

# Salinas Area Modelers

AMA Club Number 1554

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# SAM SAYS



January 2020

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## PILOT BRIEFING

**Welcome pilots to your January briefing,**

As you may be aware of, the FAA is developing new rules for remote ID for UAS (Unmanned Aerial System) vehicles. The main purpose of these new rules will be to provide the pilot's information to the FAA for anyone operating away from an AMA fixed flying site. These rules are in flux, and we ALL need to make comments in order to help influence the final version of these rules. At the current time, if you fly at a fixed site (like ours) you won't need to do anything special in order to remain legal. If you fly at a site that is not a fixed site you will need to request authorization through an APP on a mobile device. If you choose to provide a comment, the comment needs to be personal not emotional in nature. I suggest you talk briefly about the type of aircraft you fly, and describe in a few words about our flying site. The volume of comments matter, and I suggest you submit several comments focusing on different topics. I have compiled a list of topics to focus on:

AMA needs to be recognized by the FAA and be allowed to provide input on these rules to the FAA

Operations at an AMA fixed flying site (like ours) need to remain the same

Procedures to renew a flying site authorization needs to be automatic or done by the AMA

Clear procedure to register a new AMA fixed flying site

Clear procedure to gain approval when we fly at a site that is away from our fixed flying site, like our float fly, an example would be an APP on the phone

Comments can be sent through the AMA portal at – [www.modelaircraft.org/gov](http://www.modelaircraft.org/gov). The link to make a comment is in the fourth paragraph. I also suggest you and your families make contact with the following politicians:

Jimmy Panetta - <https://panetta.house.gov/contact>

Dianne Feinstein - <https://www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contact>

Kamala Harris - <https://www.harris.senate.gov/>

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# Let's Get Radical by Crazy Ivan

## Snakes' Canyon Race Park Update/Report

This year I worked the RC Car track into its completed/permanent plan-form.

Note: Generally 2-3 days after a rain the track is Ready to Run: it also has been kept Weed-free: It's Open!



The whole idea behind this track is to provide enough learned skills to be ready for the next step which is learning how to drive on a "buggy-beating" pro track. It worked! The jumps were kept to be a separate entity and apart from the race-track-layouts: hence Race-Park. To jump or not to jump is thereby an option: our jumps are comparably "Tame" too.

There are multiple possible Racetrack layouts which means there's Routes/Avenues you can take to avoid traffic (or not) as you choose when you're just cruising with your friends.

The Track types range from a Fast running Roval that I introduced this year for the larger engine 1/8th scale Truggys to other tracks that have many sweeping turns of differing radius's and challenging switchbacks. There's also very-tight-winding-tracks that have only short straightaways.

Thanks to Robert Porter who had brought me 2 nice trailer loads of soil, We now have a decent 3-4 person Drivers Stand or Mound. "Solid-Elevated-Ground" to stand on!

Driving from the Drivers Mound is not required so feel free to stand anywhere that is best for you to learn or to just enjoy. Your goal however should be to learn how to drive all of the track options and areas from/on the drivers stand because, that will be the usual at almost all other tracks: get used to it!



We've now got a very nice "low dust" hard clay medium grip surface that's perfect for an RC Race-Track. The dirt-barriers that are employed on our track aren't dangerous to your buggy like pipe barriers are: you can bump'em, I love'em!

Both Nitro and Electric RC cars "up to 1/8th scale" are Allowed to use the track.

Almost any "dirt oriented" RC car type ranging from 1/12th scale to 1/8th scale will perform well at our track!



The track-pics were taken from the new drivers mound position.

If you have any Questions or Curiosities, Peep-up!

Crazy Ivan



Club meeting at the Flying Artichoke Wednesday January 22. The primary topic was the new NPRM (Notice of Proposed Rule Making) by the FAA for RC "drones" which includes aircraft identification proposals as well as registration of our flying sites and aircraft. Be informed. Go on the AMA website and, read their blogs and watch the videos.

### **Pilot Briefing** (Continued from Page 1)

It also suggest that you call each of these politician's local offices, and I have listed their numbers below:

Jimmy Panetta at (831) 424-7099

Dianne Feinstein at (415) 393-0707

Kamala Harris at (451) 981-0454

If you call, make sure the person who answers the call takes your zip code. This indicates that the message is being officially recorded. Well that's all I have, please don't hesitate to ask me if you have any questions.

Augie



Yes, it was cold that morning but cloth gloves with the index finger and thumb clipped off make great flying gloves

## Calendar of Events

### January 2020

- 15 Board Meeting  
22 Membership Meeting at the Flying Artichoke

### February

- 19 Board Meeting  
26 Membership Meeting at the Flying Artichoke

### March 2020

- 14 Slope Soaring - Seaside  
18 Board Meeting  
25 Membership Meeting at the Flying Artichoke

### April 2020

- 3-5 Float Fly - San Antonio Lake  
12 Easter  
15 Board Meeting  
18-19 IMAC I  
25 RudderGate & Membership Meeting

### May 2020

- 2 Glider Contest I  
10 Mother's Day  
15-17 SAM Float Fly 2  
20 Board Meeting  
30 RudderGate & Membership Meeting

### June 2020

- 6 Glider Contest 2  
13 Work Day  
17 Board Meeting  
21 Father's Day  
27 RudderGate & Membership Meeting

## Club Contact Information

### 2019 SAM Officers

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To send any submissions to the newsletter editor:

**[xpilotwon@gmail.com](mailto:xpilotwon@gmail.com)**

This includes pictures. The email above is checked regularly, so any submission will not go unnoticed.

Link for field weather station: <https://www.wunderground.com/personal-weather-station/dashboard?ID=KCACHUAL3>

If link doesn't work, cut and paste it to your browser.

**Submissions for the newsletter of any kind (this includes opinions) are welcome and will be used on a space available basis. The newsletter editor retains editorial rights to any submission solely for the purpose or cor-**

**PLEASE NOTE:** I have been informed by Rick Maida that the Castle West Coast Giant Scale Flyin is no longer in existence - at least the "Castle" part isn't. In Rick's words, progress is moving forward for the development of businesses. We knew this was coming some day but just didn't know when the shoe would drop. Apparently Crows Landing and Buttonwillow are under investigation as possibilities for the West Coast Giant Scale Flyin, an event that has been going on for many years. It's a very well known event and the organizers certainly don't want to abandon it. I will pass on information as it becomes available.

Bob McGregor