



**Victorian Model Aeronautical Association Inc.
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
held on the 09th of December 2021**

Via Zoom Videoconferencing

1. Meeting Opened 7:30 PM

2. Present:

President/Chairman	Reeve Marsh
Vice President:	Jon Goudge
Secretary:	Joe Finocchiaro
Contest Dir:	Keith Quigg
Registrar:	Geoff Herbert
Comm Member:	Mark Sills
State Flying Inst:	Les Marriner
Editor:	Ian Cole
Video Librarian:	Ivan Chislett
Education Officer:	Vacant

3. Apologies: Treasurer, Dr Arthur Bablis, Committee Member, Phil Mohr

4. Visitors: Mr N Thompson (GMAC Representative)

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

Seconded by: Les Marriner **Carried - Yes**

6. Matters Arising from previous minutes:

6.1 VRF CO-OP AGM documentation – The VMAA Secretary has spoken with the club and explained what the MAAA requires as documentation. The club understands the requirement. The club will provide the information as soon as possible.

6.2 State Field Mt Wallace Leasing – Waiting for the host club to discuss the CPI issue with the members. Due to COVID restriction has caused delays. It will be resolved shortly.

7. Treasurers Report: *(No report was tabled due to the Treasurer not being available. The February 2022 meeting will have the financial statement for both December and January)*

Opening Balance	\$
Receipts	\$
Payments	\$
Closing Balance	\$
Term Deposit	\$
Term Deposit (2)	\$
Total Loans to clubs:	\$21,000.00

7.1 **Comments:**

7.1.1

7.2 **Additional Items:**

7.2.1 MailChimp Invoice for mailing credits

7.2.2 Reimbursement VMAA Sec

7.2.3 Cultivate Invoice

7.2.4 **Additional Account (Fees/Other):** To be organised.

7.2.5 **BADMAC Rate Invoice:** Waiting for reply.

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

Seconded by:

Nil

Carried - No

7. **Correspondence in:**

7.1 Email from EMMAC Sec regarding sign quote – Rec 07 Dec

7.2 Email from GMAC Sec regarding alternative flying site – Rec 07 Dec

7.3 Email from VPA Pres regarding Service Medal Award – Rec 03 Dec

7.4 Email from TCMAC Pres regarding Aera Approval – Rec 15 Nov

7.5 Email from AKT Trophies regarding championship trophies – Rec 12 Nov

7.6 Email to Mr D. Jedwab regarding a moratorium on HMI application. – Rec 11 Nov

7.7 Email to BADMAC from the MAAA Tres regarding rates – 11 Nov

8. **Correspondence Out:**

8.1 Email to BADMAC Sec regarding Council Rates – Sent 05 Dec

8.2 Email to Mr D. Jedwab regarding a moratorium on HMI application– Sent 05 Dec

8.3 Card and Flowers to VMAA Tres regarding the passing of a family member – Sent 27 Nov

8.4 Email to MAAA Pres regarding Bio for Mr P. Winter – Sent 13 Nov

8.5 Email to Mr B. Thompson regarding HMI Approval – 15 Nov

8.6 Email to Mr R. Sargent regarding HMI Approval – 15 Nov

9. **Matters Arising from Correspondence:**

9.1 **State field sign** – EMMAC has provided the quote. The secretary to show samples of state field signs that are being considered.

9.2 **Presentation MAAA Service Award** – President and Secretary attended an APA event at SWAMPS on Saturday, 04 Dec to present the award to Henry Hutchison for services provided to the discipline. The APA apricated the effort and the recognition and acknowledgment from the Association.

10. **Display Applications:**

10.1 No new application, but I am waiting for CASA reply for the WMAC display.

11. Registrars Report:

- 11.1 The MAAA is in the process to finalise the Registration system for this FY. The Registrar has now moved to ensure all clubs are active for the new FY21/22. The renewal uptake has been pleasing to date.

November		December	
Seniors:	2049	Seniors:	2055
Juniors:	69	Juniors:	69
Life Mbrs:	6	Life Mbrs:	6
Total:	2124	Total:	2130
To be processed: 6		To be processed: 1	

- 11.2 **Comments:** No cheques will be accepted from FY21/22. All payments will need to be completed via EFT. The process is not difficult in transferring funds. Any cheques received for the next fee cycle will be returned to the club.

11.3 Life Members

11.3.1	1047	Mervyn Buckmaster;
11.3.2	38516	Christopher Caulcutt;
11.3.3	24518	Ivan Chiselett;
11.3.4	35563	Brian Dowie;
11.3.5	30134	Murray Ellis; and
11.3.6	24641	Peter Harris.

12. Contest Directors Report:

- 12.1 **VMAA Calendar** – The CD has been going through the calendar and has been working on the VMAA Trophy. Working with dates with the event can be a week or two weeks later to keep away from Easter. For the start of the new year, I will contact clubs with any events conducted—Secretary to provide flyers for the VMAA trophy event once dates have been confirmed. Dates to be circulated via committee (possible April 2022).
- 12.2 In the future will try to have an application for live event entry for the clubs to use. Work in progress.

13. Editors Report:

- 13.1 **VMAA Bulletin** – I have reconstructed the newsletter with a similar layout with updates. Have two reports and waiting for additional reports and looking at a 12-page newsletter for the first one. I will be visiting clubs when events are on. As others take photos and write up articles will add to the newsletter. Links to specific events can be included in the newsletter to inform the membership.

14. Web Master's Report:

- 14.1 **Website Update:** The update of the website is continuing with new content and general items for information. HMI listing updated and posted and represents those that wish to

continue as HMIs and can be contacted—updated state field links with additional information. I am checking all current web links, including club links.

15. Safety Report:

- 15.1 An incident did occur at Mangalore regarding a runway jet after a TX was dropped. An incident report has been submitted to MAAA. Work in progress.

16. Education Officers Report:

- 16.1 Currently the position is vacant.

17. Video Library:

- 17.1 The future of the video library has been placed in the Action Register for discussion. The library is being used even though small in numbers.

18. SFI Report:

- 18.1 **Wing Status** - Four Wings were issued during November 2021. The wings were made up of 4 **Silver Wings Power** from 3 Country and 1 Metro. It is pleasing to see that many of the country clubs are encouraging their newer members to attain their Bronze or Silver Wings as the club Solo Rating, and this is filtering through to a lot of the long-time members.
- 18.2 **Qualified Instructors** - I am pleased to report that I conducted an MAAA Instructors course at the Northern Flying Group on the 6th of November 2021. VMAA currently has **152** MAAA qualified Instructors.
- 18.3 **Plans for the next six months** - I have had several enquiries from Instructors during the month, asking for advice on various issues, and it is encouraging to see this occurring regularly.
- 18.4 **Future Instructors Courses:** I have drafted an article addressed to the club Secretaries, explaining my approach to selecting applicants for future courses, and to get in touch with me if their club has a need in this area. I have also drafted a similar article that will go out to the members in the December Bulletin. In both articles, I have made it quite clear as to how I conduct the courses, and if any member or club committee wishes any clarifications, then they are welcome to contact me by phone where I can clear up any questions they may have. My main focus is to select prospective Instructors who have a dedicated and demonstrated wish to teach new members and mentor current members. So far, so good, with the nine newly appointed Instructors who have qualified this calendar year.

19. State Field Reports:

- 19.1 Nil

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 09 November 2021. A status update is as follows:

21.1.1 VMAA Constitution Revamp: Being reviewed by the VMAA Treasurer. The first draft was presented for discussion; however, additional work is needed with certain sections. Work is continuing with the next draft to be prepared for discussion. The current workload has delayed completing the task. Look at this task after the AGM. Emails will be sent out to the committee with sections of the constitution for review.

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

21.2.1 BRMFC (Information provided);

21.2.2 MFWAC (Conditionally approved);

21.2.3 TCMAC (Additional review);

21.2.4 LVMAC (Under Review); and

21.2.5 NMAC (Under review).

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

21.2.7 Change of Payment Process: To improve the process and speed up the approval process, the new MAAA President plans to have the MAAA pay the initial fee estimates and then charge back to the state/club. The potential is to reduce the timeline by possibly two to three weeks. Work in progress.

21.2.8 Public Displays: All public displays, whether **below or above 400 ft, require a CASA instrument** to hold the event. The cost is the same per area approval and will be valid for five years.

21.5 **State Field Infrastructure (Survey):** There has been a delay in the construction of the presentation of the survey due to the Vice President's work commitments; an update will be provided by the next meeting. However, the survey does provide a view from the broader population and an indication of support to establish state fields within the constraints mentioned (i.e. not an open cheque book but based on submissions and requirements). This guidance will help the committee overcome the "constipation" on what is spent on state fields.

21.5.1 The question was asked why did the survey go to everyone, and just not clubs. The president indicated that they would have required clubs to collate the response instead of allowing affiliates to engage directly with the VMAA.

21.6 **Draft State Field Sign Proposal:** The intent is to have a form of consistency for the state fields. The secretary provided a sample of the signs with logos and how they would appear on the sign including additional information. The cost is approximately \$380. Fine-tuning is needed to ensure the logos/writing are correctly positioned for event space.

21.6.1 **Action:** Secretary to contact signwriter to make final adjustments.

21.7 **Discussions points - GMAC:** The following points have been submitted for discussion by the GMAC Club:

21.7.1.1 **Lack of clarity:** VMAA website will have links to how to visit a state field. Links will come from the clubs. Information to be updated into a “Visitor Policy”, which includes visiting protocols such as how many visits, rules etc.

21.7.1.2 **Type of Fields:** VMAA VP asked the question's relevance regarding “two fields” MAAA and “two fields” VMAA. From an operational perspective, there is no difference however, from a funding perspective, there may be a difference. The GMAC representative acknowledged the question as the club was unsure of the arrangements of the two different types of fields regarding leasing from the MAAA and owned by the VMAA. As confirmed, there is no difference between the fields on how they operated or are leased.

21.7.1.3 **Access of State Fields:** The GMAC representative indicated a submission as a proposal on the access. We are still waiting on information regarding this issue and hoping to have the information for the February 2022 meeting to discuss further. Points to consider is distance and general member visiting state fields with a distance greater than 150 km from Melbourne.

21.7.1.4 **Points of Discussion:** VMAA VP asked how/who constructed the questions. It was confirmed that it was initially drafted by the GMAC representative on behalf of the club, sent to the GMAC Committee for comment and then sent to the Club members. The question was generated based on not understanding what the host club rules were for state fields and how the state field is accessed.

21.8 **Additional Items:**

21.8.1 **New Frequency:** It is unlikely that another frequency band would be allocated to modelling to reduce possible interference. The available RF spectrum is highly contested and sought after.

21.8.2 **SFI Reporting Lines:** Not sure now since the change of MAAA leadership. Before the change, the MAAA Secretary was the point of contact. There has been no communication on this issue, and other issues—the President and Secretary will send a communique to the MAAA to ask specific questions.

21.8.3 **Action:** Secretary to draft communication for the MAAA.

21.8.4 **President Merry Christmas:** The President wishes all committee members and association members the best for the Christmas and safe festive season.

22. **The next VMAA Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, 10th February 2022, via Zoom videoconference. No meeting in January. The General Meeting starts at 7:30 pm.**

23. **Meeting Closed: 21:45 pm**

24. **Appendix**

Agenda items requested by the Greensborough Model Aircraft Club for the

Item 1

VMAA has 4 state fields two on freehold and two on leasehold. The recent survey sent out by the VMAA to affiliates addressed the services that affiliates might like at a state field but did not indicate which state fields are owned by the VMAA and which are owned by the MAAA and leased by the VMAA. It is an important distinction to make.

With regard to the two fields that are leased from the MAAA it would be worthwhile to find out the expectations or agreements that the MAAA expects from the VMAA in regards to field development of those fields, while the two fields that are owned by the VMAA it becomes obvious who is responsible for their ongoing development and maintenance.

In the Preamble to the survey that was sent out it was mentioned that usage of the fields was subject to the host clubs' rules. It would be a good idea to have the visitation rules for each state field on the VMAA website so affiliates know who to contact but more importantly the frequency of usage by affiliates of the fields.

Recently we were advised that to visit a certain club, because there were a few members visiting (4), that we had to get permission in writing from the committee. This was not a state field but we do not know what the rules of the state fields are.

Access to the state fields at the moment is difficult unless a club member is present to supervise, unlock etc, if no members are available then you cannot visit, there must be a better way.

Several GMAC members are keen to visit the new Mt Wallace site but are unsure of the number of times they can do this or how much notice is required by the club. Does the VMAA have a development plan for the MT Wallace site as it appears to be just a runway and carpark at the moment, we think that the VMAA should allocate some funds to develop the field, having said that, we are unaware of any agreements with the MAAA or who is responsible for the ongoing development.

Item 2.

Seeing that the four state fields are in regional areas, that brings up our next point. Affiliates have to travel a fair distance to use them, do the clubs have a discounted membership for over 40kls, this would negate the need for a member to always be there, this fee would be approx. 50% of the club membership and would require no joining fee but would be restricted to 15 visits a year, would something like that work, in the case of the NFG it would also negate the working bee levee.

The above are just discussion points