



## Gatherings Now Increased to 10 Pilots! Starting Monday July 6<sup>th</sup>



We are very pleased to announce that the City of Toronto Parks and Recreation Department has given us the approval to **increase the maximum number of pilots that can gather at the field from 5 to 10!** This is what we

have been waiting for that will return us to near normal levels of access to the field for our member pilots and students.

We want to take a moment to thank all members who have been following our COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols so diligently. Without your cooperation, we wouldn't be where we are today. The online booking system has been working very well and we haven't heard of any issues or conflicts at the field.

So our Web Master, Zoltan Pittner has increased the limits on the booking page from 5 to 10 slots. Now that there will be much more availability, you may also be able to book more than one time slot per day. Please remember that all previous rules and COVID-19 protocols remain in place. The most important guidelines are:

- 1) No guests or spectators are permitted to visit the field.
- 2) Only one member at a time may access the charging station. Arrive at the field with your batteries already charged to minimize charging at the field. Wipe down anything you touch like charging cables before and after use.
- 3) Avoid use of the toilet while at the field as much as possible. If you absolutely must use the toilet, use hand sanitizer to disinfect any surface you touch.
- 4) Bring hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes (or paper towels and at least 70% alcohol) and wipe any common surfaces.
- 5) Minimize touching surfaces and sanitize your hands before and after touching any common surfaces such as the gate lock or charging station lock and equipment.
- 6) Do not leave any form of refuse behind. You must leave with everything that you bring to the field.
- 7) Do not congregate in the shelter, keep a minimum of 2 meters from each other in the pit area at all times, use the designated pilot stations when flying, and keep the same safe distance from each other at the flight line.
- 8) The wearing of masks is still recommended but not strictly required as long as physical distancing is maintained.
- 9) To follow Provincial guidelines and facilitate contact tracing, members must book time at the field using the online Field Booking Procedure which is available in the Members Section of the club's web site. The system allows up to 10 people to book any specific time slot. You must book time in advance using your computer at home or smart phone before coming to the field.

## More Reminders...

Please also keep in mind the following general guidelines and procedures that are still in effect:

- 1) You must still hang your member and MAAC cards on the frequency board before flying.
- 2) Be sure to lock the gate when you enter and after you leave the field.
- 3) You must book your time slots in advance online. But if your time slot is up and there are fewer than 10 pilots at the field, you may extend your stay into the following time slot.
- 4) There is no need to sign the paper flight log book. The online booking procedure replaces the previous paper flight log book for the foreseeable future. Aside from managing access within the 10 person limit, this allows us to trace who has been at the field and eliminates the need to touch surfaces. The online booking procedure was described in detail in the June 2020 Flyer.
- 5) You must agree to accept the risk of COVID-19 and to follow our published protocols if you wish to fly. If you have not already submitted the form, go online NOW to fill out and submit the [COVID-19 Risk Agreement & Protocols Form](#).



## Airplane ID Labels Are Still Required!

Chief Flight Instructor, **Randall Thomas** asked me to remind everyone that MAAC policy still requires you to mount an identification label on all models. MAAC policy permits the information to be on the inside or outside of the aircraft. You can use clear Scotch tape to laminate it on your airplane. You can make your own label or cut out the sample below. Please note that any member of the club's executive committee may ground your plane for the day if you cannot demonstrate that you have labeled your aircraft correctly.

Model Aeronautics Association of Canada (MAAC) <a href="http://www.maac.ca">www.maac.ca</a> MAAC Office Phone: 1-855-359-6222	
MAAC # _____	
If found, please call:	
Name _____	Cell Number _____

## A "Friendly" Visit From Toronto Police



The City of Toronto was patrolling Thackeray Park a few weeks ago and paid us a "friendly" visit in an unmarked police car. Actually the visit wasn't so friendly until we were able to show the officer a copy of our field permit. We now keep a copy in the charging station box if you ever need to prove to authorities that we have a valid permit. Although we have been open since June 7<sup>th</sup>, we have heard that other club field permits were only just now approved to start on Monday July 6<sup>th</sup>.



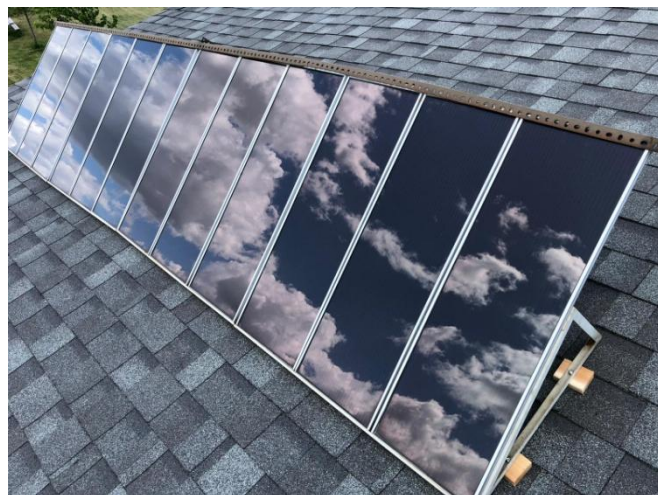
## We Have a New Shelter Roof! FINALLY!

We are pleased to report that the shelter roof that was over 18 years old and badly damaged over the winter has been replaced with new shingles. Major contributors to the project were **Zoltan Pittner**, **Mike D'Antonio**, and **Dave Edwards**. The project involved removing the solar charging panels first, coordinating efforts by a professional roofer and then replacing the solar panels. Everything was up and running within 2 days which was quite an accomplishment given that we still limited the number of people at the field at one time to only 5 and still observed physical distancing rules!

Next on the list will be improved heavy gauge wiring and upgrade of the charging station to support 24 volts for larger battery packs. We will keep you posted on these developments as they happen. Isn't our new roof a thing of beauty?



*New roof shingles installed!*



*Solar panels re-installed and reflecting a beautiful sky!*

## Summer Events Cancelled Due to COVID-19

As you might expect, our summer Fun Fly, BBQ and Float Fly events had to be cancelled this year due to COVID-19. However, the field is in great shape and now open to 10 people gatherings, so we hope you will come out to the field and enjoy the great summer weather.

## Geotextile Runway Project Still Planned

Now that we can have gatherings of up to 10 people, we are planning to restart the runway installation project. It was just not possible to do this with only 5 volunteers. We hope to complete the north half of the runway later this summer. We have the textile material in the shed but need to purchase other supplies and organize volunteers.

If you can help with this work, please contact **Zoltan Pittner** to add your name to the list of volunteers.

## New Buy/Sell on the Web Site!

Web Master, **Zoltan Pittner** has been busy improving our web site yet again! We now have a new simple Buy and Sell feature available to members in the Member Section. It should be pretty straight forward to use in case you want to buy, sell or swap anything. Let's give this a try and see how it goes. Once you post something, buyers can contact you via your email address or phone.

There is no online dialogue supported or changes to the listings allowed. All listings will expire after 30 days.

## New "How to Join" Page & Interac Payment

We have also implemented a new page in the Club Info tab of the web site to provide more details on how to become a club member. We get lots of inquiries about this and now we can direct people to this page. So if you have a friend who wants to join, you can do the same.



Along with providing this information, Treasurer, **Bruce Gillespie** has updated our banking capabilities and we now support Interac e-transfer payments. If you need to make a payment with a new application, contact Bruce for instructions. We will also provide Interac payment instructions with next year's renewals.

## Forgot Your Password? No Problem!

Did you lose or forget where you put the password to the Member Section of our web site. No problem. Just go the Members tab, fill out the Password Request Form, and we will send you the login credentials. Our web site has rapidly become a valuable source of information so make sure your browser remembers the login credentials for you. Also note that pretty much everything you can do or lookup on the web site, can be done from your smart phone.

## Your 2020 Club Executive

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