



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS 14TH FLYING TRAINING WING  
COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE MISSISSIPPI**

16 May 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR 14 FTW

FROM: 14 FTW/CC

SUBJECT: Columbus AFB Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Policy

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to establish policy for UAS operations at CAFB.
2. For the purposes of this policy, UAS includes traditional radio controlled (RC) model aircraft and helicopters, toy drones, quadcopters, and any other unmanned aircraft system used for hobby or recreational purposes weighing less than 55 pounds.
3. UAS operations are prohibited on CAFB, including base housing and Gunshy Aux Field.
4. Exception to this policy: base-assigned personnel may operate a UAS in the SAC lake recreational area. Base-assigned personnel may also operate a UAS on the SAC ramp after receiving training from Airfield Management (434-2993) or Base Operations (434-2998). Persons intending to fly in either area must notify Airfield Management prior to operations to ensure no active flying operations during the planned UAS flight. If Airfield Management cannot be reached, contact the command post at 662-434-7020. In addition to this notification, individuals must meet the following requirements:
  - a. Operations within the areas listed above may only be accomplished on Saturdays, Sundays (limited hours due to cross-country returns), and holidays when no active flying operations are in progress. To use the SAC ramp, the SAC ramp must be free of any active or planned aircraft operations within the time frame of the activity.
  - b. When operating from the SAC lake recreational area, overflight of the SAC ramp is prohibited. Additionally, pictures and video of aircraft parked on the SAC ramp are prohibited unless approved by public affairs and security forces.
  - c. UAS operators will immediately cease operations if piloted aircraft are observed.
  - d. Requests for flight operations should be made no later than the last duty day prior to the weekend or holiday.
  - e. If using the SAC ramp, individuals must receive training for safe entry/exit procedures.
  - f. Personnel approved to administer training for the SAC ramp include Airfield Management, Base Operations, and RC Club Representatives Jeff Andrews (434-7914) or Bob James (434-7881).
  - g. Individuals using the SAC ramp will accomplish the attached checklist and keep a signed copy with them when operating from the SAC ramp.
  - h. Security Forces can be made aware of the activity by checking with airfield operations.
5. All UAS operators will follow published FAA guidelines which can be found at <http://www.faa.gov/uas/>
6. This policy will remain in effect until superseded by AFI or MAJCOM guidance.

JOHN J. NICHOLS, Col, USAF  
Commander

### RC Model Club and UAS Operators – Access and Use of the SAC Ramp Checklist

\_\_\_\_\_ has been trained on the use and responsibilities of operating from the SAC ramp. Mandatory training topics are listed below.

1. Individuals will ensure the area is left in the same manner as it was found and use strict FOD prevention principles.
2. Safe entry, exit, and parking on the SAC ramp.
3. Permission must be granted by Airfield Operations for any intention to utilize the SAC ramp. RC Club members or UAS operators can request approval by calling 662-434-2998 or 2993 during normal duty hours.
4. SAC ramp will not be used if any aircraft are parked on SAC ramp.
5. UAS flying operations will not take place during any active 14 FTW flying periods.
6. Individuals will comply with all applicable FAA guidance, to include:
  - Fly below 400 feet and remain clear of surrounding obstacles
  - Keep the aircraft/UAS within visual line of sight at all times
  - Do not engage in careless or reckless behavior with your UAS – you can be fined for endangering people or other aircraft.
  - Further information can be found here:  
<http://www.faa.gov/uas/> <http://knowbeforeyoufly.org/>
7. Failure to comply with these rules will result in the loss of SAC ramp access and could lead to other punitive actions.

I certify that I have trained the above individual on the safe use of the SAC ramp for UAS operations.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Trainer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Trainer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date