



This document contains the official Model Aeronautics Association of Canada (MAAC) Policy for a given safety subject and provides direction to the membership on the required compliance with stated article(s) of the Safety Code. Ensure that you have the latest version; always check the MAAC [Web Site](#).

1.0 Title: MSD 3 - All Model Aircraft

2.0 Purpose: To explain how the operation of all MAAC “RPAS” (Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems) model aircraft in Canada, for any purpose, shall adhere to the new Transport Canada regulations and MAAC basic Safety Code requirements. For MAAC documentation purposes the terms “model aircraft” and “RPAS” are interchangeable.

3.0 Definitions Glossary of Terms.

4.0 Discussion / Background.

4.1 Effective June 01, 2019 the operation of all remotely piloted model aircraft and/or RPAS in Canada are subject to rules contained in Part IX of the Canadian Aviation Regulations (CARs) [SOR/96-433](#) as administered by Transport Canada.

4.2 Based on MAAC's exemplary safety record and safety protocols, MAAC has obtained an exemption to PART IX of the Canadian Aviation Regulations (henceforth referred to as “the exemption”).

4.3 The exemption applies to MAAC, MAAC sanctioned flying sites and events and to all MAAC members operating “remotely piloted” or free-flight model aircraft weighing between 250grams and 35 kilograms.

4.4 Control line or model aircraft operated indoors do not require or fall under the exemption requirements but must still follow all applicable MAAC Safety codes.

4.5 Additionally, because the safe operation of a model aircraft can be influenced by many factors such as local field conditions, weather, size of gathering, mix of model types etc. local club officials, event organizers or other assigned responsible persons shall provide interpretation, clarification and enhancements to the provisos of this document as necessary to ensure safe flight.

5.0 Required Action.

5.1 All members shall review and comply with the applicable terms and conditions of the MAAC [Part IX Exemption](#) to the Canadian Aviation Regulations.

- 5.2 All members shall review and comply with the MAAC Safety Code, the specific rules of any special interest category and any rules established for the specific flying site and/or event.
- 5.3 All members shall review MAAC Safety Code documents from time to time for any amendments. Notification of all changes approved by the Board of Directors will be posted on the MAAC Web site as well as recorded in Model Aviation Canada in a prominent location and will include the effective date of the changes.
- 5.4 No member shall operate a model aircraft at a location where it is prohibited by law.
- 5.5 No member shall operate a model aircraft while under the influence of alcohol / cannabis or other judgement impairing drugs.
- 5.6 No member shall operate a model aircraft at a location or in a manner that is or is likely to be hazardous to full-scale aircraft. **The member shall retain ultimate responsibility, at all times and in all circumstances, for collision avoidance from full-scale aircraft.**
- 5.7 No member shall operate a model aircraft in a careless, reckless or otherwise dangerous manner that may pose a hazard to persons or property.
- 5.8 No member shall fly a model aircraft directly over pit or spectator areas; vessels; vehicles; and structures; no-fly zones as designated on the club field layout or any other areas where there are people present.
- 5.9 No member shall fly a model aircraft at a location deemed unsafe by MAAC, or at a club site de-sanctioned by MAAC, until such site or location is deemed safe or otherwise satisfactory by MAAC. Refer to MPPD 06 R/C Flying site specifications.
- 5.10 No member shall fly a model aircraft at a MAAC sanctioned site or event, while Commercial SFOC RPAS/model aircraft operations are occurring. (refer to [MPPD 08](#))
- 5.11 No member shall create a hazard by carrying in or dropping from a model aircraft any object that may endanger persons or property.
- 5.12 No member shall allow any projectile to be carried by or launched from a model aircraft.
- 5.13 No member shall launch any projectile from the ground aimed at or in the direction of a flying model aircraft and no member shall operate a model aircraft with the intent of providing a target for projectiles launched at it.
- 5.14 No member shall operate a model aircraft weighing more than 35 kilograms (77.2 pounds) including fuel and payload unless they have obtained a Special Flight Operations Certificate (SFOC) and independent insurance coverage. Members are cautioned that any model weighing more than 35kg is outside the MAAC Exemption and thus subject to meeting all conditions of PART IX of the CARs, unless otherwise coordinated and approved by Transport Canada.

- 5.15** Failure to comply with the requirements stipulated in section 5.0 may result in a MAAC member being subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension or termination of MAAC membership, and the resultant loss of model aircraft flying privileges granted via the MAAC exemption.

6.0 History of Revisions.

Version 5, updated to reflect CARS Part IX exemption, revision of section 2.0, revision of section 4, revision to multiple subsections of section 5, reorganization renumbering of section 5, and added section 5.15

Version 5.1, revised updated section 5.6 to clarify member responsibility for aircraft avoidance - **approved**

NOTE: Hard copies of this document may become outdated through revision, cancellation or replacement with another document. To ensure that you have the latest version approved by the Board of Directors, always check the MAAC web site under Resources – Documents – MAAC Safety Code.