

**MODEL AERONAUTICAL
ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.**
Newsletter
NO. 03/2009

President: Mike Close, PO Box 146, West Pennant Hills NSW 2125
Telephone: 02 9872 6469 Fax: 02 9871 0408

Vice President: Paul Winter 25 Jasmine Drive Mill Park VIC 3082
Telephone: 03 9436 0717

Secretary: Kevin Dodd, 16 Illidge Rd Victoria Point QLD 4165
Telephone: 07 3207 9067 Fax: 07 3207 8175

Treasurer: Garry Anderson, PO Box 471 Devonport TAS 7310

Comp. Rules Secretary: Ross Cant, PO Box 670 Mount Lawley WA 6929
Telephone: 08 9227 9131

MAAA Internet: www.maaa.asn.au

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:

Statement of Rules
MAAA MOP 058 2.4GHz Equipment
MAAA MOP 062 Noise Policy and Guidelines

The MAAA 2009 Conference

The 2009 MAAA Rules and Federal Conferences were held in Perth on the weekend of the 22 – 23 May. Delegates from all State Associations attended the meeting. Many areas of our sport were discussed and particular points are highlighted here.

Elections

In 2009 the positions of MAAA President and Competition Rules Secretary were scheduled for election. Mr Mike Close was re-elected as MAAA President and Mr Ross Cant as Competition Rules Secretary for a further three year term. Congratulations to both gentlemen.

2009 - 2010 MAAA Membership Fees

Willis Australia once again provided a favourable insurance quote for the 2009/10 period with only a small increase in premium. There were some increases in budgeted spending, however when establishing the MAAA fees for the coming year, the outcome was that they would remain the same.

MAAA fees are as follows: Seniors - \$60.00, Pensioners - \$60.00 and Juniors - \$30.00. State Association and Club fees are in addition to the MAAA fee. Half year fees will apply after 1 January 2010 for new members. As has been the practice in the past, MAAA will 'test' the insurance market every three years and therefore will invite quotes from other brokers for the 2010/11 period.

Field Purchase and Loans & Increased Assistance for International Teams

The MAAA Executive proposed a standing item to Council which would mean that funds contained within several MAAA MOP documents, which are allocated to Affiliate Members, Clubs and State Associations could be reviewed on a yearly basis. The first is MOP011: Field Purchase and Loans. Council agreed to double all amounts in this MOP. The second is MOP024: International Teams where the Entry Fee Subsidy was increased to \$1000 and the Uniform allowance raised to \$500. These documents will be amended and posted on the MAAA web site.

MAAA Life Member & Hall of Fame

Following voting at the 2009 Council Conference, the Chairman announced that Ron and Irene deChastel were awarded Joint MAAA Life Membership for Pioneering Model Aviation in Australia. MAAA congratulates Ron and Irene on this award.

Hugh Simons and Grant Potter were inducted into the MAAA Hall of Fame for their outstanding performance at the 2008 F2 World Championships where they became the World Champions (F2C) and established a new World record. MAAA extends their congratulations to both these outstanding modellers.

Separation Distance – Pilot & Aircraft

Following an incident some years ago, a Field Safety Subcommittee was set up in 2007 to review several specific aspects of model operations. The final report was tabled at the recent Conference and the Subcommittee commended for their work. While there were many suggestions made in the report, it was agreed that the Executive would look at the recommendations in light of 'best practice' and consider the best way of incorporating them into the MAAA Procedures. Two items were dealt with by Council at the time.

3D Aircraft

The motion was carried that:

- **Aircraft flying 3D manoeuvres outdoors, excluding electric models with a wing span of one (1) metre or less, are not to be flown any closer than 9 metres to all pilots operating at the time.**

Helicopter Flying

The motion was carried that:

- **Helicopters flying outdoors are not to be flown any closer than 9 metres to all pilots operating at the time.**

63rd MAAA Nationals

At the 2009 Conference VMAA presented the details of their organisation to date for the Nationals to be held in and around Albury from December 28 2009 to Wednesday 6 January 2010. These Nationals will host Team Trials for several upcoming World Championship events so the flying promises to be exciting for competitors and spectators alike. A program of events is available on the VMAA website.

Future Nationals

In 2006 a Subcommittee was set up to investigate the future direction of the MAAA Nationals. Following long and intense discussion at each Council Conference since, various options have been presented requiring additional research. At the 2009 Conference final options were presented and the following motion was carried:

The Nationals shall rotate around 4 States. Three years before the Nationals are due to be run, the prospective host State shall present a full proposal to Council on how they intend to run the Nationals. The format that they wish to run it on can be at their discretion and involve SIGs, alternate dates and venues. Council will ratify or reject the proposals.

The order of rotation for hosting future Nationals is: VMAA (63rd), MAAQ (64th), AWA (65th), NSW (66th).

The Nationals Subcommittee was disbanded at the 2009 Conference with expressions of gratitude to the Chairman and all members of the Subcommittee for their work over the three years.

Safety Issues: Starting Models on Stands and Electric Models

A recent Incident Report dealt with by the MAAA Executive highlighted certain dangers involved in starting models on a stand. While the stand had a restraint which held the tail of the model, the modeller didn't realise that his model was not completely engaged with the restraint which meant that the model was able to move forward several centimetres on starting, making contact with the operator's fingers. Starting models on stands, while a definite bonus for senior members, also brings with it other elements of danger to be aware of. After the model is started, the operator often bends down to place a starter unit or Glow Driver on a bench underneath and in doing so they bring their neck, face and eyes through the line of the spinning propeller.

Incident reports are still being received where injuries have been caused by the inadvertent energising of electric models. Is it getting to the point that these types of models need restraints? There is a trend both here and overseas towards a disproportionate increase in injuries from electric powered models

2010 F5B & F5D Electric World Championships

Team selection trials for the 2010 F5B & F5D Electric World Championships in the USA are scheduled to be held at the VMAA 63rd Nationals at Albury. Dates of the event are Sunday 3 and Monday 4 January 2010. Pilots wishing to fly F5D at the World Championships should contact the Organiser before September 1. For further details contact Ray Pike stingray_f5b@westnet.com.au

2010 F2 World Championships Team Trials

Still to be held: F2A and F2C, 3-5 October at Albury.

63rd MAAA Nationals (VMAA): F2A, F2B, F2C, F2D, 28 Dec 2009 to 4 Jan 2010.

2010 F4C Scale World Championships

Team selection trials for the 2010 F4C Scale World Championships in Poland are scheduled to be held at the VMAA 63rd Nationals at Albury. Dates of the event are Thursday 31 December 2009 and Friday 1 January 2010. Entry nomination will close on 30 November 2009, and a non-refundable entry fee of \$150.00 which will be applied to team expenses will be required in addition to the Nationals entry fee. Entries, together with deposits, should be sent to the VFSAA secretary, Keith Schneider at 15 Darvall Street, Donvale, Vic, 3111.

2010 F1A, B, C & D Trans Tasman Team Trials

Notification has been received that an additional event will be held at Dalby QLD on 22/23 August 2009, replacing a previous event washed out in May.

World / Continental Championships and Trans Tasman Events Calendar

2009	
EVENT	Awarded to
F1A, F1B, F1C	Croatia. Bjelopolje Dates: July 19 to July 26
F3A	Portugal Dates: August 21 – 29 2009
F3B	Czech Republic Dates: August 2 – 9 2009
F3C	USA – Muncie Dates: August 2 – 11 2009
F3D	Germany Dates: July 20 – 26 2009
2010	
EVENT	Awarded to
F1 A,B & C	Trans Tasman
F2A, F2B, F2C, F2D	Hungary Dates: July
F3J	France Dates: August 14 – 22, 2010
F4C	Poland
F5B, F5D	USA
Space Models	Serbia
F3A Asia-Oceanic	Offers Invited
F3C Asia-Oceanic	China (Tentative)
2011	
EVENT	Awarded to
F1 A,B & C	Argentina- Late April early May (dates to be confirmed)
F3A	USA – Late July early August (dates to be confirmed)
F3B	China
F3C	Italy Dates: 18 – 28 August
F3D	Australia Dates: 12-14 August
F3K	Sweden Dates: 4-10 July