

WRCS – Safety and Lost Models

Safety – “Safety is everyone’s responsibility”

- We have had several nasty prop strikes from both IC and Electric over recent years. Members have a safety focus and will tell you if they see you doing something dangerous. Don’t get upset as they may be saving you from a significant injury and a long rehabilitation. If someone talks to you, take the advice graciously.
- Larger planes need an assistant to hold the plane while starting. Be extremely careful of the propeller. Make sure your lanyard is inside your shirt and be aware of loose clothing or drawstring on hoodies.
- If you need to adjust the motor or remove the Glow Igniter, move to the side of your model behind the propeller. This is a much safer place to adjust the model.
- Electric Aircraft – *Very quiet but capable of inflicting significant injuries.*
 - You must not connect the battery in the Sheds or Spectator Area unless you remove the propeller.
 - All electric aircraft must also be equipped with a Kill Switch. This ensures the propeller will not turn if you bump the throttle. A Kill Switch is easily configured with your transmitter. Your instructor will be able to assist if required.
 - When the battery is connected (armed) be careful not to put your hand or face near the propeller. Someone could knock the transmitter and start the motor. If you need to adjust the throws or check the transmitter etc., remove the propeller. Remember, this is good practice when setting up your new model in case the throttle channel is reversed.

Lost Planes - Recovery

- A long sleeves shirt and long pants help avoid scratches when walking through the bush.
- If your model is stuck in a tree there are poles behind the Eastern Shed and next to the containers to help retrieve your model.
- If searching for electric model disconnect the battery as soon as you locate the model. A spinning prop is dangerous.
- If the model is in located in thick bush, you may do less damage by removing the wings and carrying out the parts separately.
- Take all parts and broken bits of your model home with you. Please keep our environment clean.

Lost Model - Prevention

- Fitting a tracker to your plane is a great way to make finding your plane easier. Some members use a [Tracki](#) however there are a range of Trackers available. Talk to some members if you want to know more.
- Another less expensive option is a Beeper. These work well and good for smaller model. Beepers work by making a noise when a control surface is not moved for a period. If there is no Tracker or Beeper, then other members may be reluctant help you when your model goes into the bush.
- If your plane has LIPO batteries, we really need you to find it in case of fire. Please fit it with a beeper at a minimum or it will be you that has to keep searching until it is found.

Searching the Bush for lost models.

- We have had some serious problems with people going into the bush and getting lost, hurt or not advising people of their location. Don't head into the bush alone to look for a lost model. There are many places where you could fall and injure yourself or get lost. Snakes are also a risk, particularly in the warmer months. Always take care when entering the bush. If you do enter the bush, you must:
 - Tell someone at the field (*your contact*) where you're going and estimated return time.
 - Take a phone and water. Long sleeves and trousers are a good idea to protect you from scratches.
 - Make sure *your contact* knows your mobile number.
 - Update *your contact* at the field each hour on your progress.
 - Arrange with *your contact* or other members to raise the alarm if you don't return by a specific time.
 - If you don't return a Police air search may be initiated. This can be very expensive, and you will be paying the cost, not the club.
 - **What to do if the member does not return?**
 - In the member does not return by the agreed time, you need to use your discretion about how long to wait before calling for assistance. Talk to your colleagues at the field and call the member again by phone and by shouting. Consider the weather and the time until sunset.
 - It is better to call for help and have them walk out safe than to wait too long and have teams searching in darkness.
 - If you're worried about a member's safety, it's the right thing to do to call the Police. The Club will back your decision.
 - If you call the Police, they will need the address and the GPS co-ordinates. These can be found on the wall of each shed. Please call a member of the WRCS Committee as well to let them know what is going on.
 - Send someone to unlock the gate and meet the Police on Morgan Road.
 - Remove the padlock and leave the gate open for the Emergency Service. Keep the lock with you so it doesn't get misplaced.

Feedback

We hope these guidelines will be helpful. If you have feedback or things, we have missed, please let the Registrar or one of the Instructors know. The most up to date Guideline can always be found on the club website. [Join our Club](#)

Always remember, your club has loads of members happy to help.
All you need to do is ask.

Cheers and Good Luck.

WRCS Committee