CIAMFlyer
Introduction to the Model Aircraft World
FAI AEROMODELLING COMMISSION
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Variety can be a Burden

The 4 Main Disciplines of Aeromodelling

Explaining aeromodelling to anyone in society, politics or administration is no easy task. Model gliders with and without motors, model aeroplanes with combustion engines, electric motors, rubber motors, with and without radio control. Nevertheless, we must not neglect outward communication.

The public needs concise and simple information

But how can we help the public understand our sport without boring them with technical details or explain the difference between drones and model airplanes.

Reduction to four disciplines

Let's make an attempt to reduce aeromodelling to just four categories:

- **youth sport**
- **active sport**
- **concentration sport**
- **craftsmanship & technology.**

You will find a few examples of each below.

Youth sport

It's where it all starts and is of vital importance for the continuity and ongoing existence of aeromodelling clubs. Without young people, aeromodelling has no future and our championships will end up without competitors. Supporting the younger generation begins in clubs, in cooperation with primary schools where possible. Girls and boys tend to be

enthusiastic about simple training models and basic construction and flying projects with a significant element of playfulness have shown themselves to be successful.

Leaving the smartphone behind to return to crafting activities.

For the "joystick generation", learning to control a model plane is easy.

Active sport

A large number of aeromodelling disciplines require high levels of physical fitness. To retrieve a slope soaring model, for example, pilots have to descend several hundred metres down the hill and be back up and ready in time for the next launch. Hand launches of fast gliders or electric models as well as the search for thermals with a model glider on the towline are not possible without sufficient physical stamina. When flying model gliders in the mountains, a strenuous climb to a suitable launch site is often the only option.

Towing a free flight glider requires physical condition and endurance.

Never-ending glider flights with the simplest balsawood models.

Strength and quick reactions – the spectacular launch of a radio-controlled model glider.

Even slope soaring in the mountains can be physically very strenuous.

RC-Hand Launch Glider a clearly very sporty class.

Concentration sport

Especially in aerobatics, the ability to concentrate is vital to success. A pilot may have mastered an aerial manoeuvre perfectly, but if even the slightest error creeps in at a crucial time, it can spoil an entire harmonious programme. In the racing categories as well, from control line flying to multicopters, nothing is possible without an above-average ability to concentrate. Accurately landing a model glider within metres of a target and within seconds of a prescribed time may look easy to an observer but requires highest levels of concentration.

In the high art of aerobatics, the ability to concentrate is the measure of all things.

Extreme concentration when flying control line speed models.

Craftsmanship and technology

For several years, self-build aeromodels of all kinds have been experiencing a significant revival. The almost endless possibilities provided by 3D CAD designs and the automated manufacture of individual components make it possible to produce model aircraft kits in huge numbers and the international market is booming. This has let a fresh breeze into hobby workshops. Moreover, the

large number of nearly finished models must not be underestimated. Fitting the motor and installing the electronic components requires care, dexterity and a high level of technical understanding. These abilities are particularly important in scale modelling of man carrying aircraft. This is the realm of modelling artists.

Along with modern plastics, wood is still a popular material.

Precision mechanics and electronics in RC-helicopters.

The arts of crafts: Building scale model airplanes.

Soldering fragile solar cells.

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Editor: Emil Ch. Giezendanner

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