

CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS
of the
Antelope Valley Tailwinds, Incorporated
(As amended 05/03/12)

ARTICLE 1 - NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1 Name:

The name of this organization will be The Antelope Valley Tailwinds, Inc., hereinafter referred to as AVTI.

Section 2 Purpose:

This organization shall be non-profit and is hereby formed to foster the advancement of aircraft modeling; to offer assistance and guidance to any person who demonstrates the desire to further their knowledge in the field of aircraft modeling; to assure safety during the construction and operation of model aircraft; and to secure better and more liberal bases of model aircraft operation.

ARTICLE II - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1 Liability:

- A. Club Obligation: No member will obligate the club without prior consent of the Board of Directors.
- B. Membership: The membership is liable under the laws of the State of California for the organizational debts. In the event the organization's assets are insufficient to discharge liabilities. The President must call a special meeting of the Board of Directors and membership to inform them of their potential liabilities.
- C. Employment: Any employment by this organization will not be based on race, color, marital status, age, creed, national origin, political affiliation, memberships in labor organizations, sex, or physical handicap. Moreover, all laws pertaining to labor standards and requirements must be met; all services by members are voluntary.
- D. Federal, State, and local Laws: All Federal, State and local laws must be complied with by this organization.

Section 2 Insurance and Club Safety:

- A. It shall be the responsibility of each member to ensure that they are covered by a current Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) license.

- B. It shall be the responsibility of each member to enforce safety. Any flagrant disregard for safety shall be reported by letter to the Board of Directors. The letter shall describe the circumstances of the violation(s) and be signed by two AVTI members who witnessed the act.
- C. The board of Directors, upon receiving a report of a flagrant safety violation shall institute a formal letter to the offender within thirty (30) days of the said report. The club shall retain this letter for a period of one year. If, in that time, no further violations by the offender are reported, the letter will be destroyed. If additional violations are reported, the Board of Director shall serve written notice upon the violator that he/she may be removed from the membership rolls of the AVTI by the procedures of Article IV, Section 3.
- D. The club officers of the AVTI shall insure that each member has access to a copy of the local safety rules and a copy of this constitution.
- E. Members are responsible for ensuring their guests are current AMA members and adhere to frequency controls, and are advised of flying site safety rules as stated in AVTI Field Regulations, prior to aircraft operation.

ARTICLE III - OFFICIALS

Section 1 Elected Officers:

A. President:

1. The President shall be the leading member of the AVTI and shall preside, if possible, at all general, special, and committee meetings. The President shall also preside as chairman of the Board of directors.
2. The President shall call a minimum of four (4) board meetings per year, and these meetings shall be called quarterly.
3. The President also shall file the AMA Club Charter during the month of December each year. Additionally, member names and fees shall be forwarded to AMA as soon as their name is on the active roll of this club. The President may appoint an AMA Leader Member to accomplish this task.
4. Term in office shall be for the period of two years, commencing with the July meeting following the election.

B. Vice-President:

1. The Vice-President shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President. Further, the Vice-President may assume the duties of any other officer during such officer's absence if requested to do so by the President or Board of Directors.

2. Term in office shall be for the period of two years, commencing with the July meeting following the election.

C. Secretary:

1. The Secretary shall maintain an accurate and complete record of all general, special, and Board of Director's meetings. Furthermore, the Secretary shall maintain, with the assistance of the Treasurer and Newsletter Editor, a complete club roster, including member's AMA number. The Secretary shall also handle all club correspondence under the direction of the President.

2. Term in office shall be for the period of two years, commencing with the July meeting following the election.

D. Treasurer:

1. The Treasurer shall maintain accurate and complete records and accounts of the club finances. The Treasurer shall report on the club's financial status at each meeting; shall submit all records to the Board of Directors in September, December, March and June for audit; shall prepare and submit to the membership a complete club financial report of all assets and liabilities in July of each year. Additionally, the Treasurer shall maintain a file of written receipts for all moneys received or spent.

2. Term in office shall be for the period of two years, commencing with the July meeting following the election.

Section 2 Removal from Office:

Except for the Office of the President, which will be filled by the Vice-President, in the event of removal of a member of the Board, the remaining members of the board shall convene at a special meeting within thirty (30) days from the action of a removal and appoint an active member of the AVTI to fill and complete the remainder of the term of office. Final approval for the removal of any member of the Board of Directors shall rest with the general membership.

Section 3 Resignation of Officers:

Resignation: Officials desiring to resign their positions, for whatever reason, shall present to the President in writing their resignation which shall specify the effective date of the resignation.

Section 4 Filling of Vacancies:

Vacancies of elected officials will be filled as stated in Article III, Section 2. Vacancies of appointed officials will be filled by appointment of an active member of the AVTI by the President.

Section 5 Board of Directors:

A. The Directors will assist in the direction of the club at all Board meetings and special meetings.

B. The Board of Directors will consist of seven (7) members. These shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three (3) Directors. The Board of Directors shall attend all Board meetings called by the President.

C. The President of the club will occupy the position as Chairman of the Board and shall exercise his vote at General Membership meetings, Board of Directors meetings, and Special meetings, only in the event of a tie. Each Board member is entitled to one (1) vote.

D. Term(s) in office shall be for a period of one year, commencing with the July meeting following the election.

Section 6 Appointed Positions:

A. Newsletter Editor

1. The Newsletter editor shall maintain the AVTI monthly newsletter known as the "Tailwinds Tails". The reproduction equipment and supplies will be in his possession to achieve this function.

2. The "Tailwinds Tails" will be published between monthly meetings and at other dates as determined by the President.

B. Field Marshall

1. The Field Marshall shall be responsible for all routine maintenance required to operate the club flying site as directed by the Board of Directors.

C. Public Relations Manager (Optional)

1. The Public Relations Manager will be responsible for communications with the local media concerning club activities.

2. The Public Relations Manager shall work closely with the President in an effort to educate and inform the public concerning the club and its functions.

D. Safety Officer

1. The Safety Officer will be responsible in assisting the Board of Directors in the development and enforcement of the Club Field Regulations.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Qualification for Membership:

Any person who has demonstrated a desire to become a part of this organization is eligible to become a member. Membership discrimination based on race, color, sex or national origin is prohibited. To become a member of this organization, a person must contact any club official or attend a meeting of the AVTI and pay the required AVTI dues and either show their current AMA license, or show proof of payment.

Section 2 Types of Membership:

A. At time of renewal:

Open 18 years of age or older
Senior 65 years of age or older
Junior Less than 18 years of age

1. A "Family Membership" shall be defined as an adult Head-of-Household, spouse, and all minor children that are also paid up members of the Academy of Model Aviation. When any minor child reaches the age of eighteen, he/she must secure an Open Membership separate from the Family Membership.

Section 3 Elections:

A. Nominations of applicable club officers shall be received from the floor during the May General Club Meeting. The current Board of Directors can also make nominations at the May meeting.

B. Elections of officers will be held during the June meeting of each calendar year. On even years – i.e. 2006, 2008, etc. – the President and Secretary will be elected. On odd years – i.e. 2007, 2009, etc. – the Vice-President and Treasurer will be elected.

C. The officers will be elected by a simple majority of the ballots cast at the June meeting. Elections shall be by written ballot.

D. Elections shall be advertised via the club newsletter at least thirty days in advance of the actual balloting.

Section 4 Termination of Officer's Terms:

A. Removal for cause: It shall be the duty of the Board to remove any official, either elected or appointed, who is found to be incompetent, and such removal must be carried by a unanimous vote of the eligible board. A board member may not vote on issues concerning his/her removal from office.

Section 5 Termination of Membership:

A. The membership of any individual may be terminated by a majority vote of the Board of directors and formal notification thereof. The individual has the right of

appeal at all times and such written shall be made to the Board of Directors within thirty (30) days of any flagrant action. Board action results from flagrant violations of club and/or AMA safety rules.

B. Any member may request his or her own membership termination in writing to any club officer and it shall be so honored without board action.

C. Termination of membership shall consist of return of the member's current club membership card to the Board of Directors or any club officer.

ARTICLE V - METHOD OF FINANCE

Section 1 Annual Dues:

A. Annual dues, which will include the AMA Club Charter fee, shall be as follows:

Open Member (Age 18 – 64)

Jun 1 - Dec 31	\$100.00 (new and renewing member)
Jan 1 - May 31	\$50.00 (new member only)

Senior Member (Age 65 or older)

Jun 1 – Dec 31	\$75.00 (new and renewing member)
Jan 1 – May 31	\$37.50 (new member only)

Junior Member (Age 17 or younger)

Jun 1 – Dec 31	\$50.00 (new and renewing member)
Jan 1 – Dec 31	\$25.00 (new member only)

B. Amount of dues shall be established by the Board of Directors and must be voted on by the General membership. Changes in the amount of dues will be voted upon by a quorum, as specified in Article VII, Section 2, Paragraphs a and b, of this constitution.

C. Renewal club dues shall be due on June 1 of each year. Memberships paid in June will be current through the end of May of the next year. Renewal dues must be paid in full not later than June 30 each year. Renewal dues not paid by June 30 shall be assessed a late payment penalty of \$10.00.

A partial year payment of dues is available for new members only. A new member is defined as an applicant who has never been a member or a former member who has been absent for 1 year or more. After a one-year lapse in paid membership, a former member will now be considered a new member. A member may apply for a dispensation of these measures by submitting a case to the Board of Directors. Cause for this case would be financial hardship, job requirements, etc. Such cases will be reviewed by the BOD and decided upon on a case-by-case basis.

D. When a Head-of-Household pays for an Open Membership, the spouse and all members of the immediate family, less than 18 years of age, shall automatically become members at no additional cost. This shall be known as a

“Family Membership”. When minor members reach the age of 18, they must secure their own membership at the Open Membership cost.

E. Twenty Five percent (25%) of all membership dues collected shall be deposited in a Certificate of Deposit fund that shall be designated solely for the costs associated with relocation of the AVTI Flying Field Facility when and if required. This will be known as the New Field Fund. This will continue until the New Field Fund reaches a balance of \$50,000. Upon reaching that amount, the dues structure for the AVTI will be re-evaluated. The balance of the dues shall be deposited in the General Operating Fund.

F. Access to the New Field Fund will only be for emergency use for the club and will require approval by a two-thirds majority of quorum as outlined in Article VI, Section 2, Paragraphs A and B.

G. The obligations and privileges of each type of membership are equal exclusive of dues.

H. Annual dues for the period from June 1, 2011 to May 31, 2012, shall be as follows;

Open Member (Age 18 – 64)

Jun 1 - Dec 31	\$75.00 (new and renewing member)
Jan 1 - May 31	\$37.50 (new member only)

Senior Member (Age 65 or older)

Jun 1 – Dec 31	\$50.00 (new and renewing member)
Jan 1 – May 31	\$25.00 (new member only)

Junior Member (Age 17 or younger)

Jun 1 – Dec 31	\$25.00 (new and renewing member)
Jan 1 – Dec 31	\$12.50 (new member only)

At the end of this period the dues will revert to the original amounts as noted in Article V, Section 1, paragraph A.

Section 3 Accounting:

A. Responsibility: The Treasurer shall be responsible for the financial accounting of club moneys, assets, and liabilities.

B. Financial Statement: The outgoing Treasurer, assisted by the newly elected Treasurer, will prepare for the general membership a financial statement including income, expenditures, assets, liabilities, and balance of funds and assets. This shall be published in July of each year.

C. Audit Requirements: Records of the Treasurer shall be audited in September, December, March and June of each year by the Board of Directors.

D. The Treasurer is authorized to issue checks for not more than \$50.00. Amounts in excess of \$50.00 shall require Board of Directors or general membership authorization.

E. This organization is non-profit and self-sustaining.

ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS

Section 1 Types of Meetings:

A. General Membership: The purpose of this meeting shall be to conduct general business and approve actions by the Board of Directors requiring general membership approval and also conduct elections.

B. Board of Directors: The purpose of this meeting shall be to conduct formal business, and to guide the operation of the club.

C. Special Meetings: This meeting may be called when business is of such nature that it must be decided upon prior to any other meeting.

Section 2 Quorum Requirements:

A. General membership meeting quorum shall consist of a simple majority (50% + 1) of active Members present. In no case shall less than seven members constitute a quorum.

B. Board of Directors meeting quorum shall consist of a simple majority (50% + 1) of the total members of the Board of Directors, except as noted in article VII, Section 2, paragraph c.

Section 3 Time and Place of Meetings:

A. General membership meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month with the time and place announced in the AVTI Newsletter.

B. The Board of Director Meetings, called by the President, will be announced at general Membership meetings or via the AVTI Newsletter.

C. Special meetings may be called by the President or Vice-President, and notification will be any means of communication; newsletter, telephone, person-to-person, at least two weeks in advance.

Section 4 Parliamentary Procedure:

Procedures used are as outlined in "Roberts Rules of Order".

ARTICLE VII - ADOPTIONS AND AMENDMENTS

Section 1 Adoption:

Voting for adoption shall require approval by a simple majority (50% + 1) of quorum as outlined in Article VI, Section 2, paragraphs a and b.

Section 2 Amendments:

A. A meeting of the Board and general membership shall be called to amend this constitution.

B. A publication will be mailed to all members, apprising them of any planned amendment.

C. Voting for an amendment shall require approval by a two-thirds majority of quorum as outlined in Article VI, Section 2, Paragraphs a and b.

ARTICLE VIII - DISSOLUTION

Section 1 Dissolution:

In the case of dissolution, the Treasurer shall take an immediate audit of all club assets. The Treasurer shall then satisfy any outstanding liabilities as of the date of dissolution. If an excess of Assets remains upon satisfaction of all liabilities, the excess shall be dispersed to a charitable organization at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

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