

# Senior Pattern Association

## By-Laws

Adopted January 1, 2001

Revised Jan. 17, 2004 – BOD

Revised November 2009

Revised June 2010 (Article II, Section 2 and Article VII Section 1)

### Preamble

The competition flying of radio control vintage pattern aircraft is intended to be casual, enjoyable, and to renew old friendships. There is no intent to advance the state of the art of the period. The intent is to increase participation in the sport generally, and to establish an equitable and simple framework of rules and regulations for competition purposes.

### Article I

#### General

- Section 1      The name of the organization shall be the Senior Pattern Association. Hereafter referenced as SPA.
- Section 2      The SPA shall be a member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics and shall maintain a charter issued by them.
- Section 3      The principal office of the Association is 1471 Wood Park Way, Kennesaw, GA, 30152 or such other place as designated by the Board of Directors.
- Section 4      This is a Not for Profit Association.
- Section 5      The objective of the Association shall be to promote vintage pattern competition .

### Article II

#### Officers

- Section 1      The officers of the club shall consist of:  
President  
Vice President  
Secretary/Treasurer
- Section 2      Officers shall be elected for two year terms, and the terms shall coincide with the pattern sequence rotation. All appointed positions shall be made for two year terms. Should a vacancy occur in the elected offices the president shall make an appointment to fill the unexpired term of the vacancy. Should a vacancy occur in the president position the vice president shall ascend to the presidency and appoint a vice president to fill the remaining term of the vice president.

Section 3 The above listed officers, Past Presidents, Newsletter Editor, Chairman Special Projects and two appointed members shall serve as SPA's Board of Directors.

### Article III Committees

Section 1 The standing committees are:  
Executive Committee (Board of Directors)  
Special Projects

Section 2 The Executive Committee shall undertake all suggested changes in By Laws at a called meeting of said body annually.

Section 3 Special Projects Chairperson shall solicit needed assistance from general membership.

### Article IV Membership

Section 1 The membership shall be open to any interested person subject only to minimal requirements hereafter set out.

Section 2 The applicant must have a current license from the Academy of Model Aeronautics and be in compliance with Federal Communications requirements, as necessary.

Section 3 The applicant must agree to comply with all the SPA's by-laws, rules and regulations, a copy of which will be furnished upon request.

Section 4 The applicant must agree to pay dues.

Section 5 Removal of members may occur through the following process:

1. Any member may report an infraction of SPA rules, or an act contrary to the best interests of the SPA to the President who shall meet with the Board of Directors.
2. After a hearing by the Board of the alleged incident, they may either (a) dismiss the charge or (b) write a letter outlining the breach of rules or action contrary to the SPA's interests to the accused member and the membership. This letter will be labeled "Reprimand #1".
3. The member may, at this point, present his evidence, if he so desires, to the SPA at large, by inclusion in the next newsletter. The SPA may by a majority vote of those members responding, elect to allow the reprimand to stand or remove it.
4. A second infraction for this same or any other violation of the rules or action contrary to the SPA's interests will result in the Board's recommendation that the member be removed from the SPA's rolls..

## **Article V**

### **Categories of Membership**

- Section 1 The membership shall consist of Active, Emeritus, Complimentary and inactive members
- Section 2 Active members consist of those who have applied and have complied with all the SPA requirements.
- Section 3 Complimentary members shall consist of those persons who by actions, donations and other benefits to the SPA, have been so designated by SPA action. These members shall keep their individual AMA license current. Complimentary membership is for one year, but may be reinstated annually.
- Section 4 Emeritus members shall be designated by the SPA as those who, over the years, have made exceptional contributions to the SPA and have earned permanent status. The members shall keep their AMA license current. The SPA shall provide free membership to the SPA.
- Section 5 An inactive member is one who has resigned only temporarily by notification to the recording secretary. His dues must be current at the time of resignation. He may be reinstated upon request.
- Section 6 Only active members shall hold office. All categories may vote except inactive.
- Section 7 Each member shall be fully informed of SPA rules and regulations. Application for membership shall be evidence of same.
- Section 8 The names of all Ex-presidents shall constitute an honorary roll of membership which shall retain a permanent place in the SPA's historical record.

## **Article VI**

### **Dues**

- Section 1 The dues and field fee of SPA shall be set for the following year in November. Dues shall be reviewed and voted upon annually by the Board of Directors.
- Section 2 Dues are due and payable January 1 of each year, and are delinquent after the first regular SPA meeting in April of each year. Any member who has not paid said dues and fees shall be dropped from SPA membership.
- Section 3 To be reinstated, a member must pay \$5.00 reinstatement fee plus the prorated dues.

Section 4 The fiscal year of SPA shall be from January 1 through December 31.

## **Article VII**

### Elections

Section 1 The election of officers shall be held every two years in compliance with Article II, Section 2 of this document.

Section 2 Any member in good standing may run for office providing the candidate contact the President or another board member with their intentions before October 1<sup>st</sup>

Section 3 December shall be the election month.

Section 4 On election day, the President shall appoint an election official who shall tabulate the vote and report said vote to the President.

Section 5 A vacancy in any office shall be filled in compliance with Article II, Section 2 of this document.

Section 6 A member shall have a ballot mailed from the Corresponding Secretary no later than two weeks prior to the election. He may either vote for the candidates listed or write in candidates of his choice. It is this member's responsibility to see that his ballot is in the hands of the President or his designee by the day of election.

Section 7 Installation of new officers shall occur in January.

## **Article VIII**

### Duties

Section 1 The President shall preside at all meetings. He shall be chairman of the Executive Committee and is responsible for the composition of all other committees, both standing and ad hoc. He is also a member ex-officio of all committees.

Section 2 The Vice-president shall serve in the President's capacity at all times when the President is absent. The Vice-president shall automatically assume the Presidency if the chair becomes vacant.

Section 3 1. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep accurate minutes of all meetings and shall keep a record of those attending meetings. He shall do the same at all meetings of the Executive Committee. He shall keep an accurate record of active members and resignations with appropriate dates.

2. The Secretary/Treasurer shall have charge of all monies, pay bills which are approved by the President or by vote of the SPA, and make a monthly report to the SPA. There shall be a 2/3 majority of Board of

Directors polled to appropriate monies exceeding \$100.00, except for a fixed expenditure.

## **Article IX**

### Amendments

Section 2 Rules for Competition may be changed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors

## **Article X**

### Parliamentary Law

Section 1 "Roberts' Rules of Order" (Revised) shall govern all questions of order not in the by-laws.

## **Chapters**

Formation of other chapters of the Association shall be encouraged. New chapters will be furnished a copy of the By-laws and current rules. They will be encouraged to sponsor contests.

## **Rules for Competition**

Rules for Competition shall be furnished to each member.

## **Safety Regulations**

- I. General
  - A. The SPA will fly under currently existing AMA safety rules
  - B. No alcoholic beverages will be allowed at a flying site.
  - C. A frequency control system will be set up by the safety committee or contest director and it will be mandatory that the system be in operation at all times. No pilot may operate his transmitter without possession of the frequency pin designating his frequency. A frequency flag should be attached to each transmitter antenna.
  - D. A list of safety rules shall be posted at the field which delineates the areas out of bounds for flying, the patterns relative to wind direction, and general rules to be imposed by the safety committee with the executive committee's consent.
  - E. When nonmembers are to fly, adequate inspection of AMA and FCC credentials are mandatory. This will be done, preferably by a member who knows the person, but may be done by any member present.
  
- II. Contest Flying

Variance or additions to the rules can be made at the discretion of the contest director in the course of conducting a contest. Enforcement of the safety rules during contests is the responsibility of the contest director or his designated safety representative.

### III. Courtesy Reminders

Spectators stop at the field both out of curiosity and possible serious interest. In any event, they should be personally greeted, treated in a friendly manner, and generally encouraged to pursue their interests.