



MAASA AGM Minutes

Date: 24 April 2016

Time: 18h00

Location: PC Pelsers Airport, Klerksdorp

Item	Description
1. Welcome	Clinton Carter-Brown (CCB) welcomes all members, and thanks them for their attendance on behalf of the committee. Agenda has been circulated to all members and shared at the meeting. The Attendance Register is circulated and is attached below.
2. Apologies	Apologies received from Neil Allen, Ludwig Steyn, Sebastiano Sacca, Michael Sacca
3. Registration of Proxy Votes	Neil Allen -> Stuart Nix Ludwig Steyn -> Rodney Potter Sebastiano Sacca, Michael Sacca -> Bruce Clark
4. Acceptance Previous Minutes	The previous minutes are taken as read. Proposed for acceptance by Stuart Nix, seconded by Len de Villiers. All in acceptance.
5. Matters Arising	All proposals from previous minutes have been duly implemented by the committee.
6. Chairman's Report	CCB delivered the Chairman's Report, which is attached. Rodney thanked CCB for the in depth report.
7. Treasurer's Report	Grant Brook delivered the Treasurer's Report, which is attached. No questions were raised on the financials.
8. Proposals:	Sporting Code Changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proposal 1: Restrictions on 2x2 planes in Sportsman's. - Proposal 2: Increase difficulty in Sportsman's. - Proposal 3: Pilot judging. <p>Please refer to sections below for discussions and outcomes.</p>

	<p>Constitution Changes: (requires 2/3 majority):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None received. <p>Fees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proposal 4: Fees 2017 <p>Please refer to section below for discussions and outcomes.</p> <p>General:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nico suggested that we have an award ceremony Banquet. This was not generally supported.
9. 2016 Masters	<p>Proposal from Western Cape The proposal was circulated – Stuart discussed some of the aspects of it. Location would be Helderberg. Unanimous acceptance of the proposal.</p>
10. Honorary Life Membership	<p>No nominations were received. CCB highlighted that nominations need to be driven by members, presented to committee. Rodney proposed that Andre should be considered, and he will follow due process.</p>
11. Election of Office Bearers	<p>Present committee indicated willingness to continue. Oom Danie asked that he be allowed to step down as CD.</p> <p>CCB highlighted need for continuity, rotation of committee.</p> <p>Oom Danie suggested that we look at younger person for CD role. Stuart – proposed leader for each class – perhaps need to be independent party?</p> <p>The existing committee is proposed for re-election:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CIAM - Andre - Chief Judge - Bruce - Secretary - Chris - Treasurer - Grant - Chair - Clinton <p>Unanimous vote in favour. The Committee will be allowed to co-opt additional members in their discretion, all in favour.</p> <p>Regional Rep appointments are separately addressed by regions.</p>
12. Close	<p>CCB closed meeting at 19h45.</p>

Proposals:

Proposal 1: Stuart Nix

Remove the 2x2 restriction; by allowing any size plane up to 2x2 could help in increasing the entries in Sportsman. At it is right now anyone who is really interested is forced to buy a Sportsman size plane and then have to buy another one (2x2) when the move to the Advanced class increasing the cost. If one can use a 2x2 from the start then only one plane has to be purchased to move to the Advanced class.

Clinton Carter-Brown

It is proposed that a sportsman pilot be allowed to fly a 2*2 plane in sportsman class but that a one-point penalty will be applied per manoeuvre. This will effectively reduce the score by 10%. Such a handicap will allow sportsman pilots to compete with a 2*2 plane yet will have a handicap that allows pilots flying non 2*2 to be competitive. If supported it is proposed that this change be implemented immediately after the Nationals, and that the committee has support to make the necessary changes to the sporting code to give it effect. As with the present rule, the CD will have discretion as to what constitutes a 2*2 and hence when the handicap would be applied. When capturing the scores, one point would need to be deducted per manoeuvre.

Discussion:

Nico asked who would do the adjustment. The scorekeeper, perhaps built into scorekeeping spreadsheets. Judge must score as normal.

Len asked whether the 2*2 planes are really 10% better? Perhaps not, but Sportsman class intended for participation with lesser planes.

Michael raised that 10% may be too much.

Bruce asked what brought discussion around? Unfair advantage.

Andre indicated that pilots would rather try Advanced than Sportsman due to rules. Len indicated that they might try but not be great? Issue to learn schedules first, and gain experience in the disciplines.

Nico suggested that Sportsman's is difficult for a new pilot – so rather compare fairly.

Grant – propose sticking with the current rules for another year.

Rodney indicated that most WC pilots are happy to compete? 2x2 will always be competitively better.

Vote:

The vote is to keep the rules as they are, and this carries with a clear majority.

The rule as stands is only applicable to National competitions; consideration can be given at local level where participation is open to everyone, with agreement of all pilots to allow 2*2 to participate in competition. However, scores achieved by Sportsman pilots participating with a 2*2 plane will not be recorded on the MAASA register, and will not count towards Masters qualification.

Proposal 2: Stuart Nix

Remove the "Free" Turn round manoeuvres in Sportsman's, also introduce one or two "Advanced" manoeuvres so that the gap between the two classes is reduced in difficulty.

Discussion:

Stuart discussed adding forced manoeuvres like the reverse Cuban by making these scored manoeuvres, and perhaps fitting in one or two more manoeuvres. Grant illustrated through examples that the pilots are not using free turnaround effectively.

Len highlighted that Sportsman is the entry class, and should be left as introductory.

Michael indicated that the difference from regular flying is big, daunting.

Grant indicated building blocks there – need to just develop.

Clinton raised the issue of first-timers not joining, formal schedules perhaps too daunting.

Grant encourages all to consider framework for development, and how this sets the learning path.

Vote:

The vote is to add a turnaround to be scored, and to also score the straight and level flight. The vote is unanimous.

The committee will be tasked to make these changes.

Proposal 3: Clinton Carter-Brown

As with international trends (such as in the USA) we no longer have the luxury of always being assured of having sufficient full time judges at competitions. It is hence necessary to utilize pilots that are also judges. This needs to be done equitably so that judging duties are shared between pilots. It is hence proposed that the AGM support that the committee implement a pilot-judging requirement whereby all pilots need to do the judges exam and be available for judging at competitions. It is anticipated that the judging duties will be limited as the workload can be shared. Possible penalties for pilots not judging should be considered, and should consider practices elsewhere such as in the USA. If supported then new committee to draft changes for implementation in 2017, or immediately after the Nationals if that is the preference of the AGM.

Discussion:

Chris indicated that participation in judging leads to flying improvements due to better understanding of requirements.

Grant suggested that the rule would apply more to senior pilots being expected to participate.

Stuart suggested it applies only from Masters / F3A.

Bruce suggested GP to be guinea pig? KZN & WC sorted in terms of judges.

Rodney questioned the issue with pilots being penalized, vs judges not feeling any pain.

Vote:

The unanimous vote is to maintain the status quo, where pilot judges are allowed. The Sporting Code will be examined to ensure there are no contrary rules.

Proposal 4: Grant Brook

I propose that the fees remain the same for 2017. I feel that the growth in income for MAASA should come from a growth in members and not in an increase in fees. I would like to challenge the members present to make that a reality by increasing the membership in each province. An additional 10 members would represent an increase of membership fees of 25%, which will be to the benefit of all members.

Discussion:

Rodney raised the danger of not increasing now may lead to later big increase. Grant indicated that the big change in combined Nationals means that we do not need as much to run the organization.

Issue of more judges: more a SAMAA than a MAASA issue.

Stuart suggested that we keep as is but team keep eye on it.

Vote:

The unanimous vote is to keep fees as is.

Attendance Register:

Clinton Carter-Brown

Grant Brook

Chris O'Connell

Danie Botha Snr

Ozzie Parenzee

Kobus Malan

Andre Stockwell

Martin Knoetzen

Michael Borchers

Stuart Nix

Len de Villiers

Nico Erasmus

Kobus Steinmann

Joshua Twomey

Thys Rossouw

Bruce Clark

Jacques Botha

Craig Bell

Rodney Potter

Pieter Botha

Chairman's Report:

I would like to take the opportunity to welcome everyone present for this 2016 MAASA AGM. Thank you for your support, and our thoughts are with our fellow MAASA community members that could not attend.

May I start by acknowledging and thanking the dedication of the MAASA committee, who selflessly provide of their time for the benefit of the broader membership:

Secretary: Chris O'Connell

Treasurer: Grant Brook

Chief Judge: Bruce Clark

Contest Director: Danie Potgieter Snr

National Rep: Stuart Nix (as elected by the regional reps)

CIAM Rep: Andre Stockwell

Unfortunately the vice-chairman, Matthys Botha, resigned early in the year and his position has not been filled.

MAASA is a leading SIG, and our website, financial management and general organisation sets a high benchmark. We are fortunate to have committee members that have put considerable effort into providing and maintaining the systems we have. Thank you.

I am happy to report that the present MAASA committee members have expressed their willingness to stand for election for a further year. The vice-chairman role needs to be filled, and we also naturally need to consider additional nominations, as is important to ensure future continuity.

As is customary, the AGM is being held over the event of the 2016 Combined Power Nationals. The move back to a Combined Power Nationals is proving to work extremely well. It should be borne in mind that MAASA members were instrumental in a return to this format. A combined Nationals is beneficial in a number of ways. In particular it supports increased participation, and the sharing of costs reduces the burden on MAASA and has a commensurate impact on the required MAASA membership fees. This year we had 25 entries in the MAASA portion of the event, with a very good spread across the four classes. The decision to rationalise the previous 5 classes into 4 is proving to have been a good decision. Compacting the MAASA flights to occur over two days has, I believe, also been a contributing factor to the relatively good entry numbers. Our thanks to Bob Skinner and the organising committee for their hard work in pulling the Nationals together, and in particular for accommodating our request to condense the MAASA portion of the event.

The host nation for the 2017 F3A World Champs has been announced. It will be hosted in Qatar in November 2017. It is sure to be an interesting venue. The

November dates represent a departure from the usual mid-year timeframes set to coincide with the Northern hemisphere summer. Qatar in summer would be interesting to say the least, so a November date will hopefully result in cooler weather. It suits South Africa as the November timeline allows ample time between the 2017 Nationals and the World Champs. It is hence most likely that the final team selection event will be at the 2017 Nationals.

The committee sent a request for proposals to the regions for the hosting of the 2016 MAASA Masters. To date only the Western Cape have responded, and have done so with a well thought out and quality offering. The decision to have the Masters in the Western Cape is a decision to be confirmed at this AGM. It is appreciated that it represents a significant travel requirement for the membership in the northern and eastern parts of the country. The Western Cape MAASA region has grown over the last two years to a position of strength. Western Cape members have made considerable effort to travel to national events. It is now our turn to support them in a show of numbers. I am certain that with some sharing of traveling we can get support in numbers. It is sure to be a great event.

While the Western Cape region has grown, it is naturally disappointing to see a decline in many of the other regions. This is not the platform to go into specifics, but all suggestions are welcomed as to how we can rekindle interest in all of the regions.

Our MAASA membership numbers have stabilised, but remain well below the levels of a few years ago. This however seems to be a common theme across the SIGs. LSA have made efforts to host competitions and clinics, which is now bearing fruit as is seen in them having to limit entries at the nationals. FPV in particular appears to be the new emerging SIG that attracts great interest, and is perhaps indicative of where the hobby/sport is headed. The decline in the USD exchange rate is not helping matters, and the cost of competitive precision aerobatic equipment is becoming increasingly prohibitive. OXAI's stopping of production of F3A models is perhaps also indicative of the broader international scene. Our MAASA membership fees pale into insignificance when compared to the cost of competing with even the most basic equipment, travel and accommodation costs etc. Our sport is influenced by these external factors, and we need to be mindful of them, keeping our MAASA costs to a minimum, but still having the key essentials for competitive aerobatics. It is a reality that the judging requirements, model processing and other costs do have cost implications for MAASA, and we need to work with the SAMAA SIG committee to find innovative ways to funding our sport.

I am encouraged by the number of Sportsman pilots that are participating in the Nationals. MAASA can only be sustained if we ensure we have a steady stream of new competitors. We have a few very competent and promising juniors, but need more young people competing and enjoying our great sport.

Our 2015 F3A team of Andre Stockwell, Calvin Scroll, myself and Roston Dugmore performed relatively well at an extremely competitive world champs

hosted in Zurich with Swiss precision. A special word of thanks to the team manager, Matthys Botha. The excellent placing achieved in South Africa in 2013 was always going to be difficult to defend. The team competed in tough conditions, and the limited exposure to the latest international flying styles reflected in the scoring. All team members can be proud of their achievement. Just competing is an honour, and is an experience that is certain to last a lifetime. We are sure to build on that experience, and I expect there will be stiff competition for team selection for the 2017 Champs in Qatar.

A final word of thanks to my committee. I wish you all a great conclusion to the Nationals.

Regards
Clinton Carter-Brown

Treasurer's Report:

Model Aerobatic Association of SA 14 April 2016

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Budget
	Jan - Dec 14	Jan - Dec 15	Jan - Apr 16	2015	2016
Income					
Masters Income	0.00	1,350.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Membership Fees	14,300.00	13,150.00	11,300.00	15,000.00	14,000.00
Gifts and Donations Income	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bank Interest Earned	1,792.85	2,268.26	1,016.19	1,700.00	2,800.00
Grants (SIG)	12,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00	0.00
Nationals Income					
Nationals Entries	7,600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sponsorship	8,015.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nationals Income - Other	0.00	1,100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Nationals Income	15,615.00	1,100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Income	43,707.85	19,868.26	12,316.19	20,700.00	16,800.00
Expense					
Office Expenses	1,146.16	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MAASA Gauteng Interest			188.76		
Judges Expenses	0.00	0.00	3,447.00	0.00	10,000.00
Bank Charges	207.00	205.76	82.26	300.00	300.00
Internet Expenses	75.00	102.60	0.00	75.00	120.00
Provincial Grants	2,000.00	2,500.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00
Annual Calibration equipment	570.00	550.00	826.50	0.00	1,000.00
World Champs Team Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Masters	8,216.00	7,443.00	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Nationals					
Catering	6,909.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Judges Expenses					
Accommodation	4,000.00	800.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Catering	3,294.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Travel	5,475.00	1,778.24	0.00	0.00	0.00
Judges Expenses - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Judges Expenses	12,769.00	2,578.24	0.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scoring Consumables	164.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Trophies & T-Shirts	8,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Venue	2,180.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nationals - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	0.00
Total Nationals	30,022.51	2,778.24	0.00	10,000.00	0.00
Total Expense	42,236.67	15,579.60	4,544.52	20,375.00	16,420.00
Balance	1,471.18	4,288.66	7,771.67	325.00	380.00
Opening Bank Balance for Period under review	37091.59	40562.77	50001.43		
Profit/Loss for period	1,471.18	4,288.66	7,771.67		
Absa Bank Balance (Not transferred)		50			
Travel Payments to be made	600	-600			
F3A Team donations		2250	4250		
MAASA Gauteng Funds			16649.48		
Membership fees pd but not invoiced	2300	5900	0		
Fees previously paid, now invoiced	-900	-2450	-7400		
Closing Bank Balance for Period under review	40562.77	50001.43	71272.58		