



Operating procedure at the Waters Family private airstrip, Bleases Lane / Dixons Creek (YVA Club Field)

To all pilots of General Aviation, Ultra light and Model aircraft operated at this site, as this is a shared facility the operating protocol listed below must be followed at all times with no exception.

- 1) **GA and Ultra Light aircraft (Full Size aircraft) have right of way at all times.**
- 2) **Using standard radio procedures advise inbound to Yarra Glen Sunnyside (there are two East / West private airstrips at Yarra Glen North of Old Healesville Road / East of Melba Highway, one each side of Steels Creek, Plus one North / South private airstrip (virtually due north) at Dixons Creek).**
- 3) Aircraft intending to land: - Circle over the airstrip west of the windsock at 1500' AGL (approx. 1800' AMSL) on a heading of North or South until established on the appropriate dead-side of strip. Change engine revs to attract attention and to indicate intention to land
- 4) Descend to circuit height on the dead-side and make level cross-wind join over the airstrip on a northerly heading (LH circuit) for Runway 09 or on a Southerly heading (LH circuit) for Runway 27.
- 5) On cross-wind change engine revs and continue with the circuit.
- 6) Straight-in approaches, Downwind & Base Leg joins are not permitted as these do not give Model aircraft pilots enough warning to land & retrieve their aircraft.
- 7) Upon sighting / hearing aircraft change of revs, Model pilots are to land immediately and clear the airstrip of model aircraft and equipment.
- 8) In the event this is not possible given the proximity of the Full size aircraft, proceed to the Southern side of the strip and maintain a safe distance flying in the bowl directly in front of the club house.
- 9) When safe, land the model and clear the airstrip of model aircraft and equipment.
- 10) On turning final, landing aircraft pilots, please turn on landing light to make aircrafts position more visible to the model aircraft pilots while maintaining eye contact with the landing Model.
- 11) YVA operate a maximum of 4 models in the circuit at any one time and so adequate time must be given for all models to land.
- 12) Large scale models are also operated at this field and required more time and precision for set up and landing approach.
- 13) When full-size aircraft have completed operations at the strip please depart on a climbing downwind until clear of the airstrip before taking up a new heading.

Please note that while the Model Aircraft strip is regularly maintained, the full length of the Airstrip may not be serviceable and therefore it is unlikely that GA aircraft will attempt to land under these circumstances. The YVA model club has an unlimited height clearance but recommends Models should be flown below 400ft. In some cases Thermal gliding activities will fly well above this height and Full Size Pilots should always be cautious entering this airspace. The current VTC has the field marked on the chart and identified as an area where model aircraft can be expected to be operating above 400Ft. In general this suggests no height restriction beyond the practical limits of RC Model aircraft operation. CASA approved a ceiling height of 4500 ft for our operations and released a NOTAM to that effect some years ago. While this is the official restriction, under very rare circumstance would I expect to see anyone flying above 800ft.

As this is a shared facility it is also suggested that Full size aircraft using this facility operate with a fair use policy (keep the touch and go or forced landing practice to a maximum of 3 attempts per session) There have been occasions where model pilots have experienced up to 6 attempts and the disruption forces people to pack up and leave. If a large numbers of Vehicles are spotted from the Air, another good visual signal of high intensity model aircraft activity will be the white colored shade facilities, as it will indicate "an event is in progress".

We trust this outlines a safe and practical way to conduct operations at the Waters Family private Air Strip. Bleases Lane / Dixons Creek

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