

Subject Drone Rules, Guidelines and Indemnity

Effective Date April 2024

1. BACKGROUND

There are drone laws that were put in place in South Africa, and they govern the use of drones. Those laws have been modelled on existing aviation laws. Flying a drone for commercial use and outside the drone safety rule for Medel Aircraft (SACAA CARs Part 94) requires a license.

2. PURPOSE

This document serves as a guideline and indemnity for the department to ensure that drone rules are adhered to. It is to further state that only staff can request the drone from stores. It is the staff members responsibility to make sure that they are trained before using the drone. For student use, a staff member has to be present at all times.

3. RESTRICTED ZONES

According to the South African Civil Aviation Authority, no one is allowed to fly a drone in controlled, restricted or prohibited spaces. These areas include:

- crime scenes
- courts
- prisons
- power stations
- hospitals
- national key points
- national parks

4. GENERAL RULES

4.1. Do not, through act or omission, endanger the safety of any aircraft or person therein or any person or property through the negligent operation of any drone or remotely piloted aircraft, or model aircraft.

4.2. Do not fly or operate a drone or remotely piloted aircraft, toy or model aircraft 50 m or closer to:

- any person or group of persons, on sports fields, road races, at schools or any social events.
- any property without permission from the property owner.

- 4.3. Drones may not be flown 10 kilometres or closer to an airport without special permission from the SACAA.
- 4.4. Drones may only be operated for personal use when there is no commercial outcome, interest, or gain involved with the footage.
- 4.5. Using a drone for commercial operations requires a pilot to be registered and operate under Part 101 of the SACAA regulations.
- 4.6. Drones weighing more than 7 kilograms may not be flown.
- 4.7. Drone pilots must maintain a visual line of contact with their drones at all times while in flight.
- 4.8. Drones may only be flown during daylight hours.

5. PUNISHMENT FOR BREAKING A DRONE LAW IN SOUTH AFRICA

In an instance where the above rules do not get adhered to, punishment can be imposed. Such punishment includes:

- A fine
- Confiscation of the drone
- Time behind bars

I understand the above rules and agree to abide by them. I accept responsibility for the drone while it is being used by me. I confirm that I have been trained/willing to get trained for using the drone.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Staff Number: _____ Cell phone: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____