

Tripoli Mid-Ohio Prefecture #31

High Power Rocketry Certification Rules and Procedures

So, you have decided to join the community of High Power Rocketry (HPR) flyers. Or maybe you are going to try for an advanced level of certification. Great! We would love to have you achieve this at a Tripoli Mid-Ohio (TMO) launch. We also have two Tripoli Rocketry Association (TRA) Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) members and a Prefect to assist you if you want to achieve your certification through TRA.

However, before you attempt **ANY** Level 1 or Level 2 certification, there are some TMO-specific rules that you need to be aware of that are outside of the normal requirements for a NAR or TRA certification, but are, we believe, implied in the spirit of the written rules. It is 'assumed' that if you are attempting a Level 3 flight, that you have notified your TRA TAP members or NAR L3CC member as to your intentions and that they have made arrangements to be at the launch.

The TMO Certification Rules

- **DO NOT** just show up and ask us to certify you without contacting us prior to the launch and notifying us of your intentions. We are a small club want to be sure that the proper resources are available for your certification attempt.
- We need to know a little bit about you and your building skills, interests, etc. The certification process is a journey and we want to be sure that you (as well as us) are prepared for this. Besides, it's just common courtesy. Names and contact information are on the website.
- Be sure that you have run a simulation for your project and that you bring a hard copy print-out with you. **DO NOT** show up and expect us to have your brand of software loaded on any of our lap top computers. Remember: No simulation, no certification. Period.
- You will be expected to have read and be familiar with the TMO club rules and the TRA "Safe Launch Practices" even if you are certifying under NAR supervision. A copy of these is available on the website.
- If you are using electronics for either single or dual deployment of your recovery system, we want to see your calculations for all ejection charges. Why? An incorrectly sized ejection charge can render that beautiful certification rocket a deadly projectile or send hundreds of little pieces of rocket raining down on the crowd if does not deploy as intended. Besides being a reason for NOT getting your certification, you will have forever incurred the wrath of the RSO, LCO, and senior club members.
- If you do not know what the RSO and LCO are, please turn around and go home. You have no business being here.
- Expect your rocket to be scrutinized. Be prepared to answer a lot of questions regarding construction methods, materials, etc. Just because it is a kit doesn't mean that you shouldn't know every little detail about it.
- Be prepared to discuss the CP/CG relationship and show us proof. Remember that simulation mentioned earlier? If you do not know what a CP/CG relationship is and why it is important, please turn around and go home. You have no business being here.
- Your project must be recovered within the 1 nautical mile radius of our launch site or the certification will not be valid. This is based on our waiver granted by the FAA, so plan your recovery accordingly, i.e.: dual deployment.
- We are here to help, so please feel free to ask us any questions that you might have. However, **DO NOT** show up and expect us to do things like:
 1. Choose the correct motor for your flight. Remember that simulation mentioned earlier?
 2. Size and prepare your ejection charges, including choosing the correct delay. We do reserve the right to make recommendations based on the weather and will teach you how to properly adjust a delay on a reloadable motor if you have questions.
 3. Prep your altimeter
 4. Build/assemble your rocket. Whose certification flight is this anyway?
 5. Size and install shear pins. There are tools and calculators available on line for correctly sizing shear pins and we will be happy to walk you through how they are used, but not while you are prepping your rocket at our launch!
 6. Give you free reign with our tools. If you are going to be in this hobby, you should have a basic range box with you. If you are not sure what to include in this, we will be happy to make some suggestions **BEFORE** you show up at a launch.
 7. We are more than happy to loan you those oddball items like snap ring pliers, strap wrenches, and even grease. Just ask and return any tools used in the same or better condition that you initially received them.

While the above may seem harsh, please remember that we have done this before and successfully received our certifications. We are deeply involved in the HPR hobby and fully support our national organization's efforts to maintain an excellent safety record. We do not want you or this club to be the basis for a lawsuit or the reason that HPR in this country was shut down.

We are more than willing to educate, instruct, and help you in this certification endeavor. However, you must be prepared, plan ahead, and put a reasonable amount of effort into this; otherwise, you have not earned that certification!

Fly high & fly safe!

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