

March 2024



# 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 2023-2024:

### **PRESIDENT:**

Jeff Bullock, bullocks63@hotmail.com

### **VICE PRESIDENT:**

Frank O'Neil, f2datank@outlook.com

### **SECRETARY:**

Ken Kennedy, usma82@verizon.net

### **TREASURER:**

Don Chase, dhchasenh@comcast.net

### **NEWSLETTER:**

Ken Kennedy, usma82@verizon.net

### **SAFETY OFFICER:**

John Backhaus, jwbackhaus@comcast.net

### **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

## Just Around the Corner

Springtime will be here soon! Time to finish up the winter projects (page 2) and go over your aircraft to check for air-worthiness. Use the checklist (page 3) to help with the task.



THE NEXT RC ACES MEETING IS ON

April 4, 2024





## Winter Project—Seagull Decathlon

*This month, Frank O'Neil sent in some pictures of his latest project. Below is a short history and description of the model, courtesy of Gator RC:*

"When the Champion Aircraft Corporation introduced the mildly aerobatic Citabria (airbatic – spelt backwards) in 1964 pilots fell in love with its handling and flight envelope but it wasn't long before they craved an

aircraft with even more potential. Capable of sustaining stresses of +5 to -2g 'outside' maneuvers were simply not possible so Champion set about designing something to satisfy. Rolling off the production line in 1970 the 8KCAB Decathlon was capable of sustaining aerobatic stresses of between +6g and -5g and, accordingly, was an instant hit.

This 70.9" DECATHLON ARF is produced by SEAGULL MODELS. It was designed

with the intermediate/advanced sport scale in mind. It is a semi scale high wing airplane which is easy to fly and quick to assemble. The airframe is conventionally built using balsa, plywood to make it stronger than the average ARF, yet the design allows the airplane to be kept light. You will find that most of the work has been done for you already. The motor mount has been fitted and the hinges are pre-installed. Flying the DECATHLON is fun and the plane allows many aerobatic figures."

*We look forward to seeing this plane in the air soon. Best of luck to Frank!*



## 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



## Meeting Minutes from 3/7/2024

Meeting called to order at 6:03 PM with 9 members in attendance.

### Secretary's Report:

- February minutes accepted as published in the Tailwinds newsletter.

### Treasurer's report:

- Thirty-nine members on the roster (including three life members). To date, twenty-six have paid 2024 membership dues.
- Financial report read and accepted.

### Old Business:

- Jeff found some pricing at signs.com for our new signs. For the 24" x 48" gate sign (vinyl on aluminum) the cost is \$110. The 12" x 18" NO PARKING signs are \$35 each, and we agreed that six signs would be needed to properly line the access road. Shipping costs to be determined. A motion was made and seconded to spend \$500 for the new signs, and this was affirmed with a unanimous vote. With luck they will be here in time for our Annual Clean-up Day on April 27th. Keith will bring a tool to install the fence posts between the road boulders, and the signs will be bolted on to each post.
- The vote on the by-law change spelled out in the February newsletter will be held at our next meeting on April 4th.

### New Business:

- Tasks to be accomplished on April 27th:
  - Painting gate, fences, tables as needed
  - Any others?
- Discussion on the need to replace our existing wood shed. It is in rough shape and probably won't last much longer. It was suggested we consider replacing it with a 20' long steel container (CONEX). Initial pricing seems to be in the \$2,200 to \$2,500 range for a used container. Not sure about delivery costs or access for delivery, but that would need to be discussed on site.
- We received a "Thank You" card from the North Hampton Library for our annual donation.
- Discussion on membership cards: will members need to download and print themselves, then laminate if desired? It was determined that Don would print out all membership cards and give to Frank, who will take care of laminating them. The cards for the 2024 season will be handed out at club meetings. Don will disclose the new gate combination prior to Clean-up Day, April 27th.
- Next monthly meeting on April 4th.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM

# RC ACES 2024 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 \$35.00 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**

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

RC Aces membership period is from April 15, 2024 to April 14, 2025.