

Radio Control Flyers Unlimited

President-Jeremy Barzan 209-595-9704
Vice Pres-Chris White 209-202-4451
Secretary-Jason Alves 209-840-3199
Treasurer-Ron Lenci-209-479-3869

Flight Plan



Newsletter Rich Kranz-650-703-1560
Safety Office-Gary McGill 209-771-6092
Membership Chair-Joe Scheid 510-760-0468
Club Instructor - Gary McGill 209-771-6092
Club Instructor - Dave Poe 209-818-6217

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www.rcflyersunlimited.com
RCFU.Newsletter@Gmail.com

Next Meeting - May T B A



Pilots - Attention...

**The annual Spring Pylon Racing event will be held on
April 27th 2024.**

The field will be closed to regular sport flying during this event.

Always a fun and challenging event even to watch !

Pylon Racing

What is RC Plane Racing (Pylon Racing)?



glow engines.

RC Plane Racing is like most other competitive sports where races are separated by classes. There are four classes of RC pylon racing recognized in United States competitions. These classes are based on the remote control airplane construction materials, wingspan and weight. All classes are meant for multi-channel RC planes powered by conventional 2-stroke

At the height of competition, planes can reach speeds of up to 200 miles (321 km's) per hour, making the sport of RC plane racing thrilling for both RC pilots and spectators alike.

The aim of RC plane racing is simple; be the fastest through the course with little or no errors. But in pylon racing, being the first to cross the finish line doesn't necessarily guarantee you the win overall. The ranking of an RC plane race is based on an overall score of points from a series of heats, usually all flown on the same day.

Some Rules....

Pilots compete on a course that is a quarter of a mile in length and is made up of a series of left turns. The course is identified by three 15 to 20-foot-high pylons (poles). These pylons are arranged in a triangle to form the circuit the RC planes must take.

The first task in the race is the Rise Off Ground (ROG) take-off followed by the RC pilot manoeuvring their RC plane for 10 laps, around the pylons. If an RC pilot doesn't complete a circuit properly it is referred to as a "cut" which means the plane has cut in front of the pylons rather than tracking around the outside. If a pilot registers a single cut in a 10-lap race it will result in a penalty. A penalty means that an 11th lap will need to be completed. If two cuts are registered against an RC pilot they will be disqualified. A disqualified pilot must immediately fly up out of the course to leave the RC plane race.

Judging a Race

Cut Judges are located at each pylon around the course. The cut judges role is to confirm that the planes are circling around the flags rather than cutting in front of them. Lap counters are located on the side-line of the course near the start/finish line ensuring that all planes complete the required laps. The RC pilots themselves stand inside the course, within the pylon triangle and fly their aircraft around the outside of the course.

In such a fast-paced racing environment, you may think it would be difficult for judges to accurately tell the RC planes apart during a race. This isn't the case as aircraft are monitored and scored by dedicated cut judges and lap counters who are assigned to each RC plane for each heat. RC pilots are each allocated a lane to race in and the remote control aircraft are easily identified by unique numbering on their wings. This numbering is positioned so that it is clearly visible and shows as right-side up when the aircraft is in left bank (left turn position).



Minutes for 16 March 2024 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 15:00 (3PM) by VP Chris White

10 members were present - no new or prospective members

Treasurer's Report

A Treasurers report was made by Ron Lenci

A motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented and the motion was approved.

New Business

Runway and grounds mowing was discussed Alvin of A&K Harvesting will be doing the mowing next month around the first.

Ron Lenci is buying wasp spray for insect control

Revision of the rules was discussed to address taxiing in the pits, Membership badges must be displayed on your person and visible for all members. Spectators must observe from behind the safety line .

Gary McGill was appointed the new safety officer by VP Chris White and Secy Jason Alves.

April 20th -Turloc Ex hosting an April 15, 2023 - Everything Electric Fun Fly at their field

521 E Greenway Turlock, CA 95380

April 27th - Pylon Racing event at our field

Meeting was adjourned at 16:00 (4PM)



RCFU 2024 Event Calendar

January

Happy New Year All..

February

17 Meeting 10 AM-At the field

March

16 Meeting 3 PM-At the field

9-10 IMAC—Mark Huntley

23 RCFU Swap Meet—Jack C and Shawn

April

27 Pylon Racing (field closed to sport flying)

27 Meeting Cancelled

27 EF-1/T-34/Warbird Racing—Joe Delateur

May

TBA Meeting 10 AM-At the field

18 Float Fly—Shawn and Ron Lenci

June

TBA Meeting 10 AM-At the field

15 Float Fly—Shawn and Ron Lenci

29 Float Fly—Shawn and Ron Lenci

29 Field Closed July 4th Fireworks

July

TBA Meeting 10 AM-At the field

13 Float Fly—Shawn and Ron Lenci

August

3 Float Fly—Shawn and Ron Lenci

TBA Meeting 10 AM-At the field

24 Float Fly—Shawn and Ron Lenci

September

TBA Meeting 10 AM-At the field

28 EF-1/T-34/Warbird Racing—Joe Delateur

October

TBA Meeting 10 AM-At the field

November

TBA Meeting 10 AM-2024 Elections-At the field

December

Happy Holidays ! No Meeting

Member Pictures



RCFU Field Rules Overview

The RCFU RC club has field rules that generally follow what most RC clubs use. We want to be good stewards of the land leased to us by Stanislaus County and good neighbors to the community at large. These rules are intended to supplement the AMA Safety Code and cover things relevant to flying at our Field. We have put these rules in place to make us a fun and SAFE place to spend a day flying R/C.

Field Rules & Regulations

All members and guests are responsible to adhere to these basic field rules. Safety officers, club officers as well as any member are expected to point out violations to offenders, doing so in a constructive and friendly non-confrontational way. Repeat or flagrant offenders will be brought before the Membership Committee (club officers) for consideration of grounding, suspension, or expulsion from the club.

Flying Field Area map: see next page...

Area 1 - Fixed wing takeoff & landing zone. Alternate with Helicopter flights unless Helicopter flying "scale" traffic pattern.

Area 2 - Fixed wing pilot's area.

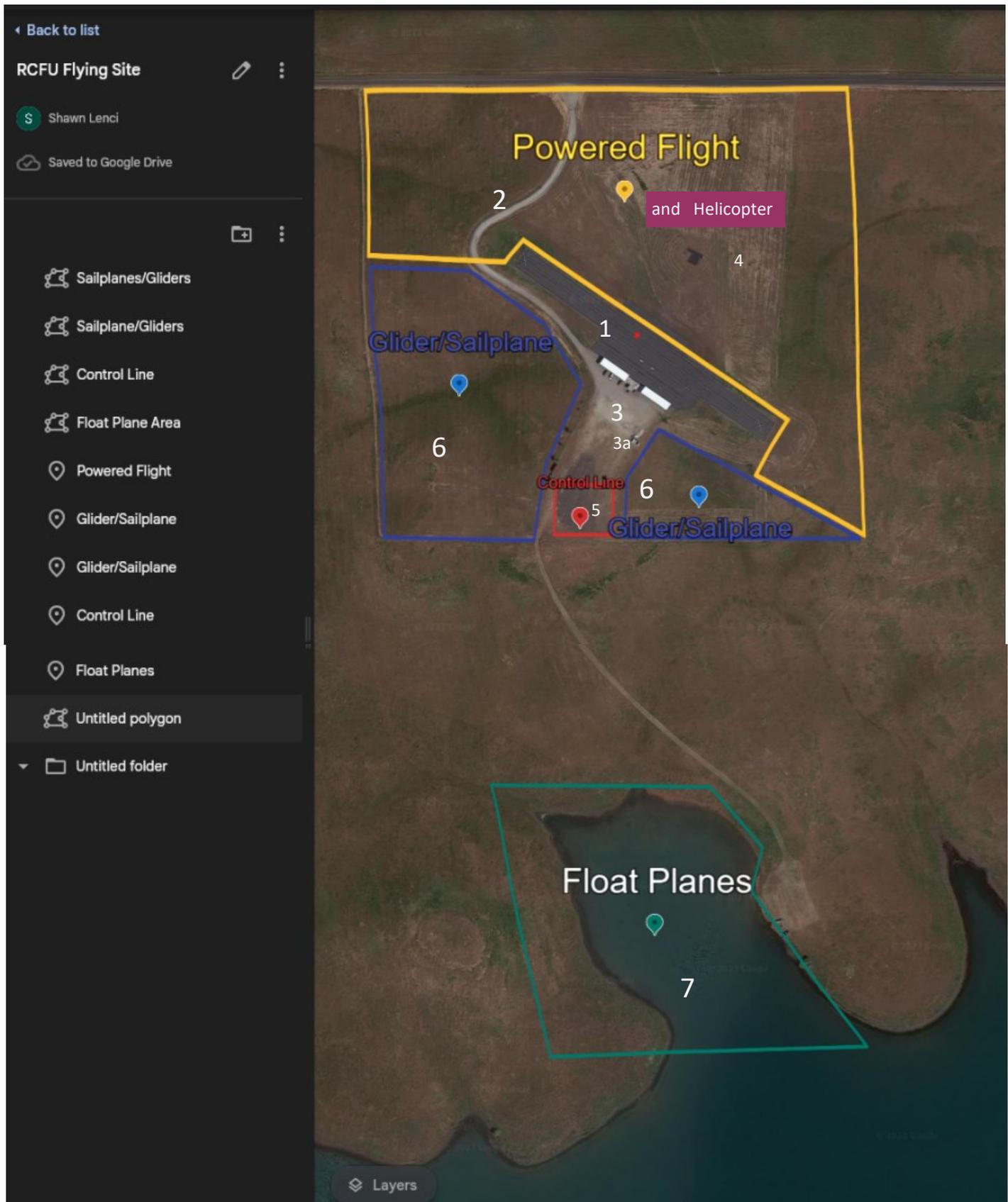
Area 3 - Pit and parking lot. 3a - Porta Potty

Area 4 - Helicopter flight NO Quad/Drones. Fixed wing and Helicopter pilots alternate turns unless Heli flying "scale" .

Area 5 - Control line flying zone.

Area 6 - Glider Area

Area 7 - Floatplane & Float Fly



RCFU Tips & Tricks



MAY is the start of float season ! Flying off the water can be so relaxing and peaceful, you are one with the sky and the water and we are very fortunate to have our own lake right in our backyard .

Talk to one of our club instructors if you'd like to get familiar with float flying. Many of the manufacturers offer "float kits" for their production planes and assembly is quick, the engineering and weight and balance spot on.

Most are familiar enough that there is a recommendation to taxi/takeoff and land with "back stick" in order to keep the float tips from digging in and flipping the plane over in the water.

But what about crosswind operations? Can be just as prone to an accidental upset.

Taxiing on Water is not as forgiving as asphalt. It's squishy and has a higher Coef of Drag. The floats don't track as well as wheels until they get up to speed. This could lead to getting "up on a wingtip", sinking a float or a tailwind lifting the tail up -resulting in a rescue boat. water recovery.

A technique used by full sized airplanes is to picture which way the wind is **blowing FROM** (relative to the cockpit) and point the elevator/ailerons in that direction.

Quartering crosswinds:



Send questions and suggestions to RCFU.Newsletter@Gmail.com

Rich Kranz (Editor)