References:

- CAR UAS – Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) and Operations

For further information contact
Policy Regulation and Planning Department
drones@gcaa.gov.ae

Safety Risk Management Section
srm@gcaa.gov.ae

الهيئة العامة للطيران المدني
GENERAL CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

United Arab Emirates



Drone Flying

Be Responsible for Safety

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An Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)/ Drone flying has become a regular aspect of aviation. The uses of UAS / Drones ranges from strategic to recreational purposes.



Lately, UAVs/Drones have been observed to have caused disruption in flight movements, collision with manned aircraft and caused damage to other aircraft. Mostly such occurrences have occurred when operating UAVs/Drones in close proximity of airports, helipads and flight paths leading in to and out from airports.

Such disruptions have led to flight delays, stopping of airport operations, discomfort for the passengers, financial losses to the services providers etc.

Civil Aviation Authorities of the world are placing in regulations and procedures for the safe operation of UAVs/Drones to safeguard the interests of commercial aviation.

GCAA has permitted the operation of UAVs/Drones within the airspace of UAE as per the conditions and requirements detailed in the regulation CAR – UAS (Unmanned Aircraft Systems and Operations).

Four categories of unmanned aircraft operations are covered in the regulation

- Unmanned Aircraft operation for Commercial and Non-commercial activities
- Unmanned Aircraft operation for Experimentation and Research & Development
- Unmanned Aircraft operation for Events Organizer
- Unmanned Aircraft operation for Demonstration

Recreational flying of UAVs/Drones is covered under CAR Part II – Chapter 10 (Light Sports Aviation Activities).

If a UAS/drones accident or UAS/drones loss of control has occurred, the user shall immediately report the incident/accident to the GCAA on hotline: +971506414667 and E-mail: aai@gcaa.gov.ae

Below table presents Dos and Do Nots applicable to all types of UAV/Drone activities. Specific requirements with respect to the type of UAV/Drone operation can be found in the regulations.

Do	DO NOT
Make sure that the drone is registered with GCAA	Do not make changes to the drone, unless approved by the manufacturer
Check your drone and weather conditions before each flight	Do not fly above 400 ft from the ground
Check your area of operation for any restrictions/prohibitions. Operate in “GREEN ZONES”	Do not fly within 8 Km of airports outer fence, helicopter landing sites or airfields etc. Avoid “RED ZONES”.
Maintain Visual Line of Sight at all times	Do not use the drone to carry dangerous goods unless approved by GCAA.
Maintain a safe distance (minimum 50 m) between the drone and people, buildings, other manned and unmanned aircraft, vehicles, etc.	Do not operate your drone beyond the performance limitations defined in the instructions provided by the manufacturer.
Immediately inform the authority if your drone is involved in an incident or accident	Do not take photographs, videos or sound recordings without permission. Respect people’s privacy
Maintain radio control link between the user and the UAS/Drone	Do not operate UA in a manner which may cause safety risks to other individuals/properties or aircraft