



# NEWS AT THE TOP

January 2021

## From the Editor by Anthony Curcuruto

The [Final Rule for Remote ID](#) (click for the complete text) from the FAA was published on 12/28/2020. This Final Rule has an effect on our hobby. The AMA fully reviewed the 470-page document. They know that all AMA members will have questions regarding Remote ID, and they have all of the tools needed to address our questions and concerns. On 12/29/2020, the AMA had a live webinar to update leaders within the AMA's community on the final rule and discuss our next steps. After the leadership roundtable discussion, the AMA released additional information for us to see and read.

It does not look bad if you belong to a club. Our fields would be a FAA-Recognized Identification Areas (FRIAs). Clubs will be able to apply for their flying site(s) to be recognized by the FAA through AMA. When the flying site is included in the list of FRIAs, members can fly there without needing to meet any additional Remote ID requirements.

It may seem a little confusing. The frequently asked questions on page 3 will help. Nothing is going to happen for a while yet. Although you might notice new Remote ID products on the shelves and FAA-Recognized Identification Areas (FRIA) be established, we are not required to comply until September 1, 2023.

When we start having meetings again, I will go over all of the details and hopefully answer any questions that come up.

You can find the latest news and developments at [modelaircraft.org/gov](https://modelaircraft.org/gov). You can also view a YouTube Video at [Click here for the all membership livestream](#) for additional information.

**Mask Up, Get Vaccinated and Stay Safe!**

## First Look: Final Rule on Remote ID of Unmanned Aircraft

29 December, 2020

### Three Ways to Comply:

#### 1. Standard Remote ID

- Broadcast equipment built into UAS at a manufacturer's level.
- Requires radio frequency spectrum to broadcast location, altitude, ID, emergency status, etc., for both UAS and control station.
- UAS designed not to take off if not broadcasting signal.
- All UAS manufactured to fly in the National Airspace System need to meet standards and certification of the standard Remote ID requirements.

#### 2. Broadcast Modules

- Module option allows for older (nonstandard) UAS.
- Sends same signal as standard, except no emergency status and no control information.
- The information will be UAS takeoff location and altitude instead. Module also needs to signal if not working properly.
- FAA anticipates modules to cost \$20-\$50.
- Visual-line-of-sight operations only.

#### 3. FAA-Recognized Identification Areas (FRIAs)

- Valid for 48 months and renewal/changeable.
- Requires that the site be under the umbrella of a community-based organization or educational institute.
- Visual-line-of-sight operations only

### Registration Requirement

- Registration will remain \$5 per individual every three years.
- Standard Remote ID registration must include serial numbers of all aircraft so equipped.
- Broadcast module registration must include serial number of broadcast module.

### Events

- Special events, such as air shows or other temporary events, would have a path to receive authorization from the Administrator to deviate from the Remote ID operating rules.

### Homebuilt

- Recreational and educational operators can "home build" without meeting manufacturer certification standards, allowing these types of aircraft to be operated at a FRIA or under the broadcast model option.

### Timeline

- Each effective date begins 60 days after publication in the Federal Register (December 28, 2020).
- Person producing a standard Remote ID UAS for operation—18 months.
- Person producing a Remote ID broadcast module—immediately.
- Person operating in the national airspace—30 months. Request FRIA status—18 months.

## Frequently Asked Questions for Remote ID

31 December 2020

**Q:** When will hobbyists need to comply with Remote ID requirements?

**A:** Although you might notice new Remote ID products on the shelves and FAA-Recognized Identification Areas (FRIA) be established, operators are not required to comply until September 1, 2023. During this time, AMA will continue to shape the implementation of the rule for the hobby.

**Q:** What is an FRIA?

**A:** A FRIA is where persons can operate visual-line-of-sight UAS without Remote ID. The FAA will look to community-based organizations, such as AMA, to establish these locations.

**Q:** Who can apply for a flying site to be an FRIA?

**A:** Those eligible to request establishment of FRIAs include educational institutions and communitybased organizations recognized by the Administrator.

**Q:** I mostly fly at my AMA club's chartered flying site. How does this rule impact me?

**A:** Clubs will be able to apply for their flying site(s) to be recognized by the FAA through AMA. When the flying site is included in the list of FRIAs, members can fly there without needing to meet any additional Remote ID requirements.

**Q:** How do I apply for my club's flying site to be an FRIA?

**A:** The process to apply for FRIA status will not begin until August 26, 2022. Once the details for the application process are released, we will inform our members of next steps.

**Q:** How will Remote ID apply at events not at an FRIA?

**A:** Special events, such as air shows or other temporary events, will have a path to receive authorization from the Administrator to deviate from the Remote ID operating rules.

**Q:** I don't fly at an AMA chartered flying site. How does this rule impact me?

**A:** Those flying outside of an established flying site can meet the Remote ID requirements by flying a standard Remote ID-equipped aircraft or an aircraft equipped with a broadcast module.

**Q:** What changes are there to FAA registration?

**A:** All of the previous registration requirements in the proposed rule were removed in this final rule. You only have to register once every three years for \$5, regardless of how many aircraft you own.

**Q:** Will FPV be permitted with the use of a broadcast module at established flying sites?

**A:** We interpret that FPV will continue to be permitted under any form of Remote ID given legislation written in PL 115-254 Sect 349, defining visual-line-of-sight operations.

Q: Will my Large Model Aircraft (LMA) need to comply with Remote ID requirements?

A: Section 349 of Public Law 115-254 requires that LMA weighing over 55 lbs. be operated from fixed flying site locations. This likely means LMA will satisfy Remote ID by operating at a FRIA rather than broadcasting a radio frequency.

Q: Do Control Line and Free Flight operators need to meet Remote ID requirements?

A: AMA maintains that Control Line and Free Flight do not meet the definition of unmanned aircraft systems.

Q: I often fly scratch-built or plan-built models. How will this impact me?

A: Recreational and educational operators can “home build” without meeting manufacturer certification standards, allowing these types of aircraft to be operated at an FRIA or under the broadcast model option.

Q: Do I have to pay a monthly subscription fee to a UAS service provider?

A: No. These requirements in the earlier proposed rule were removed in the final rule along with the need to connect to the internet.

Q: How do I apply for my club’s flying site to be an FRIA?

A: The process to apply for FRIA status will not begin until August 26, 2022. Once the details for the application process are released, we will inform our members of next steps.

Q: Will my Large Model Aircraft (LMA) need to comply with Remote ID requirements?

A: Section 349 of Public Law 115-254 requires that LMA weighing over 55 lbs. be operated from fixed flying site locations. This likely means LMA will satisfy Remote ID by operating at a FRIA rather than broadcasting a radio frequency

## FAA Registration

To register your aircraft, visit [faadronezone.faa.gov](https://faadronezone.faa.gov). **This is the only legitimate website to register your aircraft at.** All other websites are scam websites. For assistance in registering your aircraft, AMA has provided a step-by-step walkthrough [here](#), and a video walkthrough [here](#).

## CONTACT THE TOP O' NEW JERSEY

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## Event Schedule for 2021

Monthly Meeting	
January 21, 2021	Canceled
February 18, 2021	
March 18, 2021	
April 15, 2021	
May 20, 2021	
June 17, 2021	
July 15, 2021 Hardyston	
August 19, 2021 Reynolds	
September 16, 2021	
October 21, 2021	
November 18, 2021	
December 2, 2021	

**Meetings are suspended until further notice because of COVID-19.**

### Membership Renewal Form

Please complete this form, and send it along with a **check for \$70** payable to *Top O' New Jersey R/C Club* to Craig Miebach at 5 Hickory Road, Highland Lakes, NJ 07422. **Dues are still \$70.** Please send in a **SASE** so that we can mail you back a membership card. You will not receive a membership card if your AMA dues are not paid. If you got your FAA Small UAS Certificate of Registration in 2016, you have to renew that also this year. **The deadline to pay your dues is January 31<sup>st</sup>.**

Life Members and junior members are exempt from paying.

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

e-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

AMA Number: \_\_\_\_\_

FAA Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: Under 18, 19-30, 31-40, 41-50, 51-60, 61-70, Over 70

What field do you fly at – Hardyston/ Reynolds/ Both?

Do you still fly – Yes No

By signing, I agree to respect Top O' New Jersey's rules and bylaws and shall conduct myself in a manner that reflects the spirit of the club. I understand that membership is a privilege and that failure to comply may result in non-renewal.

Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_