



**Victorian Model Aeronautical Association Inc.**  
**General Committee Meeting**  
**held on the 08<sup>th</sup> of April 2021**  
**Via Zoom Videoconferencing**

1. Meeting Opened 7:35 PM

2. Present:

<b>President/Chairman</b>	Reeve Marsh
<b>Secretary:</b>	Joe Finocchiaro
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Dr Arthur Bablis
<b>Contest Dir:</b>	Vacant (Temp Sec)
<b>Registrar:</b>	Geoff Herbert
<b>Comm Member:</b>	Mark Sills
<b>State Flying Inst:</b>	Les Marriner
<b>Education:</b>	David Nichols
<b>Editor:</b>	Vacant (Temp Sec)
<b>Video Librarian:</b>	Ivan Chislett

3. Apologies: Vice President Jon Goudge, Comm Member, Paul Webber

4. Visitors: Nil

5. Minutes of the previous meeting held on – 11 March 2021

Seconded by: Les Marriner Carried - Yes

6. Matters Arising from previous minutes: -

- 6.1 **WCS Club requests assistance:** The club seeks guidance to assist in the constitutional requirements and possible outcomes. Have provided recommendation based on certain scenarios
- 6.2 **HM Inspector Audit:** A draft letter has been prepared to be sent to all known VMAA HM inspectors. The intent is to determine who is continue in providing the service and ensuring our list on the VMAA website is up to date. The audit is in conjunction with the MAAA MOP updates/amendments scheduled to be released in 2021.

7. Treasurers Report:

Opening Balance	\$81,103.63
Receipts	\$1,076.00
Payments	<b>\$11,679.29</b>
Closing Balance	\$70,500.34
Term Deposit	\$229,540.78
Term Deposit (2)	\$159,269.72
Total Loans to clubs:	\$ 25,475.00

**7.1 Additional Items:**

**7.1.1 Reimbursement** – Check the last reimbursement for the VMAA Registrar

**7.1.2 Additional Invoices:**

**7.1.2.1 C/L Statement Championship-** Trophies were picked and paid for.

**7.1.2.2 Annual reports for 2019 and 2020** – Have been processed with Consumer Affairs. The VMAA is now up to date with our financial records.

**7.2 Loans and Grants:**

**7.2.1** Nil

**7.3 Treasurer** moved the report to be accepted

**Seconded by:**

Geoff Herbert

**Carried - Yes**

**7. Correspondence in:**

- 7.1 Email from SHMI D. Law regarding Giant Inspector, Mr B. Hutchison – Rec 08 April
- 7.2 Email from P&DARCS Sec, regarding response to VMAA funding offer – Rec 06 April
- 7.3 Email from GMAA Sec, regarding MAAA 2021 Ass Scheme – Rec 06 April
- 7.4 Email from LDMFA, Les Marriner regarding Risk Ass – Rec 03 April
- 7.5 Email enquiry from Mr T. Pullens regarding Drone Flying and regulations – Rec 03 April
- 7.6 Email from Mr A. Arapakis regarding 2020 MAAA Ass Scheme funding – Rec 30 March
- 7.7 Email from WCS Sec, regarding assistance with club matters – Rec 29 March
- 7.8 Email from Mr R. March regarding C/L speed record – Rec 28 March
- 7.9 Email from SEMAC Sec, regarding receiving CASA Instrument – Rec 27 March
- 7.10 Email from Honors Australia regarding comments on the nomination – Rec 26 March
- 7.11 Email from Miss M. Almeida regarding Sports Rec Vis and WMAA – Rec 24 March
- 7.12 Email from WMAC Sec, regarding HM Insp Application Mr B. Thompson – Rec 18 March
- 7.13 Email from Mr G. Reed, regarding starting a new Drone Club – Rec 15 March
- 7.14 Email from WMAA Sec, regarding purchasing of land for the flying site – Rec 15 March
- 7.15 Email from VMAA SFI, regarding storing of VMAA trainers – Rec 14 March
- 7.16 Email from BADMAC Sec, regarding Giant HMI Application Mr B. Hutchinson – Rec 14 March
- 7.17 Email from Mr M. Schembri regarding attending VMAA Meeting – Rec 13 March

**8. Correspondence Out:**

- 8.1 Email to Mr T. Pullens regarding Rules and Regs for Drone Flying – Sent 05 April
- 8.2 Email to LDMFA Sec, regarding Club Risk Ass – Sent 30 March
- 8.3 Email to WMAC Sec, regarding CASA Instrument – Sent 30 March
- 8.4 Email to WCS Sec, regarding Constitutional guidance – Sent 29 March
- 8.5 Email to Mr Jose Miguel regarding Thesis Project – Sent 28 March
- 8.6 Email to MAAA Sec regarding C/L Speed Record – Sent 28 March
- 8.7 Email to M. Schembri regarding previous VMAA minutes – 27 March
- 8.8 Email to MWMAA Sec, regarding Mt Wallace PM visit – Sent 27 March
- 8.9 Email to SEMAC Sec, regarding CASA Instrument – Sent 27 March
- 8.10 Email to Miss M. Almeida regarding Sports Rec Vic and WMAA – Sent 24 March
- 8.11 Email to MAAA Sec regarding Club Details and Insurance – Sent 21 March
- 8.12 Email to Mr G. Reed regarding documentation to start a new club – sent 20 March
- 8.13 Email to MAAA Sec, regarding HMI for Mr M. Christoph – Sent 18 March
- 8.14 Email to MAAA Sec, regarding MAAA Conference Agenda – Sent 16 March
- 8.15 Email to WMAC Sec, regarding HMI application additional information – Sent 15 march

- 8.16 Email to WMAA Sec, regarding Land Purchasing Guidelines – Sent 15 March
- 8.17 Email to CMAC Sec, regarding Wingspan article – Sent 14 March
- 8.18 Email/Letter to P&DARCS Sec, regarding the offer of funding – Sent 14 March

## 9. Matters Arising from Correspondence:

- 9.1 **Drone flying** - Inquiries for safe flying and suitable locations have been received. Information has been provided, including the relative MAAA MOPs. VMAA recommendation is to join a club for insurance purposes. CASA regulations have not been completed at this stage.
- 9.2 **Mr Jose Miguel** – Has completed his thesis Project on PTSD. Mr Miguel would be happy to present his findings and discuss the project. Discussion of a suitable time will follow and could be provided at the next VMAA meeting.
- 9.3 **Miss M. Almeida** – From Sports Rec Victoria contacted the VMAA regarding the WMAA club to confirm the club affiliation to the VMAA/MAAA.
- 9.4 **Club details** – A list of all clubs and alternative sites have been submitted to the MAAA Secretary. The listing was to assist with the FY 21/22 insurance requirements discussed at the MAAA Conference.
- 9.5 **Giant Model Insp** – The BADMAC has submitted a request for a current HM inspector to be certified to the giant category. This will be processed as the inspector is not a new HM but one that is current and would assist within the category. Application was submitted to the SHMI for review. The SHMI has provided feedback.
  - 9.5.1 **Action:** Secretary to contact the applicant to follow up.
- 9.6 **GMAA MAAA Ass Scheme** – The application has been submitted by the club and has been distributed to the committee for review.

## 10. Display Applications:

- 10.1 **Warracknabeal Yearly Display (Below 400 ft):** The application was approved with an instrument issued to the club. The instrument will remain valid for the next five years.

## 11. Registrars Report:

- 11.1 Processed registrations to date are:

March		April	
Seniors:	2198	Seniors:	2207
Juniors:	90	Juniors:	91
Life Mbrs:	8	Life Mbrs:	8
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2296</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>2306</b>
<b>To be processed:</b>		<b>To be processed:</b>	<b>9</b>

- 11.2 **Office Bearers:** The SFI reported the ongoing issue of clubs not updating the office bearers within the MAAA database. Some clubs fail to realise communication will be sent to the email address that is located within these fields. The email used by the VMAA Registrar, SFI and Secretary to highlight or pass on information to club secretaries.

### 11.3 Life Members

- 11.3.1 5600 David Axon;
- 11.3.2 16512 Toni Axon;
- 11.3.3 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 to bring the sport back to what it was before COVID. It is pleasing to see clubs are managing the activity and ensuring people remain safe.
- 12.2 **C/L Trophies Championships:** All trophies were picked up with a successful competition held over four days over Easter. Well done to all.

## **13. Editors Report:**

- 13.1 **VMAA Bulletin** – Next bulletin in progress. I have received additional articles and events to include.

## **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:**

- 15.1.1 KDMAC Incident:** MAAA has sent an email to the claimant to provide information and update the process and next steps.

## **16. Education Officers Report:**

- 16.1 Not available

## **17. Video Library:**

- 17.1 Additional reminders will be placed in each bulletin. New members are joining.

## **18. SFI Report:**

- 18.1 **Wing Status: 13** Wings issued during March 2021. Fairly constant throughout the month.
- 18.2 **Instructors Refresher Courses:**
  - 18.2.1** Number of requests received for a refresher course: 140
  - 18.2.2** Number of instructors who completed a refresher course: 115
  - 18.2.3** Number of instructors to complete a refresher course: 25
- 18.3 **Courses held during March.**

**18.3.1 Valley Flyers Club Shepparton** on the 20th March 2021. Six members booked in, and **six** members successfully completed the course.

**18.3.2 Lilydale Club** on the 28th March 2021, **2** members booked in but had to cancel owing to the fact they had both been in Brisbane in the week before the course and had to self-quarantine for 14 days. Participants rebooked to a later course (18.04.2021).

#### **18.4 Future Courses:**

**18.4.1 Lilydale Club** on the 28th March 2021, 2 members booked in.

**18.4.2 Bendigo Club Marong South** on the 24th of April 2021, **5** members booked in. Involves an overnight stay on Friday the 23rd of April, then drive home after the course.

**18.4.3 Bellarine Club** on the 1st May 2021, 8 members booked in.

**18.4.4 Twin Cities Club** on the 15th May 2021, 8 members booked in. Involves an overnight stay on the 14th of May 2021. Accommodation already booked by VMAA.

**18.4.5 Greensborough Club** on the 29th May 2021, **2** members booked in.

18.4.5.1 It is interesting to note that this course was added to the schedule to cater for a GMAC Instructor who qualified at an Instructor's Course in 2010. The member was never entered on the MAAA Data Base as an Instructor, and hence, didn't receive an invitation in 2019 to attend a recertification course. His case was raised by a fellow Instructor who questioned why the member had not been offered a position at one of the Recertification Courses. I contacted the Instructor who produced his Instructor's Certificate, signed by the then MAAA President and the then VMAA SFI. I updated the MAAA Data Base with his qualification and the member is now on track to be recertified on the 29th of May 2021.

**18.5 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.

#### **19. State Field Reports:**

19.1 State Field Report templates to be sent to all state fields and those clubs that have an MAAA financial commitment. Reports will be collated and sent to the MAAA by 01 May 2021.

#### **20. State Field Requests:**

20.1 Nil

#### **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 section to be presented as a priority and try in addressing areas of concern. Work is continuing and will be presented at the next VMAA meeting.

- 21.1.2 Document on recommended state field infrastructure** – The draft survey has been updated and presented at the next meeting. The survey will ask specific questions to determine the best fit for the state fields ongoing.
  - 21.1.3 Lilydale Club:** The task has been completed with the Club accepting the suggested changes to their Risk Assessment. The issue is now resolved.
  - 21.1.4 Bairnsdale Draft Lease in progress:** The VMAA received comments for the Club with possible suggestions and questions regarding the leasing. The comments will be addressed and another draft presented to the club for review, in progress.
- 21.2 Area approvals** – Current applications that are being reviewed or waiting for CASA approval:
- 21.2.1** KVM (Renewal Process Under Away);
  - 21.2.2** BRMFC (Waiting for approval);
  - 21.2.3** MFWAC (Waiting for approval);
  - 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 New CASA requirements:** GPS coordinates of the flying, digital map of the site, type of aircraft, size and weight. New submission form required to be used with each application.
- 21.2.9 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 P&DARCS Funding Application:** An official reply has been received by the VMAA. The club did not take up the initial offer presented by the VMAA as it was determined that not all the information was available on the initial submission. Additional information has now been received from the club, which will be distributed and considered by the VMAA Committee. The request to extend the timeline is approved from 60 days to 120 days to assist with the club meeting cycles.
- 21.3.1 Action:** Secretary to send an official letter to P&DARCS regarding timeline extension.
  - 21.3.2 Suggested motion that was not accepted:**  
The VMAA proposal to P&DARCS offers a 50/50 grant/loan mix to assist with the club's water sprinkler project for a Total of \$9,400 (5 years, interest-free).
- 21.4 MAAA Council Conference:** The council conference for 2021 will be held on Saturday, 15 May, commencing at 9:00 am. The President, Secretary and Treasurer will represent the VMAA. Items to be submitted for the MAAA agenda are:
- 21.4.1 Fees for FY 21/22** – To be reduced as per FY20/21 based on fields being shut down for approximately three months. The reduction is only opened to existing members. New members will pay full fees.
  - 21.4.2 Heavy Model Weight Increase.** Once again, discussions have identified the current weight category for a heavy model is out of date and needs to be reconsidered. It was suggested the weight should be increased from **7 kg to 10 Kg** before a heavy permit is needed. Previous investigations and data available have not been identified as an issue with models weighing above 7 kg. The item will be submitted to be part of the MAAA agenda.

21.5 **Avalon Airshow 30 Nov to 5 Dec 2021** – The event will acknowledge the RAAF 100 years celebration. The VMAA has been part of the airshow for many years and sees the event as a major way to promote aeromodelling and our sport to the general public. The MAAA has also offered to support the VMAA as it is seen as a major marketing activity. Options and suggested budge will be discussed. Key activities have been identified to prepare for the event. Clubs are invited to assist and help with the promotion. Mr Roger Chapman will be approached to lead the activity for the VMAA.

22. **The next VMAA Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021, via Zoom Video conferencing starting at 7:30 pm.**

23. **Meeting Closed: 9:45 pm**