Las Vegas Soaring Club
Membership Meeting
January 17, 2026

MINUTES OF RECORD

Meeting was called to order at 9:04am and the LVSC Flying Field by President Al Badoux and VP David Knapp. Board members in attendance were Al Badoux, David Knapp and Mike Dantonio. A quorum of 26 members was present. Special thank you and appreciation to the Gun Club Board members for allowing us to use this wonderful facility for today's meeting. As tradition has it, the club provides complimentary fresh coffee, orange juice, muffins and pasties to help keep you alert while I ramble on…

Welcome and Board Introductions:
We wish to welcome everyone today for attending the First Quarterly Meeting of 2026. Your Board consists of Mr. David Knapp, as our VP and Facilities Manager and Mr. Mike Dantonio as your Treasurer and Safety Manager. And myself as President and Membership Manager.

Under New Business & Discussions to come:

- New Driveway Progress and what to expect
- 2026 Gate Lock Combo Change – VOTE 1
- Safety Rules Visited & Updated – DISCUSS – VOTE 2
- N/W Corner of Runway Improvement Project – VOTE 3
- Multi Club Calendar & Night Fun fly (tonight)
- Second Quarter Membership Meeting / BBQ - IDEAS
- Fun fly and event dates to consider
- Landscaping fee – VOTE - 4

Membership:
Our club has been blessed with the introduction of many new members/pilots who will make LVSC the best club in Nevada. In the past three months we've signed in 16 new members and renewed 28 others.. We've also had 16 whom did not renew. Our membership remains at approx. 128 strong. Does everyone have a valid membership card? How about Lanyard and ID Case?

Special Member Recognition:
When good actions are consistently repeated, it warrants recognition. Over the past 90 days, a recurring theme has emerged during conversations with new members. Many have shared that upon visiting the field, they were welcomed by a club member who took the time to answer questions, speak positively about the club, and even invite them to fly an aircraft.

While we are fortunate to have several members, who exemplify this level of generosity and professionalism, one individual's name has been mentioned with notable consistency throughout this past 90-day period. To pause one's own activities, patiently address numerous questions, serve as a positive ambassador for the club, and then entrust a newcomer with one's aircraft is truly exemplary and well beyond expectation.

Would you all please join me in extending our sincere appreciation and recognition to Mr. Rafi for his outstanding dedication, professionalism, and commitment to welcoming and mentoring new members.

Treasurer / Safety Corner Presented by Mike Dantonio:

- With this increase of pilots, we all need to pay attention to how and where we park. Please do not block the walkways.
- Mike: Additional Comments on New Rules

Vice President / Facilities Manager:

- Special Thank you to Xavier Fresson for donating $155.00 to the club.
- Landscapers fee for 2026 expected to be $650.00. **(Vote).** The membership voted to approve this project by an overwhelming amount off hands.
- Removal of Rocks N/W Corner of Runway. This project is expected to run approx $570.00 Plus a possible $200.00 Tractor fee and will require help from members and assistance from the gun club with their tractor. Total Project apprx $1100.00. **(Vote)** *(Note: we need 13 votes for yes)* The membership voted to approve this project by an overwhelming amount off hands. Projected date will be late Feb 26 with advance notice to membership to coordinate delivery of material, develop a work committee and notification of field closure notice.

2025 Accomplishments (Presented by Al): ***(Where we've been)***

1. Early January our VP, Chad Leonard left the Country but we were fortunate to have Mr. David Knapp step up as not only our new "temp" Full Time VP but also Facilities Manager. And I will attest Dave is doing a fantastic job and is always ready to help or take on projects…
2. In January we changed the gate code to MARS and now again must change it.
3. In January the club increased the membership rate from $25.00 to $30.00. Our two sister clubs also matched this fee.
4. In February I attended a first of its kind triple Presidents meeting designed to keep all three club presidents aligned and in touch with each clubs' activities. Another one planned for Jan 2025.
5. The club paid $1031.00 and installed the AMA required Physical Spectator Safety Line.
6. The club voted upon and paid $1798.00 to extend the East portion of the runway with Astro turf to help scrub down ground speed for quicker aircraft to avoid damage in the dirt. Nearly 20 volunteers came out and made this happen.. We even have a video on it..
7. Several large rocks on the N/W section of the run were relocated as they seemed to possess a Bizarre Gravitational Attraction. Even more work in this area is under consideration.
8. Rick Kehoe and Chad attached screening to the spools in most need to prevent snakes from roosting within. As summer approaches, keep your eyes open..
9. We updated our website with a fresh new look and simple tabs for various sections. Thanks to Mr. Barry Mattison. (lvsoaring.club)
10. We caught up and paid our fee's and dues for IRS 990N, Wx Stn Cell Fee, AMA Charter submitted, Secured a Domain Name, Updated the AMA Gold Leader Club and State Lic permit paid.

11. In April we paid $2904.00 to replace our main gate due to some inattentive young drivers who lost control and turned our gate into a pretzel. Thanks to John Reiss who designed and rebuilt the gate, and yes we recovered every penny from the kid's car insurance.
12. LVRC hosted a Fun Float Day at Lake Mead – rumors are a second one will be help in 2026 - these are really a blast to both fly and just observe..
13. In June 2025 LVSC hosted the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Bike Pathway. (Pics & Video on our website).
14. As of now, we are still the only club that has a QR code for new members – Thanks to Wayne and Billy..
15. LVSC now has eight IP instructor pilots. Brian Colby, Barry Mattison, Kyle Applegarth, Mike Dantonio, Dan Valdes, David Knapp, Rafi Kehya, Billy and myself.
16. In May we received a certificate of waiver from the FAA allowing us to fly up to 700'. Remember, always use **See and Avoid.**
17. Several retiring members have donated planes with proceeds going directly to the club. We appreciate and thank members for this kind act.
18. A new driveway – looks good so far.. Photos were sent out via E-mail on Dec 23, 2025. What a Year right – let's hear it for US!!!!!

Safety Rules & Changes Presented by Al Badoux:
Before I explain the incident, how many people think pilots are injured more from – a plane or two bladed helicopters. According to the AMA, fingers are primarily victims of quick invisible prop's.

Let's take a moment to explore what the AMA will do if a claim is opened. Initially they will inquire and require you use any other form of liability insurance such as Renters Insurance, Home Owners or Vehicle insurance. Members rates do NOT increase based on claims filed. And a subsequent investigation will be required – this can be from an insurance agent, police department or internal club source.

In early December 2025 we had a rare near miss incident where a helicopter pilot lost orientation and the aircraft under power came within 24" of an unsuspecting person. Very frightening indeed !!!

This launched an immediate investigation by the Board that lead to the assessment of the existing aging safety rules, clarification of verbiage and the introduction of some much-needed modified safety rules.

Basically, in review of current rules and practices, we recognized that **technology had outpaced policy. Does that Make sense?** We operated in that gap between gliders and high-speed jets.

The Board immediately received several suggestions, some very good, some already in existence and some absolutely not.

Early on I mentioned I didn't want to add more rules and polices but rather update what we had, and the Board agreed 100%.

With Mike and David's assistance I am confident to report that we are in full compliance with the AMA guidelines, but as a good looking and wise President, I must stay open to any suggestions that are both **reasonable** and have a **value**.

We spent three hours reviewing the current Safety Rules, dated 2016 and 2024, and realized the need and importance of **deputizing every membe**r with the right to contact myself directly or any Board member, if and when they observe what they perceive as “dangerous behavior”.

Mike, David and I are not always here so please avoid waiting months to report something either.. The call will remain confidential. The President will document all reported events, the incident will be investigated to determine what transpired and what category the incident falls in.
The Board will conclude if an individual’s actions were the result of an act of “Recklessness” (pure dangerous to others) or “ Unavoidable” (Servo failure, loss of signal) or “Lack of Skill” (Needs Practice).

Based on these three categories the Board will consider what actions will be taken. Anything from a simple phone call to a 90-day suspension can be considered based on severity and repeated issues.

I distributed these rules to all members on January 01, 2026 for review, and I hope you have had time to read them, and we will quickly review them today at this meeting. On January 01, 2026 I asked Barry Mattison to update our website with these rules as well. Baring any major changes, these will go into effect Feb 01, 2026.

Mike has brought several of these rules to your attention here today but I urge you to please familiarize yourself with them. We take Safety seriously - after that is all fun. If in favor of the newly drafted Safety Rules please vote for approval. **(Vote).** The membership voted to approve this project by an overwhelming amount off hands.

Discuss Use of Heli Pad: The Heli Pad as we all call it, provides multiple functions. Due to its limited size and location, it tends to be more of a “test pad” or drone pad. If you use the pad as a test pad, aircraft will always be pointed west – away from the club. Tests should be conducted west of the pad and crossing the active runway must be avoided. Drone activity as well shall utilize a direct west departure till it clears the BASE of any fixed wing aircraft. Due to the extended distance from the main runway, call outs shall still be made with the expectations that they might not be heard by all meaning you the pilot must take precautions to avoid an incident. **This will be included in the new revised Safety Rules.**

Bike Path Progress – Photos were sent to all members on December 23, 2025 of the new driveway that show the progress and how great our driveway will be.. See Att copy. Also provide map of Phases. Perhaps Al can add that the project is actually ahead of schedule.

Main Gate Combo Change: We’ve used this combo (MARS) since February 01, 2025 – typically we change it twice a year. After today’s meeting the combo will be changed to XXXX. The combo was changed on 1/17/26 @ 11:00am by Al Badoux.
BALL, BEST, BOND, BUDS, DUCK, JETS, MASK, MINT, MOON PLAY**. (Vote)**

Discuss DJI Ban Now In Effect: OPEN

Defective LIPO Disposal: Members that have defective or damaged LIPO’s are encouraged to bring them to Lowe’s Hardware, Home Depot or Republic Trash Services rather than leaving them at the field. These LIPO’s present a significant fire hazard, especially in the summer months. Dave Knapp is explained we now have an underground location west of the guest parking, consisting of two cinder blocks with a concrete cover where members may deposit defective lipos safely then come back to discard them.

Membership Recruitment: On December 23, 2025 I refilled the mailbox with about 100 new flyers which can be given to prospective new members or those inquiring about the club.. They have the modified decal with new club website: LVSOARING.CLUB. We also are the only club I know of that has its own QR membership code. Snap a pic and sign up..

Donated Aircraft: In early January I spoke with a former member, Len Fowler, who is retiring from the hobby and has items to donate and sell. We collected nearly $250.00 in donations.

Altitude Availability: A reminder that our field has been granted the ability to fly up to 700 feet AGL from the FAA. The industry standard is 400' AGL, so please use a spotter and practice the "See and Avoid" protocol.

Weather Station: Did you know we have our very own weather station? The professional station is mounted on top of the Gun Club main security gate house. It provides all sorts of great info and the folks at the gun club love it.. You can visit our website and click on the "Weather" tab to get sunrise, air temp, wind direction, Humidity etc.. If you want the direct App on your phone, come see me and I will Email you the directions for the site.. An instructional Email was sent to Bill E. Floyd..

Facebook: The Soaring club has its very own FACEBOOK page that contains photographs, video's and general info on club events. Please visit: : soaringclublv@gmail.com

LVSC Web-Site: In addition to our very own Facebook page, we have a fantastic newly designed web page. This website has a ton of good info and should be visited every so often. Please visit: lvsoaring.club Did you know if you miss a meeting, you can read up on what was discussed? Yes, please visit our website, click on about/info then documents and you will see a PDF of the meeting notes.

IP Pilots/Members: Did you know our club has over five AMA approved IP pilots that walk among you and are at your disposal to help with mechanical and electrical review of your aircraft, confirmation all flight surfaces are correct, transmitter switch programming, trim flights and instructional aid via buddy box or verbal instructions. These services are free for the asking. If you'd like help, please reach out to David Knapp, Dan Valdez, Billy Floyd, Rafi Kehya, Mike Dantonio or Al Badoux and we will make sure you get the specialized help that will keep ya safely in the air..

Review Upcoming Events from LVRC: I Emailed these out to all members last week so pick an event and have fun.. Also please check the calendar on our website as new events develop..

- Pylon Race Saturday Jan 10 Bennett RC Field. Open Field Club will set Pylons Saturday 8am - 10am
- **Night Flight - Saturday Night Jan 17th with FAA Approval.**
- Indoor Flying - Every Monday 8am to 2pm. Whitney Recreation Center
- **Lake Mead Float Fly - Saturday April 11th 8am - 3pm Boulder Beach Activity Area - NPS Permitted**
- **Spring Swap Meet - Saturday April 4th (tentative) . Willie McCool - Propnuts Hosting**
- North Airport Open House Static Display - Saturday May 16
- **All Jet Rally - Saturday June 7 Bennett RC Field. Field Reserved**
- **Summer Swap Meet - Planning. Soaring Club Hosting (Not)**
- NHRSA - Demo Day Monday Oct 5th - LVRC (FRSKY) Airshow. Bennett Field Reserved until 3pm

- **Spring Swap Meet - Saturday October 10th**
- **Control Line Precision aerobatics – Sat Oct 29-31 – Bennett field (See Flyer)**

New AMA VP & Presidents Meeting:
On Friday January 16, 2026 myself, Randy Dorn from Bennett Field and Rex Bordwell from Propnuts had the opportunity to meet with the new AMA District 10 Vice President, Mr. JR Schiager. Anyone familiar how big District 10 is?? District 10 consists of Arizona, California, Nevada, Utah, Hawaii and Guam. That's a lot of territory and clubs – to help him the AMA has Associate Vice Presidents. We are privileged to have two in our backyard Gil Terzo from Bennett Field and our very own Barry Mattison. JR spoke about the AMA having plans to develop a strong Jr Pilot Program with scholarships as they are the future of the hobby. Jr said he will book another trip to LV and wants to visit our field and meet the members. I believe JR will be instrumental in helping us with any AMA related issues..

OPEN DISCUSSION: (concerns, complaint or suggestions):

Zero

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10am following a motion and approval by Mike Dantonio.