



# MAASA Meeting Minutes

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**Date:** 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024  
**Time:** 19h00  
**Location:** Microsoft Teams

Item	Description
1. Welcome	RM welcomed all to the meeting.  Attendees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joshua Twomey</li> <li>• Abré Smit</li> <li>• Rui Martins</li> <li>• Neil Twomey</li> <li>• Elaine Martins</li> <li>• Kas Hamman</li> <li>• Rodney Potter (by Invitation)</li> </ul>
2. Apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terence Kieck</li> <li>• Stuart Nix</li> </ul>
3. 2024 Masters Feedback	Everyone agreed that the 2024 Masters Invitational ran smoothly. The model processing was conducted efficiently and can serve as a blueprint for future events. The only suggestion was to improve the method for measuring the airplanes, such as using a Vernier caliper for greater accuracy. The Model Processing document will be shared with all MAASA members..  The financials for the Masters are noted in Appendix A:
4. Organising of Masters for 2025	RP indicated during a call, earlier in the year, that the WC would like the 2025 Masters to be in Gariep.
a. Venue	Gariep requires a minimum of R15,000 to book the field, but MAASA cannot cover this cost, as the event could be held at any other field free of charge. The Western Cape (WC) region is responsible for covering this expense from their budget. RP indicated that he was unaware of this cost and that they were unable to secure funding from the WC government for 2025. As a result, they are unable to pay for the field. It may be possible to consider this option for the 2026 Masters instead.
b. Winning Club Trophy	Going forward, a floating trophy should be awarded to the most successful or supported club at the Masters, to encourage club growth. This year, NERF won several trophies. RP suggested the idea of a Provincial Trophy instead, and this will be given further consideration
c. Other	The full criteria for the Masters Invitational were followed. Pilots who did not meet the qualification requirements had to submit a written request to the MAASA committee for an invitation. Only Burt Botha, Dean Grobbelaar, and Doug Kay made such requests, all of which were approved. The criteria are outlined in the MAASA Sporting Code (2024_11 MAASA Sporting Code, page 17). KH has requested that, for the bigger events, three judges be present on the flightline.

<p>5. Changing of F3A to align to International Standards</p>	<p>RM: Over the past 10 to 12 years, F3A has shifted to a format where pilots fly PFFF, but this change has alienated many pilots, causing a loss of participation. The format is too challenging and intimidating for newcomers. South Africa is the only country in the world that follows this approach. F3A is now struggling, and we don't have enough senior pilots to form a competitive World Team. It's crucial to return to the World Standard format as it was originally flown.</p> <p>Under the new system, Team Selection events will include PPPP, with the top pilots also flying an additional FF. For League events, only P schedules will be flown. Provincial organizers will have the flexibility to decide the combination of P and F schedules.</p> <p>The change will take effect from January 2025, but the 2025 Nationals will still be flown under the 2024 standards, as it will serve as a part of Team Selection for the 2025 World Championships, as a once-off.</p> <p>A unanimous decision has been made to change the format to PFFFF.</p> <p>The Sporting Code needs to be updated accordingly.</p> <p>Additionally, the Team Selection process needs to be revised. Instead of three events, there will either be two events or an additional event within the same calendar year. This adjustment will help determine the team at least nine months before the World Championships, allowing sufficient time for fundraising and organizing. This proposal will be open for discussion at the next AGM with all members.</p>
<p>6. Burt Botha – Creating a new Intermediate Class</p>	<p>An email, which will be circulated to the rest of the Committee, was received from Burt, suggesting the creation of an Intermediate class, between Sportsman and Advanced. Advanced Class will fly the A25/27 schedule. There is currently a huge jump between Sportsman and Advanced classes, not only flying wise but also equipment wise. The equipment being used in Sportsman can then also be used in Intermediate, stretching the usage of this.</p> <p>Approval of this was received via the Committee Whatsapp team, and this should be incorporated into the updated Sporting Code.</p>
<p>7. 2025 World Championships Team</p>	
<p>a. Validation of Team</p>	<p>The Junior team is set, as Robin Martins's score cannot be surpassed. The team now needs to be finalized so that funding can be organized. Andre and Joshua have both indicated they will not be competing at the 2025 World Championships. Cadin is performing exceptionally well and should be included in the team.</p> <p>Additionally, some wording in the Sporting Code needs to be revised to allow juniors competing in Masters, to be eligible for selection to the senior team.</p> <p>There is unanimous support for this motion.</p>
<p>b. Sponsorships</p>	<p>RP mentioned that Gauteng should form a Sporting body and approach the Department of Sports and Culture, to apply for funding / sponsorships from the Government.</p> <p>Any ideas and suggestions of how to arrange for sponsorships will greatly be appreciated.</p>
<p>c. Establishing of a Team Committee</p>	<p>A committee needs to be established. Approximately 5 people. NT is willing to guide the team committee as to what is required.</p> <p>People interested in Team Managing, need to submit their interest in writing to the Committee.</p>
<p>8. General</p>	<p>A new website needs to be developed, as the current site is not user-friendly. Grant has indicated that he no longer wants to manage the website and is willing to hand it over. RP mentioned that SN had previously offered</p>

	<p>to update the website, and the Committee will reach out to SN to discuss this further.</p> <p>Regarding the Notaumatic system, Grant also operated the system for us. RM asked AS if he could take over this responsibility for the Committee. RP noted that Pieter Kapp is in contact with the Notaumatic team, in France, in preparation for the World Championships.</p> <p>AS highlighted the need for more dedicated judges and for better judge training. Spouses are a good option for recruitment, while pilots should be used only as a last resort.</p> <p>Finally, the issue of Martin Knoetzen's Honorary Life Membership was raised again. The WC needs to work on securing the necessary 20 signatures from MAASA members. KH and RP indicated that they are having their AGM on 24 November and will get the necessary signatures then. Gauteng will provide the remaining signatures if needed.</p>
12. Close	<p>RM thanked everyone for attending. Meeting adjourned at 20:45</p>

### **Appendix A: - Masters Invitationals Financials**

Masters Expenses:			
		Income	Expenditure
	Income		
	Entry Fees	R 4,350.00	
	Expenses		
	Judges Flights		
10/06/2024	Bloemfontein Tickets		R 4,976.00
26/09/2024	Cancellation refund	R 2,405.06	
17/10/2024	Johannesburg change		R 2,752.86
12/11/2024	Penalty		R 968.24
	Judge Accommodation		R 1,000.00
	Trophies and Medals		R 3,077.00
	Food		R 930.00
	Long Term Parking		R 380.00
		R 6,755.06	R 14,084.10
	<b>Net Loss</b>	<b>R 7,329.04</b>	