



**Victorian Model Aeronautical Association Inc.
General Committee Meeting
held on the 11th of April 2019**

At the VARMS Clubrooms, Wantirna South

1. Meeting Opened 7:30 PM

2. Present:

President/Chairman	Reeve Marsh
Vice President:	Jon Goudge,
Secretary:	Joe Finocchiaro
Treasurer:	Dr Arthur Bablis,
State Flying Inst:	Geoff Herbert
Contest Dir:	Joe Finocchiaro
Comm Member:	Mark Sills
Editor:	Vacant
Video Librarian	Ivan Chislett

3. Apologies: **Registrar,** Paul Webber, **Education,** David Nichols **Comm Member,** Brian Dowie

4. Visitors: Ron Hickman

5. Minutes of the Previous meeting held on: - 14 March 2019

Secretary moved that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted

Seconded by: Mark Sills **Carried**

6. Matters Arising from previous minutes: -

6.1 Mt Wallace Leasing arrangements (VMAA/MAAA):

6.1.1 An issue has surfaced in regards to the leasing arrangements made on the initial purchase of Mt Wallace. The discrepancy is within the area that was leased and cost of the leasing arrangement. The VMAA Secretary tabled the understanding of the Bacchus Marsh club and the agreement of the MAAA. The VMAA Secretary is to provide further back ground in the matter. A submission will be provided to the MAAA Secretary detailing the leadup and outcome of the leasing discussion on purchase of the land. The VMAA remains committed to leasing 20 acres of the total land area with the remaining 60 acres to be leased.

6.1.1.1 Action: VMAA Secretary is to prepare a submission to detail the known leasing arrangements and possible solution(s) to resolve the discrepancy.

7. Treasurers Report-

7.1 The treasurer provided a financial report as at 11 April 2019 with the following details:

Opening Balance	\$97,137.02
Receipts	\$1,463.73
Payments	\$1,150.40

Closing Balance	\$97,450.35
Term Deposit	\$222,305.48
Term Deposit (2)	\$18,720.34

7.1 Main expenses:

7.1.1 MAAA Conference 2019: Airline tickets for three VMAA delegates to attend the 2019 MAAA Conference. It was agreed as per previous MAAA Conferences. The delegates that will attend are:

- 7.1.1.1 VMAA President, Reeve Marsh;
- 7.1.1.2 VMAA Secretary, Joe Finocchiaro; and
- 7.1.1.3 VMAA Treasurer, Arthur Bablis

7.1.2 The VMAA Executive attending the meeting has proven to be valuable on tabled agenda items. The MAAA will pay for travelling/accommodation for two delegates while the third will be paid by the VMAA.

7.1.3 Accommodation for VMAA Trophy weekend: Accommodation for committee members VMAA CD and Education officer was arranged for the weekend.

7.2 **Consumer Affairs Financial statement, 2016/2017:** There has been issues in completing the return for this FY. The President, Reeve Marsh as requested the treasurer to provide any blockers and what can be done to complete the task.

7.2.1 Action: President will discuss and assist the treasurer to complete the return so it can be prepared for submission to Consumer Affairs before the next VMAA meeting.

7.3 **Loan repayments:** All loan repayment will be made on the anniversary of the signed loan agreement. This will continue throughout the year with the treasurer to contact those clubs with VMAA loans.

7.4 **VMAA Fees:** The VMAA will review fees at the conclusion of the MAAA conference in May 2019 when MAAA fees are set for the next 12 months. It is expected MAAA fees will be increased, however, this is speculation for the moment.

Treasurer moved that the report be accepted

Seconded by: Jon Goudge **Carried**

7. **Correspondence in:**

- 7.1 Emails from various Clubs. Ongoing in regards to area approvals and height extension limits. – received 10 April 2019
- 7.2 Email from Sherley Brewster, Border Town FPV Wodonga in regards to area approval – received 09 April 2019
- 7.3 Email from Miss Julia Jenvery regards to North East Link Project and effect on the Doncaster Aero modelers Club (Land acquisition and possible relocation) dated 08 April 2019.
- 7.4 Email from David Nichols, Edu Officer April 2019 report – received 08 April 2019
- 7.5 Email from Joe Matthews enquiring about international victor policy – 07 April 2019
- 7.6 Email from Russel Edwards regarding funding support for 2019 F3A World Aerobatic Championships, Italy – received 07 April 2017

- 7.7 Certificate of Final Inspection from Campaspe Shire Council for Shade Shelter, EMMAC – received 22 March 2019
- 7.8 Email from MAAA Sec acknowledge receipt of VMAA Agenda items and reports – received 24 March 2019
- 7.9 Email from Eric Spratt, LVMAC Sec in regards to insurance policy listing – received 21 March 2019

8. Correspondence Out:

- 8.1 Email notification sent to all Club Secretaries using MailChimp for VMAA March 2019 – sent 09 April 2019
- 8.2 Email to Border Town FPV Secretary discussion process of area approvals to date. – sent 09 April 2019
- 8.3 Email to Joe Matthews explaining international visitor's policy – sent 08 April 2019
- 8.4 Email to Russel Edwards regarding F3A Championship support – 07 April 2019
- 8.5 Email to MAAA Sec in regards to Mr. Greg Estcourt HM Inspector recommendation – sent 15 March 2019
- 8.6 Email to David Law Australian Scale Delegate in regards to Noel Findlay & Noel Whitehead – sent 26 March 2019
- 8.7 Email to MAAA Sec in regards to MAAA Council Conference – sent 24 March 2019
- 8.8 Email to MAAA Sec in regards to Insurance Policy listing for LVMAC (Indoor flying) sent 22 March 2019

9. Matters Arising from Correspondence:

- 9.1 **Area approvals** - Are ongoing with a number of Clubs submitting documents to address the issue. Existing instruments/NOTAMS that are older than 5 years are revoked and require to be reviewed and reissued. ***To date, 25 plus Clubs have been successful with area approvals.*** Height approvals have been between 900 to 1800 ft AGL. There is still a number of approvals to be reviewed and will be completed as soon as possible.
 - 9.1.1 Challenge has been with Old Timer height requirement for endurance (climb & glide) event. Working through options and possible solutions with SIG group. Documentation to be submitted.
 - 9.1.1.1 **Action:** VMAA Secretary to assist with submission to MAAA/CASA.
- 9.2 **F3A World Championship Support:** Confirmed that on the receipt of a Manager's report and as per VMAA policy, \$250 will be made available to the group.
- 9.3 **Club Assistance scheme submissions:** Bairnsdale MAC have submitted an application for support from the MAAA. Support from the VMAA may be provided based on the scope of the project. At the conclusion of discussion, it was recommended to submit the application.
 - 9.3.1 **Action:** VMAA Secretary to submit application with a recommendation.
- 9.4 **North East Link Project:** Have been contacted by Julia Jenvey and the effect this project will have on the Doncaster club. The intent is to discuss how the project will affect the area and to be part of the consultation process. Information sessions have been planned for the general public. The President and Secretary have been invited to provide comment. It was agreed the first option would be how the club can remain in

its current location and continue operations. There are many challenges to consider which needs to be discussed with the club and work on possible solution.

9.4.1 Action: VMAA President to follow up with NE Project Lead and Doncaster club to discuss further.

9.4.2 Heavy Model Inspector. Greg Estcourt: Letter sent to the MAAA to support/recommend for Mr. Estcourt to become a Fw25 inspector. Believe letter has not reached the MAAA Secretary. Letter to be resent and confirm.

9.4.2.1 Action: VMAA Secretary to contact MAAA to confirm letter or resend.

10. Display Applications:

10.1 None

11. Registrars Report:

11.1 Processed registrations to date are:

Senior	2352
Junior	101
Life	3
Total:	2,456

12. Contest Directors Report:

12.1 **VMAA Calendar** - Has been updated on a regular basis. Ongoing process.

12.2 **VMAA Trophy** – Successfully weekend with P&DARCS winning the event. Close competition and plenty of fun. Thank you to all Committee Members and club members that helped out with CD and officiating events.

12.3 Discussions was conducted at the conclusion of the event with team managers/captain to provide feedback regards to what worked and what didn't. Captain/Managers to submit written suggestions/changes to rules/conditions which is underway. Rules/Conditions to be amended once confirmed and posted on the VMAA website.

13. Editors Report:

13.1 Next bulletin will be March/April Edition. Some reports have been received. Delay in sending the bulletin has been due to area approval and MAAA Conference preparations. Hope to complete as soon as possible.

14. Web Master's Report:

14.1 To assist the **"The Find a Club"**, a listing of all clubs in PDF format has been uploaded to the site. The file can be downloaded from the VMAA website. Additional work will continue for further improvements.

14.2 Forms for the booking of State Fields has been completed and loaded up to the website. Forms have been used and working as expected. The form is designed so a

CC copy goes to the VMAA Secretary. It is up to the SIG/organisation to discuss with the host club to confirm date, facilities and any other requirements.

15. Safety Report:

- 15.1 A drone hit one of the racing gates which resulted in the drone to hit a windscreen of a vehicle in the car park. Incident has been raised for submission to MAAA to raise a claim.

16. Education Officers Report:

- 16.1 I am working my way through the list I made from the airs how and Sandown and so far, have had very positive results. I have taken two guys for a fly already and they both want to join at Yarra Valley. Two more have also been contacted and will have their first flights shortly. I have passed on details to Roger Chapman of the two gents who expressed interest in Heli flying. I have also passed on details to Fred West in Echuca of a lady who has a 15-year-old son wishing to have a fly. I still have many names to work through and may need a hand soon.
- 16.2 Graham Dyer of the Greensborough club his still doing good work with The Mill park Air league and I have sent him some more Spitfire chuck gliders.
- 16.3 VARMS are continuing the work they have done and are doing flight training with a youth group, although I do not know that much about it at the moment. This will change though.

17. Video Library:

- 17.1 Library videos are not been borrowed due to a number of reasons such a YouTube/USBs. Videos are still useful for displays for promotional activities. All that is needed is a CD/Video player and TV.
- 17.2 Possibility to sell library to the MAAA so the library becomes available Australia wide to all modelers.
- 17.3 Have not bought any new DVDs/videos due to slow down of use. May need to cull library and only keep small number for promotional activity. Need to decided what we need to do with the library and how it can be best utilised.

18. SFI Report:

- 18.1 The SFI report was sent to the MAAA Secretary as part of the MAAA conference.
- 18.2 The SFI reported that even though on holidays, was checking emails throughout time he was away, the VMAA is completely up to date with wings assessment. For February there was 11 assessment with March having 12 assessments.
- 18.3 **MAAA Instructor Retesting:** This first discussed at the 2018 MAAA Conference and followed up with a state SFI conference in November, 2018. With all the changes with CASA/RPAS instructors need to be up to date with these changes. Have instructors that have not taught for a number of years or have kept up with the changes over the past 5 years. The MAAA and MOP details that all instructors are to requalify by 01 July 2020. Not meeting this requirement, the instructor rating will lapse. The SFI under the impression the MAAA would make an official statement to this end.

Currently there are approximately 250 instructors within the VMAA. Based on course size of 10 people, the SFI would need to hold 26 courses over the next 12 months to complete the one-day course. Online was discussed but face to face is the only viable option due the teaching requirements.

18.4 Need to follow up with the MAAA Secretary to confirm approach to this issue. May need to send a letter to each instructor as first option to determine if instructor wishes to continue or not.

18.5 The MAAA also requires the SFI to have a mentor so the position could be handed over on completion of the appointment or is the current SFI stands down.

18.5.1 Action: VMAA Secretary to discuss with MAAA Secretary on approach to complete this task.

19. State Field Reports:

19.1 F5J State champions to be held at **Mt Wallace**

19.2 IMAC competition to be held at **Echuca**

19.3 Scale racing to be held at **Darraweit Guim**

19.4 MAAA State fields have submitted yearly reports for the MAAA Conference.

20. General Business:

20.1 **LDMFA:** New procedure and conditions in regards to flight operations

20.1.1 Action Item: Additional risks identified. VMAA to provide outlines of risks and possible solution. President has contacted MAAA Secretary for additional information.

20.2 **Privacy Issue** – How names are listed on the VMAA website: This is an ongoing issue which is being investigated for best option.

20.3 **Loan Equipment:** All equipment needs to be catalogued with location. VMAA Secretary is to review and provide a process to issue and return items. Issues identified with the marquees.

20.4 GMAC reported they had a break in with the stereo microphone was taken and needs to be replaced. Three of the 6 walker talkers no longer work and need to be replaced. Replacements were bought to be used for the racing event at Darraweit Guim. Need to remove items that are no longer working or unusable as part of the overall review.

20.4.1 Action: VMAA Secretary to review workflow/process for loaning equipment.

20.5 **Marketing: Working group, chair Reeve Marsh:** Report has been submitted to the MAAA. Report will be tabled at the MAAA Conference to work through the items within the report. Major topics are establishing goals and objectives, identifying the target audience and establishing KPIs to support the strategy implemented.

20.6 Websites, social channels such Facebook need to be considered by the VMAA. There is a MAAA marketing budget allocated each year. Should this be divided amongst the states/territory to provide marketing at VMAA events that generates interest to entice new membership such as juniors.

20.7 Further discussion is required which will be discussed at the MAAA Conference to determine outcomes and if the right company has been employed or not to complete this task.

21. Next VMAA Committee Meeting: Will be held on **Thursday, 09th May 2019** at VARMS Clubrooms starting at 7:30 pm.

22. Meeting Closed: 10:30 pm