



Northeast Side Taildraggers R/C Model Aviation Club NeST-RC.com

Field Address:
15351 Olio Road
Noblesville IN 46060

Admin Address:
10194 N 50 W
Fortville IN 46040
317-627-7734

Club Information

As of February 21st, 2017

Hello! And thanks for your interest in NeST-RC. We developed this document as a way to respond to the many requests for information that come in from our web site and our Facebook page. This document is probably much more than you asked for, but what you asked for is most certainly covered in here. I've painstakingly typed up many reply emails on my phone to respond to these inquiries, so forgive this "shotgun" reply; it is an attempt to get a complete and accurate response to you quickly.

Club Origin:

NeST-RC first chartered in March of 2011. My dad and I had been flying at a church parking lot in Fortville over the summer of 2010, and several of our regular spectators ended up buying airplanes and joining us. Eight of us formed the original club charter. That first season we developed a flying site behind the campus of Mt. Vernon Elementary School south of Fortville. To make a long story short, we lost our access to that site in September of 2011, so we were on the hunt for a new home.

Club Flying Site:

January 1st, 2012 we signed a 5-year agreement with the city of Noblesville to occupy and develop a flying site behind Fire Station #7 at 15251 Olio Road (between 146th and 156th Streets). In 2012, we had an early spring with very favorable weather, and in March we were flying off of our 258' x 52' geotextile fabric runway. Over the course of the 2012 season, we added 86' in length to the runway, added a 20' x 20' carport shelter, picnic tables, pit work bench tables, safety fences, etc. During the 2013 season, we added a 258' x 35' crosswind runway, which added another 35' to the length of the "main" runway. We also covered our pit area with geotextile fabric, painted lines and numbers on the runway, added additional mulch parking areas, a porta-potty, and we were permitted run a 15 amp AC electrical line out to our shelter.

We are now in "maintenance mode", as we don't have plans for any further enhancements to the site, but we seem to find plenty of work to keep us busy out there. We renewed our agreement with the city of Noblesville late in 2016, and we have permission to occupy the site through 2021.

Club Activities:

NeST-RC welcomes just about all forms of RC aviation. We have micro electrics, 3D, electric ducted fan jets, nitro and gasoline powered airplanes and helicopters, quad-copters, etc. liquid fuel turbines are not allowed on the fabric runways.

We host one picnic event in the spring which includes a club-wide flying event. We also host a regional fun-fly event in the fall, open to the club and area clubs.

Club Membership:

2011 membership reached 18. In 2012 we grew to 45 and in 2013 we reached 63 members. Since then we've hovered around 50 to 60 members each year. Members cover just about every age demographic. We have student members who are pre-teens, senior members in their 80's and most everything in between. Currently, there is no plan to "cap" membership.

All members must also be members in good standing with the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA, see <http://www.modelaircraft.org>). Their annual dues are \$75 per year for "open" members, \$65 per year for senior members, and youth membership is free. AMA membership provides up to \$2.5 million in liability insurance, and an annual subscription to their monthly magazine. NeST-RC club dues are \$65 per year for "open" members, \$50 per year for seniors, \$25 per year for full time students (22 and under), and \$15 per year each for spouse and child(ren) of open members. New member dues are partially prorated for the calendar year.

There is also a one-time "Field Improvement Fee" assessed to all NeST-RC members, and the amount of that fee is equal to the annual dues. This fee is not prorated.

Options for Those New to the Hobby:

Many prospective members don't know if they have enough interest in the hobby to spend \$200 for AMA and NeST-RC membership dues. For those people, we (and AMA) have developed programs for them to "try before you buy". First, there is the AMA "Intro-pilot" program. Under this program, the "student" pilot is paired with an "Intro-pilot" instructor. The student is ONLY allowed to fly under the direct supervision of the instructor, and is covered by the instructor's AMA insurance policy. This program lasts for up to 60 days, at which time the student is expected to pay AMA and NeST-RC dues in order to continue flying at the NeST-RC flying site.

The club owns and maintains a club "trainer" aircraft. Guests are permitted to fly that aircraft under the supervision of a club instructor using a "dual" buddy-box system for 5 to 10 minutes for \$5 per flight. If the guest subsequently joins the club, up to 3 rental fees (\$15) can be applied to the club dues.

Experienced RC pilots with current AMA membership are permitted to fly at NeST-RC as a guest of a NeST-RC member for up to 3 days per calendar year. A NeST-RC member must be present, and the guest must agree to NeST-RC field rules. Violation of field rules is subject to denial of guest privileges. After 3 days as a guest, the guest is expected to pay NeST-RC club dues.

We have several RC flight instructors. Flight instruction is free. We try to have instructors available (in season) on Tuesday evenings and Sunday afternoons. Schedules being what they are these days, sometimes those days do not work for any of the instructors. If instructors are at the field, they are generally willing to train, regardless of the day.

Field Access:

Field hours are daily, dawn to dark. Since the firemen sleep at the fire station, we have agreed to enforce noise abatement until 9:00 am every day, so electrics only before 9:00. Occasionally, the fire station will conduct training exercises between our field and their building. If they deem that their activities might be dangerous (for us or for them) they may close the flying site temporarily, until the exercise is complete. There is a sandwich sign at the field entrance that they will place in front of the driveway, should that ever be necessary (to this date, it has never happened). If they close the field, DO NOT ENTER the area. Leave and come back later.

Club Meetings:

Club meetings are generally held on the 2nd Saturday of every month at 6:30 pm, usually at the field. If weather and/or lack of daylight preclude an outdoor meeting, then we typically meet at the club president's house (the admin address below). We will usually skip some of the meetings during the winter months.

Facebook:

Most of the club members have joined the club's Facebook group page. It is simply called "Northeast Side Taildraggers". You do not need to be a club member to join, and there is no cost associated with it. Search for it and request to join...one of the administrators will add you when they see the request. This is the main forum used by members for communication. Events, photos, videos, web links, building tips, plans and all sorts of other things are posted on there by members. If you aren't on Facebook, I would encourage you to get on there, even if the only page you ever look at is our page (you don't have to put any personal information on there at all).

Email:

Members are added to the club mailing list. Emails are sent out once per month or less. We only send out important reminders for events, dues renewals, etc. We don't share email address with anyone.

DIY Warning:

Learning to fly RC aircraft is difficult. I've been flying and teaching people to fly RC models for over 25 years. In all of that time, I've never known anyone who has successfully taught themselves how to fly RC aircraft (there have been a few who've learned on their own, but I wouldn't necessarily call their experience "successful", if you know what I mean). It is very common for a new RC pilot to try to learn on their own, crash, and then either quit or seek help. One invaluable tool that new RC pilots can utilize is a good RC simulation program. There are several great programs available at local hobby shops. I generally recommend Phoenix or RealFlight.

Use of a simulator will give new students several advantages, all without risking damage to a real model airplane. First, you gain familiarity with the basic controls of the transmitter and how they affect the aircraft at different airspeeds and attitudes. Second, and most importantly, it will give you opportunity to "train your brain" to keep track of the aircraft's orientation, no matter which way it is pointed. One of the largest hurdles to overcome in learning to fly RC is keeping track of which way is left and which way is right. With enough simulator practice, this will eventually become intuitive. Students who utilize a flight simulator before and during their "real" instruction generally progress to solo stages much more quickly than those who do not.

That is about all that I can think of to introduce the club. If I've failed to answer any of your questions, please feel free to send me another message with a specific request.

Jim David
President
Northeast Side Taildraggers RC Aviation Club
jdavid@NeST-RC.com

See the club documents (bylaws, field rules, membership application) at
<http://www.NeST-RC.com>



NeST-RC Field, Fall 2013

NeST-RC Field Specs (as of February 2017):

Runway 17/35:	364' x 52'
Runway 9/27:	258' x 35'
Runway/Taxiway/Pit Material:	315 Geotextile Fabric
Pilot Stations:	8 total, 4 on runway 17/35, 2 on 9/27, 2 for Helicopters
Pit Tables:	8 custom built
Shelter:	20' x 20' carport, steel
Parking:	Mulched lot w/RR tie border, 20 car capacity w/overflow
Porta-potty:	March through November, serviced bi-weekly
Electric Service:	15 Amp 120V AC, 8 weatherproof outlets in shelter
Field Hours:	dawn to dark (electrics only before 9:00 am)
Dedicated Helicopter Area:	3 practice circles
Safety Fences:	To separate spectator area from pit/pilot area
Safety Lines:	Marking flight zones and taxi zones.
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