

**SACRAMENTO VALLEY SOARING SOCIETY**  
**AMA Charter #2752**

***Constitution and By-Laws***  
***As Amended May 9, 2009***

**ARTICLE I**

The name of this organization shall be the Sacramento Valley Soaring Society (**SVSS**).

**ARTICLE II**

The purpose of the SVSS is to promote, develop and encourage the efficient and safe use of radio controlled models with an emphasis on sailplanes, locally, nationally and internationally; to cooperate with all branches of the model radio controlled (RC) aircraft movements, and to collect and disseminate information relative to RC model aircraft in general and RC sailplanes in particular.

**ARTICLE III**

The SVSS does not contemplate the distribution of gains, profits, or dividends to the members thereof.

**ARTICLE IV**

Membership shall be open to any person interested in RC aircraft. Each "regular" (dues paying member in good standing) shall be entitled to one (1) vote. Social Members are those individuals who want to be associated with the club but without rights to vote or compete in contests or use club facilities and equipment.

**ARTICLE V**

The business address of the SVSS shall be the mailing address of the club President, or Secretary.

**ARTICLE VI**

Dues shall be as specified in the by-laws. A current Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) membership is mandatory for members of the SVSS and to compete in a club sponsored event. Social members are not required to have a current AMA registration.

**ARTICLE VII**

The officers of the club shall be a Board of Directors consisting of a President, three Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Safety Officer and Editor.

The duties of these officers shall be as follows:

President: The President shall be the executive officer of the club and shall preside at all meetings, appoint committees, and call special meetings as may be deemed necessary, and shall be ex-officio member of all committees. He/She shall be the spokesperson for the club. He/She will cast the deciding vote in any case where a tie vote is encountered.

Vice Presidents: There shall be three Vice Presidents who shall share the duties of sitting in place of the President in the case of the President's absence or inability to preside. The Vice Presidents shall also share the duties of competition director, field maintenance, and equipment maintenance, program director for club meetings and any other duties as found necessary by the President or Executive Board.

Secretary: The Secretary shall keep permanent record of the Minutes of the meetings, maintain membership roles, and be responsible for all correspondence and club notices, and the constitution and by-laws.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall issue membership cards, and furnish the editor with membership lists for publication. The treasurer shall collect initiation fees and dues, keep an accurate account of funds, make payment of all club bills authorized by the club membership.

Safety Officer: The Safety Officer shall promote safety awareness on the part of members, act as a liaison between SVSS and AMA Headquarters to ensure timely distribution of safety related material, and at least annually conduct a safety audit of SVSS facilities, equipment, and grounds to ensure they are in good working order.

Editor: The Editor shall be responsible for the publication and distribution of the club newsletter, The Eagle's Nest, and shall publish annual membership lists.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

The Executive Board (Board) shall consist of the Board of Directors, the chairman of all committees and the immediate past president. The President shall act as chairman. Duties of the Board shall be to confer on club matters or such matters as may be referred to the Board by the President, or by a majority vote of the membership, and to reduce the matters so presented to a form that may be readily voted upon by the membership. The Board shall be authorized to act upon matters deemed as emergency by a two-thirds majority of the Board. Emergency action taken by the Board shall be presented at the next regular meeting. The executive board is authorized to approve payment of club bills not to exceed seven hundred dollars (\$700).

## **ARTICLE IX**

The constitution of the SVSS may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the regular members at a club meeting. Notice of the meeting and the intention to vote on amendment(s) must be given to all regular members in advance. A quorum of members must be present at such meetings.

## **ARTICLE X**

The membership shall be required to pay an assessment proposed by the executive board and approved by two-thirds of the members present at any regular meeting, written notice of which has been sent to all members. A quorum must be present at such meetings.

## **ARTICLE XI**

The fiscal year for SVSS will run from March through the following February.

# **SACRAMENTO VALLEY SOARING SOCIETY**

## ***By-Laws***

### **1. Reinstatement**

Any person who has been suspended for non-payment of dues or an assessment may be reinstated upon the payment of all back dues, or by rejoining the club, at the option of the suspended member. Any individual who has been suspended for any other reason must first submit their request for reinstatement to the Board. The Board will consider the request and as appropriate bring the request to the club at the next meeting for consideration.

### **2. Quorum**

To transact any business at a meeting, a quorum consisting of twenty percent (20%) of the members in good standing must be present, including two (2) officers of the club.

### **3. Meetings**

There will be at least five regular scheduled club meetings held every year. Each meeting time and location shall be determined by the club at the prior meeting. The Secretary shall notify the members of the upcoming meeting and proposed agenda five (5) days in advance of the meeting. In lieu of notification by the Secretary, such notice may be published in the newsletter. Special meetings may be called by the President. The business of any special meeting shall be confined to the purpose for which it was called. The membership shall be notified of any special meeting and the agenda at least five (5) days in advance of the meeting.

### **4. Nominations and Elections**

The President shall appoint, with the approval of the membership, an election committee to present a slate of nominees at a club meeting no later than November. The election committee will prepare secret ballots for the members, count ballots, and present results at the December meeting. Installation of elected officers will be at the December awards banquet. Election of officers shall be by plurality of votes. Term of office shall be one (1) year. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term of any officer by appointment of the President, except should the office of the President be vacated, one of the Vice-Presidents shall succeed for the unexpired term of the President.

### **5. The order of business shall be as follows:**

- Introduction of new members, visitors and guests
- Approval of minutes of the previous meeting
- Approval of the Treasurer's report of the previous month
- Presentation of bills
- Old Business
- New Business
- Communications (presentations, education, show and tell, etc.)

### **6. Robert's Rules of Order** shall prevail.

## **7. Club Logo**

The Club logo shall be



## **8. Dissolution**

This organization shall not be dissolved as long as seven (7) members remain in good standing.

## **9. Honorary Members**

Honorary Members may be elected by a majority vote at any regular meeting. Such members shall have limited privileges of membership in that they will have no vote and shall be exempt from the payment of dues and assessments. They shall be included in the club mailing list. Non-dues paying Past Presidents will be classified as Honorary Members.

## **10. Compensation to Officers and Members**

This club shall not pay salaries or give compensation to any officers or member, except dues may be waived for members who performed an outstanding service for the club, as voted by the members. No officer or member of this organization may incur any debt of liability by contract, agreement, or otherwise on the part of the organization without first having gained approval by the vote of the membership at a regular or special meeting, except operating expenses approved by the executive board. These expenditures shall be itemized and submitted to the Treasurer each month for payment of reimbursement.

## **11. Insurance**

Insurance as provided by AMA membership.

## **12. Flying Rules**

All members and guests flying model RC aircraft must operate their aircraft in accordance with the current safety and field rules of the club field, and those of the AMA.

## **13. Initiation and Annual Dues**

### **A. Initiation**

1. All new members shall pay a five (\$5.00) dollar initiation fee.

### **B. Dues**

1. Members and Social Members shall pay forty-five (\$45.00) dollars per year, payable at the January meeting, or a pro-rata at the rate of five (\$5.00) dollars per month after April 30<sup>th</sup>.
2. It is the responsibility of each member to renew his own AMA dues annually. Members, except Social Members, who do not renew, will be suspended from club membership March 1<sup>st</sup>.
3. Members under 18 years of age shall pay six (\$6.00) dollars.
4. Family membership (living at the same address) shall be sixty (\$60.00) dollars.
5. Membership fees are due on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Sacramento Valley

Soaring Society dues will be considered past due after the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March each year.

**C. General**

**1. Suspension:** Any member who allows two (2) months to lapse without payment of dues shall be suspended. Any member who fails to abide by the club safety rules and/or who fails to heed warnings from the Club Safety Officer may be subject to suspension. The Board will handle all facets of any decision to suspend a member.

**2. Delinquent Notices:** All members who are delinquent or who have been suspended will be notified by the Secretary once by mail.

**14. By-Laws Amendments**

By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of the regular members present at a special meeting called for this purpose.