

Indian River Kontrol Society

General/Safety Rules for Valkaria Airport

October 16, 2024

General Rules

1. AMA National Model Aircraft Safety Code and common courtesy will be observed.
2. By order of the Airport Manager, no full size / parasol type aircraft are permitted to fly off the club runway.
3. The gate to the club area must be closed and locked at all times, except during club events.
4. Driving across the active runway or around it is strictly prohibited.
5. Alcoholic beverages and other controlled substances are strictly prohibited on the premises.
6. All IRKS members are responsible for ensuring the club rules are enforced.
7. You must announce your intentions on runway use - takeoffs, landings, aircraft hand launches, touch and go's, temporarily occupying the runway, etc.
8. All flyers and guests are responsible for cleaning up their area and removing their trash from the site upon departure. This includes debris in the event of a crash. In other words, if you brought it with you, take it with you. Don't leave it at the field.
Leave only footprints.
9. The use of mufflers is required on all glow/gas powered RC Models except for vintage aircraft as per Vintage R/C Society Rules.
10. Children must be under adult supervision at all times while in the flying and pit areas and must not be left unattended.
11. All pets must be on a leash while at the field and not in the pit area. You are responsible for picking up after your pets.
12. Flight instruction may only be given by IRKS designated Valkaria qualified flight instructors.
13. The Sprint Car club has an event one weekend a month and we are not allowed to fly on those days. A schedule will be posted to inform club members of those days.

Flying Privileges

1. By the order of the Brevard County Commissioners only IRKS members and their guests may fly at the airport.
2. In order to fly as an IRKS member you must:
 - A. Be a member of "The Academy of Model Aeronautics" (AMA).
Your AMA number and identification information such as name, address, and phone number must be displayed on your model.
 - B. Be a member of "The Indian River Kontrol Society" (IRKS).
While flying your model you must display your IRKS Membership card on your person.
 - C. Complete an orientation briefing and flight evaluation to fly at Valkaria Airport before receiving the lock combination for the gate.
Qualified Pilots shall have an endorsement on their club card once the prior is completed.
 - D. Have a "Small UAS Certificate of Registration" from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).
Your registration number must be displayed on the exterior of your model.
 - E. Have a "Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST) Completion Certificate". (from the AMA)
Your TRUST certificate must be available for inspection.
3. In order to fly as a guest, the following shall be observed:
 - A. The guest must be sponsored by a current IRKS member.
 - B. The sponsor must be present.
 - C. The guest pilot must be an AMA member and have their FAA and TRUST certificates.
 - D. Guest privileges will be limited to a maximum of three visits, after which the guest may join the club.
 - E. Guests cannot change sponsors to gain additional flight time.
 - F. Guests must have an orientation briefing and flight evaluation prior to flying at Valkaria Airport for the first time.
4. Flight operations in accordance with our NOTAM is sunrise to sunset.

Pit Rules

1. All aircraft being started or with engines running shall remain in hand, on a safety stand, or tethered until the pilot is ready to proceed to the runway. Aircraft that are too large for the safety stands must be tethered or held back by a helper or a suitable restraining device.
2. Aircraft with engines running or with electric power batteries connected shall not be left unattended.
3. All taxiing must start and stop by the startup stations.
4. After landing, you should not taxi behind or beside the pilot stations.
5. Engine break-in and full power engine run-ups should not occur directly behind or near pilots who are flying.
6. Full power engine run-ups for the purpose of throttle adjustments and engine clearing are to be made with the aircraft pointed away from the pit area, other aircraft and any field support equipment.

Frequency Control

1. If you fly on any of the old frequency bands 27MHz, 50MHz, 53MHz, or 72MHz you will be responsible for your own frequency control. Check with other pilots on the field before you fly to make sure there are no conflicts.

No Fly Zone

1. There are two 'No Fly Zones'.
 - A. All the area behind the pilot stations.
 - B. All the area west-north of the fence separating the IRKS runway from the active airport runway.
2. There will be no flying in the 'no fly zone' areas for any reason.
3. Violations of either 'no fly zone' will result in the immediate suspension of the violating member's flying privileges per the Club By-Laws, as well as possible sanctions under Federal Laws.
4. Because of the sensitive nature of flying on an Active Airport, 'no fly zone' violations are extremely serious and could result in the IRKS club losing its flying privileges.

Flight Operations

1. All flight operations will be conducted over or north of IRKS runway area at an altitude of less than 400'.
2. No more than two aircraft, preferably one, will be allowed in the air at any time.
3. Spotters are highly recommended for all flight operations. The exclusive duty of the spotter is to scan for full-size aircraft in all directions and to advise the model pilot of the location of the full-size aircraft. Full-size aircraft always have the right of way.
4. Pilots must stand in the designated pilot station areas adjacent to the runway for all flight operations. This is for pilot safety from errant models.
5. Flying over the runway is permitted only for the purpose of takeoffs, touch-and-go practice and landings. All other flying shall be conducted north of the main runway.
6. Turbine-powered models, as well as other high-speed models, are prohibited.
7. Grass runway operations.
 - A. The grass runway is defined as the area between the assembly tables and startup stations.
Note – This area is located in the 'no fly zone' but may be used as mentioned below.
 - B. The grass runway may be used only by pilots needing a grass surface - such as hand launched models, WWI models with limited ground maneuverability, etc.
 - C. Only one pilot may fly at a time when the grass runway is being used.
 - D. The pilot must coordinate with other pilots and spectators before using the grass runway.
 - F. A spotter will be used to prevent anyone from wandering into this area.

Helicopter Flight Operations

1. Normal helicopter flight will be conducted from the same designated active runway as fixed wing models and follow the same procedures as appropriate.

Aircraft Retrieval

We have the privilege of operating on an active civilian airport. If one of our model aircraft inadvertently lands on any part of the Active Airport or it's Runways, the model can only be retrieved with the permission of, and at the direction of, the airport manager. Doing otherwise is a serious violation of Federal Law and could result in serious consequences. In other words – don't climb over the fence to retrieve your model – until the airport manager says to do so. But - If the model is on an active runway and could result in a danger to Full Size Aircraft, the model pilot should exercise good judgement in safely removing the model from the Active Runway.

To Retrieve an aircraft, contact one of the following:

1. Contact the Airport Manager (Adam Hied) 321-952-4590
2. If he is not available, contact the IRKS Safety Officer (Ernest LeClair) 321-626-3734

Violations

Violations of the 'no fly zone' are serious and will result in the immediate suspension of the violating member's flying privileges for a minimum of one month. Repeated violations of club rules could result in expulsion, in accordance with the bylaws.

Student Pilot Requirements

Training of student pilots will be in accordance with AMA guidelines.