

# Pine Barren Modelers R/C Club

August 2024



## From the President's Desk

### Club Officers

President—Rich Bombardier  
Vice Pres.—Dennis Spatcher  
Treasurer—Ralph Ferrara  
Secretary—Micki Bowne  
Safety Officer—Pat Lovenstein

### Contact Us:

For website, classified ads, or any other club information, visit our web site at:

<https://pbm1727.org>

or our Facebook group:

**PBM on Facebook**

Links to club officer and other e-mails are via the website.

You can also mail us at:

Pine Barren Modelers RC Club  
P.O. Box 38  
Bayville, NJ 08721

Yes, it's been a very hot and humid summer so far, but this hasn't stopped our members from flying! Whether it's early morning or late evening, our members will not let the heat stop them.

Well, it's not over yet! As we move into August, we will continue to have this extreme heat to deal with. Please, make sure you have plenty of water with you. If you forgot your water, we have plenty in the trailer.

Just because summer is half over doesn't mean that our events are; we still have our annual Water Fun Fly coming up on August 10th. Please be sure to come out and help with the setup and take down. Setup starts at 7:00 am and breakdown is around 1:00 - 2:00 pm, depending on the crowd. Let's hope for some good weather for the event!

Don't forget, we have our Pylon racing / UMX fun fly on August 11th. Food will be pot-luck. So, everyone please chip in what you can and we'll see about cooking that day.

Stay safe, stay cool and have fun!

Richard Bombardier  
Club President

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## Paul's Pylon Patter By Paul Meier

I am proud to announce that PBM now has a yearly pylon racing event.

About 3 months ago we had our first heats with approximately 15 people joining in in 3 classes: EDF, Aero Scout, and Prop (all Electric). Our course was set up at approximately 350 ft long. The pylons are made from PVC pipe and streamers, which kept the cost down considerably.

There will be a new class added next Sunday: UMX, including both EDF and Prop. The UMX class will only run one time for this year and the larger classes will have 2 more races, with the last one in September.

We're hoping to see more join for next season as this event is becoming more popular.

## Meeting Highlights

*(Remember, these are NOT the minutes, so they don't contain sensitive information. The complete minutes will be sent out before the next meeting).*

### 7 August 2024

All officers and 20 regular members (including two new ones) were present.

#### Field Reports:

**Coyle:** Still haven't heard back from the state about our lease. Meanwhile, the military still has a porta-potty there.

**Temporary Field (Johnson's Pit):** Grass is growing around the runway. If you're out there AND no rain is forecast for the next three days, please take some time to spray weed killer on that grass (wear gloves and a mask whilst you're doing it).

**Safety Report:** Pat brought up a former member's flying across Locker street, from a site outside our flying area (despite the 'No Trespassing' signs). If the person has a remote ID, he may be legal with the FAA, but is NOT legal with the township and may endanger our good relations with our hosts. If you see someone flying there, call an officer. DO NOT call the police or confront the rogue flier.

Pat noted we've had radio hits off both ends of the runway, with some folks being hit more than others.

Finally, Pat noted the night flight was a success...with the exception of the flier who tried to fly with only his scale navigation lights. He lost track of the model and it landing on/near the golf course in Toms River. No physical harm was done, but, again, our reputation took a hit.

**Instructors' Report:** None.

#### Old Business:

- Ralph reminded us it's T-shirt season and that we have plenty, hats, decals, and mugs.
- Ways & Means – Propellers, a glider, and empty storage bins were to be had.
- Dennis reported 2,075 web site hits in June and 2,042 in July.
- Dennis also reminded us that we don't allow politics (explicit or implicit) on our Facebook page. He also reminded us that we have 497 members of our Facebook group, but ONLY club members may sell items AND the items must be hobby-related.
- Float Fly looks to be a go for this weekend. Setup at 7 a.m., take-down at 2 p.m. Bob Miceli will cook (hot dogs). \$10 landing fee includes food (\$5 for non-flier food). A launch corridor will be cleared through the weeds.
- Next pylon race is 11 Aug. The club won't provide the food, but everyone is asked to participate in a pot-luck lunch. See Paul's article (first page) for more.
- Dennis talked about power issues at the Pit, meaning we may need a new inverter (or two). Rich will try to donate a mini-fridge later this summer (*for water & soft drinks NOT beer! Ed. Bill*).

#### New Business:

- We need a volunteer to finish painting the runway red line all the way out to the end of the runway. This denotes the safety line we never fly or taxi behind. Painting supplies are in the trailers. See an officer for details.
- The club picnic will be 27 September, at the field (as voted by the membership). We need to promote it AS a picnic, so we can get more family members out there. The club will provide the main course, with everyone encouraged to bring something to share.
- Paul Hammond's Estate sale is 24 August, 12-5, cash only.
- There was no Model of the Month

## Bill's Corner

To make it easier for you readers to print out and save Gary's excellent articles, I'm moving them to the last pages of the newsletter. This month's episode talks about using an SD computer card with Spektrum transmitters. Since the smart person always backs up his/her system before making changes, and since an SD card is how you back your transmitter BEFORE making changes, here's how to ensure you're a smart person! :-)

Now, let's talk about switches. Specifically, those switches we use for safety-related functions, such as throttle cuts and SAFE.

Here's how Micki and I use Throttle Cut:

First, the settings on our DX9 and NX6 (I understand Spektrum may have changed their recommendations, but this setup has worked for us for over 15 years.

Note that we use the three-position switch directly above the throttle, with the first two positions leaving the power off. That means we'd have to bump the safety switch TWICE for the throttle to accidentally activate. We also have the switch set to the activation direction is in the same direction as full throttle i.e., straight forward.

Now, the actual switch:

Notice the orange fuel tubing on the switch (yellow arrow). It ensures the switch feels 'different' to the touch and makes it a lot harder to mistakenly hit another switch.

Yes, you can put a colored cover on a switch, but does it make the switch FEEL different to your fingers?

One thing I can't stress too much is that you must NEVER, NEVER, NEVER take your eyes off your model. It doesn't matter if Elvis is riding a unicorn, chasing Bigfoot down the runway centerline. DON'T LOOK! An uncontrolled model is a dangerous model.

We do use fuel tubing on our gyro and mixing switches, one on each side of the transmitter (you can see the blue-tubing clad gyro switch at the back of the transmitter). We also use the nice Spektrum lady's voice to let us know when a switch is thrown, although she can be quickly drowned out by loud music, voices or engine noises (another reason not to carry on loud conversations when flying – you may be keeping your fellow fliers from hearing their radios).

Finally, a plea to car, boat, and helicopter folks – I need more from you, please!



# Mastering the Transfer SD Card Function on Spektrum Transmitters

## By Gary Santaniello

**Introduction** The Spektrum transmitter series is known for its advanced features and user-friendly interface, making it a favorite among RC enthusiasts. One particularly useful feature is the transfer SD card function. This function allows users to back up, restore, and transfer model settings, firmware updates, and other critical data with ease. In this article, we will explore how to utilize the transfer SD card function effectively to enhance your RC experience.

**Why the Transfer SD Card Function is Important** The transfer SD card function offers several key benefits:

- **Backup and Restore:** Safeguard your model settings and configurations to prevent data loss.
- **Firmware Updates:** Easily update your transmitter firmware to access new features and improvements.
- **Data Transfer:** Transfer settings between different transmitters or share configurations with fellow RC pilots.

### Getting Started

#### 1. Choosing the Right SD Card:

- Use a standard SD card (2GB to 32GB) formatted to FAT32.
- Ensure the SD card is in good working condition to avoid data corruption.

#### 2. Inserting the SD Card:

- Turn off your Spektrum transmitter.
- Locate the SD card slot, usually found at the back, side or bottom of the transmitter, and insert the SD card.

### Backing Up Your Model Settings

#### 1. Accessing the Backup Menu:

- Turn on your transmitter and navigate to the 'System Setup' menu.
- Select 'Transfer SD Card' from the options available.

#### 2. Saving Your Settings:

- Choose 'Save All Models' to back up all your model settings to the SD card.
- The transmitter will prompt you to confirm the action. Select 'Yes' to proceed.
- Wait for the process to complete. A confirmation message will appear once the backup is successful.

### Restoring Model Settings

#### 1. Accessing the Restore Menu:

- Navigate to the 'System Setup' menu and select 'Transfer SD Card.'
- Choose 'Load All Models' to restore settings from the SD card to your transmitter.

# SD Card Function 2

## 2. Executing the Restore:

- Confirm the restore action when prompted.
- The transmitter will load the settings from the SD card. This process might take a few minutes.
- A confirmation message will appear once the restore is successful, and your models will be restored to their previous configurations.

## Transferring Settings Between Transmitters

### 1. Backup Settings on the Source Transmitter:

- Follow the backup steps on the source transmitter to save the model settings to the SD card.

### 2. Insert the SD Card into the Target Transmitter:

- Turn off the target transmitter and insert the SD card containing the backup.

### 3. Restore Settings on the Target Transmitter:

- Turn on the target transmitter and follow the restore steps to load the settings from the SD card.
- This allows you to seamlessly transfer model configurations between different Spektrum transmitters.

4. *NOTE: Models can be transferred between like transmitters (DX to DX, NX to NX, IX to IX) or from older to newer generations (DX to NX or IX, NX to IX) but not newer to older.*

## Updating Firmware via SD Card

### 1. Download Firmware:

- Visit the Spektrum website and download the latest firmware for your transmitter model.
- Copy the firmware file to the root directory of the SD card.

### 2. Insert the SD Card and Update:

- Insert the SD card into the transmitter and navigate to the 'Firmware Update' menu.
- Follow the on-screen instructions to initiate the firmware update process.
- Ensure the transmitter remains powered on and do not remove the SD card during the update.

# SD Card Function 3

## Tips for Effective Use

### 1. Regular Backups:

- Regularly back up your model settings to avoid data loss due to accidental resets or hardware failures.

### 2. Organize Files:

- Keep your SD card organized by creating folders for different types of data, such as firmware updates and model backups.

### 3. Label SD Cards:

- Label your SD cards to easily identify them, especially if you use multiple cards for different purposes.

**Conclusion** The transfer SD card function on Spektrum transmitters is an invaluable tool for RC enthusiasts, offering a convenient way to back up, restore, and transfer model settings, as well as update firmware. By mastering this feature, you can ensure the safety of your configurations, stay up to date with the latest enhancements, and share settings with ease. Embrace the full potential of your Spektrum transmitter and enjoy a seamless RC experience.