

LAANC – Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability

RCRCC members:

The FAA notification / authorization process has changed ...

- **We no longer call the tower.**
- The FAA regulations have changed, and you need to use the LAANC – Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability each time you fly at the club field or at the MRC Soccer Fields. **Each club member is required to do this, you can't legally fly under someone else's authorization.**
- Here is a link which describes the LAANC process in general ...
https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs_partnerships/data_exchange
- You are required to follow all FAA regs, including temporary airspace restrictions. (TFRs). This might happen if a dignitary flies into the Santa Fe Airport or there is some special event such as an airshow. You can check for NOTAMs (notice to airmen) for TFRs at KSAF (Santa Fe Airport) here
<https://notams.aim.faa.gov/notamSearch/nsapp.html#/>

Getting the LAANC can be done as follows:

- Register your plane(s) with the FAA:
 - Here is the link that describes the registration process https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started/register_drone/
 - Here is the link where the actual registration takes place ...
<https://faadronezone.faa.gov/#/>
 - Use the “Exception for Recreational Flyers” type of registration ... not the “Part 107” type. The button for this is in the blue area at the top of the page.
 - The cost is \$5, and the registration lasts 3 years.
 - You only have to register once, even if you have more than one plane.

- Once the registration is processed, the FAA will send you an email. Keep a printed copy of this with you when you fly.
- The FAA number should be visible on all your planes. Don't put it inside the battery compartment. It needs to be visible from the outside "on close inspection." A good idea is to have some labels printed with this number, your AMA number and phone number in case you model is lost. Adding "reward if found" helps. AMA rules require your AMA number or address on all models. There are special rules for scale models.
- Get an LAANC app ...
 - Use the LAANC app to get authorization to fly each time you get to the fields. Each club member is required to do this, you can't legally fly under someone else's authorization.
 - The LAANC apps are provided by private companies that have contracted with the FAA. An app called Kittyhawk works very well and is available for both iPhones and Android phones. Visit the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store. This is the app icon.



- Here is the Kittyhawk link that describes their LAANC app ... <https://kittyhawk.io/feature/laanc/> The app is free.
- When you setup the app and request a flight clearance the first time you use the app you will be entering your name, FAA number and cell phone number that are used later in the process.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR IPHONE USERS. ANDROID INSTRUCTIONS BELOW.

- Using the LAANC app for iPhone ...
 - Launch the LAANC app on the iPhone
 - Click the "+ Add" button at the bottom. This is the beginning of the process to request authorization to fly.
 - Click "Request LAANC Authorization"
 - Wait for the blue button in the bottom left to appear. The app looks up your location using the iPhone's GPS. This blue button represents

your location, and also the type of authorization needed to fly near the SAF airport.

- Click the blue button in the bottom left
- Click the “Get Authorization” button
- Click the “Recreational” button
- Click “200 feet” to tell the app your maximum flying height. It should default to this since it knows we’re near SAF and that’s the maximum near the airport.
- Click the “Next” button
- Click the “Duration” button, set the desired flying time to tell the app how long you plan to fly, and click the “OK” button. The system is smart enough to know that the duration can’t go past sunset. You can’t fly at night using the app. Night according to the FAA starts at 30 minutes before civil sunset.

- Click the “Next” button
- Click the “Next” button
- Click the “Agree & Submit” button. This submits your approval request to the FAA LAANC system.
- Close the Kittyhawk app on the iPhone
- The FAA LAANC system will respond with a “Request Approved” text message to your iPhone. It usually takes about 45 seconds to get the text message. I’ve never gotten a “Request Not Approved” reaction.
- There is no action needed at the end of flying ... the duration just expires by itself. However, there is a way in the Kittyhawk app to cancel the approval before the duration expires if you want to. Check out the end of the video in the link below to see how this is done.
- Carrying the iPhone
 - We are required to carry the iPhone while we are flying. This is how they contact us if there is some need at SAF.
 - Your name, cell phone number and FAA number are added when you set up the Kittyhawk app. You can update them in the profile section of the app.

Here is a link to a video that has a screen capture of the iPhone going through the steps to run the Kittyhawk app ...

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/qidge19oj0oj5ez/AAASQ7CAaGqVc-i4giErdk3Aa?dl=0>

There are a number of Youtube videos on how to use the Kittyhawk apps available as well.

If you have problems with your iPhone contact Jeff Coe for help

(281) 682-5778 (cell)

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR ANDROID PHONES

- Using the LAANC app for Android
 - Launch the LAANC app on your Android phone.
 - Click the "+ Add" button at the bottom. This is the beginning of the process to request authorization to fly.
 - Click "Request LAANC Authorization"
 - Click on "Section 44809 Recreational"
 - Create your flying area by moving the + anchors to outline approximately the area at the club field or the MRC soccer fields.
 - Slide the height number to select your requested flight altitude. 200 feet is the max at our two fields due to their proximity to the airport.
 - Click "Next."
 - On the When and how long? page select the desired date and time you are flying. Please note that you can't fly at night using the app. Night according to the FAA starts at 30 minutes before sunset.
 - Click the "Next" button
 - The Pre-Check results page should appear and say "Eligible for Auto-Approval." Check that the numbers are correct and click on "Next."
 - The next page should show your name and cell phone number that you entered when you set up the Kittyhawk app. Click on "Agree & Submit" A map showing the area where you are flying should appear.
 - The FAA LAANC system will respond with a "Request Approved" text message to your cell phone. It usually takes about 45 seconds to get the text message.

- There is no action needed at the end of flying ... the duration just expires by itself. However, there is a way in the Kittyhawk app to cancel the approval before the duration expires if you want to. Check out the end of the video in the link below to see how this is done.
- Carrying the cell phone
 - We are required to carry the cell phone you used for authorization while we are flying so that the airport tower can contact you if necessary.

If you have trouble with your Android phone setup you can call

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