

MODEL AERONAUTICAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA



EMERGENCY POLICY

MOP043

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This Policy and/or Procedure forms part of the MAAA Manual of Procedures. This entire document is for the use of all classes of members of the MAAA in the conduct of activities associated with the MAAA and is not be used for any other purpose, in whole or in part, without the written approval of the MAAA Executive.

EMERGENCY POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

Model Aviation, and the MAAA in particular, has an excellent safety record and is assessed as a low risk activity compared to other aviation activities. There are still some inherent dangers in flying model aircraft and so the possibility of a serious incident has to be considered. If there is a serious incident it is essential that a competent investigation is carried to determine the cause and if corrective actions are needed. It also has significant potential to generate adverse publicity and this has to be managed.

This Document is to state the Policy that the MAAA has in place to deal with these situations.

2. DEFINITIONS

ATSB	Australian Transport Safety Bureau
CASA	Civil Aviation Safety Authority
MAAA	Model Aeronautical Association of Australia Inc.

3. POLICY

3.1 Scope

This policy applies to all incidents concerning model aircraft owned or flown by Affiliated Members of the MAAA or at flying fields that are under the control of MAAA Clubs, that are fatal, near fatal, or likely to get media attention. In addition, it applies to how the MAAA handles incidents that it becomes aware of even if they do not involve members directly. The MAAA may become involved through the police, ATSB, or CASA, or be approached by the media for comment.

3.2 Immediate Action

In the event that any incident occurs that is covered by, or could be covered by, this Policy, the MAAA is to be immediately notified.

This contact is to be made in the first instance to the MAAA Secretary, preferably by telephone.

The MAAA Secretary shall then advise the relevant State Association.

If the MAAA Secretary cannot be contacted immediately, then the State Association should be advised directly.

Under this second circumstance, the MAAA should still be advised before any further action takes place.

If the MAAA Secretary remains unable to be contacted then the State Association shall contact any other member of the MAAA Executive.

3.3 Follow up Action

After notification, the procedure to be followed if this Policy applies to any incident is contained in the separate MOP034. This is on limited circulation. The MAAA, in conjunction with the State Association, will decide who is to be the media spokesperson for the incident and who will carry out any investigation needed.

No comments are to be made, nor anything at the site moved or interfered with, consistent with assisting any casualties or immediate public danger, such as high fire risk, until the MAAA has confirmed directly what actions under MOP034 are to be undertaken.