

March 2026



TAILWINDS

www.RCACES.ORG



The RC Aces are affiliated with the AMA (Academy of Model Aeronautics), Charter #1377. Meetings are held the first Thursday of the month, September through May at the North Hampton Public Library (6:00 PM) unless otherwise notified.

All members, spouses, potential members and guests are invited to attend.

Club Contacts for 2025-2026:

PRESIDENT:

Mark Thom, bonzai1959@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT:

Frank O'Neil, f2datank@outlook.com

SECRETARY & NEWSLETTER:

Ken Kennedy, usma82@verizon.net

TREASURER:

Don Chase, dhchasenh@comcast.net

SAFETY COORDINATOR:

Don Dodier, donalddodier@gmail.com

CLUB CONTACT:

Don Chase, dhchasenh@comcast.net

BOARD of DIRECTORS:

Jim Tilton, John Backhaus, Mike Larson

WEBMASTER:

Mark Berard, grampyb@comcast.net

James Lewis, designercom@hotmail.com

Internal R/C Auction - The Dean Allred Estate

By now, all members should have received an email from Don Chase with a list of R/C items for auction from the estate of our late good friend, Dean Allred. Please follow the instructions, and plan on buying whatever you might need for the flying seasons ahead.

A quick perusal of the list reveals that Dean was a very organized and prepared hobbyist. The collection of R/C tools, parts and pieces reveal the many years he devoted to the hobby. Some of the items listed are not longer available, or in different form. Get them while you can, because you'll pay A LOT more if you need them in the future.

Once the auction is complete (details in Don Chase's email message), please contact Don Dodier as soon as possible to collect your winnings. It is imperative that we move these items out of their temporary storage location as soon as possible. Items not sold in the internal auction may be made

available for purchase by other local clubs. Anything remaining will go into our annual auction.

Thanks, Dean.



THE NEXT RC ACES MEETING IS ON

***** April 2, 2026 *****



*Celebrating 50 years as an
AMA Chartered club:
May 1976—May 2026*

Meeting Notes

March 5, 2026

Meeting called to order: 6:00 PM

Attendees: 12, including 3 on Zoom, and 1 guest

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the February meeting were read and accepted.

Treasurer's Report: We have 38 members, plus one new member just joining (Charlie Clement—age 11). To date, 17 have paid this year's dues. Banking report submitted.

Field Safety Coordinator's Report: Make sure you go through your planes before the start of the new flying season, and repair as needed. (See page 3 for checklist).

Old Business:

- Discussion on whether there should be a Spring auction this year. No real consensus yet. There is still a concern about the condition of the field if we go too early.
- We need to take steps to move the items from Dean Allred's workshop from the current temporary storage area. Ken and Don Dodier will do an inventory and take pictures of all items. A bid sheet will be distributed to the membership so they can bid on all items first. Anything remaining will then be offered to a local club for purchase. Items still not sold will be held for the auction.
- The IRS has our \$600 check to establish 501(c)7 status. Will respond to follow-up questions.

New Business:

- James showed us the Dean Allred tribute page—open to members and the general public.
- Discussed the possibility of having a Spring auction this year. More discussion needed. Some mentioned concerns about weather and the ground being soaked if we do it too early.
- James confirmed that our website could support a marketplace section for members so we can sell items internally.
- Don has approached Seacoast academy about a donation of Dean's non-R/C tools. If members are looking for something in particular, contact Don ASAP.

Comments / Questions from the Membership: None

Meeting closed at 6:34 PM

Jeff Bullock followed the meeting with a Show-and-Tell of his latest plane: a Slick 360 from Apex Aerotek. This white, black, orange and silver acrobat has a 60" wingspan.

The Plug-and-Play plane (motor and electronics are already installed) features a Dualsky GA-series 1500R motor (spinning a carbon fiber prop) paired with the Apex/Dualsky 120A ESC. It includes Theta/Apex THM988 high-voltage, high-torque servos.



Been hibernating over the winter? When you're ready to hit the airfield, use the checklist below to make sure your planes are airworthy! Used with permission by Central Mass R/C Modelers.

Winter Down-Time Aircraft Checklist CMRCM 2019



Pilot/Owner _____

AMA# _____ FAA# _____

Aircraft _____ Complete a sheet for each of your aircraft

The Once Over:

Covering:

- ☐ Holes
- ☐ Wrinkles
- ☐ Cracked / Broken Balsa

Landing Gear:

- ☐ Wheels
- ☐ Wheel Collars
- ☐ Wheel Pants
- ☐ Retracts

Structure:

- ☐ Tail / Rudder Mounting
- ☐ Wing Solid/Straight
- ☐ Wing Bolts/Mounting
- ☐ Rubberband Posts

The Details:

Hinges:

- ☐ Ailerons
- ☐ Rudder
- ☐ Elevator
- ☐ Flaps

Control Horns:

- ☐ Throttle
- ☐ Ailerons
- ☐ Rudder
- ☐ Elevator
- ☐ Flaps

Servos:

- ☐ Mounting
- ☐ Binding
- ☐ Arm Screw
- ☐ Clear of Obstructions
- ☐ Correct Direction

Motor/Batteries:

- ☐ Firewall Screws
- ☐ Engine Mount Screws
- ☐ ESC Wires and Plugs
- ☐ Battery Wires/Connectors
- ☐ Battery Secure
- ☐ Battery Swelling
- ☐ Prop TIGHT

Engine/Tank:

- ☐ Firewall Screws
- ☐ Engine Mounting Screws
- ☐ Fuel Tank Wrapped in Foam
- ☐ Clunk not Binding
- ☐ Carb/Linkage not Binding
- ☐ Fuel Lines OK
- ☐ Kill Switch
- ☐ Exhaust Secure
- ☐ Glow/Spark Plug OK
- ☐ Prop TIGHT

Receiver:

- ☐ Battery Cycled
- ☐ Foam Wrap/Mounting Secure
- ☐ Switch OK
- ☐ Connectors OK
- ☐ Antenna Secure
- ☐ 2.4 Ghz Antennas at 90 degrees to each other
- ☐ Satellite Module installed per recommendations
- ☐ Stabilization Correct
- ☐ Servo plugs tight

Transmitter:

- ☐ Battery Cycled or New
- ☐ Antenna not Bent/Broken/Cracked
- ☐ 2.4 Ghz Antenna wires OK
- ☐ Engine/Motor Kill
- ☐ Safety Cutoff
- ☐ Programming
 - Correct Aircraft ID's
 - Control Surfaces
 - Trim Check
 - Mix Functions

Throttle cut setups for Radiomaster Transmitters

If you would like help with setting up your radio feel free to reach out to Don Dodier, Safety officer for R.C. Aces. If you are using a different radio than the ones listed in this article please let Don know and he will

Setting up a throttle cut switch (also known as an arm/disarm switch for electrics) on a RadioMaster TX16S transmitter running EdgeTX is essential for safety in electric planes. It prevents accidental motor activation by overriding the throttle signal to a low value (e.g., -100%) that disarms the ESC. EdgeTX does not have a dedicated "throttle cut" menu like some proprietary systems; instead, it uses Mixes, Logical Switches, and Special Functions for flexible implementation. This allows for basic setups or advanced ones with safety interlocks (e.g., requiring throttle stick low before disarming).

The TX16S has a color touchscreen for navigation. Ensure your firmware is up to date (e.g., EdgeTX 2.10 or later; download from edgetx.org). Always test with the propeller removed, and consult the EdgeTX manual (manual.edgetx.org) for your version. Below are steps for a basic setup using Special Functions (quick and simple) and an advanced setup using Logical Switches for added safety, based on common practices.

Basic Throttle Cut Setup (Using Special Functions)

This uses a single switch to override throttle to -100% when activated. It's straightforward for beginners but lacks advanced interlocks.

Create or Select a Model:

- ◆ Power on the TX16S and long-press the MDL button to enter the Model Select menu.
- ◆ Select an existing model or create a new one (tap the + icon). Set Model Type to Airplane if prompted (though not always required in newer EdgeTX).
- ◆ In the Setup tab (tap Setup), ensure Internal RF is set to your receiver protocol (e.g., ELRS, FrSky). Bind your receiver if needed.

Assign the Throttle Channel:

- ◆ Go to the Outputs tab (tap Outputs).
- ◆ For Channel 3 (default throttle), set Min to -100%, Max to 100%, Direction as needed (test with stick movement). Subtrim should be 0 unless calibrated otherwise.
- ◆ If reversed, tap the channel and select Invert.

Set Up the Special Function for Cut:

- ◆ Go to the Special Functions tab (tap Special Functions).
- ◆ Tap an empty slot (e.g., SF1) to add a new function.
- ◆ Set Switch to your desired physical switch (e.g., SF ↓ for down position; common choices are SF or SH to avoid accidental flips).
- ◆ Set Function to "Override CH3" (throttle channel).
- ◆ Set Value to -100% (or lower if your ESC requires it, like -125%; test to ensure disarm).
- ◆ Enable the checkbox to activate. Optionally, add an audio warning: In another SF slot, set the same switch, Function to "Play Sound," and select a warning like "Throttle Armed" or custom.
- ◆ Tap back to save.

Add Throttle Warning (Optional but Recommended):

- ◆ In the Setup tab, under Warnings, enable Throttle Warning. Set it to trigger if throttle is not at min (-100%) on power-up or model select.
- ◆ This integrates with your cut switch for pre-flight checks.

Test the Setup:

- ◆ Go to the Outputs or Telemetry screen to monitor Channel 3.
- ◆ With the switch in the safe (cut) position, throttle should show -100% regardless of stick position.
- ◆ Flip to armed: Normal throttle response (stick low to high = -100% to 100%).
- ◆ Power the plane (prop off), arm the ESC per its manual (usually low throttle on startup), and verify the motor doesn't spin with cut active.

(Continued next page)

Advanced Safe Throttle Cut Setup (Using Logical Switches for Interlocks)

This builds on the basic setup with safety features: Requires throttle stick low before arming, enforces activation order (stick first, then switch), adds a delay with warning sound for reaction time, and prevents accidental arming. Ideal for electric planes to avoid prop strikes. It uses 4 Logical Switches (L01-L04) and ties into Special Functions.

Prepare the Model and Channels:

- ◆ Follow steps 1-2 from the basic setup.
- ◆ Ensure you have free Logical Switch slots (go to Logical Switches tab).

Set Up Logical Switches for Safety Conditions:

- ◆ Go to the Logical Switches tab (tap Logical Switches).

L01: Throttle Stick Low Check (Confirms stick is at min for 0.5s to avoid transients).

- ◆ Tap L01, set Function to "a<x" (value less than).
- ◆ V1: Thr (throttle stick source).
- ◆ V2: -99% (slightly above -100% for tolerance).
- ◆ Delay: 0.5s (tap and set).

L02: Arm Switch Activation Order (Detects rising edge of arm switch only if L01 is already true).

- ◆ Tap L02, set Function to "Edge" (momentary trigger on switch change).
- ◆ V1: Your arm switch (e.g., SF ↓ for arm; choose direction where ↑ is safe/cut).
- ◆ Duration: Instant (0).
- ◆ AND Switch: L01 (ensures stick low first; if switch flipped before stick low, must retry).

L03: Pre-Arm Warning Trigger (Activates sound until delay completes).

- ◆ Tap L03, set Function to "a=x" (equals).
- ◆ V1: L02.
- ◆ V2: 1 (true).
- ◆ AND Switch: !L04 (not the delay switch, to keep active during delay).

L04: Arm Delay Timer (2s delay before arming, giving time to abort).

- ◆ Tap L04, set Function to "Timer".
- ◆ V1: 2s (delay time).
- ◆ Trigger: L02 (starts on valid arm attempt).

Integrate with Special Functions:

- ◆ Go to Special Functions tab.

SF1: Warning Sound During Delay.

- ◆ Switch: L03.
- ◆ Function: "Play Sound" or "Play Track" (select a warning like "Engine Start" or custom WAV file; download safety sounds from edgetx.org if needed).

SF2: Throttle Override for Cut.

- ◆ Switch: !L04 (not armed; or tie to your physical switch with AND L04 for final arm).
- ◆ Function: "Override CH3".
- ◆ Value: -100%.

SF3: Arm Confirmation (Optional).

- ◆ Switch: L04.
- ◆ Function: "Play Sound" (e.g., "Throttle Armed").

Add Fail-Safe and Warnings:

- ♦ In Setup tab, set Fail-Safe Mode to Custom, and set CH3 to -100% for signal loss.
- ♦ Enable Throttle Warning as in basic setup.

Test the Advanced Setup:

- ♦ Monitor Logical Switches and Outputs screens.
 - ♦ Sequence: Move throttle stick to low → L01 true after 0.5s.
 - ♦ Flip arm switch → L02 triggers, L03 starts warning sound, L04 counts down 2s.
 - ♦ After delay, if conditions hold, throttle enables (normal stick control).
 - ♦ To cut: Flip switch back or raise stick—throttle overrides to -100%.
 - ♦ Accidental test: Flip switch first (without stick low) → No arm; must reset stick and retry. Plane test (prop off): Verify ESC doesn't arm until full sequence; motor cuts instantly on disarm.
-

REMINDER:

We are still looking for someone to step up and serve as Vice President in place of Frank O'Neil, who is not longer able to serve. Please contact one of the club officers and volunteer! What does this involve? Here is the description from the club by-laws:

The President of the Club, or in his absence, the **Vice President**, shall preside at all meetings of members and of the Board of Directors and shall perform the duties usually devolving upon a presiding officer and shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board of Directors are carried into effect. The presiding officer shall also have the power to appoint special committees to have such power and duties and to hold such offices for such periods of time as shall be fixed by the presiding officer. All such appointments shall be coterminous with that of the appointing President.

The **Vice President** in the absence or the disability of the President, may perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President and shall perform such duties as may be imposed by resolution passed at any meeting of the members.

Some questions you may be asking yourself:

- *Is this a paid position? (No)*
- *Will I become more attractive in this position? (No)*
- *Will everyone buy me drinks as Vice President? (No)*
- *Is my service as Vice President tax-deductible (No)*
- *Will I gain the undying appreciation and gratitude of the members of R.C. Aces? (Yes!)*

RC ACES 2026 MEMBERSHIP / RENEWAL FORM

First _____ Last _____ AMA #(required) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Cell _____ E-mail _____

Regular Membership \$75.00 (ages 18 to 64)

Junior Membership \$20.00 (ages 17 and under)

Senior Membership \$60.00 (ages 65 and over)

New members please include an additional \$25.00 one time initiation fee

(Fees are subject to change)

Total Due \$ _____

As a member of the RC ACES Radio Control Club I agree to the following:

I have read and agree to abide by the Official Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) National Model Aircraft Safety Code, the club by-laws and all rules and regulations of the RC ACES.

I agree to release club members or club officers from liability if an aircraft I am operating is involved in an accident or otherwise causes harm to another person or property or if I am injured as a result of any activity related to club activities or operation of model aircraft.

(The intent of the above statement is to keep others not directly involved with an incident out of any proceedings related to the incident)

I agree to assume all liability for any model that I am operating in case of harm to other persons or property.

Signature _____ Date _____
(parent if a Junior member)

Membership renewals may be brought to the regular meeting held at the North Hampton Public Library at 6:00 pm on the first Thursday of every month, starting in September or mailed to the address below:

NOTE: Please make checks payable to RC ACES

Or send via Venmo (@Donald-Chase-10)

**RC ACES
26 Holmgren Road
Stratham, NH 03885**

RC Aces membership period is from April 15, 2026 to April 14, 2027