

# **New Regulations a Win for Hobby Drone Pilots**

New drone regulations that will be effective from 1 July 2015 are actually a big win for hobby drone users! The new drone regulations actually allow hobby RPAS a lot more freedom than hobby model aircraft!

## **Under the new Regulations Hobby Drone Pilots:**

- Do not need an RPL (Remote Pilots Licence).
- Do not need to register their RPAS aircraft.
- Do not need an aviation medical.
- Can fly RPAS up to 7kg weight.
- Can fly at night (previous not allowed for any rc aircraft).
- Can fly up to the height of the highest object in 300m of the drone (up to a max of 400 feet).
- Can fly up to 500m away from the pilot, while maintaining direct line of sight (RVLOS).
- Need to keep more than 50m from people.
- Need to keep more than 50m from roads.
- Need to keep more than 50m from buildings.
- Need to keep more than 10km from an aerodrome (airport or airstrip).
- May not fly in No Fly Zones

**This information applies to hobby drone pilots!**

<http://safedrone.co.za/hobby-drone-pilots>

## **No Fly Zones**

### **SAN Parks**

All National Parks in South Africa do not allow any aircraft to be operated below 1500 feet above the ground, and this applies to drones as well. Drones are used with special permission in national parks, for wildlife conservation, and research purposes.

### **FAP (prohibited areas)**

Aeronautical charts indicate FAP (prohibited) areas where aircraft may not fly at all. An example is the Voortrekker Monument in Pretoria as well as

- **Nuclear Power Plant**
- **Prison**
- **Police Station**
- **Crime Scene**
- **Court of Law**
- **National Key Point or Strategic Installation**

If you plan to fly drones commercially, there is a lot more to do to comply with the new regulations for commercial drone operations:

<http://safedrone.co.za/how-to-operate-drones-legally>