



## **RIGHTS, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **A reminding Guideline for new students**

VATCAN is a division of VATSIM, an online community created for enthusiasts of flight simulation and air traffic control. One of the main goals of VATSIM is to create an environment which is fun and, at the same time, educational and a realistic simulation of procedures followed by pilots and air traffic controllers everyday around the world. To further these goals, new members of VATCAN must comply with all of the current VATSIM User Agreements, Codes of Conduct, Codes of Regulations and these reminding guidelines.

What constitutes an infraction (breaking of an agreement) or violation (breach or offence [against] another person)?

***“Members of VATSIM must at all times comply with the terms of the VATSIM.net User Agreement, Code of Conduct and Code of Regulations. These documents are made public at the VATSIM.net website located at <http://vatsim.net>.”***

Basically, when you sign-up to be a member of VATSIM, you agree to abide by all its rules and regulations, which include codes of conduct and user agreements. Additionally, each time that you make a connection to VATSIM, you also affirm (declare) to abide by those codes, regulations and agreements.

### **Unattended Connections**

When logging on to the VATSIM.net network, a member is not permitted to leave his or her connection unattended for a period in excess of thirty (30) minutes. If a member is unable to comply with this requirement, then he or she must log off of the VATSIM.net network. A member who is found to be unresponsive for more than thirty (30)

minutes is subject to immediate removal from the network. Members who are found to repeatedly leave their connections unattended are subject to the terms of Article VI. of the VATSIM.net Code of Regulations. This could mean a temporary suspension from say, 48 hours to 30 days or more.

### **Administrative Removal**

Members of VATSIM.net who fail to maintain their membership pursuant to the terms of Article I., §1.01(I) of the Code of Regulations are subject to administrative removal. An administrative removal may only be imposed when a member has failed to log on and use the VATSIM.net network as a pilot and/or a controller at least once during the previous calendar quarter. If this happens, you may have to re-register with VATSIM

### **Prohibited Conduct**

Prohibited conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

**A.** The use of the VATSIM.net network by any member or individual to threaten, harass, abuse, bully, intimidate, stalk or to otherwise violate the legal rights, including rights of privacy and publicity, of other members or individuals logged on to the VATSIM.net network;

**B.** The use of the VATSIM.net network by any member or individual to publish, post, distribute or disseminate any defamatory, infringing, obscene, vulgar, profane, or other unlawful material or information;

**C.** The use of the VATSIM.net network by any member or individual to engage in any action or conduct which blocks, interferes with or otherwise prevents any other member(s) of VATSIM.net or individuals from logging on to and/or enjoying the VATSIM.net network.

**D.** Members are prohibited from publishing, posting, distributing, disseminating or using any kind of defamatory, infringing, obscene, vulgar, profane, unlawful or other such types of communications materials or information through the use of online chat boxes, ATC text

channels, voice ATC channels or the official internet forums, newsgroups and mailing lists utilized by VATSIM.net and its officially recognized regions, divisions, ARTCCs, ACCs and FIRs.

E. Members are prohibited from using online chat boxes, ATC text channels, voice ATC channels or the official internet forums, newsgroups and mailing lists utilized by VATSIM.net and its officially recognized regions, divisions, ARTCCs, ACCs and FIRs to threaten, harass, abuse, bully, intimidate or stalk others or to otherwise violate the legal rights of others, including expectations to the rights of privacy and publicity.

All members of VATSIM are expected to be courteous and respectful to each other.

The use of communications media such as Skype, MSN, Teamspeak or AOL are not considered VATSIM approved software and therefore cannot be policed by VATSIM in the event that you are subjected to prohibited conduct.

If, you are, or become the subject of stalking, bullying, harassment or abuse (prohibited conduct) whilst communicating via Skype, MSN, Teamspeak or AOL then immediately cease that mode of communications and resort to the official VATSIM channels (the chat/text features of Radar Client programmes) and register a complaint via that media.

Remember, you are at risk and vulnerable to prohibited conduct if you use or continue to use Skype, MSN, Teamspeak or AOL.

**When controlling, what can you do, if you witness any of the above infractions and/or violations?**

- Firstly, you should seek help and advice from another (senior) controller or Supervisor
- Hit <dot> wallop – requesting a Supervisor
- Copy any and all relevant Chat Box communications and Text messages associated with the incident
- Print to file a Screen shot of the incident
- Make notes on file with respect to the date, time, position you are manning, and any other relevant/associated positions being manned

in your area including the position and/or call sign of the party carrying out the infraction or violation you have witnessed

- When possible - probably concluding your current shift - notify your FIR Chief by e-mail of such events, but refrain from discussing openly with others the content/details of these events so as to avoid improper and inappropriate reactions to the same. Do not post any information with respect to such incidences on an open forum!

***Remember – “it’s nice to be important, but more important to be nice”***