

MODEL AERONAUTICAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA



RECOGNITION BY THE M.A.A.A. OF SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP & NATIONAL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP PROCEDURE

MOP020

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

Amendments made to MOP020

Paragraph	Brief description of change	Change incorporated by
Document	Addition of the word Special Interest Group	MAAA Secretary 2023
3	Process for Registration of Special Interest Groups	
4	Outline Responsibilities of recognition	

RECOGNITION BY THE M.A.A.A. OF SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS AND NATIONAL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP PROCEDURE

1. PURPOSE

The purpose for this procedure is to enable groups to apply to the M.A.A.A. for recognition as a Special Interest Group or National Special Interest Group.

2. DEFINITIONS

Affiliate Member	A person properly affiliated with a Club that is properly affiliated to an MAAA Ordinary Member.
F.A.I.	Federation Aeronautique Internationale
M.A.A.A.	Model Aeronautical Association of Australia Inc.
M.A.A.A. Sub-committee	A committee comprising representatives from State Associations appointed by the M.A.A.A. Council.
Special Interest Groups	A group of modelers interested in a particular facet of aeromodelling. It may be a small group found within one state only.
S.I.G.	Special Interest Group
National Special Interest Group	A body established with interstate membership for the purposes of encouraging a particular facet of aeromodelling throughout Australia. In the interests of unity, the M.A.A.A. will allow only one National Special Interest Group per discipline to be recognised. Only National Special Interest Groups that have been officially recognised by the M.A.A.A. and act in conjunction with the relevant M.A.A.A. Sub committee are authorised to complete all arrangements on Team Selection.
N.S.I.G.	National Special Interest Group

3. REGISTRATION OF SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

For the purpose of being recognised and affiliated with the M.A.A.A. and its Ordinary Members, a Special Interest Group may request registration with the M.A.A.A. Registration of a group as a Special Interest Group shall be endorsed or sponsored by at least one Ordinary Member.

The M.A.A.A. Secretary shall maintain a register of Special Interest Groups which shall include the following information:

- (a) Name and contact details;

- (b) Objects or purpose of the Special Interest Group; and
- (c) Such other details or information as from time to time determined by the MAAA Executive.

All members of a Special Interest Group must be affiliate members of the MAAA. It is not required that a Special Interest Group is incorporated and the group may be operated informally provided that all relevant M.A.A.A. MOPS are followed by the group.

Registration of a group as a Special Interest Group shall be endorsed by at least one Ordinary Member. If the M.A.A.A. Executive determines that the Special Interest Group has ceased to exist or be active the M.A.A.A. may cancel the groups registration upon 30 days written notice to the last known contact details provided to the M.A.A.A.

4. RECOGNITION AS A NATIONAL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP - RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of the S.I.G. to prepare the application and collect all of the necessary documentation.

If recognized as a National Special Interest Group, it is the responsibility of the Group to conform to the M.A.A.A. Rules as applicable to Special Interest Groups and to provide an annual report for the M.A.A.A. Council Conference.

5. PREPARING THE APPLICATION.

The application itself should describe both the group, its responsibilities and relationship with the M.A.A.A.

In order to make an application the N.S.I.G. must be an incorporated body. The initial application in writing needs to be forwarded to the M.A.A.A. Executive and should address the following basic requirements:

Name

The name under which the National Special Interest Group wishes to be known.

Interest of Group

Which particular field the group specialises in.

The reasons for the Application

The N.S.I.G. should state their reasons for applying.

Structure of Group

The proposal will need to demonstrate that the National Special Interest Group is one body only with members in most Australian states and who are all affiliated members of M.A.A.A.

Incorporation

Details of incorporation and a copy of all related documents

Membership

Details of membership on a state-by-state basis

Relationship with M.A.A.A.

- (a) A statement that the National Special Interest Group agrees to abide by M.A.A.A. safety requirements and CASR (1998) Part 101 regulations.
- (b) A statement that it agrees to liaise with the M.A.A.A. Executive and the N.S.I.G.'s related M.A.A.A. Sub-committee on the issues of safety, insurance, frequencies, notification of trials, requirements re overseas teams, rules and publication of rules, flying sites, running World Championship events in Australia, National Championships, mediation on disputes and if required, the appointment of appeals boards to resolve disputes.

Funding

A National Special Interest Group will be entitled to control its own fund raising and open a bank account.

Election of office bearers and State representation

Full details on how this is to be undertaken by the NSIG should be supplied to the M.A.A.A. and the applicant should also acknowledge that the M.A.A.A. Secretary is to be advised as soon as possible of any office bearer changes.

Dispute resolution

Some indication of how a National Special Interest Group would handle disputes within its ranks is needed.

Dissolution of a National Special Interest Group

It is understood that if, in the opinion of the M.A.A.A. Executive and Council, a National Special Interest Group has ceased to function or perform satisfactorily then the National Special Interest Group will be dissolved. The relevant M.A.A.A. Sub-committee will then continue to manage the business of the discipline.

Signatories to the Application

The written application is to be signed by all members of the National Special Interest Group executive plus one representative member from each state. If any state is missing from the proposal then an explanation for their absence should be given and this will be considered when processing the application.

6. HOW APPLICATION IS PROCESSED BY M.A.A.A.

M.A.A.A. Executive has the power to negotiate on aspects of any application by a National Special Interest Group.

Once an application is received then the relevant Sub-committee is to be informed and invited to become a part of the process. The M.A.A.A. Executive and Sub-committee are to have a four-week period in which to study the application. If the basic guidelines have been followed, and there are no further queries or legitimate objections raised by the Sub-Committee or any other party, then the M.A.A.A. Executive is to decide at the next meeting of the Executive whether to grant interim approval to the applicant. If an application is refused, the M.A.A.A. Executive should give its reasons in writing.

A decision by the M.A.A.A. Executive to grant approval should be listed for ratification and if necessary discussed at the next scheduled annual M.A.A.A. Council Conference.

7. COMMENT

The above guidelines are an indication of what will be required and applicants are advised to follow them. If other factors arise then further negotiations may be necessary.