



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

Not Quite Ready for Prime Time

The airfield access road is finally clear of snow mountains, and we can finally make it to the gate. The airfield itself, as well as the pits and parking areas are still not quite ready for regular R/C operations.

I did pay a visit on April 4th, and the puddles were numerous. You could find some solid ground for a take-off run, but landing was still hazardous.



On April 9th I returned again, and the ground was pretty much free of puddles, but the ground is still pretty saturated. You could possibly fly a light foamy or something without landing gear, but expect it to get wet, muddy or both.

It's wet but not quite as bad as one particularly wet season at my old club in Massachusetts. We showed up one day to see that about 1/3 of the runway was underwater, and a swan was lazily paddling around where you'd usually see R/C airplanes. Like our club, that club was next to a wetland area. Unlike our club, that club had a high area that kept some of the airstrip available.

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THE NEXT RC ACES MEETING IS ON

*** May 7, 2026 ***



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

Meeting Notes

April 2, 2026

Meeting called to order: 6:00 PM

Attendees: 12

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

Treasurer's Report: We have 38 members. To date, 27 have paid this year's dues. The new season begins (and membership payment is due) on April 15th. Banking report submitted.

Field Safety Coordinator's Report: Runway is damp and spongy. The access road is finally clear of snow.

Old Business:

- We received notice that we are officially a 501(c)7 club (Hobby status). Don will now make the required submissions to NH.

New Business:

- Dean's non-R/C tools have been donated to a local technical school, Seacoast Academy.
- The online marketplace for our members will be on the website soon. James will demonstrate at next month's meeting.
- Mark Thom wants to warn all members to watch for spam/phishing emails. Both he and Don Chase have been targeted, and fake emails asking for funds have been received by some. Mark and Don will NEVER solicit funds (gift cards, money orders, etc.) from our members. If you receive one of these fake emails, please contact Mark or Don as soon as possible.
- The gate sign is pretty full of holes, and needs to be replaced. Jeff to purchase new sign.
- The first round of the Dean Allred estate auction is complete. We will now make the remaining items available to area clubs for purchase. Don to send out instructions to the club presidents.
- Opening Day at the airfield (Spring Clean-up) is scheduled for April 25th starting at 9:00 AM. If anyone has suggestions on what projects are needed (such as replacing the wind sock) please contact one of the officers. We probably do not need to repaint the tables and fences this year.

Comments / Questions from the Membership: None

Meeting closed at 6:43 PM

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!

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



April 4th: Things are looking a bit damp at the airfield. If this thing stays around much longer, we may have to name it! Lake Allred, perhaps?



April 9th: After a few sunny days (and one crazy morning of snow flakes) the water has receded a bit. The standing water is gone, but the ground is still pretty drenched. Wear your rain boots if you attempt a few flights.



April 9th: The end result of flying on a drenched airstrip on a day with strong wind gusts. I am tempted to bring my floatplane over to see how that works!

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