

MODEL AERONAUTICAL  
ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.  
**Newsletter**  
**No. 06/2008**

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#### Manual of Procedures

The Manual of Procedures is a "live" document and is continually being updated. Please check the MAAA web site from time to time to ensure that you are aware of the latest editions of the documents.

The MAAA has recently released the following new or amended documents in the Manual of Procedures:

MAAA MOP 008 Close Field Operations Procedure and Policy  
MAAA MOP 041 Policy – Code of Ethics  
MAAA MOP 058 Policy 2.4GHz Equipment (acceptance of ASSAN V2 equipment)

#### 62<sup>nd</sup> Nationals

Radio Control events will be held over the Easter period from 12 April to 24 April 2009 at the MAS NSW State flying field at Cootamundra. Bulletin number #1 is now available from the MAAA Web site at [www.maaa.asn.au](http://www.maaa.asn.au)

#### Nominations for MAAA President & Competition Rules Secretary

The MAAA President and Competition Rules Secretary three year terms conclude at the Annual Conference in May 2009 and an election for the positions will be held at the Conference.

The position of MAAA President is very prestigious and requires a considerable commitment in terms of time and energy. He/she is responsible for implementing the policies and direction of the MAAA Council. The President chairs all meetings of the MAAA Council and Executive. The Executive generally meet monthly via a telephone link. These meetings usually last about 2 hours.

The President closely liaises with other members of the Executive and in particular, the Federal Secretary. The Federal Secretary, an employee of the MAAA, reports to the President. It would be reasonable to expect that the President would have to

devote a least 2 hours per day to MAAA duties. It is considered essential that persons wishing to nominate for the position be very computer literate as all business between the President and Executive is via computers and the Internet.

Currently, no honorarium is paid but expenses are reimbursed. The President is expected to attend National Championships and World and Continental Championships that are held in Australia.

Duties of the Competition Rules Secretary include, examination and ratification or rejection of Australian record claims, providing advice in respect to technical aspects of the FAI Sporting Code and the maintenance of MAAA Official Competition Rules and Instructions. Currently, no honorarium is paid but expenses are reimbursed.

Under Rule 29, nominations are called for the positions of MAAA President & Competition Rules Secretary. Both positions are for three-year terms

Nominations for the each of the positions shall be in writing signed by two Affiliate Members of the Association accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the nomination) and shall be delivered to the Federal Secretary at the above address by **Saturday 28 February 2009**.

#### Safety - a Sign of the Times

In recent months several Incident Reports have been received and dealt with by the MAAA Executive. By following the requirements of the MAAA MOP, individuals and clubs submitting incident reports, apart from the reporting aspect, assist to highlight particular safety issues within our sport. One trend has emerged from the recent reports. As technology advances, creating wide spread use of electric powered models, so has the increase in incidents and injuries associated with these models. Due to the high power capability of many electric models and the types of propellers also associated with them, we are seeing cases of multiple lacerations due to the motor not stopping when the propeller comes in contact with a modeller. Some recent incidents of this nature have been caused by:

- Pilots accidentally knocking the throttle to full power while bending over to retrieve the model.
- Neck strap clasps breaking or dislodging causing the transmitter to fall and go to full power. Modeller instinctively then trying to grasp hold of the model.
- Fail safe of throttle not set to idle and model powering up when experiencing interference.

In addition there have been injuries associated with IC engines:

- Two modellers walking into one another while carrying a model to the flight line with the engine running.
- Starting a model with restraints, the throttle is accidentally knocked to full power, the model tips forward and instinctively the owner ...

There are inherent risks with all models, and we all need to understand how simply accidents can occur and be informed about these associated risks. Let's try to make 2009 a safer year.

## 2.4GHz Operations

Users of this equipment cannot control the actual frequency of operation as this is determined by the technology used within the equipment. However the MAAA still requires that a keyboard, or similar system, identifies who the individual users of this band are. This enables all radio users to identify who has radio sets in use at any time in order to be able to verify that the complete frequency control system, including users on other than 2.4 GHz, is valid and operating correctly. It is recommended that Clubs use a similar system to the one used by them for the other approved frequency bands, whether this is a Silvertone© type keyboard system or otherwise. For 2.4 GHz this need only identify the name of the owner of transmitters actually either in use or ready for use.

The maximum number of transmitters to be available for use under this system at the same time is not to exceed ten. The reason for the limit is that some applications of the 2.4GHz technology create a maximum technical limit to the number of sets that can operate simultaneously without degradation of the communication link. This limit may be changed with more confidence in the way that manufacturers are implementing the technology of 2.4GHz. Whilst the stated limit is conservative in most environments using the currently accepted equipment, the limit should ensure that there are no practical issues encountered with simultaneous operation.

## Team Trial Notification

Organisers of Team Trials for World, CAOCC Championships and Trans Tasman events are reminded of their responsibility to advise the MAAA Secretary of the dates of intended team trials a minimum of six months in advance. MOP024 states the procedure. This is to give all members adequate notice.

## F1 A, B & C Team Trials for the Trans Tasman Event 2010

Notification of the Team Trials as follows:

Tentative Team Trial Dates are:

62nd Nationals

F1A Mon 29 Dec 2008

F1C Tue 30 Dec 2008

F1B Fri 2 Jan 2009

To be held at McMahon's Field Springhurst.

Proposed program for AFFS Championships and Southern Cross Cup.

SCC

F1A Tue 7 Apr 2009

F1B Wed 8 Apr 2009

F1B Wed 8 Apr 2009

To be conducted at Narrandera

AFFS Championships

F1A Sat 11 April 2009

F1C Sat 11 April 2009

F1B Sun 12 April 2009

To be conducted at Narrandera.

## 2009 F3A World Championships Team Trials

Team trial details for the F3A World Championships to be held in Portugal have been finalised. These trials will be held as part of the Australian Masters Contest at Valley Radio Flyers field Shepparton, Victoria on 25 April 2009. Entries will close one week prior to the event, 17 April 2009. Late entries will not be accepted. For enquires please contact Chris Simmons 0419 362 005.

## 2010 F3J World Championship Team Trials

Team Trials for the 2010 F3J World Championship to be held in France have been approved. The League of Silent Flight will hold the selection trials at the 2009 Jerilderie Tournament (Jerilderie on 6-8 June 2009)

## 2009 R/C Scale Trans Tasman

Team trials for this event will be held as part of the 62<sup>nd</sup> National Scale event at Cootamundra in April 2009.

The Trans Tasman Scale event will be held at Monarto SA between October/November 2009.

## World / Continental Championships and Trans Tasman Events Calendar

| 2009               |                                                      |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| EVENT              | Awarded to                                           |
| F4A FF Scale       | Trans Tasman - Patetonga, Sth of Auckland 4-5 April  |
| R/C Scale          | Trans Tasman - Monarto SA October/November           |
| F1A, F1B, F1C      | Croatia. Bjelopolje <b>Dates:</b> July 19 to July 26 |
| F3A                | Portugal <b>Dates:</b> August 21 - 29 2009           |
| F3B                | Czech Republic <b>Dates:</b> August 2 - 9 2009       |
| F3C                | USA - Muncie <b>Dates:</b> August 2 - 11 2009        |
| F3D                | Germany <b>Dates:</b> July 20 - 26 2009              |
| 2010               |                                                      |
| EVENT              | Bids From                                            |
| F1 A,B & C         | Trans Tasman                                         |
| F2A, F2B, F2C, F2D | Hungary - July                                       |
| F3J                | France <b>Dates:</b> August 14 - 22 2010             |
| F4B, F4C           | Poland                                               |
| F5B, F5D           | Offers Invited                                       |
| Space Models       | Serbia                                               |
| F3A Asia-Oceanic   | Offers Invited                                       |
| F3C Asia-Oceanic   | Offers Invited                                       |
| 2011               |                                                      |
| EVENT              | Bids From                                            |
| F1 A,B & C         | To be Awarded - 4 Bids                               |
| F3A                | To be Awarded - USA (tentative)                      |
| F3B                | To be Awarded - Spain (tentative)                    |
| F3C                | To be awarded - Italy                                |
| F3D                | To be awarded - Australia has bid                    |