



**Victorian Model Aeronautical Association Inc.**  
**Executive Committee Meeting Agenda**  
**held on the 10<sup>th</sup> of June 2021**

**Via Zoom Videoconferencing**

**1. Meeting Opened 7:30 PM**

**2. Present:**

**President/Chairman** Reeve Marsh  
**Secretary:** Joe Finocchiaro  
**Treasurer:** Dr Arthur Bablis  
**Contest Dir:** Vacant (Temp Sec)  
**Comm Member:** Mark Sills  
**Editor:** Vacant (Temp Sec)  
**Video Librarian:** Ivan Chislett

**3. Apologies:** **Vice President** Jon Goudge, **Registrar** Geoff Herbert, **State Flying Inst** Les Marriner, **Comm Member** Paul Webber, **Education Officer** David Nichols

**4. Visitors: Nil**

**5. Minutes of the previous meeting held on – 13 May 2021**

**Seconded by:** Mark Sills **Carried - Yes**

**6. Matters Arising from previous minutes: -**

**6.1 NFG Funding Application:** To be discussed in General Business

**7. Treasurers Report:**

Opening Balance	\$71,114.22
Receipts	\$13,558.00
Payments	<b>\$2,007.06</b>
Closing Balance	\$82,465.16
Term Deposit	\$229,540.78
Term Deposit (2)	\$159,269.72
Total Loans to clubs:	\$ 23,600.00

**7.1 Additional Items:**

**7.1.1 Reimbursement:**

**7.1.1.1 Fuel:** The SFI has submitted reimbursement for fuel for the last instructor's course.

**7.1.2 Audit:** The treasurer is preparing for the audit and the upcoming AGM.

## 7.2 Treasurer moved the report to be accepted

**Seconded by:**

Mark Sills

**Carried - Yes**

### 7. Correspondence in:

- 7.1 Email from MWMAA Sec, regarding dead trees MT Wallace Field – Rec 08 June
- 7.2 Email from GDAM Pres, regarding registration/deregistration of flying fields – Rec 04 June
- 7.3 Email from SADAC Sec, regarding COVID restrictions – Rec 03 June
- 7.4 Email from CHAMPS Sec, regarding COVID restrictions – Rec 03 June
- 7.5 Email from WAM Sec, regarding Loan repayment – Rec 01 June
- 7.6 Email from EMMAC Sec, regarding field lease payment – Rec 01 June
- 7.7 Email from MAAA Sec, regarding CoC – Rec 31 May
- 7.8 Email from Mr M. Schembri regarding VMAA Minutes – Rec 31 May
- 7.9 Email from BADMAC Sec, regarding Lease, signed copy – Rec 28 May
- 7.10 Email from CMAC Sec, regarding VMAA Flyers for Try Fly – Rec 28 May
- 7.11 Email from Mr R. Champman regarding Avalon Airshow – Rec 25 May
- 7.12 Email from MAAA Sec, regarding Control Line Speed Record – Rec 25 May
- 7.13 Email from WAM Sec, regarding Field Incident – Rec 20 May
- 7.14 Email from WCS regarding Safety Distances - Rec 18 May
- 7.15 Email from WMAC Sec, regarding Safety Shut Off valve turbine – Rec 16 May

### 8. Correspondence Out:

- 8.1 Email to GDAM Pres, regarding information registration/deregistration of flying fields – Sent 04 June
- 8.2 Email to SADAC Sec, regarding current COVID restrictions and recommendations – Sent 03 June
- 8.3 Email to CHAMPS Sec, regarding current COVID restrictions and recommendations – Sent 03 June
- 8.4 Email to CHAMPS Sec, regarding current COVID restrictions and recommendations – Sent 03 June
- 8.5 Email to Mr M. Schembri regarding the distribution of VMAA Minutes – Sent 31 May
- 8.6 Email to CMAC Sec, regarding the number of flyers required – Sent 27 May
- 8.7 Email to MWMAA Sec, regarding approved field layout – Sent 22 May
- 8.8 Email to BADMAC Sec regarding specific lease clause – Sent 22 May
- 8.9 Email to KDMAC Sec, regarding Tullamarine runway extension – Sent 22 May
- 8.10 Letter to Mr M. Wilson regarding FAI Observer approval – Sent 22 May
- 8.11 Letter to P&DARCS Sec, regarding funding application – Sent 20 May
- 8.12 Email to WMAC Sec, regarding Turbine Safety Shut Off valve – Sent 20 May

### 9. Matters Arising from Correspondence:

- 9.1 **MWMAA Dead Tree Removal** – The host club has reported the pine trees on the Western border of the club may require to be removed based on the state of some of the trees (have died) regarding age and risk of some of the trees collapsing. The report was based on a local contractor working within the Mt Wallace area. Discussion centred around possible solutions; however, it was decided an independent opinion should be sorted from a third party regarding the state of the trees.

**9.1.1 Action:** The Secretary to contact the host club requesting further information.

### 10. Display Applications:

- 10.1 Nil

### 11. Registrars Report:

- 11.1 Processed registrations to date are:

**11.1.1** The MAAA is in the process to finalise the Registration system for this FY. SFI has moved to ensure all members membership are closed off. The result has been zero number of members to be processed.

May		June	
Seniors:	2218	Seniors:	2218
Juniors:	91	Juniors:	91
Life Mbrs:	8	Life Mbrs:	8
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2317</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>2317</b>
<b>To be processed: 0</b>		<b>To be processed: 0</b>	

11.2 **Comments:** The Registrar was unavailable due to not having internet. The severe storm damage has caused interruptions at many different levels in Melbourne.

### 11.3 Life Members

<b>11.3.1</b>	5600	David Axon;
<b>11.3.2</b>	16512	Toni Axon;
<b>11.3.3</b>	1047	Mervyn Buckmaster;
<b>11.3.4</b>	38516	Christopher Caulcutt;
<b>11.3.5</b>	24518	Ivan Chiselett;
<b>11.3.6</b>	35563	Brian Dowie;
<b>11.3.7</b>	30134	Murray Ellis; and
<b>11.3.8</b>	24641	Peter Harris.

## 12. Contest Directors Report:

12.1 **VMAA Calendar:** Clubs are submitting events and displays. It is pleasing to see clubs manage their activities and ensure people remain safe based on COVID restrictions.

12.2 **VMAA Trophy Weekend:** The conditions, rules and events will be reviewed to determine the best mix for the competition. In progress.

## 13. Editors Report:

13.1 **VMAA Bulletin** – Next bulletin in progress. I am attempting to have this out shortly.

## 14. Web Master's Report:

14.1 **Website Update:** A scope document is being developed to provide information and possible suggestion to improve the overall appearance and use. The President and Secretary to complete this work as soon as possible.

## 15. Safety Report:

15.1 Incident at WAM Club, Prop strik reported to the MAAA on 20 May 21. The incident has been reported to the VMAA via email. It was explained to the club the MAAA is the first point of contact with the VMAA being a CC on the initial report. Incidents are processed online via an online form.

## 16. Education Officers Report:

16.1 No report provided as no training has occurred due to COVID and that the Education Officer is moving residents.

## **17. Video Library:**

- 17.1 There has been very quiet regarding borrowing. A large amount of the material that used to be viewed can be found on YouTube. Additional reminders will be placed in each bulletin. After the VMAA AGM, a decision will be made regarding the future of the video library.

## **18. SFI Report:**

- 18.1 **Wing Status:** 8 Wings issued during May 2021.

### **18.2 Instructors Refresher Courses:**

<b>18.2.1</b> Number of requests received for a refresher course:	142
<b>18.2.2</b> Number of instructors who completed a refresher course:	142
<b>18.2.3</b> Number of instructors to complete a refresher course:	Nil
<b>18.2.4</b> Number of new instructors who complete the instructor's course:	4

### **18.3 Courses held during May 2021.**

- 18.3.1 Bellarine Model Aircraft Club:** Held on the 1st May 2021, 7 members re-qualified.

- 18.3.2 Twin Cities Albury / Wodonga Club:** On the 15th May 2021, 5 members re-qualified and 4 members qualified at the instructor's course.

- 18.3.3 Presentation:** On the 16<sup>th</sup> of May, the SFI visited the Wangaratta Club on behalf of the VMAA and presented instructor wings and certificates to a club member. There was a good turnout from the club members, and all enjoyed a pleasant morning.

- 18.3.4 Greensborough Club:** On the 29th May 2021, 3 members re-qualified.

- 18.3.5** By the 29th of May 2021, all Instructors who wished to requalify will have been processed and the appropriate entries made on the MAAA Membership Database.

- 18.3.6 Plans for the next 6 months:** The SFI is currently completing an audit of where the Instructors are located and looking at the clubs in need of new Instructors. The SFI will be prioritising future course participants according to his findings. An example of this is Ballarat, which has 2 active clubs and 47 members, and as of the 1st July 2021, there is only 1 Instructor between both clubs. The SFI is arranging for one member to do his Gold Wings Test, and in turn, has requested to do the next available instructor's course.

- 18.3.7** The clubs located in the northwest, north-central and northeastern areas of the state are well catered for with Instructor numbers. Most metro clubs are also well catered for; however, clubs like Caulfield have no MAAA Instructors, now or in the past. The SFI concerns how well the members have been trained and the importance the club places on safety and risk management.

18.4 **Recertification MAAA Instructors** – Recertification of MAAA Instructors to be completed by 30 June 2021. As of 01/07/2021, those that have not completed their refresher course will have their certification revoked. Due to COVID19, an extension to complete the requirement may be considered by the MAAA.

18.5 **SFI Acknowledgement:** The President, Mr Reeve Marsh and Committee wish to acknowledge the work done and the approach taken to achieve a great outcome for the VMAA and the way Les conducts and carries out the duties of the SFI. The VMAA Committee wish to pass on their sincere thanks and appreciation for achieving a fantastic outcome within the period specified.

**19. State Field Reports:**

19.1 Nil

**20. State Field Requests:**

20.1 The VPA submitted a request for the use of the Echuca State Field.

**21. General Business:**

21.1 **VMAA Action Point Register** – Was distributed to all committee members for review as of 08 April 2021. A status update is as follows:

**21.1.1 VMAA Constitution Revamp:** Being reviewed by the VMAA Treasurer. The VMAA President who has offered assistance – The first draft was presented for discussion; however, it was identified additional work is needed with certain sections to be presented as a priority and try in addressing areas of concern. Work is continuing with the next draft to be prepared for discussion.

**21.1.2 NFG Funding Application:** The club has applied for funding support and sent it to the committee for review and discussion. Comments will be requested to determine the best outcome from the committee. **To be discussed in General Business.**

21.2 **Area approvals** – Current applications that are being reviewed or waiting for CASA approval:

**21.2.1** KVM (Conditionally Approved, waiting for CASA);

**21.2.2** BRMFC (Conditionally approved);

**21.2.3** MFWAC (Conditionally approved);

**21.2.4** TCMAC (Under review);

**21.2.5** LVMAC (Under Review);

**21.2.6** A&DAC (Under review); and

**21.2.7** NMAC (Under review).

**21.2.8** The President received a phone call from the Australian Army Drone Racing club that is affiliated in Queensland. Is seeking to apply for an area approval for the Pukapunyal military area. There should not be any issues in gaining approval; however, a discussion with MAAQ will occur. The intent will be for the club will raise the appropriate documentation to secure the area approval through the VMAA.

**21.2.8.1 Action:** VMAA Secretary to contact MAAQ Secretary to discuss.

**21.2.9 New CASA requirements:** GPS coordinates of the flying, digital map of the site, aircraft type, size and weight. New submission form required to be used with each application.

- 21.2.10 Public Displays:** All public displays, whether **below or above 400 ft, require a CASA instrument** to hold the event. The cost is the same as per area approval and will be valid for five years.
- 21.3 MAAA Council Conference (15 May 2021 Summary):**
- 21.3.1** The council conference for 2021 was held on Saturday, 15 May. Conference participants were VMAA President, Secretary, and President. Agenda Items presented:
- 21.3.2 State Field Reports:** All reports were presented and accepted by the Council Conference.
- 21.3.3 Fees for FY 21/22 – VMAA reduced fees by \$15 for FY21/22 based on fields being shut down for approximately three months. The reduction is only open to renewals for existing members, not new members. The reduction is offered as an “Early Bird” discount by paying fees by 31 July 2021. The MAAA did not provide any early bird discount.**
- 21.3.4 Heavy Model Weight Increase:** Discussion surrounding the suggestion to have a self-inspection for models weighing 7 to 10 kg. The idea will be supplemented by using technology (application) to capture the appropriate information for submission to the MAAA Membership Registration database and linked to the member’s record. The process includes the member’s club. Further discussion will take place over the next three months to determine viability is in progress.
- 21.3.5 Avalon Airshow 30 Nov to 5 Dec 2021:** – The funding request from the MAAA for event expenditure was approved. Mr Roger Chapman has been approached to assist with the event and coordinate the requirements for the event.
- 21.3.6 MAAA Service Award -** A submission to acknowledge Mr Henry Hutchison for service to modelling, state and national aerobatics was presented and accepted by the MAAA Executive Council. Mr Hutchison will be presented with the award vis the VMAA. Arrangements are underway.
- 21.4 The discussion around the following proposal is presented.**  
The VMAA proposal to NFG offers a 50/50 grant/loan mix to assist with the club’s equipment purchase (Toro Zero Turn) project for a total of \$7,000 (5 years, interest-free). The break down is \$3,500 grant with a \$3,500 loan (repayments = \$740 /year). The loan repayment term can be discussed further if required.
- 21.4.1** Initial discussion raised the concern of conflict of interest or concerns based on the submission. It was suggested that a subcommittee be established to discuss the proposal and recommend the VMAA Committee.
- 21.4.2 Action:** VMAA Secretary to organise a meeting with a subcommittee.
- 21.5 Presentation PTSD –** A presentation was scheduled for the VMAA meeting; however, no feedback has been received. The Secretary will try and arranged for the presentation to held when Mr Jose Prats is available.
- 21.5.1 Action:** Contact Jose to arrange for the presentation.

21.6 **State Field Infrastructure (Survey):** The survey is completed and converted to a PDF that can be either filled out online or paper-based. The survey will be sent to all Association members for feedback. The survey will run for 60 days and then collected to provide feedback.

21.7 **State Field Signs:** The two VMAA owned State Fields require new signs refurbished due to age. The new signs present an opportunity to have a consistent message and style for each field. Host club input will be requested to produce a final design.

21.7.1 **Action:** The Secretary to look at suggested designs and request input from the host clubs.

21.8 **MAAA Club Assistance Scheme:** The Secretary informed the committee that the MAAA approved all Clubs applications. The MAAA has sent letters to each club acknowledging their success with each application.

22. **The next VMAA Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, 08<sup>th</sup> July 2021, via Zoom Video conferencing starting at 7:30 pm.**

23. **Meeting Closed: 8:35 pm**