



**Victorian Model Aeronautical Association Inc.
General Committee Meeting Agenda
held on the 13th of May 2021**

Via Zoom Videoconferencing

1. Meeting Opened 7:30 PM

2. Present:

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

3. Apologies: Comm Member, Paul Webber

4. Visitors: Roger Chapman (Avalon Airshow Update)

5. Minutes of the previous meeting held on – 08 April 2021

Seconded by: Jon Goudge **Carried - Yes**

6. Matters Arising from previous minutes: -

- 6.1 **HM Inspector Audit:** A request to be sent to all current MAAA HM Inspectors listed on the VMAA website. The intent is to determine who wishes to continue as an HMI and update the current listing. Letters will be sent via email or surface mail based on recorded address information to determine if the member is still interested in continuing as a Heavy Model Inspector with details on the VMAA Website listing.
- 6.2 **HM Inspector Request:** WMAA Secretary requested that Mr B. Thompson be considered an FW25 due to a shortage of HM within the club. Based on the location of the club and the real need, the application has been sent to SHMI for assessment.
- 6.3 **HM Giant Inspector:** Mr B. Hutchison application has been endorsed by the VMAA and forwarded to MAAA for approval at the next Council meeting.
- 6.4 **P&DARCS Grant Request:** To be discussed in General Business.
- 6.5 **WPMAC Funding 2020:** Email from Mr A. Arapakis regarding 2020 MAAA Club Assistance Scheme funding. I have requested the MAAA Sec to discuss directly with the club to resolve any misunderstandings.

7. Treasurers Report:

Opening Balance	\$70,500.34
Receipts	\$2,560.50
Payments	\$1,946.62
Closing Balance	\$71,114.22
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 – MWMAA Overpayment of Members fees. They are waiting for Club Treasurer to submit a reimbursement request. I have not received it at this stage.

7.1.2 Additional Invoices:

7.1.2.1 AKT Invoices to be paid. Secretary to resend to the Treasurer for payment.

7.2 Treasurer moved the report to be accepted

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

7. Correspondence in:

- 7.1 Email from NFG Tres, regarding Rate Notice – Rec 11 May
- 7.2 Email from EMMAC Sec, regarding Rate Notice – Rec 10 May
- 7.3 Email from NFG Pres, regarding funding application – Rec 10 May
- 7.4 Email from KVM Sec, regarding CASA Area Approval RA & Notification – Rec 09 May
- 7.5 Emails from various clubs enquiring about fees for FY21/21 – Rec Apr/May
- 7.6 Email from EMMAC Sec, regarding State Field sign – Rec 7 May
- 7.7 Email from MAAA Sec, regarding Mr M. Christoph for HMI approval – Rec 08 May
- 7.8 Email from VARMS Pres, regarding MAAA Membership Database – Rec 06 May
- 7.9 Email from MAAA Sec, regarding MAAA Club Ass Scheme - Rec 05 May
- 7.10 Email from BADMAC Sec, regarding State field report – Rec 25 Apr
- 7.11 Email from MWMAA Sec, regarding State field report – Rec 23 Apr
- 7.12 Email from CHAMPS Sec, regarding Club Ass Scheme submission – Rec 23 Apr
- 7.13 Email from EMMAC Sec, regarding State field report – Rec 14 Apr
- 7.14 Email from SADAC Sec, regarding MAAA Loan report – Rec 11 Apr
- 7.15 Email from MAAA Pres, regarding Instructor's course for Mr C Bizon – Rec 12 Apr
- 7.16 Email from Mr C. Bizon, regarding Instructors' course – Rec 10 Apr

8. Correspondence Out:

- 8.1 Email to VMAA State Field Sec, regarding Rate Notices – Sent 10 May
- 8.2 Email to MAAA Sec regarding HMI Giant application for Mr B. Hutchison – Sent 08 May
- 8.3 Email to MAAA Sec, regarding MAAA Ass Scheme submissions – Sent 29 Apr
- 8.4 Email to MAAA Sec, regarding MAAA State Field Reports – Sent 29 Apr
- 8.5 Email/Letter to MAAA Sec, regarding MAAA Conference Agenda, Events and Award nominations – Sent 29 Apr
- 8.6 Email to SADO Sec, regarding MAAA Loan report – Sent 23 Apr
- 8.7 Submission to Order of Australia Referee Response Form – Sent 21 Apr
- 8.8 Email to MAAA Sec, regarding RA for the KVM Club – Sent 21 Apr
- 8.9 Email to P&DARCS Sec, regarding extension of funding proposal – Sent 15 Apr

- 8.10 Email to MAAA Sec, regarding GMAA Ass Scheme Application – Sent 13 Apr
- 8.11 Email to NFG Sec, regarding MAAA State Field Reports – Sent 09 Apr
- 8.12 Email to EMMAC Sec, Regarding MAAA State Field Reports – Sent 09 Apr
- 8.13 Email to BADMAC Sec, Regarding MAAA State Field Reports – Sent 09 Apr

9. Matters Arising from Correspondence:

- 9.1 **MAAA Council Conference** – All reports and agenda items have been submitted for the meeting on Saturday, 15 May.
- 9.2 **MAAA Membership Database** – The VARMS club and the VMAA have submitted requests for the database to be amended to include “emergency category”, Instructor reference checks and accounts to be cleaned.
 - 9.2.1 **Action:** Secretary to discuss with the MAAA Sec.

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.

April		May	
Seniors:	2207	Seniors:	2218
Juniors:	91	Juniors:	91
Life Mbrs:	8	Life Mbrs:	8
Total:	2306	Total:	2317
To be processed: 9		To be processed: 0	

- 11.2 Whilst away, the SFI was able to set up a new club. The SFI is fully mobile, which allows him to service the clubs as required and if needed.

11.3 Life Members

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

12. Contest Directors Report:

- 12.1 **VMAA Calendar:** Clubs are submitting events to bring the sport back to life to pre COVID period. It is pleasing to see clubs are managing their activities and ensuring people remain safe.

- 12.2 **VMAA Trophy Weekend:** Even though the event did not draw many clubs, those that attended enjoyed what was on offer with some excellent flying by juniors and senior club members. Only two events were not flown due to not having sufficient entries. The conditions, rules and events will be reviewed to introduce new events and remove any misunderstanding on the conduct of any events. Leftover medallions will be returned to our supplier for recycling.
- 12.3 After the competition, P&DARCS won the event. Congratulations and well done to all pilots that participated and spectators who were supporting their teams. The camaraderie was first class and support to me as the event CD was fantastic. Thank you to all and see you in 2022.
- 12.4 The conditions and rules will be reviewed and sent out for comment. Certain events may be removed for new events. Work in progress.
- 12.5 Request by RCGA for state trophies have were ordered and ready for pick up; and
- 12.6 Request by VPA for state trophies have were ordered and ready for pick.

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 Nil

16. Education Officers Report:

- 16.1 No report based on visits. Graham Dyer is attending Doncaster and has requested more chuck gliders. NFG is going to have a Try Fly Day and will participate in the event. I will provide chuck gliders for the event. The President supports the idea of Try Fly Day and supporting the event. There are many different ways for the event to be supported which expose our sport to the public—good way to attract new potential members.

17. Video Library:

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

18. SFI Report:

- 18.1 **Wing Status:** 8 Wings issued during April 2021. Fairly constant throughout the month.
- 18.2 **Instructors Refresher Courses:**

18.2.1 Number of requests received for a refresher course: 139

18.2.2 Number of instructors who completed a refresher course: 130

18.2.3 Number of instructors to complete a refresher course: 9

18.3 Courses held during April & May.

- 18.3.1 **Lilydale Club** on the 18th April 2021, 2 members booked in and two members re-qualified.
- 18.3.2 **Bendigo Radio Controlled Aircraft Club** on the 24th of April 2021, 5 members booked in and five members re-qualified at the course.
- 18.3.3 **Bellarine Model Aircraft Club** on the 1st May 2021, 8 members booked in and seven re-qualified. One member did not attend due to illness but will attend the GMAC course.

18.4 Future Courses:

- 18.4.1 **Twin Cities Albury / Wodonga Club** on the 15th May 2021, 7 members booked in. Three members booked in to attend the instructor's course. And seven re-qualified. Involves an overnight stay on the 14 and 15th of May 2021. Accommodation already booked by VMAA.
- 18.4.2 **Presentation** - On Sunday the 16th of May 2021, the SFI will be visiting the **Wangaratta Club** on behalf of the **VMAA** to present Instructors Wings and Certificate to one of their members. The Club Committee have expressed their appreciation regarding the visit and are expecting a good turnout of their members to mark the occasion.
- 18.4.3 **Greensborough Club** on the 29th May 2021, 3 members booked in, with a probable one extra from the Bellarine Course.
- 18.4.4 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.

- 18.5 **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 Echuca:** A request has been received to refurbish the field sign at the gate entrance. The current sign does not have the updated VMAA logo and the sign is deteriorating. After the discussion, it was decided that a common sign for all state fields be looked at to establish a **"Standard layout"**.

19.1.1 **Action:** Secretary to investigate possible designs.

- 19.2 **State Field End of FY Reports:** The reporting template for state fields or those clubs with a financial liability to the MAAA has been sent. The reports once reviewed, will be submitted to the MAAA for the Council Conference.

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 with the next draft to be prepared for discussion.
- 21.1.2 **Document on recommended state field infrastructure** – The final version of the survey has been completed and presented by the VP. To be discussed in general business.
- 21.1.3 **Bairnsdale Draft Lease in progress:** Waiting on a reply from the VMAA Tres regarding a specific condition relating to GST/taxes. The treasurer confirmed that any additional Government charges regarding the land/lease would be passed on to the club. The condition is a standard lease clause.
 - 21.1.3.1 **Action:** Secretary to inform the BADMAC club of the meaning of the clause.
- 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 **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.
- 21.2.9 **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:** Further discussion required to determine the best outcome for the club and VMAA.
 - 21.3.1 The secretary summarised the VMAA offer which was not accepted and the follow-up letter from the club to detail additional elements to consider.
 - 21.3.2 Based on the additional information the following proposal was suggested:
 - 21.3.2.1 (Proposed offering. Open for discussion)
 - 21.3.2.2 The VMAA proposal to P&DARCS offers a 70/30 grant/loan mix to assist with the club's water sprinkler project for a total of \$9,400 (5 years, interest-free). The break down is \$6,580 grant with a \$2,820 loan (repayments = \$564 /year)
 - 21.3.3 Discussion highlighted the need for any loan/grant to be based on generally applicable reasoning to avoid setting a precedent that cannot be sustainable. VMAA should be supporting Victorian clubs which does not mean just give away funds. It was pointed out that an offer of part loan part grant still provides the total funding requested to the club up front – the difference is simply the need to repay the loan portion over some period of time.
 - 21.3.4 It was reported that some at this club and indeed others understood there was a policy that only a State Field could ask for a grant, and it was only recently that was changed. It was pointed out that no such policy existed and that all clubs could ask for funding support

and each application would be considered on its merit and nothing else. It was also mentioned the loan repayment conditions could be discussed further if required.

21.3.5 After the discussion, motion was put forward by Mr J Goudge to re-offer the original proposed funding:

21.3.5.1 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). The break down is \$4,700 grant with a \$4,700 loan (repayments = \$940 /year). The offer is to remain open until 9 Sep 21. If the offer is not accepted, it will be withdrawn.

Seconder: Geoff Herbert

Carried: Yes

21.3.5.2 The total funding will be made available if accepted, with 50% being a loan. The President offered to visit the club to discuss the matter with the committee if requested.

21.4 **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.

21.4.1 Action: Secretary to collect feedback and provide a summary.

21.5 **MAAA Council Conference:** The council conference for 2021 will be held on Saturday, 15 May, commencing at 9:00 am. Participants will attend the Secretary residence to attend the conference. The President, Secretary and Treasurer will represent the VMAA. Items to be submitted for the MAAA agenda are:

21.5.1 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 open to renewals for existing members, not new members. Has been placed on the MAAA agenda.

21.5.2 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. Has been placed on the MAAA agenda.

21.5.3 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. A budget forecast has been submitted to the MAAA for consideration. Mr Roger Chapman has been approached to assist with the event and coordinate the requirements. Has been placed on the MAAA agenda.

21.5.4 MAAA Service Award - A submission to acknowledge nominated VMAA club members has been presented to the MAAA for consideration. Has been placed on the MAAA agenda.

21.6 **Avalon Airshow Tops** – Mr B. Dowie has offered to look after the purchase of the polo tops used by Association members for the event.

21.6.1 VMAA Event co-ordinator (Mr Roger Chapman) has caught up with organisers (Glen Smith GA). They are continuing to assess if the event is going ahead. The situation is fluid based COVID. American / British air force planned to be in attendance. The date has been moved to support the Grand Prix as they have a common infrastructure. The layout at the airshow may be different but should be in the same location as previous events.

21.6.2 Invites will be sent out to supporters. The area is in good condition, and the weather should be milder. The suggested the tent with printed material may be an issue based on the security and location of the display. Funds could better spend on replacing banners. Happy to go with the majority decision for the event.

21.7 Presentation PSTD – A presentation will be arranged for the next VMAA meeting held on 10 June 21. The presentation will approximately 20 to 30 min in duration and will allow for any questions. The intent is to have the meeting as the first part of the meeting.

21.7.1 Action: Contact Jose to arrange for the presentation to be held.

21.8 Document on recommended state field infrastructure (Survey): The audio file was received and listen to. The two main points:

21.8.1 Have to operate in a prescribed budget (requirements of a state field);

21.8.2 Survey into two parts. Do we require land? What facilities should be on the field?

21.9 Members are aware of the state field, and the acquisition of the state fields and is well documented. The survey will ask what the members want from these fields.

21.10 We believe the survey does ask the right questions and how it is presented. We need feedback from members to understand any concerns and moving forward. There will be no distinction between MAAA or VMAA fields within the survey.

22. The next VMAA Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, 10th June 2021, via Zoom Video conferencing starting at 7:30 pm.

23. Meeting Closed: 09: 50 pm