

MRCSS Field Safety Guidelines

At all times, club members are required to follow AMA membership rules. The guidelines listed below represent MRCSS' efforts to create a standard operating procedure for our membership to follow whenever and wherever we may be flying.

1) Launch Zone

- a) When you arrive, always check the field to make sure that no one else is flying.
- b) Establish a **Launch Zone**. This would be the area that you will set up your hi-start/winch. Your hi-start/winch should never be in a position that would allow it to fall across power lines, roads or personal property such as homes and automobiles.
- c) No one is allowed past the line represented by the forward part of the **Launch Zone** that dissects the field and is ninety degrees to the hi-start/winch, unless they are retrieving the chute or an aircraft.

2) Landing Zone

- a) **Landing Zones** shall always be set back and away from the flight line and **Launch Zone** so as not to interfere with spectators and pilots.
- b) The best position for a landing zone will be—whenever possible—directly behind the **Launch Zone** and not less than 50 feet. This will depend entirely on the field orientation and wind direction.
 - i) Keep in mind that your landing approaches must never cross roads, power lines or personal property such as homes and automobiles.
 - ii) Also, your approaches should never cross the **Launch Zone**, hi-start/winch lines, **Pit Area**, **Flight Line** or **Public Area**.
- c) Always announce your intent to land.
- d) Have your spotter/helper check for trouble and/or clear the **Landing Zone**.
- e) No lingering over the launch or landing zones during your flight. This can be overlooked if there is no other pilot in position to launch or land.
- f) Once you have landed, take any necessary LSF or Contest measurements and move off as soon as possible.

3) Pit Area

- a) The **Pit Area** will be the area all aircraft and transmitters will be located when not in use.
- b) The pit should be adjacent to the launch zone and not less than 50 feet away.
- c) No one is allowed into the pit other than a club member and aircraft owner.

4) Flight Line

- a) This area is where the pilot will fly from after launching and should be located between the **Launch Zone** and the **Pit Area**.
- b) After launching, the pilot should move immediately from the **Launch Zone** to the **Flight Line** for the remainder of the flight.

5) General Public

- a) The general public can observe from an area just behind the **Flight Line**.
- b) The public can move to other area as long as accompanied by a club member.

6) Frequency Control

- a) **Frequency Control** at controlled sites shall use a frequency board if available. If one is not available, always check with the other pilots and announce what frequency you are going to use **before** you turn your transmitter on. Allow other pilots some time to respond to your announcement.
- b) Keep your transmitter with your aircraft in the **Pit Area**.

7) Winch / Hi-Start Safety

- a) Always announce your intent to launch.
- b) No one other than the pilot and a helper should be in the Launch Zone.
- c) No one is allowed past the **Launch Zone** while a pilot is at the line.
- d) Do not perform any kind of winch maintenance without disconnecting the battery.
- e) Do not launch if anyone is beyond the field safety line.

8) Flying Safety

- a) Always pre-flight your model's setup and controls before you launch. Whenever possible, have a friend or another club member help with this very important step.
 - i) If you have a computer radio with multiple model memory, make sure that you have selected the correct model before attempting to launch.
 - ii) Make sure that your batteries are in good condition and fully charged.
- b) No flying below 50 feet over the pits and pilot area.
- c) No lingering over the area used by the hi-start/winch for launching.

This diagram is not to scale. You could transpose this from right to left or change it up a little to allow for the field and current conditions.

