



Ed OBrien &lt;edobrienzz@gmail.com&gt;

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**Park Pilot Program**

1 message

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**Ed OBrien** <edobrienzz@gmail.com>  
To: Membership <membership@modelaircraft.org>  
Cc: Ed OBrien <edobrienzz@gmail.com>

Tue, Oct 30, 2018 at 6:06 PM

This email is a follow-up to my email of 11 October 2018, see below.

My question has been slightly expanded and broken into two parts as follows:

**1) Is a glider equipped with a radio control activated dethermalizer acceptable under the Park Pilot program?**

**2) Is a rubber powered model equipped with a radio control activated dethermalizer acceptable under the Park Pilot program?**

I am operating under the premise that other free flight modelers may have an interest in this now or will have in the future. You should understand that I intend to share this request and your reply with the rest of the free flight community.

Please respond with a simple yes or no for each model type. Feel free to provide an explanation for the decision as long as it is preceded by the simple "Yes" or "No".

Cheers,  
Ed OBrien

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ed OBrien** <edobrienzz@gmail.com>  
Date: Thu, Oct 11, 2018 at 8:06 PM  
Subject: Park Pilot program  
To: Membership <membership@modelaircraft.org>

Hi

I am a frustrated free flightier living in Connecticut. I am considering adding radio control to rubber powered models. This would give me incentive to join the AMA under the Park Flier (Pilot) program.

I see two options.

First, fitting the model with rudder control. But that is not true free flightier's approach.

The second is more interesting. Instead of a rudder controlled by radio, I would use a radio controlled dethermalizer. It is my understanding that such a model is still considered free flight. A dethermalizer will also allow me to terminate a flight on demand, if and when, safe operation dictates termination.

So, is a rubber powered model equipped with a radio control activated dethermalizer acceptable to the AMA under the Park Flier (Pilot) program?

I have provided the attached excerpt from the current AMA free flight regulations for your convenience.

Cheers,  
Ed OBrien