



### High Country Flyers – Facilities

The High Country Flyers presently operate two facilities. The primary is **Morrison Field**, which was developed at the Morrison Ranch, now under new ownership, which is located approximately six kilometers south of Coquihalla Highway Exit 336 (towards Logan Lake). It is a well-maintained 800-foot airstrip with underground irrigation, fencing and a clubhouse. The secondary field is at **Dufferin Park** located within the City of Kamloops and is adjacent to the school at 1880 Hillside Drive. This field is restricted to **Electric Park Flyers**. **MAAC membership is mandatory at both fields.** We fly year-round (skis or floats in the winter) and offer introductory flights on the club's Eagle Trainer aircraft using a "buddy-box" system, where the instructor controls the aircraft and passes control to the student who can gradually get the feel of flying a model aircraft. Instruction is offered to those with their own aircraft, using the same buddy-box system. Introductory flights and instruction is available May to September.

### High Country Flyers Affiliation

High Country Flyers Society is a member club of the Model Aircraft Association of

Canada (**MAAC**), which has affiliations worldwide. The club subscribes to the "WINGS" program, which is a graduated learning program meeting established flying standards. MAAC also provides the insurance for sanctioned Club Activities and for the Airfields.

There are a number of categories available to MAAC members and each division has its own conformance policies and rules. A member can be interested in any specialty including:

- combat flying
- electric-driven
- free flight
- giant scale (Big Birds)
- helicopter
- military aircraft
- precision aerobatics
- pylon racing
- scale models
- sailplane and gliders
- rockets
- scale aerobatics

### Big Bird

Many of the MAAC clubs sponsor sanctioned activities, which are open to other clubs. The High Country Flyers is known for its "Big Bird", which takes place annually on the second weekend of July. Any pilot with a Monoplane wingspan of over 80" or Biplane over 60" is encouraged to participate. There are no entrance fees. Dry camping facilities are available onsite free of charge for participants, and attendance is open to the public free of charge. We operate a Concession,

Registration Desk, Transmitter Impound, and invite vendors in our hobby to set up shop on site.

Big Bird flights are given priority, with other flying displays such as aerobatics or combat flights being scheduled as time permits.

### High Country Flyers - History

The High Country Flyers Society was founded and registered in 1996. Membership is open to all who strive to meet its purposes, which are:

- To promote and develop the hobby of radio-controlled modeling in the Kamloops area including, Logan Lake, Ashcroft and Merritt.
- To develop a quality facility lending itself to family-oriented club activities.
- To develop and implement education and training programs.
- To promote and encourage involvement of our youth.
- To participate in and contribute to community activities.

<http://highcountryflyers.homestead.com>

<http://www.maac.ca>

### Cost

Generally speaking one can get into the hobby for about \$500 for a trainer, and membership dues of about \$115 per year to join MAAC and pay Club dues.

### Contacts:

**G. Hillson, Club President ...523-6487**  
**E. Kidd, Membership .....376-1214**  
**J. McKee, Training .....523-2325**  
**N. Bryson, Big Bird .....573-4989**



## **You can fly!**

Welcome to the world of flight – radio-controlled model airplanes. It is one of the most exciting and enjoyable hobbies in existence; involving aerodynamics, woodworking, composite materials, electronics, precision handwork, mechanics, small motors, drafting, and artistry; painted onto a canvas as big as the great outdoors.

Most people are attracted to the hobby or sport after seeing one in flight. For most of us flying is the most enjoyable part, but there is much more to the hobby than just flying. Some pilots choose to design their own aircraft and build it from a drawing, some use pre-cut or die-cut kits, and some prefer to buy what's called an ARF (Almost Ready to Fly).

In conjunction with the kit decision you need to also work out the power train. From tiny mighty alcohol-fuelled engines to electric motors to rockets and jets, or perhaps you prefer the golden silence of a glider, or the challenge of a model helicopter.

Many people are closet flyers. We find that there are more ex-pilots with a cracked-up model in the basement or the top of the closet, than there are club members. We want to change that for you, because there's no need to crash while learning. Remote control aircraft work the same way as real

ones and altitude is your friend. The cushion of air beneath the wings is what gives the pilot and the working surfaces time to react to the controls. Once you master the concepts within a safety net you will be able to fly solo, but virtually everybody needs instruction and the ground is hard and unforgiving.

### **How to start!**

Don't rush down to the hobby store yet and don't even think about the park where the youngsters are all playing. The High Country Flyers have an irrigated grass 800-foot airstrip as well as a specially designed trainer aircraft and a "buddy-box" which connects you to the instructor. If you're getting into difficulty he will take over and regain control with his transmitter, then turn control back to you. This will give the opportunity to try flying before purchasing your own trainer to start the "Wings" training program. Eventually as you become more confident you will take off, and later you will be able to land. When you have completed the course of instruction you get your "Wings" and you can solo. Our skilled builders can help you to adjust and balance your plane, and will even test-fly it for you if you wish. We have weekly workshop sessions during the winter to help you build or modify, or even re-build it.

There's no need to hide your damaged aircraft, because in the High Country Flyers you're among friends who know it's your right to boast about a good crash!

**What about MAAC?** <http://www.maac.ca>

The Model Aircraft Association of Canada is the national body governing the hobby,

providing training programs, certifying instructors, and issuing rules governing the safety of the hobby. Liability Insurance is provided by MAAC to all chartered clubs.

### **Events?**

From the first of May until the end of September there's something happening somewhere throughout the region almost every weekend. From the Float Fly on the Shuswap or in Nanaimo to the Heli-Fly events, the Sailplane weekends at Mission, Electric Fly-Ins, and other "Fun Fly" weekends, including the High Country Flyers addition with the Big Bird held annually in July. For a current schedule check out the MAAC website under British Columbia Zone (or any other) and click on Events.

### **FAQ's**

Cost? About \$500 gets you into a trainer with a radio and engine. Minor parts such as fuel tanks, wheels, and propellers are usually extras to a kit because of the variety available.

How Far? Limiting factor is how far away you can spot it, and whether it's right side up or upside down, coming towards or going away, so you know which way to correct it.

How Long? The average flight is about 12 minutes, depending on engine size, fuel tank size, and wind and pilot fatigue level.

Engine stops? Radio system is independent so you can still land it "dead-stick" (and of course you'll get applause).

Come and join us!



**APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT  
IN THE HIGH COUNTRY FLYERS**

NAME .....

ADDRESS.....

ADDRESS.....

CITY OR TOWN.....POSTAL CODE.....

TELEPHONE (H).....(W).....(Cell).....

E-MAIL.....

MEMBER#.....DATE.....MAAC.....

SPONSORING MEMBERS: .....

.....

FLIGHT HISTORY, OTHER CLUBS, AREA OF SPECIALIZATION

.....

.....

.....

CLASS OF MEMBERSHIP.....FEE ENCLOSED \$.....