

## Join On Top of the World RC Flyers and Learn to Fly!

*The fascinating hobby of Radio Controlled Aircraft has never been easier or more fun!*



**As an On Top of the World resident you have access to an amenity that is unique in all the nation, A dedicated flying field that includes a 50' x 600' paved runway, acres of clear flyover area, a protected pavilion and covered work areas.**

### What is the first step to learning to fly with the OTOW RC Flyers?

Visit the "Training Page" on **OTOWRCFLYERS.COM** and contact the current training coordinator. The training coordinator will quickly assess your goals and recommend a tailored course of action, which will most likely include:

- An introductory flight using the club's aircraft and equipment. During this session, you'll have the opportunity to participate in actually flying an aircraft - During pre-flight coordination; there will be a couple of small insurance requirements by OTOW and the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA). The latter requirement can cost as little as \$20 for a 90 day trial.
- Studying and understanding the AMA's and OTOW RC Flyer's safety rules and requirements.
- Purchasing your own recommended aircraft and equipment -
- Optional (Highly Recommended) Purchasing a Flight Simulator such as Real Flight 9.5
- Becoming a member of the AMA.
- Becoming a member of the OTOW RC Flyers
- Instructed Flight training using your own aircraft and equipment.
- Training at home on your flight training simulator
- Completing a successful "solo" flight and obtaining your flight certificate.

### How much does it cost?

- Membership in the Academy of Model Aeronautics (mandatory for insurance purposes) \$75 year, \$65 for members over age 65.
- Membership in the OTOW RC Flyers club - \$100 one time initiation fee, (primary and spouse) and \$50 annual dues
- Trainer aircraft and radio system. Costs vary of course, but the most basic recommended trainer aircraft, radio transmitter, batteries and charger will start around \$400-600 depending on choices. Optional Real Flight 9.5 simulator (computer required) <\$200.

### What hours may I fly at the field?

- 7:00 am to dusk/dark –
- Sunday, same as above but fuel engines limited to 9:30 pm
- And of course, wind/weather dependant

See reverse side for Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

## Is it easy to learn?

It's been said that nothing worthwhile is easy. Success depends on the student's aptitude, preparation before trying to fly (ground school), the teacher and the training aircraft. You can be flying with your instructor's assistance on the first flight. Given enough practice, good students can fly solo in as little as a few weeks.

## What happens if I crash?

Crashes do happen, even to the top competition fliers. The good news is they rarely happen during flight training due to the system used by the instructor and student. When they do happen, it adds to the excitement of the hobby, and create interesting conversation with your flying friends. Most aircraft can be rebuilt after all but the most severe crashes.

## Where can I get one?

The local hobby shop often stocks radio control aircraft for beginners. These aircraft can also be found online. Consult your instructor before buying anything. There are a few good training aircraft and many poor ones.

## What type of battery does it use?

More and more modern airplanes use electric motors instead of the traditional glow engines. These motors are powered by lithium polymer (lipo) batteries. For now, stick with the airplane manufacturers recommended battery. In addition to electric-powered airplanes, all RC models use a battery to power the radio receiver and servos.

## I have my private pilot's license. So it's a lot easier, right?

Not always. When you sit in the pilot seat of a full-size airplane, you have the sensations of three-dimensional motion and "out the windscreen" visuals. With an RC airplane, you have none of those sensual inputs. The controls are intuitive when the airplane is moving away from you, but when it turns around; some of the controls are reversed! Through training and practice, you develop the skills needed; - dedicated time on the flight simulator is beneficial. That's part of the fun and challenge of RC flying. Before long you simply won't need to think about it and flying will be automatic and second nature.

## My Grandfather was a pilot. Can I get a scale model of the bomber he flew?

Scale aircraft are generally fascinating to look at, but are challenging to build and fly. Models of scale aircraft generally have a higher wing loading than trainers do, so it's best to get the experience first. Once you have the flying skill, the sky is the limit.

## Can I fly anywhere, whenever I feel like it?

Like all fun things, a few have been irresponsible bringing about rules and regulations. Drones, due to their popularity, low costs and ease flying have caught the eye of the FAA and law enforcement. Our hobby is currently going through a transition of pilot accountability. In the near future, flying in the "National Airspace" will require that your aircraft "identify" itself and you, the operator. Or you fly at a Federally Recognized site such as a club field like ours. So, no – the only place you're allowed to fly within the community is at our field.

## Do I need insurance – what's my liability?

Yes, as a responsible future pilot, you need insurance to protect yourself, others, their property, and our community. This is easily and accomplished by becoming member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, (AMA). It's a requirement to becoming a member of our club and the current price of \$75 a year is very reasonable. For more information visit [www.modelaircraft.org](http://www.modelaircraft.org).

The takeaway is that this hobby, like most, has a learning curve. Your aptitude, dedication and determination may result in a lifetime love affair with all things that fly. Consider that most of our 190+ members have been lifelong hobbyists who planned for retirement in this unique community singularly for the opportunity to join the club and fly at On Top of the World. The hobby is a direct descendent of the very birth of aviation with a rich history of pioneers. Discover you inner pioneer – you won't be disappointed.