

UNLIMITED SCALE RACING ASSOCIATION (U.S.R.A.)

Constitution and By-Laws

ARTICLE I This organization shall be known as the "UNLIMITED SCALE RACING ASSOCIATION", also known as "USRA".

NAME

ARTICLE II PURPOSE The Unlimited Scale Racing Association is founded to promote and advance giant scale air racing and radio-controlled technology for the sport, recreation, and fellowship of those individuals interested in the design, construction, and flight of giant scale racing aircraft. The Association will function as a rules and sanctioning body for racing events held for radio-controlled giant scale aircraft. To that end, the Association will be responsible for the creation and maintenance of Aircraft Rules and Specifications as well as Racing Procedures for these aircraft. These rules, specifications, and procedures will be written as guidelines to help insure the standardization and safety of the sanctioned events and its competitors. It is also expected that the Association will assist in the enforcement of these rules, specifications, and procedures at all USRA sanctioned events.

In addition, the USRA shall represent the special interests of its membership to a recognized national sporting aviation authority in areas of competition, safety and technology development, and to media organizations in areas of the sport's promotion and advancement.

The scope of the association is international with members in foreign countries. Those members shall also be members of their national sporting aviation authority or organization as recognized by the *Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI)*. These national authorities include: the *Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA)* in the United States, and the *Model Aviation Association of Canada (MAAC)* in Canada.

No part of the net earnings of the **Unlimited Scale Racing Association** shall inure to the benefit of, or be disburseable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the USRA shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth above. The USRA will not carry on other activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501 8 (3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax Code. Upon dissolution of the corporation assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501 8 (3) or the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future Federal Revenue Code or corresponding section 501 8 (3) or the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section 501 8 (3) or the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax Code, or shall be distributed to the Federal Government, or to the State or Local Government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the County in which the principal office of the Association is then located, shall be distributed to any charitable organization which is organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

ARTICLE III Membership in the USRA shall be open to any and all persons who agree with the Purpose of the Association set forth above, and who also agree to abide by the Constitution, By-Laws, and other officially promulgated rules, regulations, directives, and guidelines while engaged in USRA-related activities during the term of their membership.

> Membership in the Association shall not be denied to any person because of race, creed, color, or handicap. However, the Board of Directors, by a majority vote of the entire Board, may decline a request for Membership should the Board consider that the applicant would be a liability to the Association. In the event an applicant whose request for Membership has been declined shall petition the Board of Directors for reconsideration of its decision, the Board of Directors shall give written notice to the applicant, and conduct a review of his/her request for Membership, during this review, the applicant and his/her representative may present a written statement in his/her behalf . The application for Membership shall thereafter be declined only by a **three-guarter** majority vote of the entire Board of Directors. Once membership status has been established, such Membership shall be terminated for non-payment of dues, and also may be revoked for good cause by a three-quarter majority vote of the entire Board of Directors, upon written notice to the Member. A request for reconsideration, as stated above, may be made by the member.

Membership shall lapse if dues are not received within 30 days of the **Annual Due Date of January 1**. Dues for new applicants, when paid October 1 or later, will grant membership for the remainder of the year of application and membership for the following calendar year.

Membership renewals that are not paid on or before **January 31** will be issued a surcharge of an amount determined by the Board.

ARTICLE IV The Association shall be represented by the following:

REPRESENTATION & VOTING 1. **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** The Board of Directors shall be composed of: **The President**, the **Vice President**; three regional **District Representatives**; and, one **Promoter Representative** from a USRA sanctioned racing event in each geographic region, not to exceed three voting members. The Board of Directors shall be the primary decision-making body of the Association but shall have the authority to delegate and supervise decision-making powers as it deems necessary or desirable.

Each **District Representative** shall be nominated from and elected by those USRA members residing in each such District. Each Representative shall serve a **two-year term**, and may be nominated for subsequent two-year terms. It will be the duty of these District Representatives to represent the members in their District in all matters that come before the Board Other duties may be assigned to them by the President and Vice President on an as-needed basis. Members residing in foreign countries or territories will be represented by one of the District Representatives, as determined by the Board of Directors, and the members so informed.

Race promoters who hold a USRA sanctioned race are eligible for Board membership, and shall remain eligible from the date of their race for the balance of that calendar year and one (1) calendar year following. One **Promoter Representative** from each of the three geographic regions will be elected by the members from each such region. Each Promoter Representative will serve a **two-year term**, unless their eligibility expires, in which case that position will remain vacant untill the next election. If no promoters are eligible for election in a particular region, that position will remain vacant untill the next election will represent the race promoters in all matters requiring a vote of the Board of Directors. Promoters not included as Promoter Representatives may continue to serve the Board in a non-voting role.

ARTICLE IV REPRESENTATION & VOTING Continued	2. VACANCIES: In the event of a vacancy occurring in the office of a District Representative, the Board of Directors shall appoint a Member residing in the District or Country to complete the then current two-year term. Appointed Representatives shall be entitled to vote on any matters brought before the Board of Directors for consideration and action.
	In the event of a vacancy occuring in the office of Promoter Representative, the office shall remain vacant for the remainder of that two-year term, and will be filled during the next election period.
	3. VOTING: Each of the duly elected, appointed, or authorized representatives, as specified in Section 1 of this Article, shall be entitled to one vote on any matter brought before the Board of Directors for consideration and action unless otherwise specified in this constitution or in the By-Laws. Each Assistant Representative, or appointed person to any position in the Association, or any other Officer of the Association shall not be permitted to vote on any matter presented to the Board of Directors for its consideration and action, except as otherwise provided in this constitution, or in the By-

4. **ASSISTANTS:** USRA Representatives may appoint such Assistants as he/she considers desirable for the proper administration of his/her District. The Assistants must be current USRA members.

ARTICLE VThe Elected Officers of the Association shall consist of a PRESIDENT, VICE-
PRESIDENT, and one District Representative for each of the three
geographic regions designated by the Board. The procedures for the election
or appointment of Officers shall be determined by the Board of Directors;
however, the President and Vice-President shall be elected by the majority
vote of the Members of the Association. The respective duties of the officers
will be those in accordance with the USRA Bylaws.

Continued on next page

Laws..

ARTICLE VI

RECALL OF BOARD MEMBER A duly elected or appointed Board Member may be recalled for good cause only by a three-quarter majority vote of the Association's Members, or after a three-quarter majority vote of the Board of Directors. In the latter case, the Board member subject to the recall will not be eligible to participate in this no-confidence vote, and written notice shall be served upon them of this pending recall action. This pending recall will result in the immediate suspension of Board voting privileges for the Board Member subject to the recall, and they will be permitted to formally resign their position or show grounds for an appeal. Thirty (30) days shall be allowed from notification of pending recall to present a statement in writing to the Board of Directors. Failure to respond within this period will constitute non-interest by the Board Member in retaining his/her position. Forty-five days (45) after notification a vote shall be taken and a three-quarter majority of all remaining Board members with a vote, shall ratify or rescind this action. The Board Member will then be informed, in writing, on their continued status.

ARTICLE VII

IMPEACHMENT OF OFFICERS

Any Officer of the Association may be impeached and removed from his/her office or position for good cause by either a **three-quarter majority vote** of those voting Members of the District he/she represents, or a **three-quarter majority vote** of the voting members of the Board of Directors. The officer subject to this action will not be eligible to vote on this matter. This action shall occur only after written notice has been given to such Officer or person and a hearing conducted, at which hearing such Officer or person and his/her representative may present oral and written evidence and make a statement. After notification of an impending impeachment vote, the subject officer's voting privileges will be suspended untill the matter has been decided.

Any Assistant or other person appointed by any USRA Representative, or Officer serves at the pleasure of the person appointing him/her, and may be relieved of his/her duties by the person so appointing.

ARTICLE VIII MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS MEETINGS MEETINGS MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS ME

ARTICLE IX

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Any constitutional amendment proposed by any Officer or Representative of the Association shall be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors for its consideration, and shall become part of the constitution upon a **threequarter majority vote** of the entire Board of Directors approving such amendment. Any constitutional amendment proposed by a petition of not less than ten (10) percent of the Membership shall be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors who shall cause the proposed amendment to be published to the Membership for comment. After a suitable period to allow Membership comment (no less than thirty (30) days), the Board shall consider such proposed amendments, and such amendment shall become part of the constitution upon a **three-quarter majority vote** of the entire Board of Directors approving such amendment.

BY- LAWS

- ARTICLE IThe UNLIMITED SCALE RACING ASSOCIATION, also know as "USRA",
was formed to promote the sport of Giant Scale Air Racing.. The official
Association publication is R/C Excellence. Additional information will be
published in the official USRA newsletter or web page.
- **ARTICLE II** The offices of the Association shall be located in the State, Territory, or Province of the current President's residency.

LOCATION

ARTICLE III

PURPOSE and PHILOSOPHY **SECTION 1:** The **Unlimited Scale Racing Association** is founded to promote and advance giant scale air racing and radio-controlled technology for the sport, recreation, and fellowship of those individuals interested in the design, construction, and flight of giant scale racing aircraft. The Association will function as a rules and sanctioning body for racing events held for radio-controlled giant scale aircraft. To that end, the Association will be responsible for the creation and maintenance of **Aircraft Rules and Specifications** as well as **Racing Procedures** for these aircraft. These rules. specifications, and procedures will be written as guidelines to help insure the standardization and safety of the sanctioned events and its competitors. It is also expected that the Association will assist in the enforcement of these rules, specifications, and procedures at all USRA sanctioned events.

In addition, the USRA shall represent the special interests of its membership to a recognized national sporting aviation authority in areas of competition, safety and technology development, and to media organizations in areas of the sport's promotion and advancement.

The scope of the association is international with members in foreign countries. Those members shall also be members of their national sporting aviation authority or organization as recognized by the *Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI)*. These national authorities include: the *Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA)* in the United States, and the *Model Aviation Association of Canada (MAAC)* in Canada.

SECTION 2: The **USRA** considers that its most important functions, and that of its members, are to support and assist each member in any way possible to enhance their enjoyment and competitive sportsmanship of the sport and hobby and to educate non-members about the sport and scope of giant scale air racing.

The USRA considers that <u>safety</u> in all aspects relating to design, construction, and operation of giant scale racing aircraft is an absolute necessity and that its members shall comply with any and all Association-announced safety guidelines, rules, regulations, specifications, and directives at all times. Therefore, criteria and guidelines will be developed and/or enhanced, in concert with national guidelines; and, technology development in this area will be encouraged and supported.

SECTION 3: The USRA may provide written approval (sanctioning) or sponsorship for any giant scale racing event which meets unified criteria as established by the Board of Directors. Written application is required, including desciption (with photos) of facilities, safety provisions and equipment, planned events, meet directors and support personnel. Nonconflict with other prior approved and scheduled USRA sanctioned events will also be considered. Publication of USRA-approved or sponsored events is allowed following written approval from USRA.

ARTICLE IV	SECTION 1: The purpose and goal of the USRA is to encourage and foster the building, flying, and competition of giant scale racing aircraft. The classes of propeller driven aircraft eligible for the USRA World Championship Series will be established in the Aircraft Specifications published by the Association.
	Other classes may be offered by individual promoters, but will not be included in the USRA World Championship Series. The USRA may support the promotion of these classes through publication of their respective standardized rules and specifications for competition. All USRA safety regulations will apply to participants and equipment in these categories, and USRA race procedures should be followed.
	SECTION 2: The members of the Association shall comply with all guidelines, specifications, standards, rules, regulations and directives promulgated by the Association relating to giant scale racing aircraft classes, safety, construction, sizes, weight, wing area and wing loading, engine weight and displacement, control systems, and scale requirements. Additionally, USRA will coordinate related requirements in concert with the national sporting model aviation guidelines where applicable.
ARTICLE V MEMBERSHIP	Any person desiring to become a Member of the Association shall submit a written application and proof of AMA or foreign equivalent membership, to the Secretary together with a minimum of the yearly dues then in effect. The term of Membership shall commence upon acceptance of such application and dues, and shall terminate upon expiration of the applicable dues period, unless renewed. Should the Board of Directors reject an application for membership for good cause, any tendered dues shall be refunded. The membership year is January through December of a single calendar year.

 ARTICLE VI
 SECTION 1 – PRINCIPAL OFFICERS: The principal officers of the Association shall be the President, Vice-President, and one District

 OFFICERS
 Representative from each of the three geographic regions designated by the Board. Each Officer shall serve a two year term and may serve additional terms thereafter. The President and Vice-President shall be elected by a majority of those Association Members at-large voting. The District Representatives will be elected by a majority of members in the region which they represent.

PRESIDENT: The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association. He/She shall be responsible to the Board of Directors for the enforcement of all of the provisions of the Constitution, By-Laws, and other officially promulgated rules and regulations, directives and guidelines of the Association, and for fostering the vision, purposes and objectives of the Association.

He/She shall implement and execute all legally enacted directives and proposals of the Board of Directors, and shall perform such other duties relating to the operation of the Association as directed by the Board of Directors.

The President may preside over formal meetings of the Board of Directors, and be responsible for presenting agenda items to the Board at both its formal meeting and by way of written proposals when the Board is not meeting formally. The Board, at its discretion, may otherwise vote to designate another Board Member as Chairperson.

VICE-PRESIDENT: In the event of the absence, disability, or inability of the President to perform the duties of his/her office for any reason, the Vice-President shall be responsible for executing all of the duties and assuming all of the responsibilities of the office of the President. The Vice-President shall also perform such other duties relating to the operation of the Association as may be assigned by the President or directed by the Board of Directors.

It is recommended that the Vice-President be responsible for the overall management of the technical responsibilities of the Association. This could include generating updates to the Aircraft Rules and Specifications, as well as coordinating and staffing the technical inspection of aircraft at sanctioned racing events.

SECTION 2 – VACANCIES: In the event of a vacancy occurring in the office of President, the Vice-President shall assume the position of the President. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the office of Vice-President, the Board of Directors shall appoint a Vice-President to fill the then current two year term.

ARTICLE VI SECTION 3 – SUBORDINATE OFFICERS: The Board of Directors may appoint and specify the duties and responsibilities and the terms of office of such Subordinate Officers and Assistants as it deems necessary or desirable for the conduct of the Association business. Subordinate Officers and Assistants should include:

> **SECRETARY:** The Secretary shall be responsible to the President and to the Board of Directors for maintaining the records of the Association, other than financial, including the minutes of any formal meetings of the Board, and a database roster of the Membership, and such other duties that may be assigned by the President or directed by the Board of Directors. He/She shall also be responsible for the incorporation of any duly enacted amendments to the Constitution and changes in the By-Laws in those documents and for promulgating announcements of such amendments and changes and other significant changes in the purposes, objectives and functioning of the Association to the Membership. The distribution of all official USRA documents to the Board of Directors and the Association Members, will also be the responsibility of the Secretary.

It is also recommended that the Secretary assist with the writing and publication of the Association newsletter, articles in the official publication, and content for the Association web site.

TREASURER: The Treasurer shall be responsible to the President and to the Board of Directors for conducting the financial affairs of the Association as directed by the Board and for maintaining the financial records of the Association. He/She shall collect all monies and disburse Association funds as directed by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall also perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President or directed by the Board of Directors.

Other Subordinate Officers and Assistants may include, but not be limited to:

USRA Newsletter Editor

USRA Safety and Technical Committee Chairman

USRA Safety Officer

Continued

USRA Event Coordinator

Each subordinate officer appointed by the Board of Directors shall report to the Board and shall coordinate the execution of his/her duties and responsibilities by and through the President, and with such other elected or appointed persons as the Board, or Representatives, or President may direct. Each Assistant Subordinate Officer appointed by the Board shall be responsible to his/her Subordinate Officer for the execution of his/her duties and responsibilities.

Each elected or appointed Officer or Subordinate Officer may appoint such assistants as he/she deems necessary or desirable for the proper execution of his/her duties and responsibilities and any such appointment is subject only to a majority veto of the appointee by the Board of Directors. Such assistants shall be responsible to the Officer or Subordinate Officer appointing him/her for the execution of duties and responsibilities.

SECTION 4 – BONDING OF OFFICERS: The **Treasurer**, and such other Officers as may be designated by the Board of Directors, shall be bonded, and any such bond shall be an Association expense.

ARTICLE VII SECTION 1 - GENERAL: The powers of the Association and the conduct of its business, shall be exercised by the Board of Directors; however, such powers and the business to which they relate may be delegated, subject to the control of the Board of Directors. The property of the Association shall be controlled by the Board of Directors; however, the custody of such property may reside with such Officers, Subordinate Officers or Assistants, as the Board of Directors may direct, subject to its control.

SECTION 2 - MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD: The Board of Directors shall consist of those number of Representatives and others established by the Constitution.

SECTION 3 - CONSULTANTS TO THE BOARD: At the option of the Board of Directors, an outgoing President may serve a two year term as a Consultant to the Board in a **non-voting capacity**.

SECTION 4 - MEETINGS OF THE BOARD: The time and place of formal meetings of the Board of Directors shall be determined by the Board. The Board of Directors shall advise the President of such time and place, and the President shall cause written notice of such time and place to be given to each Representative not later than **thirty (30) days** before the meeting. If any Representative is present at a meeting and does not object in writing to a failure to have received adequate notice of it, such failure to receive adequate notice shall not invalidate the meeting or any action taken during the meeting by the Board of Directors. The Board shall cause to be kept a complete record of its proceedings and actions at its formal meetings.

ARTICLE VII

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Continued **SECTION 5 – VOTING**: If adequate notice has been given, the presence at all formal meetings of the Board of Directors of **fifty percent (50%) plus one of the Representatives** appearing in person and/or represented by written proxy shall constitute a quorum. Except as otherwise provided in the Constitution and these By-Laws, or by Law, the affirmative vote of a simple majority of a quorum of the Board of Directors shall be required to carry any matter properly the subject of Board of Directors action.

Should any matter properly the subject of the Board of Directors require consideration and action to be taken by mail, except as otherwise provided in the Constitution and these By-Laws, or by Law, the affirmative vote of a simple majority of the entire Board of Directors shall be required to carry any such matter.

SECTION 6 – BUSINESS OF THE BOARD: Since the members of the Board of Directors reside throughout the United States, it is expected that most of the Board's business will be conducted by electronic or postal mail, primarily, but not necessarily, initiated by the President. Board voting periods will typically be held on a quarterly basis, unless circumstances neccesitate an earlier vote be held.

Proposals to be considered by the Board should be initially presented to the President, or Board Member acting as Chairperson. The proposal will then be studied for compatibility with the Constitution and Bylaws. Possible impacts, benefits, and consequences to the Association will be listed, and the proposal will be held until the next quarterly Board voting period.

Any proposal for Board consideration, whether initiated by a Representative, or by the President or other Officer, must allow adequate time for each Representative to receive, analyze, and vote on it. If postal mail is used, this time will not be less than **fourteen (14) days**.

Any Representative considering that adequate time for analysis and consideration of any proposal has not been afforded, shall notify the President by the most expeditious means possible on or before the due date for the receipt of Board of Directors voting on the proposal. If the President receives such notification on or before the due date, the due date shall be extended for a period not to exceed **thirty (30) days**.

Additionally, should any Representative consider any proposal transmitted by mail for Board consideration and/or action appropriate only after the Board of Directors has had the opportunity to discuss the matter at an inperson meeting of the Board or by telephone or on-line computer conferencing, he/she shall so notify the President of this fact by the most expeditious means possible on the proposal. If the President receives such notification from **any three or more** Representatives, on or before the due date for the receipt of Board of Director voting on the proposal, the proposal vote shall be null and void pending resolution of the matter at a duly-called in-person meeting of the Board, or by way of conferencing.

ARTICLE VII BOARD OF DIRECTORS Continued BOARD OF DIRECTOR

ARTICLE VIII No member of the Association, whether acting in his/her position as a member, or in his/her position as a Representative, Officer, Subordinate Officer, or Assistant, shall speak officially on behalf of the organization by issuing, publishing, making any statement, or publicly taking any position that is or may be adverse to any policy, procedure, rule, specification, regulation, guideline, or position stated or published by the Board of Directors, or not yet considered by the Board.

Statements relating to the **official policy and position** of the Association may be made by any member, if such statements accurately reflect the official policy and position of the Association. But, if such a policy or position has not been stated or published by the Board of Directors, any statement shall be made only after approval of the Board of Directors has been secured concerning the subject statement.

Nothing in this Article shall be construed as restricting any member of the Association in the exercise of his right of free speech, but is intended to preclude any Member, Representative, Officer, Subordinate Officer, or Assistant attempting to make his individual opinion or position that of the Association.

ARTICLE IX

MEETINGS OF MEMBERS **SECTION 1 – SCHEDULING and NOTICES:** Meetings of the members of the Association shall be held as considered necessary or desirable by the Board of Directors, or upon receipt by the Board of Directors of a petition signed by **ten (10) percent** of the total number of members of the Association requesting a meeting and specifying the agenda items thereof. Notice of any meeting of the members and the matters to be brought before it shall be given in the official Association publication, USRA newsletter, or by the Secretary, by mail no later than **thirty (30) days** before the meeting is to convene. The failure of one or more Members to receive notice of such a meeting shall not invalidate the meeting or any matters properly brought before it, provided the Secretary certifies in writing that proper and timely notice of the meeting was mailed to each Member at his/her last know address appearing in the Association's records.

SECTION 2 - CONDUCT OF MEETINGS OF MEMBERS: At any meeting of the Members of the Association, a **quorum shall exist of twenty (20) percent** of the total number of the Members of the Association present in person and/or represented by written proxy. Meetings of the Members shall be called to order by the President and presided over by him/her. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall so act, and in the absence of both of them, any person represented by the President's and/or Vice-President's written proxy shall so act. The affirmative vote of a simple majority of those Members present in person and/or represented by written proxy is required to carry any matter properly the subject of a meeting of the Members of the Association.

ARTICLE XSECTION 1 - GENERAL: The elected positions in the Association consist
of the District Representatives, the Promoter Representatives, the
President, and the Vice-President. The Board of Directors shall establish
the procedures for elections.

SECTION 2 – NOMINATIONS: Any member of the Association may be nominated for the position of Representative of the District in which he/she resides or for the position of President or Vice-President. Race promoters may be nominated for Promoter Representative if they fulfill the eligibility requirements established in the Constitution. All nominations shall be signed by two (2) current Members of the Association and forwarded to a designated official, or to the President of the Association, not later than thirty days before the scheduled election. The President of the Association or designated official shall notify each nominee of receipt of the nomination.

- ARTICLE X SECTION 3 – TIMETABLE: To facilitate approval of time sensitive Board items for the new year, Nominations should be held in July, with Elections taking place in September. Installation of the newly elected officers will be the first order of business at the first scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors, or November 1st, whichever occurs first. This timetable will allow for timely approval and publication of race scheduling for the following year, and will assist in the acquisition of sponsorship for the individual events as well as the USRA World Championship Series.
- ARTICLE XISECTION 1 GENERAL: The Treasurer shall make only those
expenditures of Association funds authorized and approved by the Board of
Directors, notwithstanding any general authorization granted the Treasurer
by the Board of Directors. Specific authorization and approval of the Board
of Directors is required for each expenditure of Association funds in excess
of those specified above.

SECTION 2 - SIGNATURES: Association drafts and/or checks greater than or equal to \$500.01 require the signature of the **Treasurer and one other Principal Officer** of the Association. Association drafts and/or check less than the amount of \$500.00 require the signature of only the Treasurer.

ARTICLE XII These By-Laws may be amended by a **two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the entire Board of Directors**. Any such amendments will be recorded by the Secretary with subsequent updates to the By-Laws made at least annually, and the amendment published in the Association's official publication.