



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
6TH AIR MOBILITY WING (AMC)
MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA**

MACDILLAFBGM_2016-13-01

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MEMORANDUM FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

FROM: 6 AMW/CC
8208 Hangar Loop Drive, Suite 1
MacDill AFB FL 33621-5502

SUBJECT: MacDill Air Force Base Guidance Memorandum 2016-13-01, Model Aircraft (Hobbyist) Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS)

RELEASABILITY: There are no releasability restrictions on this publication.

1. By order of the Commander, MacDill Air Force Base, this Guidance Memorandum immediately implements guidance and procedures for Operators wishing to fly sUAS under the Model Aircraft (Hobbyist) category within 5 miles of MacDill AFB. Compliance with this memorandum is mandatory. To the extent, its directions are inconsistent with other Air Force publications; the information herein prevails, in accordance with AFI 33-360, Publications and Forms Management.

a. Due to a dramatic increase in personal/hobbyist sUAS activities, the Federal Aviation Administration has published guidance pertaining to operations, types, and authority. sUAS operators are required to comply with these procedures and policies made accessible here: <https://www.faa.gov/uas>.

b. Operators wishing to fly sUAS under the Model Aircraft (Hobbyist) category within 5 miles of MacDill AFB, must ensure:

(1) The sUAS is flown strictly for hobby or recreational purposes.

(2) Flight operations will not originate from, cross, or overfly the installation proper, as defined by perimeter boundaries, fences, signs, and markings. Recreational use of sUAS on MacDill AFB is strictly prohibited. In the interest of safety, requests to operate unmanned aircraft within flight corridors will not be permitted.

(3) Requests to fly sUAS within 5 miles of MacDill AFB must be initiated at least 48 hours prior to operations with MacDill Airfield Operations (813-828-2929 Option 6). MacDill AFB reserves the right to deny requests to fly sUAS within 5 miles of the installation. The following information will be solicited:

- Operator Name
- Operator Phone Number
- UAS Registration (if applicable)
- Location of Operation
- Start Time/Date Operation
- Duration of Operation
- Description of UAS (color/size)
- Maximum Operating Altitude

(4) For requests that are not initially denied, a notification phone call must be made to MacDill Air Traffic Control Tower (813-828-2796) no later than 5 minutes prior to launch and upon completion of the flight. Note: this phone line is voice-recorded and intended for operational coordination with ATC. Misuse of this line is strictly enforced. ATC reserves the right to deny operation based on existing or forecasted traffic conditions.

(5) Flights are restricted to a maximum altitude of 400 feet AGL and must remain clear of surrounding obstacles. Additional air traffic control altitude restrictions may apply.

(6) sUAS do not weigh in excess of 55 lbs (25 kg).

(7) Flight operations will not be conducted in a careless or reckless manner which could endanger people or property.

(8) sUAS operators must maintain visual contact with their sUAS at all times. Visual enhancement equipment is not authorized to satisfy this requirement.

(9) Safe operation of the sUAS in a manner that is well clear of, does not interfere with, and gives way to any manned aircraft. Note: Manned aircraft have priority.

(10) sUAS are not flown near people.

(11) sUAS are not used to photograph any portion of MacDill AFB.

c. For additional questions or concerns, please contact the following installation representatives:

(1) Airfield Operations Flight Commander: 813-828-2929 Option 6.

(2) MacDill Safety Office (Mid-Air Collision Avoidance): 813-828-3383.

2. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with AFMAN 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule (RDS) located at <https://afrims.amc.af.mil/>.

3. This memorandum becomes void after one-year has elapsed from the date of this memorandum, or upon publication of an Interim Change or rewrite of the affected publication, whichever is earlier.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'APRIL D. VOGEL', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

APRIL D. VOGEL, Colonel, USAF
Commander