight path that could cause potential conflict
  - Carefully plan your flight path prior to launch
  - Abide by any and all established AMA National Model Aircraft Safety Code items where applicable and appropriate

**Please read and sign this declaration. Applications without signatures will be returned.**

Note: This waiver means that if I am involved in any claim or suit I will not sue the AMA, Inc. I understand that this waiver does not affect my liability insurance coverage.

"I agree to comply with the AMA Park Flyer Safe Operating Recommendations for all applicable model operations. I understand that my failure to comply may endanger my liability coverage for any damages or claims so caused. I further understand that written notice of the occurrence of any incident must be immediately provided."  
"I am aware that modeling may present hazards to participants and spectators. I exempt, waive, and relieve the Academy of Model Aeronautics, Incorporated (AMA) from all current or future liability for personal injury, property damage, or wrongful death caused by negligence."  
Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian must also sign if Applicant is under age 18

Insurance coverage is effective on the date of receipt at AMA Headquarters of a properly completed application and correct dues payment. Membership ends each year on December 31, regardless of the date a membership application is received. Applications received after September 15 will be valid for the remainder of that year and all of the following year. A magazine is included with the membership; it begins with the first issue available for the year after a correct current application and payment are received. Membership rates and insurance limits are those in effect at the time of printing. Actual cost of dues and amount of insurance coverage is subject to change. Any such changes will be noted at the time of membership processing so they may be accepted or not.  
E-mail has provided AMA with the opportunity to get information to our members in a timely, cost-efficient manner. AMA on occasion partners with reputable firms to promote products that will benefit both the member and the association. AMA does not trade or sell E-mail or mailing addresses. If you would prefer that we not include your name, please check the box(es) below.  
 Please do not use my E-mail address for anything other than official AMA business.  
 Please do not use my mailing address for anything other than official AMA business.