



NOTAP

May 2023-07

CONTACT

PHONE:
0448 749 865

WEBSITE:
<https://www.pdarcs.com.au>

EMAIL:
president@pdarcs.com.au

Fellow P&DARCS Members

As many club members would be aware, full size aircraft operations occur from time to time around the boundaries of our flying field. In particular, Professional Helicopter Services operate a regular low-level service where they carry out inspections of the water pipeline that runs near Ballarto Road and close to our perimeter. During these aerial operations, the helicopter can (legally) descend below 500 ft AGL (Above Ground Level) and down to ground level if required. Under CASA Directives and the requirements of our Area Approval, we are required to always remain clear of manned aircraft. **There are no exceptions.**

An Area Approval is an instrument issued to all model clubs which enables them to operate at their designated flying field. The application process is detailed and requires significant supporting documentation be provided prior to acceptance by CASA (Civil Aviation Safety Authority). Our approval expires in January 2024 and the committee will begin the re-application process in July.

In the meantime, I would like to reiterate some requirements of the P&DARCS Area Approval. Again, there are no exceptions to these points:

Model aircraft are not to be operated:

- (a) More than 1000 metres laterally, measured from the Model aircraft operator.
- (b) Over major roads, persons, or populous areas.
- (c) Into cloud or fog.
- (d) Above 1500 FT AGL.
- (e) For model aircraft operations above 400 FT AGL, a dedicated person must be appointed to maintain visual lookout for manned aircraft (ie, a spotter).
- (f) If a manned aircraft is transiting the area or operating within the vicinity of the site, the spotter must advise the operator of the model aircraft to operate below 400 FT AGL or land the model as soon as possible.

In addition, once it is known that manned aircraft are in proximity to our site, the spotter or another person at the field must activate the low flying aircraft alarm. Activation buttons are located at the outer shelter or near the stairs to the clubhouse. This procedure has also been covered during your induction to the club.

For us as aeromodellers, these regulations exist to enable our sport to continue in a safe and professional manner at P&DARCS.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Keith Quigg | AUS 22897
P&DARCS President 2022/2023